

HAPPY EASTER

THE FIRST CHURCH IN ALBANY

(Reformed Church in America)

110 North Pearl Street,
Albany NY 12207
518-463-4449
www.firstchurchinalbany.org

April 4, 2021
10 am



Please keep in prayer this week...

- The family and friends of Wayne Sivaslian
- The family of Frank, uncle of Rebecca Gardner
- The family and friends of Linda Becker Heim
- The family and friends of Jane Ward
- The family and friends of Joline Mondore
- The family of Agnes Hevi
- Larry Underdue
- Judith Suess & Leroy
- Amy Carr (Gillespie family)
- Cindy Gillespie, in benevolence for the loss of her father
- Kathy Stallmer (Monthie family)
- Brown family
- Pagerey family
- Steve Hoffman
- Ginger
- Charles Welge
- First Church Staff and Leaders

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 fciaofficemanager@gmail.com.



Prelude

*“Morning Has Broken”
Doug Persons, trumpet*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Psalm 46:1-11

¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though
the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;**

³though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. Selah

⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

⁶The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

⁸Come, behold the works of the LORD; see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

⁹He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰"Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth."

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

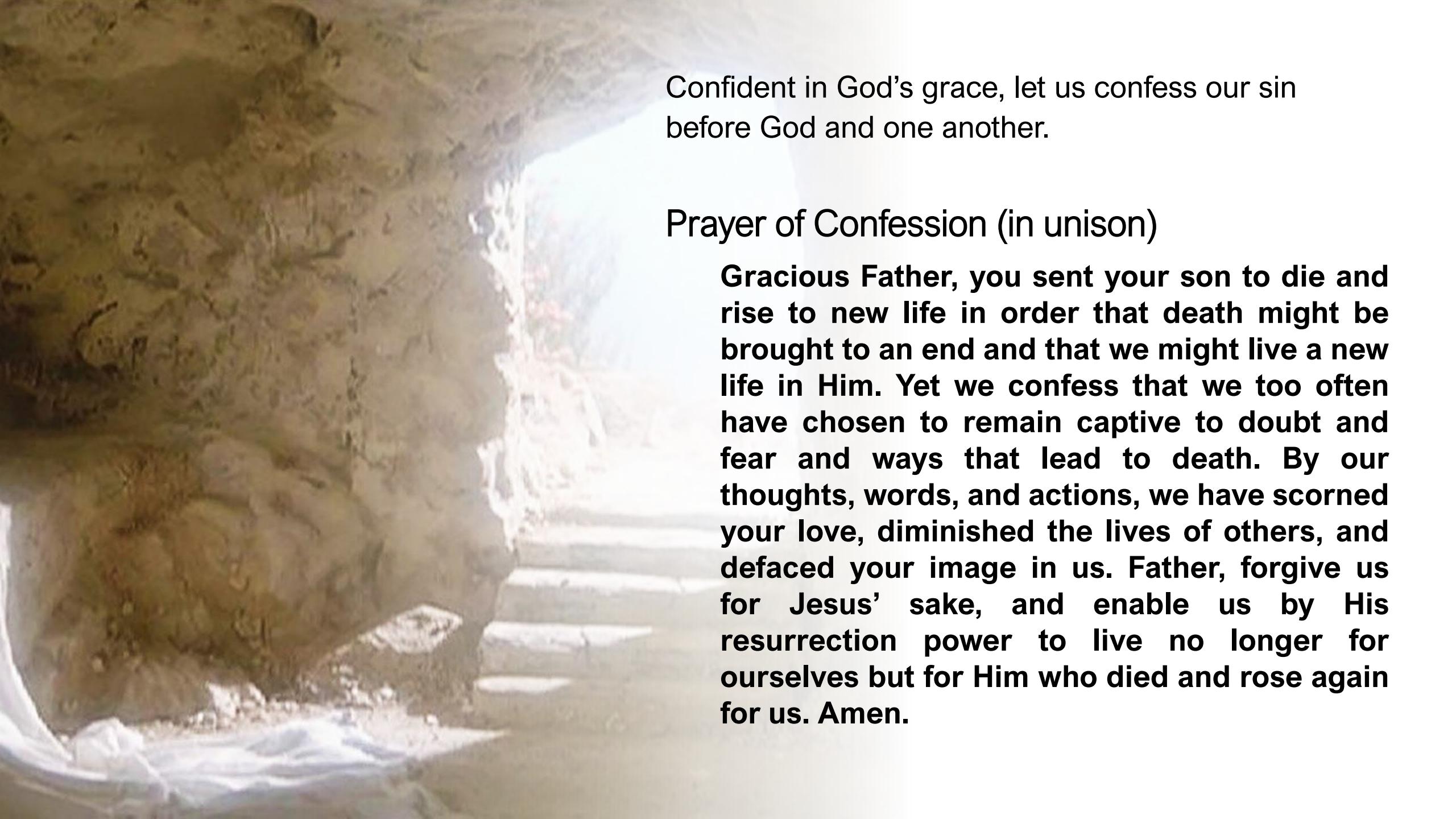




Hymn

“Christ is Risen, Shout Hosanna”

Beethoven



Confident in God's grace, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Gracious Father, you sent your son to die and rise to new life in order that death might be brought to an end and that we might live a new life in Him. Yet we confess that we too often have chosen to remain captive to doubt and fear and ways that lead to death. By our thoughts, words, and actions, we have scorned your love, diminished the lives of others, and defaced your image in us. Father, forgive us for Jesus' sake, and enable us by His resurrection power to live no longer for ourselves but for Him who died and rose again for us. Amen.

Moment of Silence

Assurance of Pardon

And then these Words of Assurance: Jesus was delivered over to death for our sins and raised to life for our justification.

~ Roman 4:25

A close-up photograph of a white lily flower, showing its six petals and yellow stamens with red tips. The flower is set against a bright, slightly overexposed blue sky with some wispy clouds. The lighting creates soft shadows and highlights on the petals.

Prayer of 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

Mark 16:1-8

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.



