

Welcomes you

The First Church in Albany

August 7, 2022, 10am Drive-In Worship Service



L'ALTARE "AL DIO IGNOTO"
ALTER TO AN UNKNOWN GOD
NEL MUSEO PALATINO DI ROMA



**URGENT NEED
FOR BLOOD DONORS**



Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood.

American Red Cross



Blood Drive

First Church In Albany

110 North Pearl Street, Albany, NY 12207
Zimmerman Hall

Wednesday, August 17, 2022
12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

To make an appointment call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit
redcrossblood.org. Keyword: FIRSTCHURCHALB

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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Donors needed. Please sign up to donate much-needed blood on Wednesday, Aug. 17 here in Zimmerman Hall. The Red Cross follows stringent protocols to keep all donors safe while they donate. If you have difficulty with the online sign-up or do not have internet access, please call Colleen (office) at 518-463-4449.

We could also use **two volunteers** to help at the check-in table.
If the full 5 hours will not work with your schedule,
a half-shift of either noon-2:30pm or 2:30pm-5pm would work perfectly.
Contact Colleen if you are able to help out. Thank you!



FOCUS
CHURCHES OF ALBANY

FOCUS CHURCHES OF ALBANY'S

**JOINT SUMMER
WORSHIP SERVICES**

SEPT. 4

@ 10 AM

**WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

BOTH IN-PERSON AND ONLINE

Join online via Zoom at wpcalbany.org

When joining online, please provide your own communion elements
ALL ARE WELCOME!

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.

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Communion Sunday

August 7, 2022

Tune in to 87.9FM on your car radio

Prelude

"Voluntary in D Minor"
"Three Variations on DIXIE"
Iteke Prins, keyboardist

W. Croft
I. Prins

Welcome, Announcements, & Blessing

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." 2 Corinthians 13:14

Call to Worship *Based on 1 John 4 & Church of Scotland Call to Worship*

Leader: Where love is given and received,

People: God dwells with us.

Leader: Where love is shared in word and action,

People: God dwells with us.

Leader: Where love is known in lives made new,

People: God dwells with us.

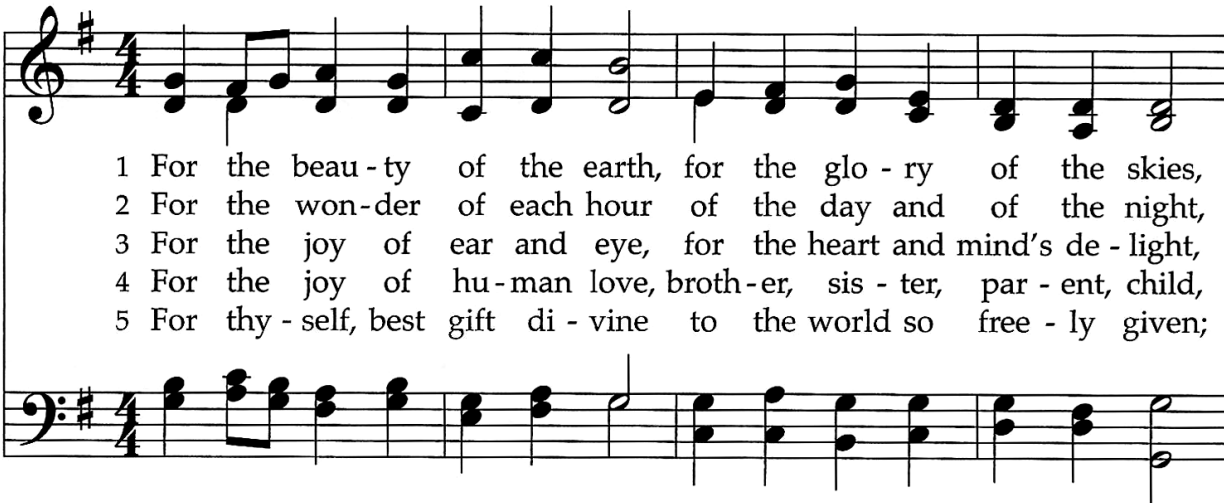
Leader: Where love is held in honor by all,

People: God dwells with us.

