

The First Church in Albany

Welcomes you

BUT I SAY TO
YOU THAT LISTEN

**LOVE your enemies,
do GOOD**

to those who hate you

bless

those who curse you,

pray

for those who mistreat you

Luke 6:27-38

**The Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
February 20, 2022, 10am**

The First Church in Albany (Reformed Church in America)

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 we are loved.

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany February 20, 2022

We Gather in the Presence of God

Prelude

"Catalina"
Martha Deyo, pianist

C. Conan

Welcome, Announcements & Blessing

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." 2 Corinthians 13:14

Call to Worship *Based on Psalm Lectionary text Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40*

Leader: Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers,

People: for they will soon fade like the grass, and wither like the green herb.

Leader: Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.

People: Take delight in the Lord, and God will give you the desires of your heart.

Leader: Commit your way to the Lord; trust in God, and God will do this:

People: God will make our righteous patience shine like the dawn; our vindication will be like the noonday sun.

Leader: So, be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for the Lord;

People: do not fret over those who prosper in their way, or over those who carry out evil schemes.

Leader: Wait a little while, and the wicked will be no more. Refrain from anger and turn from wrath — it only leads to evil.

People: For the salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord, and the meek shall inherit the land.

Leader: As we wait for that day when all will be made right, we ask God to give us Jesus:

***Opening Hymn**

Give Me Jesus

v. 1,2, & 4

G C G Am Em F G7 C

1 In the morn - ing when I rise, in the morn - ing when I rise,
2 Dark — mid - night was my cry, dark — mid - night was my cry,
3 Just a - bout the break of day, just a - bout the break of day,
4 Oh, — when I come to die, oh, — when I come to die,

Detailed description: This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first two measures of the top staff are circled with a dashed line. The lyrics are aligned with the notes in the top staff.

G Am C D7 G7 C F C

in the morn - ing when I rise, give me Je - sus.
dark — mid - night was my cry, give me Je - sus.
just a - bout the break of day, give me Je - sus.
oh, — when I come to die, give me Je - sus.

Detailed description: This system contains the second two staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first two measures of the top staff are circled with a dashed line. The lyrics are aligned with the notes in the top staff.

Refrain Fmaj9 Em G F Am G7 C7

Give me Je - sus, give me Je - sus;

Detailed description: This system contains the third two staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first two measures of the top staff are circled with a dashed line. The lyrics are aligned with the notes in the top staff.

E7 Am D7 G7 Am7 F C

you may have all this world; give me Je - sus.

Detailed description: This system contains the fourth two staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first two measures of the top staff are circled with a dashed line. The lyrics are aligned with the notes in the top staff.

Words: African American spiritual, P.D.
Music (GIVE ME JESUS 6.6.6.4 refrain 4.4.6.4): African American spiritual; arr. Diane Dykgraaf © 2012 Diane Dykgraaf, admin. Faith Alive Christian Resources

Prayer of Confession *Based on Luke 6:27-38*

God, we confess that it is hard to love our enemies. We want to do good only to those who do good to us. In fact, it is sometimes painful not to return evil for the evil that is done to us. So we ask: When evil is done to us, be our refuge, send your Spirit to empower us to stand for what is right, and guide us as we follow in the way of Jesus and respond in love. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon *Based on Romans 5:6-8, 10a*

First Church, the Apostle Paul, in his letter to the church gathered in Rome, said that we were once enemies of God:

“For while we were still weak, at that right time, Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die... But God proves God’s love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us... we were enemies, [but] we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son.”

Live out of this good news: though we were once enemies of God, Christ has made us his friends. Live in this peace.



***Passing the Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us greet one another with a hand-sign of peace.

Touch your thumb to the tip of your ring finger, and wave to one another. This hand-sign makes Christ’s gesture of blessing in a lot of iconography in the Orthodox Tradition.

Children’s Message & Blessing

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, let us hear these words afresh, reveal to us the way you desire us to live, and give us the strength to do so. Amen.

Sermon Text

Luke 6:27-38

“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Stand for What Is Right

A Prayer of Blessing on the Word

Sermon Notes

Trouble in the text:

Trouble in our world:

God in the text:

God in our world:

Ways that God is moving in me:

Stand for What Is Right

Words and music
by Jim Strathdee

Capo 3: Play D

♩ = 105

F(D) B♭(G) F(D) B♭(G) C(A) F(D) B♭(G) G7m(Em7) B♭(G) C(A)

1. When in - jus - tice harms our friends, stand for what is
 2. When the chil - dren have no voice, speak for what is
 3. When we hurt our moth - er earth, work for what is
 4. When the world seems most un - fair, pray for what is

F(D) B♭(G) C(A) F(D) B♭(G) Gm7(Em7) Csus4(A) C(A)

right. When the vio - lence nev - er ends, stand for what is right. — Yes,
 right. When the moth - ers have no choice, speak for what is right. — Yes,
 right. When we de - ny each oth - er's worth, work for what is right. — Yes,
 right. When we're lost in deep de - spair, pray for what is right. — Yes,

B♭(G) C(A) F(D) Dm7(Bm7) G7m(Em7) F(D) B♭(G) C(A)

stand and speak, — work and pray and keep your cour - age strong. The

B♭(G) C(A) F(D) B♭(G) Gm7(Em7) B♭(G) C(A) F(D) B♭(G) F(D)

Spir - it of God will be lead - ing us through our whole life long.

