

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.

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 13, 2019

Prelude *Medley on Familiar Hymns for Trumpet and Organ*

Announcements

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 66)

L. Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;

P. Sing to the glory of God's name!

L. Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!"

P. "All the earth worships you and sings praises to your name."

L. Come and see what God has done;

P. God's deeds are awesome among mortals.

L. Bless our God, O people; let the sound of God's praise be heard.

All: Praise the Lord!

*Hymn 483

"Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above"

MIT FREUDEN ZART

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we confess that we have turned from your gifts and chosen our own way. We have not made room for you in our hearts or in our world. We have lived in fear; we have not welcomed the stranger; we desire gifts that will not endure. Forgive us our sins, known and unknown, and open our hearts to receive the peace of Christ dwelling in and among us. We pray in Jesus' holy name. Amen.

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 (Let All Who Name Christ's Holy Name Tune: MIT FREUDEN ZART)

**Let all who name Christ's holy name give God all praise and glory;
Let all who own God's power proclaim aloud the wondrous story!
Cast each false idol from its throne, for Christ is Lord, and Christ alone:
To God all praise and glory.**

A Word with Children

Anthem

Stand By Me

Charles Tindley arranged by Benjamin Harlan

*When the storms of life are raging Stand by me (stand by me);
When the world is tossing me Like a ship upon the sea,
Thou Who rulest wind and water, Stand by me (stand by me).*

*In the midst of tribulation, Stand by me (stand by me);
When the hosts of hell assail, And my strength begins to fail,
Thou Who never lost a battle, Stand by me (stand by me).*

*In the midst of faults and failures, Stand by me (stand by me);
When I do the best I can, And my friends misunderstand,
Thou Who knowest all about me, Stand by me (stand by me).*

*In the midst of persecution, Stand by me (stand by me);
When my foes in battle array Undertake to stop my way,
Thou Who savèd Paul and Silas, Stand by me (stand by me).*

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 Scripture Lessons Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

L. The Word of the Lord.

P. Thanks be to God.

Luke 17:11-19

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

P. Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon “Border Crossing”

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

Hymn 298 “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” IN BABILONE

Offering

Offertory *The Hidden Stream That Feeds* Eleanor Daley

The hidden stream that feeds our daily acts of care / Springs forth in worship when Christ leads the church in song and prayer. / Lord, through our lives may others hear / Your living waters drawing near. / A heart of stone and dust, of withered hopes and dreams, / Becomes a spring of faith and trust by drinking from these streams. / Lord, through our lives may others hear / Your living waters drawing near. / The stream runs clear and deep and tastes of heaven's skies, / And where its ceaseless currents sweep flows life that never dies. / Lord, through our lives may others hear Your living waters drawing near. / We leave this watered place to work on rocky ground, / Yet even there, the streams of grace sustain our daily round. / Lord, through our lives may others hear / Your living waters drawing near. Text: Thomas H. Troeger

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*Doxology (Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, no. 455)
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise, praise Creator, praise the Son,
Praise Holy Spirit, Three in One,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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 555 *"Now Thank We All Our God"* NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

*Charge and Blessing

Benediction Response: *Sent Forth By God's Blessing* Welsh Melody

Postlude *Book II Dialogue with the Trumpet* Louis Marchand

AΩ

*Those who are able, please stand

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS: Liturgists: Peter Pagerey; Preaching Elder: Kitt Jackson;
Minister of Music: Mary Bon; Doug Persons, trumpet

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. Please join us for refreshments and conversation after worship.

Our worship leader this morning is Kitt Jackson, a member of Altamont Reformed Church and a Commissioned Preaching Elder in the Classis of Schenectady. She retired in 2014 from the Capital Area Council of Churches where she had served as Administrative Director for seventeen years. She lives in Delmar and has two adult children and one grandchild.

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

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



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

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

Adult Bible Study meets Monday at noon in the Parlor.

The flowers this morning are given in memory of Henry & Alberta Fox and Kenneth, Betty and Pat Huba by Barabar Murray.

Copies of our newsletter “**The Family**” and information about First Church are available at the Hospitality table in the lobby.

On October 20th, we welcome the Gong Lab to our worship service. They will play gongs of various sizes for some of the musical selections in our service.

First Church Readers will meet on **Sunday October 27** after worship to discuss *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens. Everyone is welcome.

Available Sunday Flower Date: October 27th is available for the dedication of sanctuary flower arrangements. The cost is \$65.00 for two vases. Please contact the Church office (518) 463-4449, if you are interested



FESTIVAL of SPIRITUALS

AND WORKS BY
AFRICAN AMERICAN COMPOSERS

**In October we are celebrating anthems by
Rev. Dr. Charles Albert Tindley (1851 – July 26, 1933)**

- American Methodist Minister, gospel songwriter and composer
- Called “The Prince of Preachers”
- Considered one of the founding fathers of American gospel music
- His father was a slave and his mother was free. Had to live with his mother’s sister because his mother died young and his father was not allowed to raise him.
- Taught himself to read. Got his MDIV through a correspondence course.
- Founded one of the largest African Methodist congregations on the East Coast
- His hymns addressed individual suffering, endurance and faith
- Today’s anthem, “*Stand By Me,*” was sung at the Royal Wedding
- Song “*We Shall Overcome*” thought to be based on a Tindley Song!



THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday	10/13	Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 am Worship Service Kitt Jackson, preaching Children & Worship (during worship) Post Service: Coffee & Conversation
Monday	10/14	Church Office Closed – Columbus Day
Tuesday	10/15	Newsletter Editorial Deadline
Wednesday	10/16	9:00 am – 11:30 am – Food Pantry Open 12:00 pm AA Meeting 6:00 pm Dutch Settlers – Parlor & Powell Room
Thursday	10/17	7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
Friday	10/18	5:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal
Saturday	10/19	3:00 pm Wedding – Osterhoudt & Smith
Sunday	10/20	Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 am Worship Service The Rev. Kent Busman, preaching Children & Worship (during worship) Post Service: Coffee & Conversation