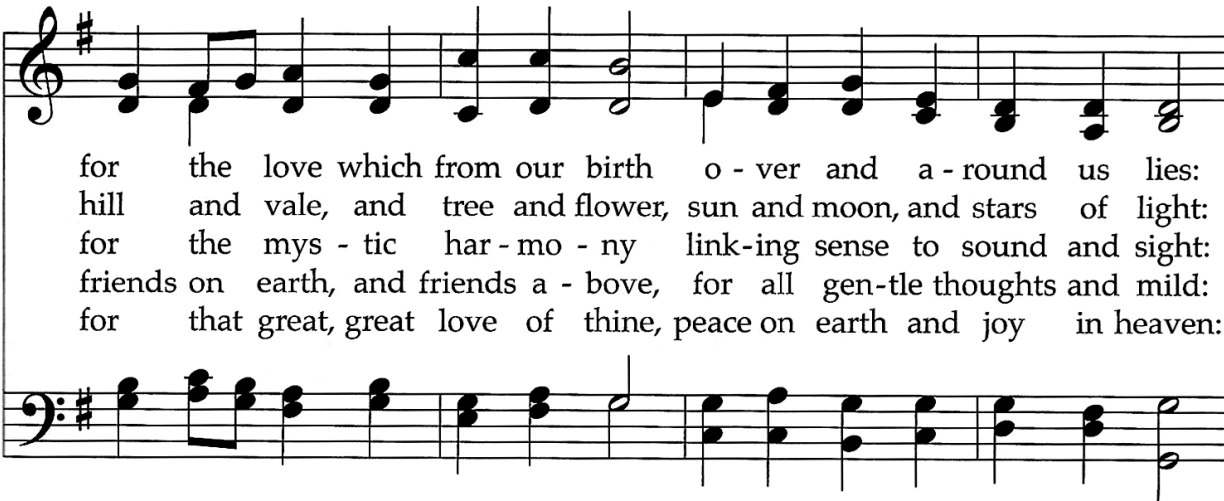
Leader: Let us worship the God we know through Love!

*Opening Hymn

For the Beauty of the Earth

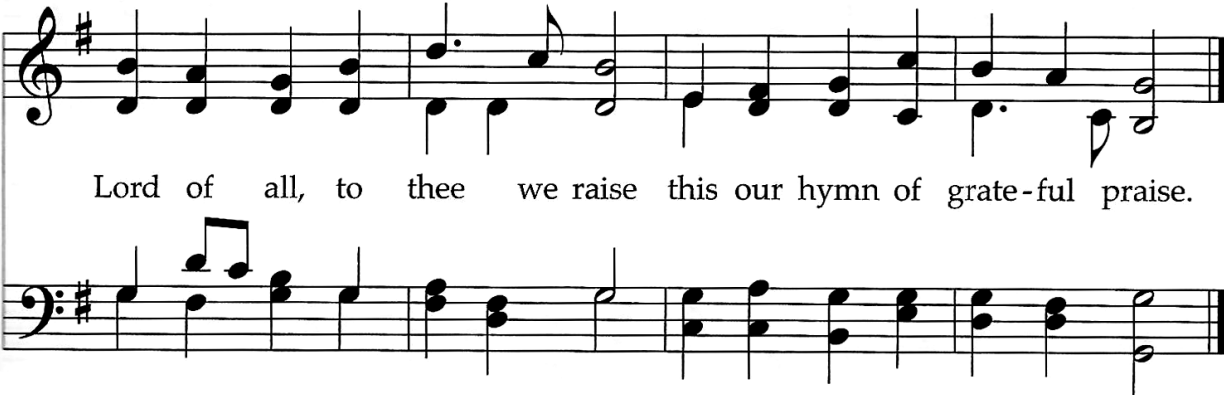


1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly given;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

Refrain



Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

In the course of many revisions, the original eucharistic emphasis of this text has shifted to a hymn of thanksgiving for a wide range of human experience, with a Christological summation. It is set here to the tune that is customary in North America, though not elsewhere.

TEXT: Follitt Sandford Pierpoint, 1864, alt.

MUSIC: Conrad Kocher, 1838; abr. William Henry Monk, 1861; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

DIX
7.7.7.7.7.7

Prayer of Confession

God who is love, we have sometimes made our faith too complicated for it is truly all about Love, and the love you have shown to us on the cross. We confess that we have not loved. Send your Holy Spirit, now, to love us back into loving. Make us a people defined by love, so that we and all those we encounter may know you.

