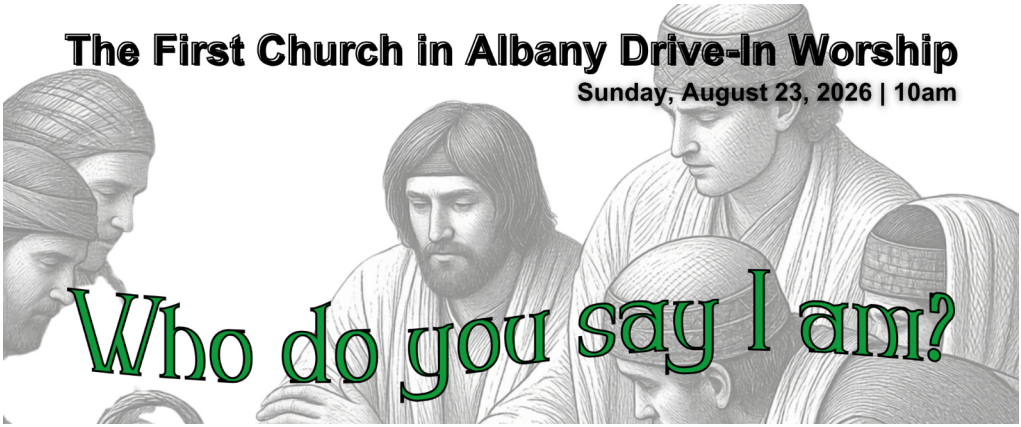
The First Church in Albany Drive-In Worship

Sunday, August 23, 2026 | 10am



Radio Station 87.9 FM

Prelude *"Be Still My Soul" arr. Cindy Berry*

Welcome and Announcements

Blessing

VOTUM AND CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth
P: Amen
L: This is the day that the Lord has made!
P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!
L: This is a day of new beginnings!
P: This is a time for growing into new disciples for Jesus.
L: Come, let us prepare ourselves for worship
P: Let us be prepared for service to God. AMEN.

Opening Hymn *"Lift High the Cross"* CRUCIFER
See p. 4

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Patient Lord, you know who we are. We let the frustrations and worries of our lives overcome us. Our hearts seem to buckle under the weight of anger and confusion. And we turn away from you, sure that you can do nothing to alleviate our strife. How foolish we are! How faithless we are! Please forgive us. Help us to learn that you are actively involved in our lives, not as a "puppet master" but as a creative life giver, seeking

healing and hope not only for each of us, but for the whole world. Make us into disciples of peace and compassion; for we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

Words of Assurance *based on 1 Timothy 1:15; 1 Peter 2:2*

Hear the good news: This saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

Summary of the Law - ***Ephesians 4:32-5:2, NIV***
A summary of the law from Paul written to the Ephesian Christians:

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

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

Sermon Text Mark 8:27-38

Leader: This is the Gospel of the LORD.
People: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon "Who do you say I am?"

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 *"I Am His, and He is Mine"* *arr. Cindy Berry*

Offertory Prayer

We praise you, God of love, for your generosity in our lives and the life of the church. Reclaim these gifts you have shared with us to enact your love in words of grace, in acts of healing, forgiveness, and peace. Send us out into your world to love as you love, to weep as you weep, to give and receive your vision of abundance for a world in need of sharing. Amen.

Sending Hymn *"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"* ASSAM
See p. 5

