



A wicker basket filled with several round, golden-brown bread rolls and two whole, silver fish. The basket is placed on a rustic wooden surface. The background is a close-up of the wicker texture.

The First Church in Albany
Welcomes you
April 16, 10am Service

**Come & Have
Breakfast**

Please note the correction to the Weathervanes gathering.
Weathervanes will meet on April 19.

The First Church in Albany
APRIL 2023

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
							1
HOLY WEEK EASTER	 2 AW	 3 Prayer Shawl Mtg. 11am	Zoom Study noon 4	 5 AA	 6 	7 	 8
	 9 	 10	Zoom Study noon 11	 12 AA	 13	14	15
	 16 AW	 17	Zoom Study noon 18	 19 AA	 20 	21 Castle Island Spanish Fair 10am	22
	 23 AW	 24	Zoom Study noon 25	 26 AA	 27	28	29
	 30 AW						

Key:

								AW
Pantry 9am	Centering Prayer 12pm	Worship 10am	Communion Sunday	Coffee Hour	Soup & Sandwiches the Park 11:30am	Weathervanes 12:30pm	Choir Rehearsal	After Worship

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.

Second Sunday of Easter, April 16, 2023

Prelude Reflection: *Haiku based on John 21:1-14*

“Cast your nets again!”
He jokingly shouted out.
“Then come for breakfast.”

Prelude *“Thine Is the Glory”*

Tolling of Bell: *bell tolled by children of First Church*

Welcome, Announcements, & Blessing 1 Peter 1:3-4

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.”

Call to Worship *Based on Colossians 3, adapted from the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship*

Leader: We are people of new resurrection life!

People: In Christ, we truly come alive!

Leader: For Christ was raised from the dead,

People: and therefore we have been brought from death to life.

Leader: Let us set our hearts on this:

People: Our old life is dead, and our new life is found in the resurrected Christ!

Leader: Let us worship the one who was raised from the dead for our salvation!

*Opening Hymn Because You Live, O Christ



1 Be-cause you live, O Christ, the gar - den of the world has come to
2 Be-cause you live, O Christ, the spir - it bird of hope is freed for
3 Be-cause you live, O Christ, the rain-bow of your peace will span cre -



flow - er; the dark-ness of the tomb is flood - ed with your
fly - ing; our ca - ges of de - spair no lon - ger keep us
a - tion; the col - ors of your love will draw all hu - man -



Refrain



res - ur - rec - tion pow - er.
closed and life - de - ny - ing. The stone has rolled a - way and death can -
kind to ad - o - ra - tion.



not im - pris - on! O sing this Eas - ter day, for Je - sus Christ has





This New Zealand author's text contains no familiar images of springtime to bolster its message, because Easter in the Southern Hemisphere comes in autumn. This hymn resulted both from her dissatisfaction with existing hymns and from her love of this exuberant Dutch tune.

TEXT: Shirley Erena Murray, 1987

MUSIC: Dutch melody, 17th cent.; harm. Alice Parker, 1966

Text © 1987 Hope Publishing Company

Music Harm. © 1969 Hope Publishing Company

VRUECHTEN

6.11.6.11 with refrain

(alternate harmonization, 244)

Prayer of Confession

Lord, in a world where hope can feel naive, it's challenging not to become filled with animosity, cynicism, and despair. We confess that we have fallen into hopelessness. Today, we ask you to send your Holy Spirit to transform us with resurrection life so that we may have hope once again. Change our animosity into goodwill, our cynicism into faith, and our despair into joyfulness. Amen

Time of silent confession

Assurance of Pardon & Fulfillment of the Law

Friends of Christ, in our scripture passage today, we see how the resurrected Jesus appeared to His friends, instructed them to change, and even made breakfast for them so that they might be filled with hope. Today, we can take comfort in the fact that this same resurrected Jesus is with us here and now, calling us to change and promising to provide us with all that we need. Accept his instructions and provisions, and be changed.

***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

God, when the things we have always done no longer seem to work, you call us to cast our nets in a different direction. Give us the ears to hear your instruction today. Amen.