Assurance of Pardon 1 John 4:11-12, 16b, 18-19

“Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; yet, if we love one another, God dwells in us, and God’s love is perfected in us. [For] God is love, and those who dwell in love, dwell in God, and God dwells in them... There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because God first loved us.” Friends of Jesus, live in love, and live in peace.

*Passing the Peace



Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us greet one another with a honk of the horn or hand-sign of peace.



Prayer for Illumination

God who made the world and everything in it, reveal yourself today; make yourself known to us in our lives, and lead us to love, amen.

Sermon Text

Acts 17:22-31

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we, too, are his offspring.’

“Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Unknown God?

A Prayer of Blessing on the Word

***Hymn of Response & Offering**

(v. 1,2,4)

I Am the Bread of Life

Leader or All A F#m A C#m

1 "I am the bread of life. You who
2 "The bread that I will give is my
4 "I am the res - ur - rec - tion;

D Esus E

come to me shall not hun - ger, and who be -
flesh for the life of the world, and if you
I am the life. If you be -

A C#m D E/D A C#m

lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
eat of this bread, you shall live for -
lieve in me, e - ven though you

me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons."
 ev - er; you shall live for - ev - er."
 die, you shall live for - ev - er."

Refrain

"And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,

and I will raise you up on the last day."

As the quotation marks suggest, the first four stanzas and refrain are quoted from Jesus (John 6:35, 44, 51, 53; 11:25), while the fifth stanza draws on the words of Martha (John 11:27), voicing our response also. Being mindful of these differences allows more prayerful singing.

TEXT: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, 1966, rev.

MUSIC: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, 1966

Text and Music © 1966, 1970, 1986, 1993 GIA Publications, Inc.

I AM THE BREAD

Irregular

Communion Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayers of the People

**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.**

*Charge & Blessing

Postlude

"NUN DANKET"
Iteke Prins, keyboardist

arr. O. Faulstich

CCLI License #463379; One License #A-700689

Worship Leadership:

Preacher: Rev. Trey Tirpak

Keyboardist: Iteke Prins

Audio/Visual: Joshua Bliss and Stephen Reohr

*Thank you for worshiping with us today!
You all are invited to remain with us in Clee Park for our Lemonade Lull.*



Mark Your Calendar

Our August Milestone...The First Church in Albany celebrates its 380th Anniversary this month. We will be celebrating that milestone on Reformation Day, Sunday, October 30th. Stay tuned for details!!!

Prayer Concerns

- The Reohr Family
- Joanne Snover, as she moves to a new home in a new city
- Shirley Joosten
- Ronald Stockhoff
- Deb Anderson
- Joanne Farrell and John Patterson
- Jennifer Recene Gallagher, daughter of Joyce Recene
- Mia and Wim Westman
- Donna Jones
- Charnelle Jones
- John Utley, brother of Judith Utley Suess
- Barbara W., dear friend of Barb & Dave Andrews and Donna Jones
- Steve Hoffman
- Harold Bushnell
- Frank Jeffries (son of Norma McClement)
- Norma McClement
- Ralph McNeil, brother of Norma Jean Ballou
- Mary Ann Selmer
- Samuel, son of Barb Andrews
- The family of Danielle as they mourn her passing, for her children (Melvin, Traekwon, Antonio, Julius, Brandon, and Christopher)
- Carol LaBatte
- Anthony, of the Brown Family
- Jane, sister of Donna Schultz
- Elaine and Jim Jenks, Rose Hunsberger's parents
- Jeff Curry
- Haleigh Bliss
- Mary Weijola
- Neil Keen
- Fran Carr Morton
- Cheryl Gowie
- Ada Harris
- Gwen, friend of Becky Gardner
- Charles Welge
- 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 management of 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



HOT DOG THURSDAY WITH CLEEO

Our Summer Outreach to All of Our Neighbors

**Each Thursday this Summer
11:30am—12:30pm
in Clee Park**

**Volunteers Needed
Contact the office
or use online link in
Wednesday's EBlast**



The First Church in Albany

AUGUST 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	 1	Zoom Study noon 2	 3 AA	A Night of Worship 7pm 4 	5	6
* 7 Combined FOCUS  	 8	Zoom Study noon 9 Leadership Mtg	 10 AA	11 	12	13
14  	 15	Zoom Study noon 16 Consistory Mtg	Blood Drive 17   AA	18 	19	20
21  	 22	Zoom Study noon 23 Primary Voting Day	 24 AA	25 	26	27
28  	 29	Zoom Study noon 30	 31 AA			
*FOCUS Service at Delmar Ref. We will still have our Drive-In Service						

Key:



Pantry 9am



Centering Prayer 12pm



Drive In Worship 10am



Lemonade Lull



Hot Dog Thursday



The First Church in Albany is committed to the city and people of Albany NY.