Offering & Offertory

*“Give Me Jesus”
Martha Deyo, pianist*

M. Hayes

You may also mail your offering to the church at First Church in Albany, 110 North Pearl St., Albany NY 12207.

***Doxology #592**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Leader: O Lord,

People: Hear our prayer.

THE WORDS HE TAUGHT US

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.**

*Sending Song

Seek Ye First

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al -
D F#m G D G

1 Seek ye — first the king - dom of God and his
2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and
3 We do not live by bread — a - lone, but by

le - lu - ia, al - le -
D Em7 A7 D F#m

right - eous - ness, and all these things shall be
you shall find; knock and the door shall be
ev - ery word that pro - ceeds from the

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
G D G D Em7 A D

add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
mouth — of — God. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

Words: Matthew 6:33, 7:7, 4:4; para. Karen Lafferty, 1972, © 1972 Maranatha! Music, admin. Music Services
Music (LAFFERTY irregular): Karen Lafferty, 1972, © 1972 Maranatha! Music, admin. Music Services

*Charge & Blessing

Postlude

“Go Forth in Praise”
Martha Deyo, pianist

E. Englert

Worship Leadership:

Preacher: Rev. Trey Tirpak

Liturgist: Imani Brewer

Guest Pianist: Martha Deyo

Vocalist: Members of the First Church Choir

Technical Team: Joshua Bliss, and Stephen Reohr

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- Family of Nathaniel Marable
- Mary Ann Selmer
- For the family of Danielle as they mourn her passing, friends of the Andrews
- For Katherine’s grandmother
- For the friends and family of Nat Phipps (of the Nat Phipps Jazz Trio) at his passing
- Carol LaBatte
- Anthony, of the Brown Family
- Jane, sister of Donna Schultz
- Elaine and Jim Jenks, Rose Hunsberger’s parents
- Peter, Karen Van Epps’ brother
- Charnelle Jones
- Jeff Curry
- Barb Andrews
- Samuel, Barb Andrew’s son
- Brian, the Andrew’s son-in-law
- Haleigh Bliss
- Mary Weijola
- Neil Keen
- Fran Carr Morton
- Harriet Stockhoff
- Kathy Stallmer (Monthie family)
- Cheryl Gowie
- Steve Hoffman
- Ada Harris
- Gwen, friend of Becky Gardner
- Charles Welge
- Olivia Gaydushek
- Staff and leaders of the First Church in Albany
- The city officials and police in Albany and surrounding areas as they work on ways to curb gun violence.

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 office@firstchurchinalbany.org



SOUP IN
Glee Park
THURSDAY
11:30AM-12:30PM
FREE SOUP
LUNCH

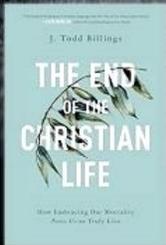
***Volunteers needed!** On Sunday, there will be a volunteer sign up sheet in the work room, near the copier. We need help setting up, serving, welcoming our guests and cleaning up. Soup has been planned and will be prepared for Soup Thursday, but we could use dessert items (i.e. cookies, brownies, etc.).*



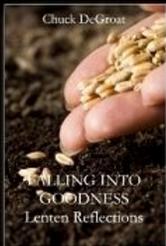
Lent is a time of contemplation

Rev. Trey has chosen two book options to help guide us as we walk from Ash Wednesday, to the meal in the upper room, to the Cross, and gloriously, to the empty tomb. A time will be provided to gather for coffee and conversation to discuss what was learned from the book study and from our Lenten journey.