Sermon Text

John 21:1-14

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

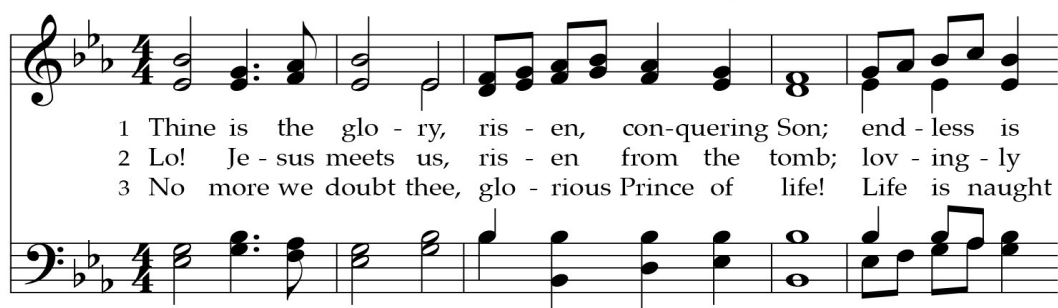
People: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon: "Come and have breakfast."

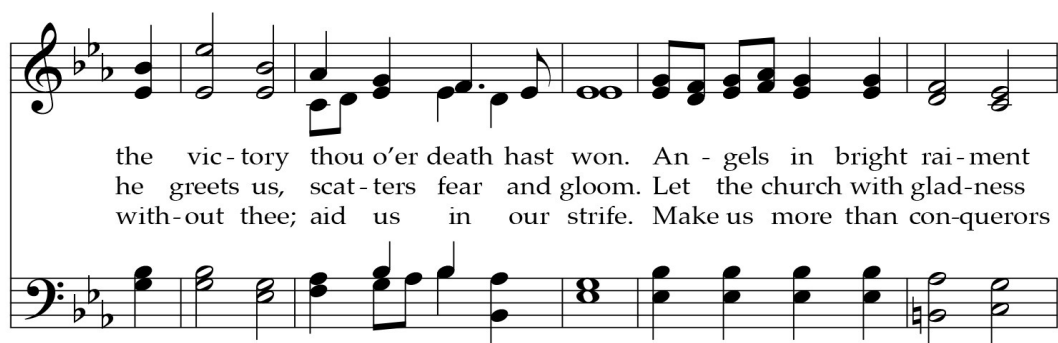
A Prayer of Blessing on the Word

*Hymn of Response

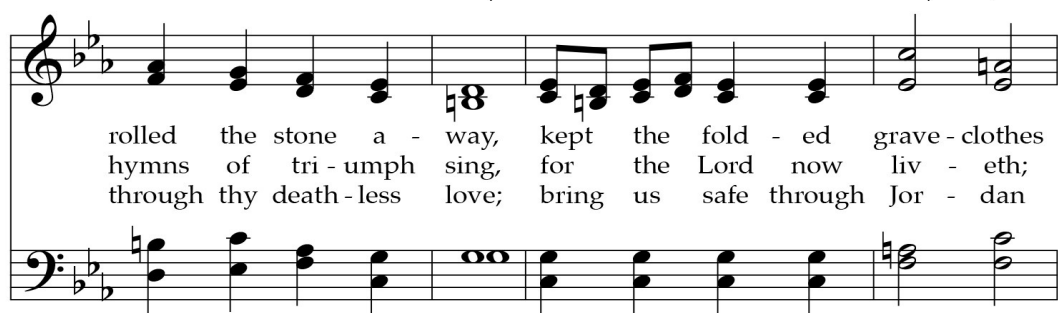
Thine Is the Glory



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-quer-ing Son; end - less is
2 Lo! Je - sus meets us, ris - en from the tomb; lov - ing - ly
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life! Life is naught



the vic-tory thou o'er death hast won. An - gels in bright rai-ment
he greets us, scat-ters fear and gloom. Let the church with glad-ness
with-out thee; aid us in our strife. Make us more than con-querors



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death-less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan



Refrain

where thy bod - y lay.
death hath lost its sting. Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-quer-ing
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.

This Easter text, first in French and later in English, was written to fit the music, a chorus created for Handel's oratorio *Joshua* and moved to *Judas Maccabeus* in 1751. It grew widely popular following its use at the First Assembly of the World Council of Churches in 1948.