This feeding ministry is part of our commitment.

Pantry Hours

**Monday and
Wednesday
9am - 11:30am**

The pantry entrance is on Orange St.

518-463-4449

www.firstchurchinalbany.org

The First Church in Albany
110 North Pearl St.
Albany NY 12207

Pantry Statistics for July

Households...117

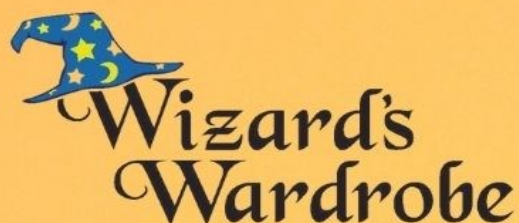
Infants (0-3yrs)...0

Children (4-17yrs)...47

Adults (18-64)...115

Seniors (65 and over)...24

Number of meals...4,464



WHERE READING IS MAGIC

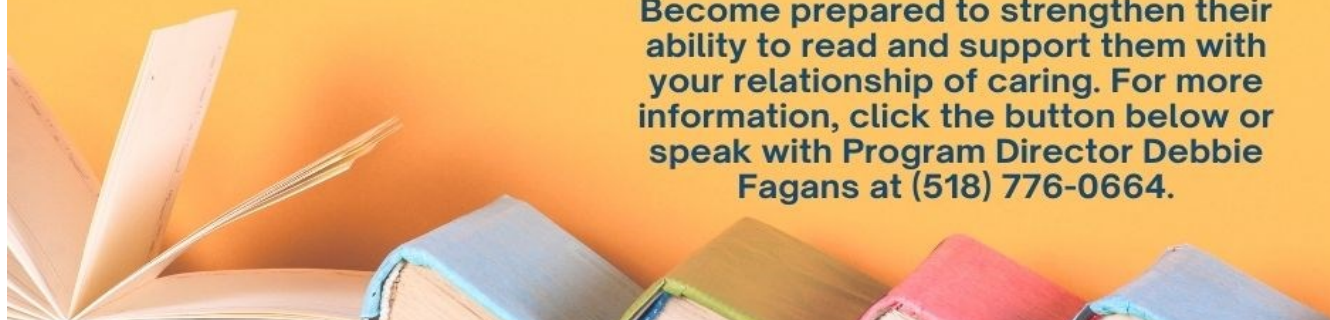
**Yes,
summer has just started
No,
it isn't too early to think
about the Fall.**

**When school begins again,
elementary-age students in Albany's
South End could use your help.**

**The Wizard's Wardrobe, that does
one-on-one tutoring, will be holding its
initial 13-hour Fall Tutor Training on the
Saturdays of September 17th and 24th.**

**Learn about the impact that poverty
and systemic racism have on
young students.**

**Become prepared to strengthen their
ability to read and support them with
your relationship of caring. For more
information, click the button below or
speak with Program Director Debbie
Fagans at (518) 776-0664.**





This Week at the First Church in Albany

- Sunday 8.7 10am Drive-in Worship at FCIA, also on Zoom
FOCUS Joint Service at Delmar
Reformed
- Monday 8.8 9am Food Pantry
- Tuesday 8.9 12pm Adult Scripture Study
6pm Leadership Meeting
- Wednesday 8.10 9am Food Pantry
12pm AA Meeting
12pm Centering Prayer
- Thursday 8.11 11:30am Hot Dog Thursday in Clee Park

Upcoming Events

- Tuesday 8.16 6pm Consistory Meeting
- Wednesday 8.17 12pm-5pm Red Cross Blood Drive
- Tuesday 8.23 6am—9pm Primary Voting Day

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

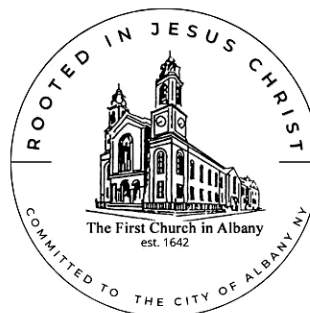
CALENDAR UPDATES

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



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