

THE FIRST CHURCH IN ALBANY

(Reformed Church in America)

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

Email: info@firstchurchinalbany.org ~ Website: 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.

Trinity Sunday

June 16, 2019

Prelude

*Air
Voluntary*

*Jonathan Batishill
William Boyce*

Announcements

Call to Worship

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

Psalm 124:8

Amen.

O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

O LORD, OUR SOVEREIGN, HOW MAJESTIC IS YOUR NAME IN ALL THE EARTH!

Psalm 8

Prayer of Confession (Responsive)

Gracious God, the psalmist declares that you have given human beings dominion over the works of your hands.

All too often, though, we confuse this holy charge with having ownership.

We then treat your creation as a resource to be used for our needs and our profit.

We find ourselves reluctant to count the cost of our failure to be your faithful stewards until disaster strikes.

And so we pray, show us another way, O God.

Show us another way.

Holy God, your cry for wisdom and understanding echoes in our homes, our workplaces, our schools, our church committee meetings, our legislatures and our courts.

We confess we don't always want to hear that cry, deciding instead to rely on familiar habits, comfortable assumptions, and quick conclusions.

We ask you to show us another way, O God.

Show us another way.

Merciful God, the apostle Paul proclaims peace, hope, and grace are your gifts to us.

And yet there are times when grief overwhelms us, anxiety holds us captive, and suffering leaves us numb with despair.

We wonder how, even if you are at work in our lives, and we long for you to show us another way, O God.

Show us another way.

The prayer may continue in silence.

Assurance of Pardon

*The Peace

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: Siyahamba) supplement #A11

Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos

We are marching in the light of God.

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

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Lesson

John 16:12-15

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Capaciousness of God

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

*Hymn 276

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

Offering

Offertory

Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me

13th century hymn
arr. K. Lee Scott

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be; help me now thy grace to see, I would be like thee; And, with words that help and heal, thy life would mine reveal; And, with actions bold and meek, for Christ, my Savior, speak. Truthful Spirit, dwell with me, I would truthful be; help me now thy truth to see, I would be like thee; And, with wisdom kind and clear, thy life in mine appear; And, with actions kind and good, speak Christ's sincerity. Holy Spirit, dwell with me, I would holy be; show thy mercy tenderly, make me more like thee; Separate from sin, I would, and cherish all things good, and whatever I can be, give him who gave me thee. Mighty Spirit, dwell with me, I would mighty be; help me now thy power to see, I would be like thee; 'Gainst all weapons hell can wield, be thou my strength and shield; let thy word my weapon be, Lord, thine the victory. Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would be like thee!

Words by Thomas K. Lynch and K. Lee Scott

*Doxology (Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ and Spirit, One.**

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 555

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

*Charge and Blessing

Postlude

Voluntary

Anonymous

AΩ

*Those who are able, please stand

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS: Liturgist: Becky Mondore; Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Allan Janssen; Minister of Music: Mary Bon; Rose Hunsberger, soloist.

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. Hosting this morning are the Elders. If you would like to help with coffee hour, please contact the office.

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

The Prayer of Confession was authored by the Rev. Heather A. Moody.

Next Sunday, we will install our newly elected Deacons: Deb Anderson, Erica Bliss and Bill Kendall; Elders; Tom Allison, Norma Jean Ballou, and Becky Mondore, and Trustees: Ned Monthie, Joyce Recene and Ray Van Epps.

Children and Worship will resume September. Any children in second grade or younger are welcome in the nursery. There are crayons and drawing paper available from the ushers.

The flowers this morning are in loving memory of my beloved Mom, Helen H. Bryce by L. Craig Bryce.

Today is the choir's last Sunday before they take a break for the summer. We thank them for their service and look forward to their return in the fall.

Drive-in Worship meets in the Sheridan Avenue parking lot each Sunday at 9 am, May through the first Sunday in September. The service lasts for a half hour and is led from the outdoor pulpit.

CLEEO'S HOTDOGS - Thursdays, 11am – 1pm. Food donations (hotdogs, rolls, chips, condiments) can be placed in the box in the entryway. Financial donations should be marked “Cleo’s Hotdogs,” and placed in the offering plate or sent to the office. Helpers on Thursdays are always welcome!

NOON TIME CONCERTS HAVE MOVED TO THURSDAYS AT NOON!

Join us for a series of noon-time concerts in our sanctuary each Thursday in June from 12:00 PM to 12:30 PM. We’ll have special music from our soloists as well as guest instrumentalists. This Week, Sophia Subbayya Vastek, pianist *playing with “passion and profound tenderness” (Second Inversion) “serene strokes and lyrical beauty” (Brooklyn Rail).*

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday	6/16	Trinity Sunday 9:00 am Drive-In Worship 10:30 am Sanctuary Service The Rev. Al Janssen, preaching Post Service: Coffee & Conversation
Monday	6/17	9:00 am – 11:30 am – Food Pantry Open 12:00 pm Adult Bible Study
Wednesday	6/19	9:00 am – 11:30 am – Food Pantry Open 12:00 pm AA Meeting 12:00 pm Prayer for the Church – Clee Park 5:00 pm Worship, Music & Arts
Thursday	6/20	11:00 am – 1:00 pm – Cleeo’s Hotdogs in Clee Park 12:00 pm Concert – Sophia Subbaya Vastek, pianist
Saturday	6/22	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm – The Rev. Renee Hollinshed Appreciation Luncheon Zimmerman Hall
Sunday	6/23	Second Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 am Drive-In Worship 10:30 am Sanctuary Service The Rev. Lynn Carman Bodden, preaching Installation of Officers 11:30 am Coffee and Conversation

The Rev. Lynn Carman Bodden is away until mid-day Wednesday, June 19th. The Rev. Sue Vincent-Cox is on call for emergencies and can be reached at (518) 796-8793.

*Happy Father's Day
from the
First Church in Albany*



We are a community rooted in Jesus with a long history in Albany and a continuing commitment to ministry in the city. You are invited to join us in worship on Sunday or to participate in ongoing opportunities for spiritual growth and mission.