TEXT: Edmond Louis Budry, 1884; trans. R. Birch Hoyle, 1923, alt.
MUSIC: George Frederick Handel, 1748

JUDAS MACCABEUS
5.5.6.5.6.5.6.5 with refrain

Profession of Faith §38 of *Our World Belongs To God, a Contemporary Testimony of the CRCNA*

In the Lord's Supper, Christ offers his own crucified body and shed blood to his people, assuring them a share in his death and resurrection.

By the Holy Spirit, he feeds us with his resurrection life and binds us to each other as we share one loaf and cup.

We receive this food gladly, believing, as we eat, that Jesus is our life-giving food and drink and that he will come again to call us to the wedding feast of the Lamb.

Tithes & Offerings

If you would like to connect more with the life and mission of First Church, please fill out a Welcome Card found in your pew and place it in the offering as it goes by.

Offertory

“VRUECHEN”

G. Lachenauer

***Doxology #592 in pew hymnal**

*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 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 Hymn

Crown Him with Many Crowns

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system. The first system includes three verses. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system continues the lyrics. The fourth system concludes the hymn with a double bar line.

1. Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
2. Crown him the Lord of life, tri - um - phant o'er the grave,
3. Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,

hark! how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own:
who rose vic - to - rious from the strife for those he came to save.
• rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied:

a - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
His glo - ries now we sing, who died and reigns on high;
• no an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,

and hail him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
he died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
• but down - ward bends his burn - ing eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.

Matthew Bridges, 1851

DIADEMATA S.M.D.
George J. Elvey, 1868

*Charge & Blessing

Postlude

“Lead On O King Eternal”

C. Callahan

CCLI License #463379; One License #A-700689

Today's Worship Team: Rev. Trey Tirpak
Preacher: Liturgist: Rev. Dr. Mashona Walston
Organist: Itke Prins
Tech Team: Joshua Bliss and Stephen Reohr



Note: There is no programming this Sunday for Second Hour, but please enjoy fellowship, coffee and refreshments together in Zimmerman Hall.



FOR ALL OF
APRIL

Every purchase of this \$2.50 Fight Hunger Bag at the Hannaford location listed below will send us \$1.

**Drop by drop makes an ocean.
Dollar by dollar makes a difference.**



BENEFITING ORGANIZATION
FCIA Food Pantry

AT THIS HANNAFORD LOCATION
900 Central Ave, Century II Mall Albany NY

FIGHT HUNGER BAG PROGRAM | HANNAFORD.2GIVELOCAL.COM

Focus Churches of Albany

BROOKS BBQ



FOCUS
CHURCHES OF ALBANY

Fundraiser

TUESDAY
APRIL 18
3 - 6PM

PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT FOCUS:
Breakfast Soup Kitchen
& Interfaith Food Pantry

TAKE - OUT ONLY
PRE-PAY BELOW



OR CALL:
518-443-0460 EXT. 2



INCLUDES 1/2 CHICKEN,
BAKED POTATO,
COLESLAW, ROLL &
DESSERT

PRE-PAY: \$15
AT THE DOOR: \$17

DELMAR REFORMED
CHURCH

386 DELAWARE AVE, DELMAR



www.focuschurches.net info@focuschurches.net



- | | | | |
|-------------|------|---------|--|
| • Sunday | 4.16 | 10am | Indoor Worship at FCIA, also on Zoom |
| | | AW | Fellowship and Coffee in Zimmerman |
| • Monday | 4.17 | 9am | Food Pantry |
| • Tuesday | 4.18 | noon | Zoom Book Study |
| • Wednesday | 4.19 | 9am | Food Pantry |
| | | noon | AA Meeting |
| | | noon | Centering Prayer in the Chapel |
| • Thursday | 4.20 | 11:30am | Soup & Sandwiches in Clee Park |
| • Friday | 4.21 | 10am | Castle Island Spanish Fair in Zimmerman Hall |

AW = After Worship

Upcoming Events

- Earth Day Sunday, April 23
- A Night of Worship, Thursday, May 4
- Heritage Sunday, May 7
- Congregational Meeting (Election Office Bearers), Sunday, May 14 AW
- First Drive In of 2023, Sunday, May 21

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



First Church in Albany

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

www.firstchurchinalbany.org