

The First Church in Albany

Welcomes you

**Transfiguration Sunday
February 27, 2022, 10am**



B a p t i s m

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.

Transfiguration Sunday February 27, 2022

We Gather in the Presence of God

Prelude

“Balm of Gilead”
“Steel Away”
Iteke Prins, pianist

arr. H.T. Burleigh ^a

Welcome, Announcements & Blessing

“Now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: ‘Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.’” Isaiah 43:1-2

Baptismal Remembrance Litany

This Transfiguration Sunday, the Sunday before we start our Lenten Journey to the cross and empty tomb, we are remembering the promises of baptism and that all who live in love, live in God. In baptism, we see and tangibly feel God's promises to us here at First Church.

In baptism, God assures us that our sins are already forgiven, that we have been adopted as children into the family of God in Christ's church, and that the Holy Spirit will daily renew us and will one day resurrect us from the dead to live in full glory with the Lord.

So come, let us remember together the promises God has made to us!

Call to Worship *Based on Ezekiel 36:25-28*

Leader: There will come a day when I will sprinkle clean water on you,

People: And you will be cleansed from all your uncleanness.

Leader: A new heart I will give you,

People: And a new spirit I will put within you;

Leader: I will remove from your body the heart of stone,

People: and give you a heart of flesh.

Leader: I will put my Spirit within you,

People: and we will follow your precepts.

Leader: **reads below while the baptismal water is poured out**



Pouring of Baptismal Waters *Based on RCA Baptismal Liturgy*

Leader: Water cleanses and purifies, refreshes and renews, nourishes and sustains; Jesus Christ is living water, and promises to do these things for us.

Children are now invited forward to help with sprinkling the congregation

***Baptismal
Remembrance
Hymn**

Neither Death nor Life

H. Burleigh

ROMANS 8:38-39

Refrain (verses on next page)

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "Nei-ther death nor life, nor an-gels, nor rul-ers, nor trials in the pres-ent, nor an-y trial to come; nei-ther height nor depth, nor all of cre-a-tion can ev-er sep-a-rate us from the love of God poured out in Christ Je-sus our Lord." The chords are indicated above the vocal line: F7, Bb, F7/C, Bb/D, Eb, Bb, Gm7, Cm, F, Bb, F7/C, Bb/D, Ebm, Bb/F, Cm7/F, Bb/F, Cm7/F, Bb/F, Eb/F, F7, Eb/Bb, Bb.

Words and Music (NEITHER DEATH): from Romans 8:38-39, Marty Haugen © 2001 GIA Publications, Inc.

Verse 1

Dwell in the One who raised Christ from the dead;
though your body shall die in Christ
you shall rise through the Spirit who brings you to life!

(Refrain)

Verse 2

All who are led by the Spirit shall live as children of God,
and heirs with Christ Jesus,
God's adopted and chosen beloved!

(Refrain)

Verse 3

Who can separate us from the love of Christ?
Will hardship or distress, persecution or famine,
or naked or peril or sword?

(Refrain)

Assurance of Promises in Baptism *Romans 8:38-39*

First Church, I pray this tune and its words will sneak into your heart, and on days when you need to remember God's baptismal promises, remember these words:

"I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."



***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.

Prayer for Illumination:

Lord, take us to the mountaintop and show us your glory. Amen.

Sermon Text

Luke 9:28-36

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

The Glory of God

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:

***Hymn of
Response**

Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain v. 1, 2, & 5

1 Je - sus, take us to the moun - tain, where, with Pe - ter,
2 What do you want us to see there, that your close com -
3 What do you want us to hear there, that your dear dis -
4 Take us to that oth - er moun - tain where we see you
5 We who have be - held your glo - ry, ris - en and as -

James, and John, we are daz - zled by your glo - ry,
pan - ions saw? Your di - vin - i - ty re - vealed there
ci - ples heard? Once a - gain the voice from heav - en
glo - ri - fied, where you shout - ed "It is fin - ished!"
cend - ed Lord, can - not help but tell the sto - ry,

light as blind - ing as the sun. There pre - pare us
fills us with the self - same awe. Clothed in flesh like
says of the In - car - nate Word, "Lis - ten, lis - ten,
where for all the world you died. Hear the stunned cen -
all that we have seen and heard; say with Pe - ter,

for the night by the vi - sion of that sight.
ours you go, matched to meet our dead - liest foe.
ev - ery - one: this is my be - lov - ed Son."
tur - i - on: "Tru - ly this was God's own Son!"
James, and John: "You are God's be - lov - ed Son!"

