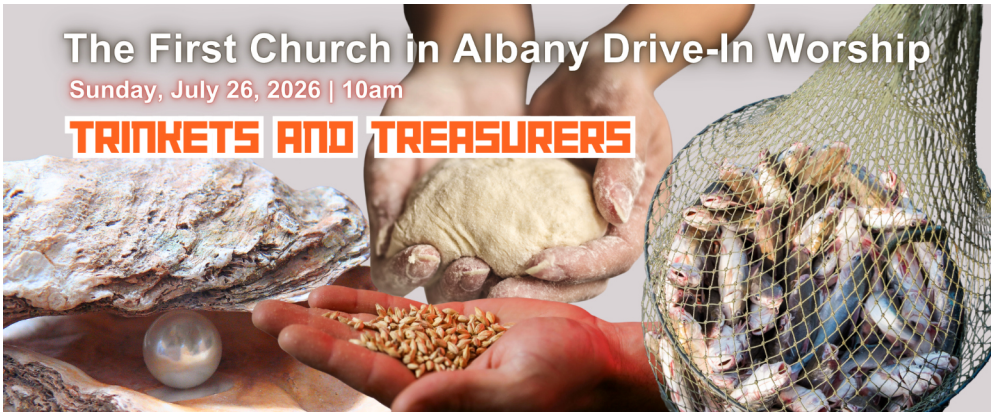

Radio Station 87.9 FM

Prelude *"City Called Heaven"* arr. Calvin Taylor

Welcome and Announcements

Blessing

Call to Worship (inspired by Psalm 119: 1-8)

Leader: Blessed and Righteous God, your truths and grace are revealed to us as we search your Holy Word.

People: We come today, to listen to the Word of the Lord.

Leader: Gracious God, you help us to know you through your Holy Word, which guides and blesses us.

People: We come today, to worship the Lord our God.

Leader: Holy God, we gather to worship and praise you, to learn from your Word in fellowship with others.

People: We come today, to praise the Lord our God. Amen.

Opening Hymn *"Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty" #35*
LOBE DEN HERREN
See p. 5

Installation and Blessing

Susan Lloyd - Elder

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

Inspire us by your Holy Spirit that the words we read on the page might become living words in our hearts and lives as we encounter the grace, love and peace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Sermon Text Matthew 13:21-33, 44-52

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you oh Christ!

Sermon "Trinkets and Treasurers"

Prayers of 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 *"There Is a Balm in Gilead"*
arr. Calvin Taylor

Offertory Prayer

We give you thanks, O God, for the many blessings that you have bestowed upon us. As from even the smallest of seeds, your kingdom grows, bless our tithes, gifts and offerings, and bless us that we might be ever more faithful in your work of reconciliation, love and joy. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Sending Hymn
"O Lord My God" #625
HOW GREAT THOU ART
See p. 6

Charge & Blessing

Postlude *"Ain'-a That Good News"*
arr. Calvin Taylor

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

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Mark Mast
Liturgist: Kathleen Brennan-Claydon
Keyboardist: Gloria Norton
Audio/Visual: Joshua Bliss, Stephen Reohr

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Prayer LIST

as of 7.22.26 (A) Indicates a new request

Current Joys & Concerns

- (A) For Linda Mitchell (Keys for Kids) and her family as they mourn the passing of their brother Fred.
- (A) For Star and John Haviland, both working through some health issues.
- (A) For Linda, friend of the Masts, as she navigates some health and life issues, and for her caretakers as they serve her.
- (A) For a positive outcome for Kyle Mast, after a recent procedure.
- For pantry guest Charles Wilson, with health concerns (with permission).
- For Tammy, friend of the Claydon's with health concerns.
- For Steve, deacon Becky Hudak's partner, who 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.

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
- (A) For the folks who came together on Wednesday to make sure we were able to provide Hot Dogs, supporting the ministry during some volunteer absences

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.)*

COMBINED SUMMER WORSHIP

FOCUS
CHURCHES OF ALBANY

Sunday, August 2nd
10am
Delmar Reformed Church

FOCUS CHURCHES OF ALBANY Doing together what we cannot do alone.

There will be no drive-in worship at FCIA on Aug. 2.

35 Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

This very strong 17th-century German hymn employs many phrases from the psalms, especially Psalms 150 and 103:1–6. It did not receive an effective English translation until the mid-19th century, but has remained popular ever since, thanks in part to its stirring tune.

TEXT: Joachim Neander, 1680; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt.
MUSIC: Stralsund *Erneuerten Gesangbuch*, 1665; harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863

LOBE DEN HERREN
14.14.4.7.8

625 O Lord My God

How Great Thou Art

This tuneful retelling of the salvation story began in Swedish and was translated into German and then into Russian before reaching its English form. Despite such linguistic and musical revisions, it continues to be a meaningful source of comfort to many people.

TEXT: Stuart K. Hine, 1953; Spanish trans. Arturo W. Hotton Rives, alt.; Korean trans. anon. HOW GREAT THOU ART
MUSIC: Swedish folk melody; adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1949 11.10.11.10 with refrain
Text and Music © 1949 and 1953 The Stuart Hine Trust (U.S.A. print rights admin. Hope Publishing Company. All other U.S.A. rights admin. EMICMGPublishing.com)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THE FIRST CHURCH IN ALBANY

JULY & AUGUST 2026

TUE 28

PANTRY FCIA — 9AM

FOCUS BOARD MEETING (OFFSITE) — 6:30PM

WED 29

HOT DOGS IN THE PARK — 11:30AM

CENTERING PRAYER — NOON IN THE POWELL ROOM

AA MEETING — NOON IN THE PARLOR

THU 30

PANTRY FCIA — 9AM

AUGUST

SUN 2

FOCUS WORSHIP AT DELMAR REFORMED CHURCH — 10AM NO WORSHIP AT FCIA

NOTE: THE OFFICE MANAGER WILL BE ON VACATION AUG. 3-7. THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY AUG. 3 & FRIDAY AUG. 7 AND WILL HAVE SHORTENED HOURS TUES., WED., & THUR.

FOR MORE INFO VISIT US AT WWW.FIRSTCHURCHINALBANY.ORG

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