



The First Church in Albany

Welcomes you

*With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.*

Isaiah 12:3

November 13, 2022 - 10am Worship Service

The First Church in Albany **(Reformed Church in America)**

Founded in 1642; Continuing in Ministry Today.

In response to God's unconditional love for all people made known to us in Jesus Christ, we are called to be a welcoming and affirming community. The First Church in Albany includes young and old, families, couples and singles, rich and poor, persons of various races, ethnicities, backgrounds, sexual orientation and gender identities, differing physical and mental abilities, believers and seekers. We welcome into the full life of the church all those whom God sends us. Centered in Christ, we commit ourselves to breaking down dividing walls and building a community where we are loved.

23rd Sunday After Pentecost November 13, 2022

* = rise in body or in spirit

Prelude Reflection *Malachi 4:2a*

But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

Prelude

Prelude to "*Celebrate Life*"
Iteke Prins, organist

Buryl Red

Tolling of Bell (will be tolled by children of First Church)

Welcome, Announcements, & Blessing *Revelation 3:20*

Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.

Call to Worship Psalm 98

Votum: Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.
Amen.

Leader: O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory. The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

People: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody. With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

Leader: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

All: Let the fields clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

Consecration Sunday Testimonial

Take My Life

HENDON 7.7.7.7

Frances Ridley Havergal, 1874

H. A. César Malan, 1827

3. Take my voice, and let me sing, Al - ways, on - ly, for my King.

Take my lips, and let them be Filled with mes - sa -

ges from Thee, Filled with mes - sa - ges from Thee.

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are arranged in three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The first system includes the lyrics '3. Take my voice, and let me sing, Al - ways, on - ly, for my King.' The second system includes 'Take my lips, and let them be Filled with mes - sa -' and the third system includes 'ges from Thee, Filled with mes - sa - ges from Thee.' The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in the left hand, providing harmonic support for the vocal parts.

*Opening Hymn

We Give Thanks unto you

Psalm 136

Marty Haugen

Soloist Em Em Am7 B7 Congregation

1. We give thanks un - to you, O God of __ might, for your
2. From of old you have led your peo - ple-in faith,
3. You re - mem - ber your pro - mise age to __ age,
love is ne - ver en - ding; we give thanks un - to you, the
you have shown your com - pas - sion,
you show mer - cy on those of
God of gods, for your love is ne - ver end - ing.
strength and love,
low de - gree,

Prayer of Confession

Oh' Lord, we confess our tendency and pride in self-reliance. We know that you send us to work with others and even grow with others. We often shun others who are different. We often shun opportunities to connect with your beautiful earth. We allow our egos to get in the way when we don't want to feel smaller than your earth, your cosmos, or the others you send in our midst. We need your guidance. We need you to be our North Star.

Time of Silence

Assurance of Pardon & Fulfillment of the Law *2 Chronicles 7:14*

“If my people will humble themselves and pray, and search for me, and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear them from heaven and forgive their sins and heal their land.”

***Passing the Peace**



Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us greet one another with a hand-sign of peace.

Touch your thumb to the tip of your ring finger, and wave to one another. This hand-sign makes Christ's gesture of blessing in a lot of iconography in the Orthodox Tradition.

Children's Message & Blessing

Prayer for Illumination

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me. Mold me. Fill me. Use me. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me!

Scripture Reading Luke 21:5-19, *pg.856 in pew bible*

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon Text

Isaiah 12

You will say on that day: “I will give thanks to you, O Lord, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, and you comforted me.

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and will not be afraid, for the Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.”

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say on that day:

“Give thanks to the Lord; call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted.

Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Connection Is Access

A Prayer of Blessing on the Word

*Hymn of Response

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

Washington Gladden, 1879

MARYTON LM

Henry Percy Smith, 1874

1. O Mas - ter, let me walk with Thee In low - ly
2. Help me the slow of heart to move By some clear,
3. Teach me Thy pa - tience; still with Thee In clos - er,
4. In hope that sends a shin - ing ray Far down the

paths of ser - vice free; Tell me Thy se - cret;
win - ning word of love; Teach me the way - ward
dear - er com - pa - ny, In work that keeps faith
fu - ture's broad - ening way; In peace that on - ly

help me bear The strain of toil, the fret of care.
feet to stay, And guide them in the home - ward way.
sweet and strong, In trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong.
Thou canst give, With Thee, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Profession of Faith *Question and Answer #65 of the Heidelberg Catechism*

Q. It is through faith alone that we share in Christ and all his benefits: where, then, does that faith come from?

A. The Holy Spirit produces it in our hearts by the preaching of the holy gospel, and confirms it by the use of the holy sacraments.

Tithes & Offerings *If you would like to connect more with the life and mission of First Church, please fill out a Welcome Card found in your pew and place it in the offering as it goes by.*

Offertory

MARYTON
Iteke Prins, organist

C. Calahan

***Doxology** #592 in pew hymnal

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Leader: O Lord,

People: Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

*Sending Hymn


Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY 8.7.8.7 D


Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824

Henry van Dyke, 1907; alt.

Adapt. Edward Hodges (1796–1867); alt.




1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2. All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav-en re - flect Thy rays,
3. Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho - rus Which the morn-ing stars be - gan;



Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore Thee, Open-ing to the sun a - bove.
Stars and an - gels sing a - round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
Love di - vine is reign-ing o'er us, Join - ing all in heav-en's plan.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; Drive the gloom of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flower-y mea-dow, flash-ing sea,
Ev - er sing-ing, march we on - ward, Vic - tors in the midst of strife,



Giv - er of im - mor-tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.
Chant - ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, Call us to re - joice in Thee.
Joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun-ward In the tri-umph song of life.

