

# The First Church in Albany

Sunday, November 17, 2020, 10:00 am  
*On the second Sunday of Epiphany, we worship in the joy  
Of knowing we can see the glory of God in Jesus Christ*

## Order of Service

### We Gather in the Presence of God

#### Prelude

*Kum Bah*

#### Welcome & Announcements

#### Call to Worship

Long ago, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets;

**now God has spoken to us by a Son.**

God made the world through the Son,  
who has been appointed heir of all things  
and the perfect reflection of God's glory.

**The Son is the exact representation of God's being,  
sustaining all things by his powerful Word.**

Praise God for the gift of the Son.

**We welcome the light of the world!**

*(based on Hebrews 1:1-3, TWS F.1.2.7)*

#### Hymn

*Lift Every Voice & Sing*

#### Prayer of Brokenness/Confession

We confess, O God, that it is hard to be hopeful when there is so much pain and sorrow in the world. We confess, O God, that we keep our heads down and fail to envision where You are at work in our world and lives in a new way. We fail to perceive You, even as You are revealed to the world. Be revealed to us, O God, in new and uplifting ways. May hope and joy be revealed to us long after the ornaments and lights are put away for another year. May Your justice, mercy, and love be revealed to us when we so desperately need it. Be revealed in our hearts, O God, so that we might break open Your light into the world. In Jesus' name, we pray that all things will be revealed. Amen.

#### Blessing/Assurance

As the magi revealed Christ to the world, God's love is revealed in us by others who love us. Let yourself be loved. Let yourself be cared for. Let yourself break down and cry when you need to. Let others lift you up. Know God's love is in the words of assurance from friends, the listening ear, the shoulder to cry on. Know God's love is with you when you love one another and care for them as well. Go and share God's love. Amen.

#### Song

*My Lord What a Morning*

## Prayer for Illumination

Open our ears, O God,  
that we might hear your Word  
speaking to us in this moment.  
Open our ears, O God,  
that we might listen for your voice  
calling to us through scripture.  
Open our ears, O God,  
that we might understand your promises  
to followers both old and young, ancient and modern.  
Open our hearts, O God,  
that we might enter into the love  
you offer us. Amen.

*By Laura Jaquith Bartlett, <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/2224/worship-elements-january-14-2018>*

## A Reading of the first Scripture

John 1:43-51

1:43 The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me."

1:44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.

1:45 Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth."

1:46 Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

1:47 When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!"

1:48 Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you."

1:49 Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

1:50 Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these."

1:51 And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God!**

## Sermon

## Prayers for the People

## The Lord's Prayer

Josh Bliss

## Benediction

Go, let your light shine so that others may see your works and glorify the Lord.

**Liturgist:** Edith Leet

**Organist:** Mary Bon

**Soloist:** Rose Hunsberger

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



# PRAYER REQUESTS

## Please keep in prayer this week...

---

- Linda and Bill
- Jane Ward & Family
- Joline Mondore & Family
- Judith Suess & Le Roy
- Amy Carr (Gillespie Family)
- Kathy Stallmer (Monthie Family)
- Brown Family
- Pagerey Family
- Steve Hoffman
- Ron
- Beth
- Gertrude Dorn
- Ginger
- Charlie Welge
- Mary and Joseph Carmen
- 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](mailto:fciaofficemanager@gmail.com).