Charge & Blessing

Postlude "*He Keeps Me Singing" arr.Cindy Berry*

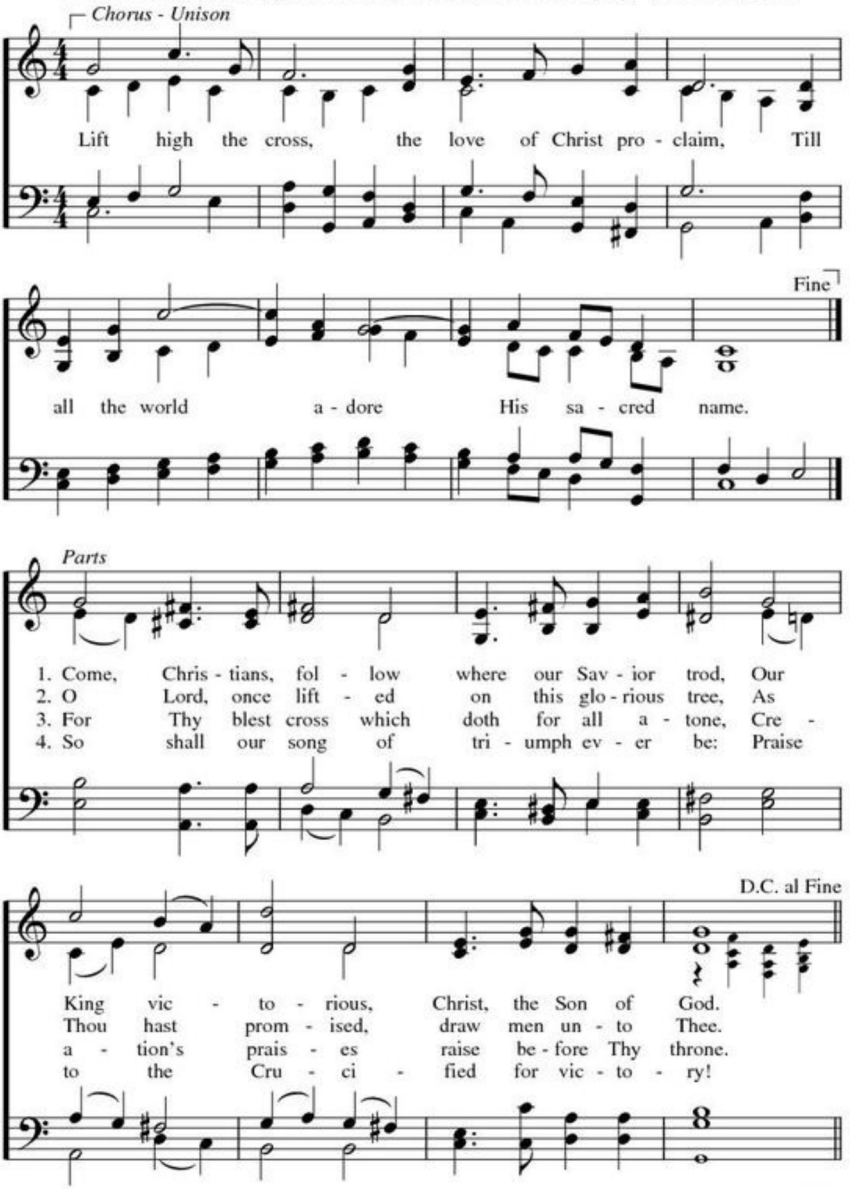
Notes: Join us in Clee Park after worship for our Lemonade Lull.

**Pastor Mark will be away from August 17 through August 31.

Preacher: Preaching Elder Peter Pagerey
Keyboardist: Darhon Rees-Rohrbacher
Audio/Visual: Joshua Bliss, Stephen Reohr

CCLI License #463379; One License #A-700689

Lift High the Cross 236

"But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself." John 12:32 (NIV)

WORDS: George W. Kitchin; alt. Michael R. Newbolt
MUSIC: Sydney H. Nicholson

CRUCIFER
10.10.10.10.