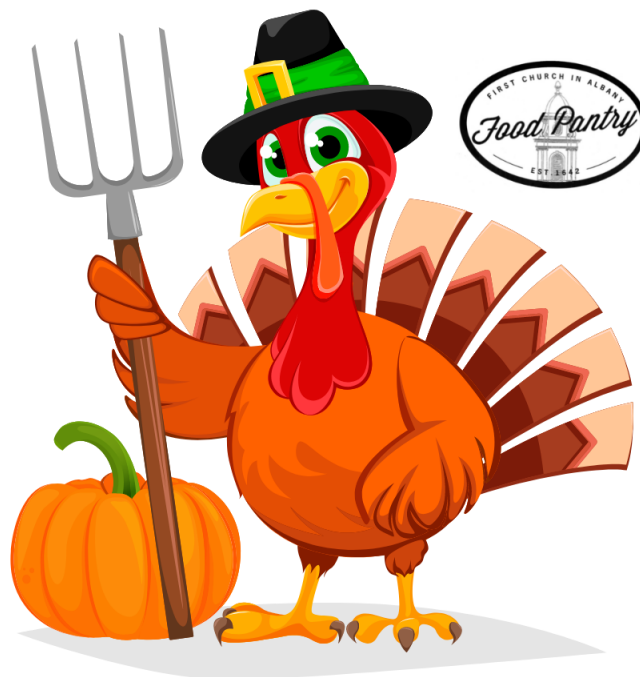
*Charge & Blessing

Postlude

Postlude to “*Celebrate Life*”
Iteke Prins, organist

B. Red

CCLI License #463379;



We need your help today! Many hands make light work. Come downstairs to Zimmerman Hall to help pack our Thanksgiving bags for the First Church Food Pantry. It's not complicated, and it will go quickly if we all chip in. As usual, coffee will be available, too.

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Mashona Walston

Liturgist: Rev. Trey Tirpak

Organist: Iteke Prins

Vocalist: Glenn Claydon

Audio/Visual Techs: Joshua Bliss and Stephen Reorh

Prayer Concerns

- The Pagerey Family
- Jason Shahid
- Deborah Paris, daughter of Betty Pierce
- Becky Hudak
- Alexis Parry, niece of Cheryl Gowie
- Gail Santimaw, friend of Judith Utley-Suess
- John Utley, brother of Judith Utley-Suess
- Judith Utley-Suess, for strength
- Brian Brooks, Gayle W's brother
- Lloyd, father of Nikki Ballou
- Sally Higgins, friend of the Persons family
- Brian Zapel, friend of Dave Andrews
- Betty Pierce
- Jay Reohr
- Ronald Stockhoff.
- For Jennifer Recene Gallagher
- For Mia and Wim Westman
- For Barbara W., dear friend of Barb & Dave Andrews and Donna Jones
- Harold Bushnel
- Alex Bliss
- Mary Weijola
- Cheryl Gowie
- Norma McClement
- Ralph McNeil, brother of Norma Jean Ballou
- Mary Ann Selmer
- Anthony, of the Brown Family
- Donna Schultz
- Elaine and Jim Jenks, Rose Hunsberger's parents
- Jeff Curry
- Olivia Gaydushek
- Clergy, staff and leaders of the First Church in Albany
- Prayers for this burden of gun violence and its aftermath. We pray that cooler heads will prevail in discussions and decisions for how to manage the situation.
- An end to the war in Ukraine

Prayer Concerns? If you would like your church family to join you in prayer, please share your concerns and joys with us. Call the office at 518-463-4449 or email office@firstchurchinalbany.org.





Consecration **SUNDAY**

is November 20, 2022

Next week is Consecration Sunday. A letter from Rev. Mashona has been sent. Included with that letter will be your pledge card for the new year.

On that Sunday, we will consecrate our pledges—cards you bring with you, as well as those that have been mailed leading up to Consecration Sunday. We pray in anticipation of where the Holy Spirit will send First Church next!

Join us as we celebrate and respond to God's generosity shared with his children.



This Week at the First Church in Albany



- Sunday 11.13 10am Indoor Worship at FCIA, also on Zoom
- Monday 11.14 9am Food Pantry
- Tuesday 11.15 12pm Adult Scripture Study
6pm Consistory Meeting (subject to change due to polling)
- Wednesday 11.16 9am Food Pantry
12pm AA Meeting
12pm Centering Prayer
- Thursday 11.17 11:30am Free Soup Thursday in Clee Park

Upcoming Events

- Sunday 11.20 10am Consecration Sunday
- Sunday 12.4 Meeting of the Joint Boards immediately after worship (Parlor)
- Wednesday 12.14 6:30pm Blue Christmas Service

Meeting Schedules are subject to change.
Watch your email for updates if you are a part of these gatherings.

GROUP & MINISTRY LEADERS, SEND US YOUR

CALENDAR UPDATES

ONE-TIME EVENTS
OR RECURRING MEETINGS

PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE WITH YOUR
SCHEDULED GATHERINGS SO THAT WE CAN PUT
THEM ON THE CHURCH EVENT AND
OPERATIONAL CALENDARS.



EMAIL
OFFICE@FIRSTCHURCHINALBANY.ORG
OR CALL
518-463-4449



First Church in Albany

110 North Pearl St.,
Albany NY 12207
518-463-4449

www.firstchurchinalbany.org