

# The First Church in Albany

## *Are you listening?*

World Communion Sunday  
Sunday, October 5, 2025, 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.*

### Prelude

*"I Give You My Heart"*

Reuben Morgan

### Tolling of Bell

### Welcome, Announcement, & 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.** II Corinthians 13:14

### Call to Worship

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

The God whom we worship calls us to discipleship:

**To follow where Christ leads;**

and obey what Christ commands;

**To follow when it is not easy;**

To follow when others think us foolish;

**To follow where justice leads;**

To follow where love guides us;

**To follow even when it leads to the cross.**

Come let us worship the living God,

**Who loves us and leads us and promises to never let us go!**



## \*Opening Hymn

“He Reigns”

Peter Furler

It's the song of the redeemed Rising **CHORUS 2X**  
from the African plain

It's the song of the forgiven Drowning  
out the Amazon rain

The song of Asian believers Filled  
with God's holy fire

It's every tribe, every tongue, every  
nation A love song born of a grateful  
choir

### **CHORUS**

It's all God's children singing Glory,  
glory, hallelujah He reigns, He reigns  
It's all God's children singing Glory,  
glory, hallelujah He reigns, He reigns

Let it rise above the four winds  
Caught up in the heavenly sound  
Let praises echo from the towers of  
cathedrals To the faithful gathered  
underground  
Of all the songs sung from the dawn  
of creation Some were meant to  
persist  
Of all the bells rung from a thousand  
steeple None rings truer than this

### **BRIDGE**

And all the powers of darkness  
Tremble at what they've just heard  
'Cause all the powers of darkness  
Can't drown out a single word

### **FINAL CHORUS**

When all God's children sing out  
Glory, glory, hallelujah  
He reigns, He reigns (He reigns)  
All God's children sing out Glory,  
glory, hallelujah  
He reigns, He reigns (He reigns)

When all God's children sing out  
Glory, glory, hallelujah He reigns  
When all God's children sing out  
Glory, glory, hallelujah He reigns

## **Prayer of Confession**

**Source of all that gives us life, we have turned away from your authority to our own small concerns. Forgive us for our failure to bear one another's burdens, for boasting of anything but your cross, for believing in our own power to justify our lives, and for denying your call to take comfort in you alone. Lead us to the river of life that in all we do, we may honor your name. Amen.**

*Time of silence and reflection*

## Assurance of Pardon

The fruits of the spirit are love, joy, and peace given to you through God's grace. I proclaim that through God's grace you are forgiven. Live in the word of the Lord and be made new.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Fulfillment of the Law

He has told you'll O Mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice,, and love kindness, and to walk humble with your God Micah 6:8

## Gloria Patri

The musical score for 'Gloria Patri' is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of four staves: two vocal staves (Soprano and Bass) and two piano accompaniment staves (Right and Left Hand). The lyrics are: 'Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A - men, a - men.' The score includes a measure rest in the first vocal staff at the beginning of the second line.

## \*Passing the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us greet one another with Christ's peace

*(Don't forget to wave to those worshipping from home!)*

## Children's Message & Blessing

### Prayer for Illumination

**Eternal God, in the reading of the Scripture, may your Word be heard; in the meditations of our hearts, may your Word be known; and in the faithfulness of our lives, may your Word be shown. Amen.**

## Scripture Reading *Amos 8 (portions)*

Thus the Lord God showed me:  
Behold, a basket of summer fruit.  
And He said, "Amos, what do you see?"  
So I said, "A basket of summer fruit."  
Then the Lord said to me:  
"The end has come upon My people Israel;  
I will not pass by them anymore.  
And the songs of the temple  
Shall be wailing in that day,"  
Says the Lord God—  
"Many dead bodies everywhere,  
They shall be thrown out in silence."  
Hear this, you who swallow up the needy,  
And make the poor of the land fail,  
Saying:  
"When will the New Moon be past,  
That we may sell grain?  
And the Sabbath, That we may trade wheat?"

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## Sermon Text *Luke 10:38-42*

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.' But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.'

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, O Christ!**

Making the ephah small and the shekel large,  
Falsifying the scales by deceit,  
That we may buy the poor for silver,  
And the needy for a pair of sandals—  
Even sell the bad wheat?"  
The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob:  
"Surely I will never forget any of their works."  
"Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord God,  
"That I will send a famine on the land,  
Not a famine of bread, Nor a thirst for water,  
But of hearing the words of the Lord.  
They shall wander from sea to sea,  
And from north to east;  
They shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the Lord,  
But shall not find it."

**Sermon**

Are You Listening?

