

# THE FIRST CHURCH IN ALBANY

(Reformed Church in America)

110 North Pearl Street, Albany, NY 12207 ~ (518) 463-4449

Email: [info@firstchurchinalbany.org](mailto:info@firstchurchinalbany.org) ~ Website: [www.firstchurchinalbany.org](http://www.firstchurchinalbany.org) ~ Sunday Worship: 10:30 am

## 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 all are loved.*

## Fifth Sunday after Epiphany February 10, 2019

Prelude      *Meditation on "Tú has venido a la orrilla"*  
                  *(You have come down to the lakeshore, Hymn 377)*      Arr. Lynne Trapp

Announcements

Call to Worship

There is more here than our eyes can see, more than our ears can hear, more than our hands can touch. This is a holy place,

**and God meets us here.**

There is a depth here that is beyond our understanding, a touch that embraces heaven, a space flowing with the colors of mystery. This is a holy place,

**and God meets us here.**

There is a meeting here unlike any other, the building of a community within and beyond time and space, of God's people bound together in eternity. This is a holy place,

**and God meets us here.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

**Amen.**

Prayer of Confession

**God of the journey, we have worked hard all week and caught nothing to change us. We have pressed close to you to be taught, to be healed, to be relieved of our burdens. Yet you ask us to continue working, to continue rowing, to put out into the waters again to let our nets down. Why must we work? What would you have us catch? You ask too much of ordinary lives.**

**Be with us, Life-changing God. Forgive our doubts, our tiredness, our reluctance. Help us to do what needs doing in our lives and our relationships. Mend our nets of understanding, and bring us back to finish what you call us to do. Surprise us with your light reflecting in an unexpected catch of faith.**

*The prayer may continue in silence.*

Assurance of Pardon

\*The Peace

God called the prophets and Jesus called disciples out of ordinary experiences into sacred times, and in the midst of awesome encounters with holiness, they found peace to share with all who would listen. We too have been offered a holy peace and are called to share it with others.

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

\*Response (Tune: Jesus, the Light of the World)

***Hail the Bearer of God's peace! Jesus, the light of the world;***

***Hail the Sun of righteousness! Jesus, the light of the world.***

***We will follow the light, beautiful light,***

***come where the dewdrops of mercy are bright,***

***Shine all around us by day and by night, Jesus, the light of the world.***

A Word with Children

## THE WORD OF GOD

The Prayer for Illumination

**Eternal God, in the reading of the Scripture, may your word be heard; in the meditation of our hearts, may your word be known; and in the faithfulness of our lives, may your word be shown. Amen.**

The Old Testament Lesson                      Isaiah 6:1-8

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Anthem                      *Hush, Somebody's Calling my Name*                      African American Spiritual  
arr. Brazeal Dennard

*Hush, hush somebody's calling my name*

*Oh my Lord what shall I do, what shall I do? Hush....*

*Sounds like Jesus, somebody's calling my name, Oh my lord.....*

*I'm so glad, troubles don't last always, Oh my lord.....*

*Soon one morning death come creeping in my room, Oh my Lord....*

*I'm so glad I'm on my journey home, Oh my Lord..... Hush....*

The Gospel Lesson                                      Luke 5:1-11

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon    Fish Reflections

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

## THE RESPONSE TO GOD

\*Hymn 434                      *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*                      KINGSFOLD

Offering

Offertory                      *Dear Lord, Creator, Good and Kind*                      (Text of Hymn 345)  
C. H. H. Parry arr. by H. A. Chambers

\*Doxology (Tune: #591)

*Praise God, the Love we all may share;  
Praise God, the Beauty everywhere;  
Praise God, the Hope of Good to be;  
Praise God, the Truth that makes us free. Amen.*

The Joys and Concerns of the Church

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

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, for ever. Amen.**

\*Hymn 377

*Tu Has Venido a la Orilla  
Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*

PESCADOR DE HOMBRES

\*Charge and Blessing

Postlude

*Listen, God is Calling (Neno Lake Mungu)*

Tanzanian Traditional  
arr. Ann Krenz Organ

AΩ

\*Those who are able, please stand

**WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS:** Liturgist: Rev. Susan Vincent Cox; Preacher: The Rev. Lynn Carman Bodden; Minister of Music: Mary Bon

**We welcome all who gather to worship God this morning, especially visitors and friends from near and far.** Please sign our guest book or complete a visitor's card (found in the pew rack) and place it in the offering plate. There is an elevator in our building, which makes every floor accessible. Please join us for refreshments and conversation after worship.

**During flu season**, please feel free to pass the peace as you are comfortable: with a handshake or hug, or an elbow tap, fist bump, head nod or kind smile if more distance seems healthier. Be aware we have hand sanitizer in the back of the sanctuary. And if you have not yet gotten a flu shot and are able to, please do!