Some version of the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-9/Mark 9:2-9/Luke 9:28-36) is always read on the last Sunday after the Epiphany. In this text that foretaste of Christ's glorification helps to prepare Peter, James, and John for their roles as proclaimers of "God's beloved Son."

Offering & Offertory

*“Adoration”
Iteke Prins, organist*

F. Price^b

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

Nothing Between

C. A. TINDLEY ^c

Arranged by F. A. Clark

1. Noth-ing be-tween my soul and the Sav- iour, Naught of this world's de-
2. Noth-ing be-tween like world - ly pleas - ure; Hab - its of life, though
3. Noth-ing be-tween, like pride or like sta - tion; Self or friends shall
4. Noth-ing be-tween, e'en man - y hard tri - als, Though the whole world a -

lu - sive dream: I have re-nounced all sin - ful pleas-ure,
harm-less they seem, Must not my heart from Him ev - er sev - er -
not in - ter - vene; Though it may cost me much trib - u - la - tion,
gainst me con - vene; Watch-ing with prayer and much self - de - ni - al, I'll

Je - sus is mine, there's noth-ing be-tween.
He is my all, there's noth-ing be-tween. Noth-ing be-tween my soul and the
I am re-solved, there's noth-ing be-tween.
tri-umph at last, with noth-ing be-tween.

Sav-iour, So that His bless-ed face may be seen; Noth-ing pre-vent-ing the

least of His fa - vor, Keep the way clear! Let noth - ing be - tween.

*Charge & Blessing

Postlude

“Dance at the Organ”
Iteke Prins, organist

I. Prins

Worship Leadership:

Preacher: Rev. Trey Tirpak

Liturgist: Rev. Dr. Mashona Walston

Guest Organist: Iteke Prins

Vocalist: Members of the First Church Choir

Technical Team: Joshua Bliss, and Stephen Reohr

CCLI License #463379; One License #A-700689

Music Notes:

- ^a **Harry T. Burleigh:** Born in Erie, PA, Burleigh studied at the national Conservatory of music in NYC, on a scholarship. He had additional studies with major composers of the day, notably, Anton Dvorak. He was the soloist and linguist, singing in Hebrew as well as Latin, Italian, French, and German. In 1917, he became famous as a composer, and also was a music editor. He coached many famous singers including Caruso, and Marian Anderson. He received both honorary Master and Doctor of music degrees. He died in Stamford, CT.
- ^b **Florence Price:** Price was born in Little Rock, AR on April 9, 1887. She composed over three hundred works and was the first black woman to have a symphony performed by a professional orchestra (Chicago Symphony Orchestra). Her songs were performed by some of the most admired voices of her day. Price died in 1953.
- ^c **Charles A. Tindley:** (1851-1933) Tindley was one of the eminent preachers of Methodism at the turn of the 20th century. Hymnologist James Abbingon described Tindley as a ‘pastor, orator, poet, writer, theologian, social activist, ‘father of African American Hymnody,’ ‘progenitor of African American gospel music’ and ‘prince of preachers.’” - United Methodist Church

PRAYER REQUEST

WE ARE HERE TO PRAY FOR YOU



- Norma and Leo, neighbors of Audrey Ming
- Jackie, friend of the Persons family
- 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
- 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
- Leaders in Ukraine and Russia to resolve their conflict, and all leaders working to maintain peace.

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

COME JOIN US
for a
night of worship
A NEW WORSHIP OPPORTUNITY AT THE FIRST CHURCH IN ALBANY

THE
STEPHEN JAMES
CHAPEL

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 7PM
WORSHIP SERVICE WITH CONTEMPORARY MUSIC.
FOLLOWED BY A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP.



This Week at the First Church in Albany

Ash Wednesday — Lent Begins

- Sunday 2.27 10am Sanctuary Worship
- Monday 2.28 9am Food Pantry
- Tuesday 3.1 12pm Adult Scripture Study
- Wednesday 3.2 9am Food Pantry
- 12pm AA Meeting
- 12pm Ash Wednesday Service
- 4:30-6pm Ashes-To-Go
- Thursday 3.3 11am Soup Lunch in Clee Park
- 7pm A Night of Worship

Upcoming Events

- Monday 3.7 11am Prayer Shawl Meeting

Meeting Schedules are subject to change.

Watch your email for updates if you are a part of these gatherings.



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 worshippers!

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.



FOUNDED IN 1642
"OLDEST PULPIT IN AMERICA"

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110 North Pearl St.,
Albany NY 12207
518-463-4449

www.firstchurchinalbany.org