The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

“Sticks & Stones”

Rev. Mashona Walston

The Prayer and Blessing on the Word

Meaning of the Sacrament and the Invitation

The Communion Prayer

The lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks
and praises.**

You are worthy of our thanks and praise.





Sanctus

**Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you
My heart is glad to say the words,
You are holy Lord**

**Dying Christ destroyed our death
Rising he restored our life
We await his coming in glory.**

The Response to God



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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.



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!”

O. Holden

Offering

Benediction

Seek Justice, Love Mercy and Walk Humbly with God.

Postlude

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

R. Williams

WORSHIP LEADERS:

Preacher: Rev. Mashona Walston, Senior Minister

Liturgist: Imani Brewer

Guest Keyboardist: Martha Deyo

Musician(s): Doug Persons, trumpet; Zachary Morton,
percussion

Soloist: Rose Hunsberger

Technical Team: Ian Leet, Josh Bliss, and Stephen
Reohr

**We welcome all who gather to worship God this
morning, especially visitors and friends from near
and far.**





Easter Flower Tributes 2021

- Norma Jean Ballou and family in loving memory of her parents, and their grandparents, Clarence and Blendine McNeil
- Norma Jean Ballou and family in loving memory of her brothers and other loved ones
- Mary and Richard Bennett and family in loving memory of Kenneth and Mary Snyder
- Gertrude Dorn and family in loving memory of Robert J. Dorn, husband, father, and grandfather
- Sylvia Chipp Insall in loving memory of Father Rodney B. Chipp
- Sylvia Chipp Insall in loving memory of Mother Leona P. Chipp
- Sylvia Chipp Insall in loving memory of Brother Robert Deyo Chipp
- Sylvia Chipp Insall in loving memory of dear friend E. Helen Gardner
- Ned and Kathie Monthie in loving memory of his parents, Fran and Ed Monthie
- Kathie and Ned Monthie in loving memory of her parents, Ruth and Hank Reiners
- Monica Marsh in loving memory of her husband Wayne Silvaslian
- Audrey Ming in loving memory of Fred and Ruth Ming
- Jan and Charles Parmalee in loving memory of her parents, Lois B. and I. Benjamin Crilly
- Charles and Jan Parmalee in loving memory of his parents, Norine B. and Carleton A. Parmalee
- Doug and Jill Persons in loving memory of Nancy Alford
- Art and Donna Schultz in loving memory of their parents, Theresa and Franklin
- Patricia Salsbury in loving memory of her mother Grace Baker
- Charles and Sara Welge in loving memory of his mother, Barbara
- Charles and Sara Welge in loving memory of her father, John Bonham