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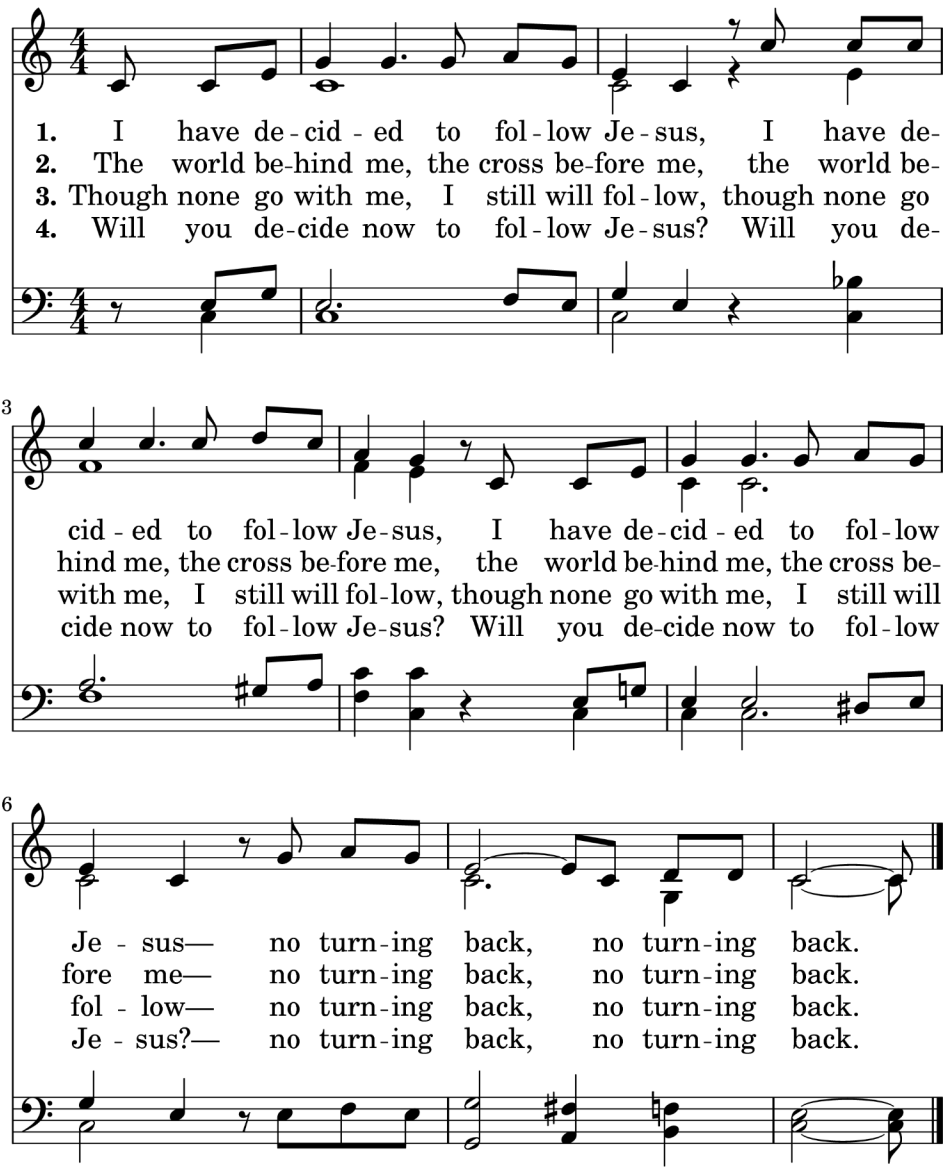
576 I Have Decided to Follow Jesus



The Worshiping Church 576
WORDS: Anonymous
MUSIC (ASSAM, Irregular): Anonymous

FOCUS on a Strong Start: Back-to-School Giving Drive

Having the right clothing and school supplies helps children arrive at school ready to participate, learn, and thrive.

FOCUS is raising $2,500 by August 26 to provide $50 back-to-school gift cards for 50 children whose families visit the FOCUS Food Pantry.

The gift cards will be used at local Albany store B. Lodge & Co., where families can choose school necessities and clothing that best meet their children's needs. By contributing to the drive, you can help local children begin the school year feeling prepared, comfortable, and confident.

To give online go to focuschurches.net and look for the FOCUS Spotlight for the link

Do you prefer to contribute to the giving drive by check? Checks can be made payable to "FOCUS" and mailed to:

FOCUS Churches of Albany

275 State Street Albany, NY 12210

Please indicate on your check that your donation is for the Back-to-School giving drive.

Prayer LIST

as of 8.10.26 — Indicates a new request

Current Joys & Concerns

- For office manager Colleen Lais as she begins radiation treatments.
- For Star and John Haviland, both working through some health issues.
- For Linda, friend of the Masts, as she navigates some health and life issues, and for her caretakers as they serve her.
- 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
- 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.)*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THE FIRST CHURCH IN ALBANY

August 2026

THE OFFICE MAY OPEN A BIT LATE FOR THIS WEEK.
SORRY FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE.

TUE 25	PANTRY FCIA	9AM
	FOCUS BOARD MTG.	6:30PM
WED 26	HOT DOGS IN THE PARK	11:30AM
	CENTERING PRAYER IN THE POWELL ROOM	NOON
	AA MEETING IN THE PARLOR	NOON
THU 27	PANTRY FCIA	9AM
SN2 30	LAST DRIVE-IN WORSHIP OF THE SEASON IN THE SHERIDAN AVE. LOT	10AM
	LEMONADE LULL IN CLEE PARK	

FOR MORE INFO VISIT US AT
WWW.FIRSTCHURCHINALBANY.ORG

HARVEST TIME

Enjoy Summer TIME

The First Church in Albany
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