**The Call to Worship** comes from the curriculum *Seasons of the Spirit*. The Confession is based on a prayer found in *An Improbable Gift of Blessing* by Maren C. Tirabassi and Joan Jordan Grant.

**Hearing assist devices are available for your use. Please ask an usher.**

**First Church is an accessible building.** We have an elevator so you can reach every floor.



An Automated External Defibrillator “**AED**” is located in the lobby attached to the wall outside of the **workroom**.

**After A Word with Children**, children age 4 and under are welcome in the Nursery. Children 4-12 are invited to be a part of Children and Worship.

**The flowers this morning are given** by Betty Pierce in loving memory of her son, Chase and parents, Martin and Florence Covell.

**FIRST CHURCH READERS** meet today after church to discuss *A Dictionary of Mutual Understanding: A Novel* by Jackie Copleton. Everyone is welcome to join us.

**Many thanks** to everyone who contributed to our Overflow Homeless Shelter Dinner last Friday. Our next dinner is March 22 – *Casseroles and Comfort Food*. Sign up at the hospitality table. Contact Mary Bon for more information at [maryebon@verizon.net](mailto:maryebon@verizon.net).

**Thank you** to all that attended the FOCUS Churches of Albany Winter Worship at Emmanuel Baptist Church on February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**FAREWELL LUNCHEON – On February 24** after worship, we invite you to join us in thanking Larry Underdue for all he has done for us at a catered luncheon. Please call the office or sign-up online <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0549AFAD2DAAFA7-farewell>. You are welcome to contribute to a gift purse for Larry, too. Please mark your gift: Larry Underdue, so that we make sure to credit it properly.

**TO DATE**, 55 pledges totaling \$ 142,011.00 which puts us \$2,011.00 over pledge budget or @ 1.4%. **THANK YOU** to all who have pledged.

**FIRST ANNUAL STATEWIDE ECUMENICAL ADVOCACY DAY  
NEW POLITICS, NEW ACTION, NEW BUDGET  
NEW HOPE FOR ALL OF NEW YORK**

Are you interested in connecting your faith to issues of social justice and building a more equitable society? Join Christians from across New York State, representatives of the New York State Council of Churches and other secular and religious partners in Albany this **February 27, 9:30am – 4pm at Emmanuel Baptist Church, 275 State St. Albany.**

This day-long event begins with spiritual grounding, followed by basic advocacy training, workshops and then visits to the offices of our elected officials. There is a \$25 registration fee for each person participating, to cover lunch, materials, and other costs. Register here: <http://nyscoc.org/events/nys-ecumenical-advocacy-day-in-albany-ny>

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact The Reverend Peter Cook, Executive Director, New York State Council of Churches, New York Conference, United Church of Christ, [Pcook@Nyscoc.org](mailto:Pcook@Nyscoc.org) or 508-380-8289.

**CONSISTORY FOR 2018-2019**

**Board of Deacons**

Theresa Brewer	2019	Robert Dorn	2020*
Bill Kendall	2019	Richard Gardner	2020
		Andy Mondore	2020

**Board of Elders**

Norma Jean Ballou	2019	Joeanna Brown	2020
Becky Hudak	2019*	Chip Welge	2020
Rebecca Mondore	2019		
Peter Pagerey	2019*		

**Board of Trustees**

Ned Monthie	2019	Shirley Bone	2020
Joyce Recene	2019	David Bradley	2020
Ray Van Epps	2019	Andy Mondore	2020
Ross Westhuis	2020	James Folts	2021
Wayne Sivaslian	2021		

## **THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH**

Sunday	2/10	<b>Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany</b>	
		10:30 am	Worship Service - Sanctuary The Rev. Lynn Caman Bodden, preaching Children & Worship (during worship)
		Post Service:	Coffee & Conversation First Church Readers
		12:00 pm	Confirmation
		1:00 pm	Mother's Group
Monday	2/11	9:00 am – 11:30 am	Food Pantry Open
		12:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
		6:30 pm	Pastoral Search Committee Meeting
Wednesday	2/13	9:00 am – 11:30 am	Food Pantry Open
		12:00 pm	AA Meeting
		12:00 pm	Prayer at Noon
Thursday	2/14	5:30 pm	Worship, Music & Arts Meeting
		7:00 pm	CHOIR REHEARSAL
Sunday	2/17	<b>Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany</b>	
		10:30 am	Worship – Sanctuary – Healing Service The Rev. Susan Vincent-Cox, preaching Children & Worship (during worship)
		12:00 pm	Confirmation

The Rev. Lynn Carman Bodden will be away continuing her education February 11<sup>th</sup> thru February 17, 2019. The Rev. Susan Vincent-Cox is on call for emergencies at (518) 796-8793.

Valerie Williams will be out of the office on Friday, February 15, 2019.

In observance of President's Day, the church office will be closed Monday, February 18, 2019. We will resume normal business hours Tuesday, February 19, 2019.