

The
First Church
in Albany

Welcomes you

Every
hour

I NEED

Thee

September 11, 2022
Worship Service

The First Church in Albany
(Reformed Church in America)

Founded in 1642; Continuing in Ministry Today.

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 11, 2022

Prelude Lectionary Reflection: *If you would like to write a haiku based on the four lectionary passages for Sunday, please contact Rev. Trey Tirpak to sign up.*

We've been so foolish
Playing in the mud, dirty
Wash us, revive us

Tolling of Bell: *The sound of bells will be heard when entering the Holy Place...*

Prelude: *Wes Gott Tot* by Itke Prins

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.” **Amen.** 2 Corinthians 13:14

Call to Worship: *adapted from Psalm 107:1-15 & UCC Back to School Litany*

Leader: We gather as a people who hunger and thirst not merely to know more, but to do better. We gather in the name of the Source of Wisdom and Truth.

People: We are thankful for God's steadfast love, for God's wonderful works to enlighten the world.

Leader: Let the redeemed say so, those who have been redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. Some wandered in the desert wastes of ignorance; some hungered and thirsted for knowledge and truth for their minds and spirits. They all cried out for help.

People: We are thankful for God's steadfast love, for God's wonderful works to enlighten the world.

continued...

* = *rise in body or in spirit*

Leader: Their hearts were bowed down; their minds were closed off to new hopes. Then they cried to God, who saved them with a bright vision. Divine Truth shined a light on a new path out of darkness and gloom and broke their bonds asunder.

People: We are thankful for God's steadfast love, for God's wonderful works to enlighten the world.

Leader: As the beautiful NY Fall season approaches, we pray a special blessing for the students in this community who face new challenges and await new learnings. We also pray for the teachers and parents whose daily responsibility it is to guide and instruct them. We pray especially for the children in the city of Albany and surrounding areas.

***Opening Hymn** *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* (v.1-4) #478 pew hymnal

Prayer of Confession:

Lord, we confess our need for you. We need your presence in our daily lives as friends, family members, neighbors, and individuals. We need your presence in our homes, schools, and communities of faith. We confess that there are many things in our communities and selves that are out of our control. We are in need of your divine intervention. Bless us this day to be part of the solution without thinking we can fix everyone else. We have forgotten that we do not have to handle the problems of the day on our own. You are an ever-present help in the time of trouble. Help our city. Help our country. Help our church. Oh Lord, hear our prayer and hear our cry.

Time of Silence & Reflection

Assurance of Pardon & Fulfillment of the Law: 2 Chronicles 7:14

The Lord said to Solomon, "if my people who are called by my name would turn from their ways; humble themselves in prayer; and seek my face; I will hear from heaven and heal their land."

***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.



Children's Message & Blessing (Note: Bibles & Blessing on Sept. 25, ages 4-8)

Prayer for Illumination:

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me. Mold me. Fill me. Use me. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me!

Scripture Reading: Luke 15:1-10, pg. 850 in pew bible

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ!

Musical Interlude

Sermon Text: Psalm 51:1-10

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "I Need Thee, Oh I Need Thee"

A Prayer of Blessing on the Preached Word

*Hymn of Response:

(v.1-3)

I Need Thee Every Hour

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Optional $\text{♪} = \text{♪}^{\text{3}}$

1 I need thee ev - ery hour, most gra - cious Lord;
2 I need thee ev - ery hour, stay thou near by;
3 I need thee ev - ery hour, in joy or pain;

no ten - der voice like thine can peace af - ford.
temp - ta - tions lose their power when thou art nigh.
come quick - ly and a - bide, or life is vain.

Refrain G D D7 G
I need thee, O I need thee; ev - ery hour I need thee.

C G G/D D7 G
O bless me now, my Sav - ior; I come to thee.

4 I need thee every hour,
teach me thy will;
and thy rich promises
in me fulfill. *Refrain*

5 I need thee every hour,
most Holy One;
O make me thine indeed,
thou Blessed Son! *Refrain*

Words: Annie S. Hawks, 1872; ref. Robert Lowry, 1872, P.D.
Music (NEED 6.4.6.4 refrain 7.6.7.4): Robert Lowry, 1872, P.D.

Profession of Faith: *Question & Answer 118 of the Heidelberg Catechism*

Q. What did God command us to pray for?

A. God commands us to pray for everything we need, spiritually and physically, as embraced in the prayer Christ our Lord himself taught us.

Leader: We look forward to praying that prayer, the Lord's Prayer, at the conclusion of the Prayers of the People.

Tithes & Offerings

Offertory: NEED by Robert Lind

***Doxology:**

#592 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: *We are looking for two congregants a month to write and lead us in prayer. Please contact Rev. Trey Tirpak to sign up.*

Please sing: **God be merciful to me, on your grace I rest my plea.**

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:** *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* **#263 pew hymnal**

***Charge & Blessing**

Postlude: ST DENIO by Michael Burkhardt

Our Mission Statement

In response to God's unconditional love for all people made know 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 the dividing walls and building a community where all are loved.

Worship Leadership:

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Mashona Walston

Liturgist: Rev. Trey Tirpak

Organist: Iteke Prins

Mezzo-Soprano Soloist: Susan Fedak

Audio/Visual: Joshua Bliss and Stephen Reohr

Prayer Concerns

- Mary Bon and family as they grieve Neil Keen's passing
- Shirley Joosten
- Ronald Stockhoff
- Jennifer Recene Gallagher, daughter of Joyce Recene
- Mia and Wim Westman
- Barbara W., dear friend of Barb & Dave Andrews and Donna Jones
- Steve Hoffman
- Harold Bushnell
- Norma McClement
- Mary Ann Selmer
- Samuel, son of Barb Andrews
- The family of Danielle as they mourn her passing, for her children (Melvin, Traekwon, Antonio, Julius, Brandon, and Christopher)
- Carol LaBatte
- Anthony, of the Brown Family
- Jane, sister of Donna Schultz
- Jeff Curry
- Alex Bliss
- Fran Carr Morton
- Cheryl Gowie
- Ada Harris
- Gwen, friend of Becky Gardner
- Olivia Gaydushek
- Clergy, staff and leaders of the First Church in Albany
- Prayers for this burden of gun violence and its aftermath. We pray that cooler heads will prevail in discussions and decisions, for management of the situation.
- An end to the war in Ukraine

Prayer Concerns? If you would like your church family to join you in prayer, please share your

This Week at the First Church in Albany



- Sunday 9.11 10am Indoor Worship at FCIA, also on Zoom
- Monday 9.12 9am Food Pantry
- Tuesday 9.13 12pm Adult Scripture Study
(book study starts next week)
- 6pm Leadership Meeting
- Wednesday 9.14 9am Food Pantry
- 12pm AA Meeting
- 12pm Centering Prayer

Upcoming Events

- Sunday 9.18 11am Shirley Bone's Birthday Celebration!
- Tuesday 9.20 6pm Consistory Meeting

*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

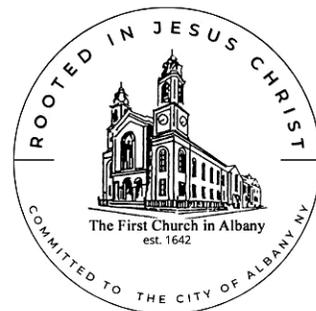
CALENDAR UPDATES

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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