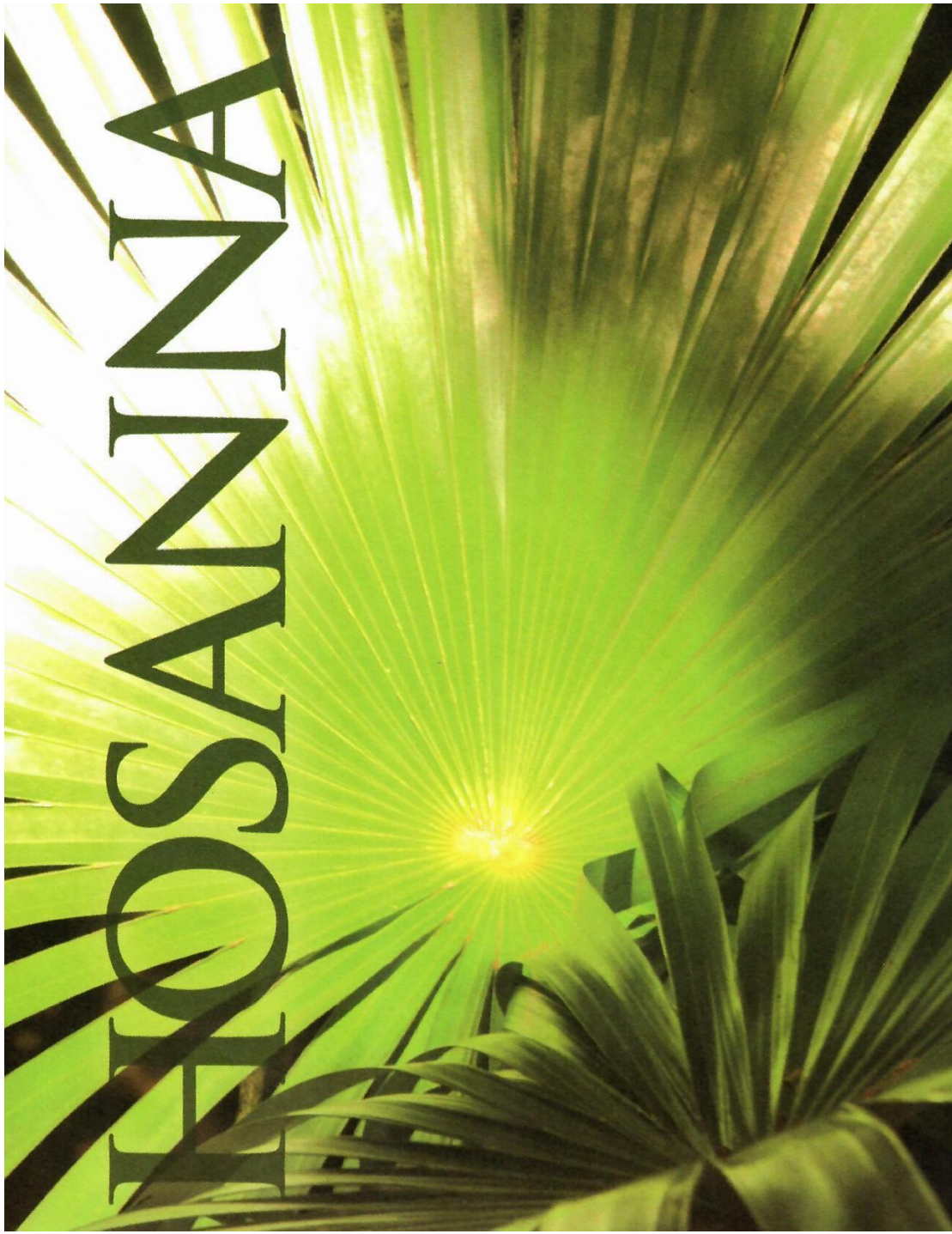


# PHIOSANNIA



# 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.*

### Palms towards Passion

March 25, 2018

10:30 a.m.

Prelude                      *Selections from Unaccompanied Cello Suites*                      Johann Sebastian Bach

Announcements

#### THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

Call to Worship

Come. Come seeking words.

**Come to let your tongue give praise.**

Come. Come to find your voice.

**Come to hear the response.**

Come. Come to open your ears.

**Come to listen.**

Come. Come to be healed by the silence.

**Come to stand together.**

Come. Come to approach what words cannot describe.

**Come to find God.**

(inspired by Isaiah 50:4-9a)

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

Psalm 124:8

**Amen.**

\*Hymn 88

*All Glory, Laud and Honor*

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

The Palm Parade (Mark 11:1-11)

Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

**Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!**

Come. Join in the parade, you who need answers, you who came looking for peace.

Time with Children

\*Hymn 89

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

ELLACOMBE

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

Confession

**O Holy One, speak to us.**

**Fill our silences.**

**Comfort us with your love**

**so that we may find your understanding.**

**Trust us to find your answers**

**when we finally tire from our own.**

**Save us, O Holy One, with your steadfast love. Amen.**

Assurance

The Peace

Offering

Offertory *Cross Cry* African American Spiritual arr. Gilbert Martin

*I think I heard Him say, When He was strugglin' up the hill I think I heard Him say, Take my mother home. I think I heard Him say, When they was rafflin' off His clothes I think I heard Him say, Take my mother home. Then I'll die easy, Take my mother home, Then I'll die easy, Take my mother home. I think I heard Him say, When they were lifting up the cross, I think I heard Him say, Take my mother home. I think I heard Him cry, When they was nailin' in the nails, I think I heard Him cry, Take my mother home. I'll die this death on Calvary, won't have to die no more, I'll die on Calvary, Won't have to die no more. Then I'll die easy, Take my mother home. Then I'll die so easy, Take my mother home. I think I heard Him cry, When He was givin' up the ghost, I think I heard Him cry, Take my mother home.*

