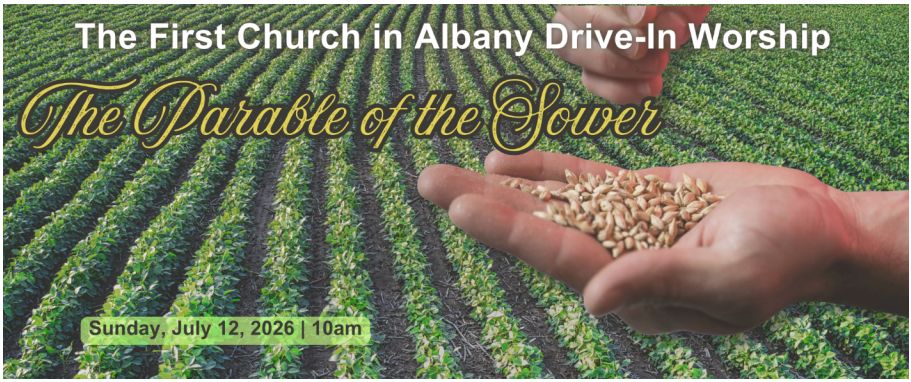

Radio Station 87.9 FM

Prelude *"All Creatures of Our God and King"*
arr. Cindy Berry (b. 1949)

Welcome and Announcements

Blessing

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 65)

Leader: Come and worship, everyone on earth, everywhere the sun shines,
People: let's praise God together!
Leader: For listening when we call, answering our prayers, forgiving our mistakes, and providing what we need:
People: let's praise God together!
Leader: Come and worship, everyone on earth, everywhere the sun shines,
People: let's praise God together!

***Opening Hymn**

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God" #32
ELLACOMBE CMD
See p.6

Call to Confession

God does not promise us a life without struggle or hardship; yet how often do we make what is already difficult even more so? Yet the grace of God is that the sorrows we inflict upon ourselves cannot last forever; so, let us unburden ourselves, confessing the ways in which we struggle against God that we may receive that grace anew.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Gracious Creator, you created this world and called it good, and out of it called a pilgrim people, chosen to abide with you and to bear witness to your reality. Yet we, who have been called "Beloved" by you, often find ourselves making peace with what does not give peace. Meet us in our weakness; turn our unwilling eyes upon our unruly hearts. Draw us away from our love of power, our tolerance of injustice, our ignorance of suffering. Drive us towards what is fearfully and wonderfully made, so that we may inspire hope, offer forgiveness, and love our neighbors through faithful living, according to the way of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (from Romans 8:1-3)

For those who are in Christ, there is no condemnation; for by Christ's death and resurrection, God has done what the law and works of human righteousness alone could not: breathed new life through the Holy Spirit into the world, turning it upside down. Believe this scandalous, joyous good news: through Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and restored to new life. Alleluia! Amen!

***Passing the Peace:** (during the passing of the peace, children please come forward for a message and blessing.)

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 and hand-sign of peace.

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination
(based on Psalm 119:105-112)

Life-giving God, we praise You for the gift of Your Word; for the light and life it brings to our lives. Through it, we come to know You better; we come to understand ourselves more fully; and we find the wisdom and encouragement we need to live as Your faithful disciples.

Sermon Text Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

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

Sermon "I Hate Farming"

Prayers of the People by the People

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.

***Offertory**

"We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer"
arr. Cindy Berry

Offertory Prayer

As we offer our gifts and lives in this moment, may we become imitators of you, Gracious God, who holds nothing back from us, but is generous and gracious with all that is yours. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

***Sending Hymn**

"Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak" #722
Canonbury
See p. 7

***Charge & Blessing**

***Postlude** *"To God Be the Glory"*
arr. Cindy Berry

Note: Join us in Clee Park after worship for our Lemonade Lull.

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Mark Mast
Liturgist: Audrey Ming
Keyboardist: Darhon Rees-Rohrbacher
Audio/Visual: Joshua Bliss, Stephen Reohr

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Artist *Pieter Brueghel the Elder -****Title*** *Parable of the Sower*
Date *1557,* ***Culture*** *Dutch/Flemish*

Prayer List as of 7.7.26

Indicates a new request

Current Joys & Concerns

- For Tammy, friend of the Claydon's with health concerns.
- For the family and friends of Shirley Joosten, as they mourn her passing and celebrate her life.
- For Steve, deacon Becky Hudak's partner, has a new diagnosis. Traveling mercies for Steve and Becky as they travel back and forth for his treatment. Becky asks for prayers for strength, assurance and healing.
- For Maureen J., pantry guest, for family issues.
- For Carol Labatte, with health concerns and Phil Labatte who cares for her.
- For a pantry guests Barbra and Bobby, for the return of their son Kenny.
- For Jim Gallagher, son-in-law of Joyce Recene.
- For Jill Busman, continuing medical treatment, and for her husband, Kent, as he supports her.

Ongoing Needs

- Olivia Gaydushek, granddaughter of the Van Epps
- Mia Westman
- For the food insecure wrestling with loss of benefits, and for pantries and food banks as they try to fill the needs
- For those impacted by the ongoing war in Iran and multiple skirmishes across the globe, may we seek peace.

Give Thanks

- For our coming together in worship, and to praise God
- For a blessed and inclusive FOCUS worship service on July 5th.

Note: *Prayer concerns will be kept on the list for 4 Sundays. Please let the office or a member of Consistory know if a concern needs to be kept on after that. (To add an item to the prayer chain, contact the minister, the office or a member of consistory.)*

32 I Sing the Mighty Power of God

With minimal revision this text brings together six of the eight four-line stanzas in an 18th-century hymn written for children and originally headed "Praise for Creation and Providence." The anonymous German tune provides a fitting sense of breadth and wonder.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1715, alt. ELLACOMBE
MUSIC: *Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Wirtembergischen Katholischen Hofkapelle,* 1784; alt. 1868 CMD

722 Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak

Two great truths inform this text: first, that the testimony of experience is powerful and persuasive; and second, that no one should venture to minister on one's own strength rather than God's. The tune reflects a 19th-century practice of adapting piano pieces as hymn tunes.

TEXT: Frances Ridley Havergal, 1872, alt.
MUSIC: Robert Schumann, 1839, alt.

CANONBURY
LM

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 2026

THE FIRST CHURCH IN ALBANY

TUE 14	PANTRY FCIA		9AM
WED 15	HOT DOGS IN THE PARK		11:30AM
	CENTERING PRAYER	IN THE POWELL ROOM	NOON
	AA MEETING	IN THE PARLOR	NOON
THU 16	PANTRY FCIA		9AM
SUN 19	DRIVE-IN WORSHIP	IN THE SHERIDAN LOT	10AM
	LEMONADE LULL	IN CLEE PARK	10:45AM

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