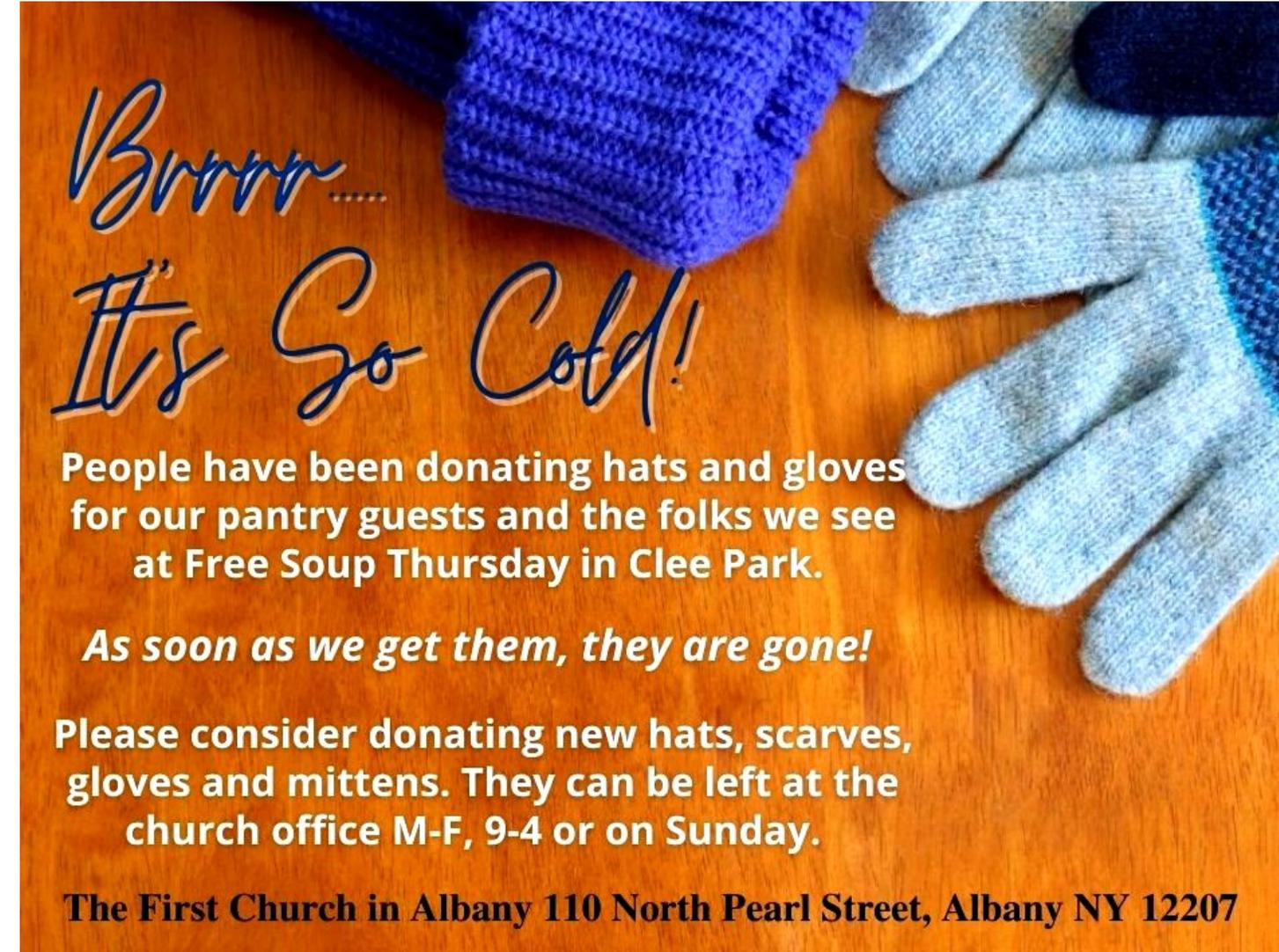
Let Rev. Trey know what book you would like and we will make it available to you. You can email him at treytirpak@gmail.com.



The End of the Christian Life



Falling into Goodness: Daily Readings for Lent



*Brrrrr.....
It's So Cold!*

People have been donating hats and gloves for our pantry guests and the folks we see at Free Soup Thursday in Clee Park.

As soon as we get them, they are gone!

Please consider donating new hats, scarves, gloves and mittens. They can be left at the church office M-F, 9-4 or on Sunday.

The First Church in Albany 110 North Pearl Street, Albany NY 12207

Drive In Worship Resumes on Mother's Day, May 8th along with Lemonade Lull.

**Lemonade Lull takes place in Clee Park
after the Drive-In service.**

**We serve water, lemonade, iced tea,
cookies etc.**

Host and get to know your fellow worshipers!

Sign up to host Lemonade Lull on a Sunday afternoon
between May 8th and September 19th! Lawn chairs
and umbrellas are welcome!

Come and stretch out.



This Week at the First Church in Albany



- Sunday 2.20 10am Sanctuary
- Sunday Worship
- Monday 2.21 **President's Day**
Office Closed
- Tuesday 2.22 9am Food Pantry **OPEN!**
12pm Adult Scripture Study
- Wednesday 2.23 9am Food Pantry
12pm AA Meeting
12pm Centering Prayer
- Thursday 2.24 11am Soup Lunch in Clee Park
8pm Prayer on Conference Call

Upcoming Events

- Wednesday 3.2 12pm Ash Wednesday Service (with drive-thru imposition of ashes in the afternoon)

*Meeting Schedules are subject to change.
Watch your email for updates if you are a part of these gatherings.*

GROUP & MINISTRY LEADERS, SEND US YOUR

CALENDAR UPDATES

ONE-TIME EVENTS
OR RECURRING MEETINGS

PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE WITH YOUR SCHEDULED GATHERINGS SO THAT WE CAN PUT THEM ON THE CHURCH EVENT AND OPERATIONAL CALENDARS.



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OFFICE@FIRSTCHURCHINALBANY.ORG
OR CALL
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