*Text: African-American Spiritual*

\*Doxology (Hymn 591)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. 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, forever. Amen.**

\*Hymn 91

*Ride On, Ride On in Majesty, vss 1&2*

ST. DROSTANE

#### THE LITURGY TOWARD THE PASSION

The Anointing Mark 14:1-9

Musical Meditation: *Reverie*

Claude Debussy

The Last Supper Mark 14:12-25

Silent Meditation

The Garden Mark 14.32-40

Musical Meditation: *Gabriel's Oboe* (from The Mission)

Ennio Morricone

The Betrayal Mark 14.43-50

Choir Chorale *Peter, While his Conscience Slept* Johann Sebastian Bach  
*Peter, while his conscience slept, thrice denied his Savior. When it woke he bitter wept, At his base behavior. Jesus, let me not forget; True devotion teach me; When on evil I am set, Through my conscience reach me.*

The Arrest Mark 14:.53-64

## Silent Meditation

Charge                      Philippians 2:5-11

\* Hymn 91                      *Ride On, Ride On in Majesty, vss 3&4*

ST. DROSTANE

\*Blessing

\*Postlude                      *Sonata I: Allegro Maestoso*

Felix Mendelssohn

ΑΩ

\*Those who are able please stand.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS: Liturgist: The Rev. Susan Vincent-Cox; Preacher: The Rev. Lynn Carman Bodden; Mary Bon, Minister of Music; Erica Pickhardt, Violoncello; Doug Persons, Trumpet and the First Church Choir.

**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. If you have questions about our ministry, we encourage you to speak with a pastor or an usher. There is an elevator in the building, which makes every floor accessible.

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

Today's service is modeled on one created by the Rev. Elsa A. Cook.



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

**Join in prayer for First Church Wednesdays at noon.** Come to the sanctuary or pray where you are.

**Care Callers** first meeting is today right after coffee/conversation. Pastors Lynn and Sue will meet with all care callers already committed to providing care to those who are in long term care, rehabilitation or homebound. We also welcome others interested in joining this team as we plan visitation, home communion and other ways to support our members in need. A light lunch will be provided in the Parlor.

## **GOOD FRIDAY MUSIC AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH AT 1 PM**

Franz Josef Haydn's – *Seven Words of Christ on the Cross*

Sung by the Choir of St Peter's Episcopal Church, Albany, with orchestra

Good Friday, March 30th, at 1:00 pm following the Noon service at St. Peter's

**Join us April 1<sup>st</sup>, Easter Sunday**, at 10:15 am to pray, meditate, refresh yourself, or just listen to some beautiful music.

Music for Violin and Bassoon With Violinist, Holly Larsen and Bassoonist, David Bon-Keen

**April 8<sup>th</sup>** Pulpit Swap with The Rev. Peter JB Carman Pastor of Emmanuel Friedens Church, spouse of Rev. Lynn. The **Nat Phipps Jazz Trio** will offer their musical gifts in worship. Rev. Lynn will be preaching at Emmanuel Friedens Church in Schenectady.

**Sunday Flower Dates Available:** April 22<sup>nd</sup> is available for the dedication of sanctuary flower arrangements. The cost is \$65.00 for two vases. Please call the Church Office (518) 463-4449, if you are interested.

**The CROP Walk** is being held again this year on Sunday, May 6, beginning at First Lutheran Church, 646 State Street, Albany. Registration opens at 12:30pm and the walk begins at 1:30pm. First Church has a proud tradition of participation in this fundraiser which supports the work of Church World Service in hunger relief and development projects, as well as local food pantries and soup kitchens. Will you be a walker? A sponsor? We are seeking a Crop Walk Coordinator for this year. Please let Lynn Carmen Bodden or Deacons know you are interested in helping First Church in this ministry.

## **THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH**

Sunday	3/25	<b>Palm/Passion Sunday</b> 10:15 am Pre-Service Music 10:30 am Sanctuary Service Rev. Lynn Carman Bodden preaching Children & Worship (During Worship) 11:30 am Coffee & Conversation 11:45 am Care Callers Meeting (Parlor)
Monday	3/26	9:00 am – 11:30 am – Food Pantry Open
Tuesday	3/27	12:00 noon Bible Study Prayer at Noon – Sanctuary
Wednesday	3/28	9:00 am – 11:30 am – Food Pantry Open 12:00 pm AA Meeting 6:00 pm NVC Practice Group
Thursday	3/29	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> 7:30 pm Communion and Tenebrae
Friday	3/30	<b>Good Friday</b> Capital Area Council of Church Service: 12:00 pm St. Francis of Assisi Church 12:00 pm Union Missionary Baptist Church
Sunday	4/1	<b>Easter Sunday</b> 6:30am Sunrise Service at West Capitol Park steps Sponsored by FOCUS Churches, led by Rev. Lynn Carman Bodden Easter Breakfast at Emmanuel Baptist Church 10:15 am Pre-Service Music 10:30 am Festival Easter Communion Service
Sunday	4/8	10:30 am Sanctuary Service <b>PULPIT SWAP</b> – The Rev. Peter JB Carman, Pastor of Emmanuel Friedens Church, spouse of Rev. Lynn, preaching