

# 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.*

### Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

October 21, 2018

Prelude *Prelude in G*

Felix Mendelssohn

Announcements

Call to Worship

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

Psalm 124:8

**Amen.**

Holy Dwelling Place,  
Your tent is wide enough to provide  
shelter for all who seek you,  
food for all who hunger, and  
healing for all who suffer.

**Meet us here today, and fill us with confidence in your presence,  
that we may risk sharing Jesus' cup and his baptism  
so the world may become  
the place of love and justice you desire for all.**

Shelter us with your light,  
and clothe us with your heavenly garments.

**Teach us how we may best serve ourselves and one another  
on this daring adventure. Amen.**

Adapted from Psalms 91 and 104

Prayer of Confession

**Holy One, you call us not to be served, but to serve.  
We find that hard sometimes.  
Our lives are filled with struggles and suffering—  
none of us are immune.  
When we falter, remind us again  
that the key to full life in Christ  
is not to rise above our doubts and fears,  
our faltering and our forgetfulness,  
but to struggle together and help one another along the way,  
knowing that you are with us in every moment.  
Forgive us when we choose not to serve or lift one another up,  
and help us commit anew to struggle together,  
until we become witnesses to Christ's glory.**

*The prayer may continue in silence.*

Assurance of Pardon

\*The Peace

To welcome the peace of God into our hearts is to grab hold of the chance to begin anew. That peace is here, friends, available to each of us and all of us. Now we can lift up our heads and open our arms to one another to share the peace we have received.

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: #483 MIT FREUDEN ZART)

**Sing praise to God, who reigns above, the God of all creation.  
The God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation;  
With healing balm my soul is filled,  
and every faithless murmur stilled,  
To God all praise and glory!**

A Word with Children

Anthem            *Friends in faith who follow Jesus*            Shaker Hymn arr. Burton Bumgarner

*Friends in faith who follow Jesus, hear the message of the cross: Worldly wisdom now is folly; worldly riches count as loss. Friends who strive to follow Jesus, walk the way that Jesus trod; Spirit-filled, in human weakness, cast your cares upon our God. Shout halleluiah! Praise resounds o'er land and sea. Christ has conquered death and evil; Christ is joy and life and love. Shout halleluiah! Praise resounds o'er land and sea. All who will may come and share the glories of this Jubilee.*

*Text: Delores Dufner; Shaker text.*

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 Gospel Lesson            Mark 10:35-45

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon            Wanting Glory

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

\*Hymn 357            *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*            MARYTON

A Word with Adults            Becky Mondore

Offering



**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.

**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**.

**The Call to Worship and Confession** are adapted from liturgy written by the Rev. Dr. Kristina Lizardy-Hajbi.

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** in the spirit of love and joy by a birthday great-grandma.

**Journey Through the Psalms** - The Rev. Susan Vincent Cox will lead "Psalms of the Shepherd" after worship, in the Parlor. Please join us!

**First Church Readers will meet** today in the Powell Room after worship to discuss *The Rosie Project* by Graeme Simsion. Everyone is welcome.

### **Sunday Flower Dates Available:**

November 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and December 2<sup>nd</sup> are 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.



## **It's Overflow Shelter Dinner time again! Can you help?**

### **Our first dinners are:**

November 9<sup>th</sup> (**Italian**)

December 14<sup>th</sup> (**Chili**)

### **CAN YOU?**

- contribute a main dish, side dish or dessert for 6-8 people
- deliver the meal to the shelter on Friday afternoon or evening.

**SIGN-UP SHEETS ARE AT THE HOSPITALITY TABLE.**

Bring your dishes to church any day from 8:30-1:00 pm, Thursday evening from 6:30 - 7:30 pm or Friday before noon. We'll deliver them to the shelter on Friday afternoon. **USE NON-RETURNABLE DISHES** and **clearly label all pork dishes**. Questions? Contact Mary Bon (518-463-4449) or [maryebon@verizon.net](mailto:maryebon@verizon.net).

## **URGENT NEED**

The Food Pantry has an urgent need for the following personal care items:

- Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Feminine Products
- Razors
- Toothpaste



## **THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH**

Sunday	10/21	<b>Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost</b>	
	10:30 am	Worship Service - Sanctuary	
		The Rev. Lynn Carman Bodden, preaching	
		Children & Worship (during worship)	
		Post Service: Journey Through the Psalms	
		lead by Rev. Susan Vincent-Cox	
	11:45 am	First Church Readers	
		Coffee & Conversation	
Monday	10/22	11:30 am	Prayer Shawl Ministry
		1:30 pm	Staff Meeting – Parlor
		5:30 pm	Endowment Meeting – Workroom
		6:30 pm	Leadership Meeting – Workroom
Tuesday	10/23	12:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
Wednesday	10/24	9:00 am – 11:30 am	Food Pantry Open
		12:00 pm	AA Meeting
		12:00 pm	Prayer at Noon
Thursday	10/25	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday	10/26 – 10/28		Intergenerational Retreat Camp Fowler
Sunday	10/28	<b>Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost</b>	
	10:30 am	Worship Service - Sanctuary	
		The Rev. Lynn Carman Bodden, preaching	
		Children & Worship (during worship)	
		Post Service: Coffee & Conversation	