Elder Peter Pagerey

## **A Prayer of Blessing on the Word**

**\*Hymn of Response**

*“Word of God Speak”*

Bart Millard, Peter Kipley

I'm finding myself at a loss for words  
And the funny thing is it's okay  
The last thing I need is to be heard  
But to hear what You would say

I'm finding myself in the midst of You  
Beyond the music beyond the noise  
All that I need is to be with You  
And in the quiet hear Your voice

### **Chorus**

Word of God speak  
Would You pour down like rain  
Washing my eyes to see Your majesty  
To be still and know  
That You're in this place  
Please let me stay and rest  
In Your holiness  
(Word of God speak)

I'm finding myself at a loss for words  
And the funny thing is it's okay

CCLI Song # 3912788  
Bart Millard | Pete Kipley  
© 2002 Songs From The Indigo Room;  
Simpleville Music; Curb Wordspring Music  
For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#). All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com)

## **Profession of Faith**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son,  
our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to hell.  
The third day he rose again from the  
dead.

He ascended to heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of  
God the Father almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the  
living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic\* church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

**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**

*“Selections” on Guitar*

Glenn Claydon

**\*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.**

**\*Offertory Prayer**

These gifts, Lord, represent our lives, our possessions, all that we are and have. We offer them now to you as symbols of ourselves, so that you may take us and bless us and, through the power of your Spirit, shape us into the hands and feet and voices that embody Christ today. **Amen.**

**Eucharistic Song**

*“Tasting Forgiveness”*

Robbie Seay

I'm pleading my innocence here  
Exposing my arrogance all the while  
Hoping that nobody sees  
Especially You  
I've yielded to all that has cost me  
And thrown to the side what is free  
And I'm lying if I say that I've figured it  
out  
But maybe this time  
The bread and the wine  
Will be more than food on my lips

**Chorus**  
I'm tasting forgiveness  
And drinking of mercy  
I feast on redemption  
Tasting forgiveness

CCLI Song # 4582643  
Robbie Seay  
© Birdwing Music  
For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#). All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com)

~ The Celebration of the Lord's Supper ~

**Communion Prayer**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Sanctus**

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!**

## Mystery of the Faith

**Christ has died!  
Christ has risen!  
Christ will come again!**

## Celebration of Communion

### Intercession

We, indeed, praise and thank you, O Lord, that you have fed us at your Table. Grateful for this gift and mindful of the communion of your saints, here and in all places, we offer to you our prayers for all people:

*Prayers offered*

### 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

*"Power of Your Love"*

Geoff Bullock

Lord I come to You  
Let my heart be changed renewed  
Flowing from the grace  
That I found in You  
And Lord I've come to know  
The weaknesses I see in me  
Will be stripped away  
By the pow'r of Your love

#### **Chorus**

Hold me close  
Let Your love surround me  
Bring me near  
Draw me to Your side  
And as I wait  
I'll rise up like the eagle  
And I will soar with You

Your Spirit leads me on  
In the pow'r of Your love

Lord unveil my eyes  
Let me see You face to face  
The knowledge of Your love  
As You live in me  
Lord renew my mind  
As Your will unfolds in my life  
In living ev'ry day  
By the pow'r of Your love

CCLI Song # 917491  
Geoff Bullock  
© 1992 Geoff Bullock Music  
For use solely with the SongSelect®  
Terms of Use. All rights  
reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com)

## \*Charge & Blessing

Go out into the world in peace: have courage; hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil; help the suffering; honor all; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you forever.

**Postlude:** "Power of Your Love" Reprise Geoff Bullock

**Note:** Join us in Zimmerman Hall after the service for Refreshments & Fellowship

Preacher: Elder Peter Pagerey

Musician & Vocals: Glenn Claydon

Worship Tech(s): Joshua Bliss, Stephen Reohr

CCLI License #463379; One License #A-700689






# Prayer LIST as of 10.2.25

(To add an item to the prayer chain, contact a minister, the office or a member of consistory. )



**Indicates a new listing**

## Current Joys & Concerns

-  We rejoice that our sister Iteke Prins is now in the presence of the Lord she loved so much in life. We pray for family and friends as they mourn her passing and give thanks for the time she shared with us at the First Church. We are surely better for it
-  For Joeanna Brown, recovering at home after being hospitalized this week
-  For Judith Utley-Suess, dealing with some health concerns
-  For John Bowen and family, at the passing of his brother Jim, after a recent stroke
-  For Ian Leet, recently hospitalized with a serious health concern. For his wife, Edie, and family, as they plan to meet with Ian's medical team to discern his treatment. Edith shares their gratitude for all the prayers and well wishes extended to Ian and the family during this time.
- For John & Star Haviland, as John continues treatment for a health concern
- Keith Curry, church sexton, for healing and recovery
- For the Barrett and Tirpak families, for the loss of Tutu Kurt Winner, Trey's grandfather
- Carolyn Allen, for upcoming medical tests
- For Jill Busman, wife of Kent Busman (retired director of Camp Fowler), who is undergoing cancer treatment
- Zachary, son of Joy Smith, experiencing a complicated medical issue

## Ongoing Needs

- Olivia Gaydushek
- Mia Westman
- First Church, as it moves forward with a pastoral transition. For all that makes up that transition process.
- For areas recovering from natural disasters like flooding, fires, earthquakes, etc.
- For war-torn places and area of conflict throughout the world

## Give Thanks

- For the work of our newly formed transition team as they seek to fill the position of interim pastor and as they facilitate worship and ministry in the meantime.

**Note:** Prayer concerns will be kept on the list for 4 Sundays. Please let the office or a member of Consistory know if a concern needs to be kept on after that.

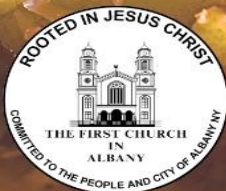
# SOUP & SANDWICHES

Begins Wednesday  
November 5  
Time TBD

# Clee Park

Join us in the park for lunch. Fresh homemade soup and sandwiches. Free to all. Caring for our neighbors.

If you would like to volunteer to serve on a Wednesday, please contact [office@firstchurchinalbany.org](mailto:office@firstchurchinalbany.org)



#firstchurchinmotion

## The best pick in the patch

Our FCIA Food Pantry will receive a \$1 donation for every \$2.50 reusable bag sold in October at the Hannaford at 900 Central Ave., Century II Mall, Albany NY



These bags are the best pick in the patch this October! When you visit our selected Hannaford store this month, get your own reusable Fight Hunger Bag for just \$2.50. Every bag sold will send a \$1 donation our way!



[hannaford.2givelocal.com](http://hannaford.2givelocal.com)  
Fight Hunger Bag Program

THE UPDATES  
**FCIA**  
PASTORAL  
TRANSITION

**Informational Updates on our Pastoral Transition Process will be communicated via a Pastoral Transition Update Eblast. It will also be available first thing on the top of our website's homepage [www.firstchurchinalbany.org](http://www.firstchurchinalbany.org) All four Update Emails to date are available.**

---



Many thanks to all who contributed their time, talents, and heart to helping us provide a glorious celebration of the life of our dear sister, Iteke Prins on Saturday. This is a community she loved and served well. May she rest in peace.

# October 2025

SUNDAY

MONDAY


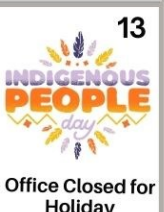
TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<p>3</p> <p>* Visitation for Iteke Prins - Rockefeller Funeral Home 4-7pm</p>	
	<p>6</p>				<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
					<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
	<p>20</p>				<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
	<p>27</p>			<p>30</p>		

Key:



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**  
**THE FIRST CHURCH IN ALBANY**



**TUE**  
**7**

**PANTRY**   
**PRAYER SHAWL MTG.**

**9AM**  
**11:30AM**

**WED**  
**8**

**CENTERING PRAYER**  
**IN THE POWELL RM**  
**AA MEETING** **IN THE PARLOR**  
**CROP WALK COMMITTEE MTG**  
**IN THE PARLOR**

**NOON**  
**NOON**  
**4 PM**

**THU**  
**9**

**PANTRY** 

**9AM**

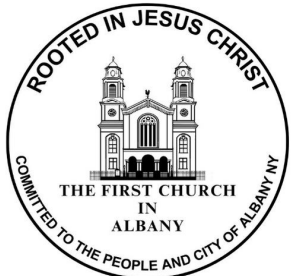
**SUN**  
**12**

**WORSHIP** **IN THE SANCTUARY**  
**COFFEE HOUR** **IN ZIMMERMAN HALL**

**10AM**  
**10:45AM**



FOR MORE INFO VISIT US AT  
[WWW.FIRSTCHURCHINALBANY.ORG](http://WWW.FIRSTCHURCHINALBANY.ORG)



**The First Church in Albany**  
 110 North Pearl St., Albany NY 12207  
 518-463-4449  
[www.firstchurchinalbany.org](http://www.firstchurchinalbany.org)