

# The First Church in Albany

February 15, 2026, 10am

## Transfiguration Sunday



### The First Church in Albany (RCA)

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

*"Amazing Grace"*

Jean Langlais (1907-1991)

#### Tolling of Bell

#### Welcome, Announcement, & Blessing

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Grace to you and peace from God our Creator and the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### Call to Worship

Leader: The Lord shines forth with radiant glory!

**People: We gather on the mountaintop to behold our King.**

Leader: Jesus, the Light of the World, illuminates our hearts and our path.

**People: As we hear the Father's voice, "This is my beloved Son," we listen to him.**

**All: Let us worship the Lord in his glory!**

#### \*Opening Hymn

*"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" #12*

ST. DENIO

See p. 6

## **Call to Confession:**

Jesus said: Nothing is hidden that will not be disclosed,  
nor is anything secret that will not come to light.  
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

## **Prayer of Confession**

**God of compassion,  
in Jesus Christ you reveal the light of your glory,  
but we turn away, distracted by our own plans.  
We confess that we speak when we should listen,  
and act when we should wait.  
Forgive our aimless enthusiasms.  
Grant us wisdom to live in your light  
and to follow in the way of your beloved Son,  
Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

*Time of silence and reflection*

## **Assurance of Pardon**

The one who calls light out of darkness  
now shines in our hearts to reveal the glory of God  
in the face of Jesus Christ.  
**In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
Thanks be to God.**

## **\*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**

God of shining splendor,  
your voice makes the earth tremble in wonder.  
Overshadow us with your Spirit  
so that we may hear your Word  
and live as faithful disciples  
and covenant people;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Scripture Reading Exodus 24:12-18**

The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **Sermon Text Matthew 17:1-9 The Transfiguration**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord

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

Sermon title Religious but not Spiritual Rev. Neill Morgan

## A Prayer of Blessing on the Word

Hymn of Response *"Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud"* #11

ABERYSTWYTH

See p. 7

## 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 Prelude on *"Aberystwyth"* Alfred V. Fedak (b. 1953)

\*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

*God is the giver of every good gift, pouring out grace upon grace on us and our world. We give back a portion of those gifts in humility and thanksgiving. Amen.*

## Prayers of the People

### 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 *"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"* #662

RATISBON

See p. 8

\*Charge & Blessing

*Today’s organ Prelude and Postlude were composed by the great Parisian organist Jean Langlais. Blind from birth, he became one of the 20 th century’s leading organ composers. Langlais composed his setting of “Amazing Grace” after hearing the hymn sung in Notre Dame Cathedral by Joan Baez. His wife Marie-Louise transcribed the composer’s Braille manuscript into conventional notation for publication.*

**Note:** Join us in Zimmerman Hall after worship for Coffee Hour!

Preacher: Rev. Neill Morgan  
 Liturgist: Elder Zachary Morton  
 Organist: Alfred Fedak

Worship Techs: Joshua Bliss,  
 Stephen Reohr  
 CCLI License #463379; One License #A-700689

# Prayer LIST


as of 2.3.26

 Indicates a new request

## Current Joys & Concerns

- For all those impacted by the cold and winter weather.
- For Holly Allen, recently hospitalized with a serious illness and is now home recovering
- For Jim Gallagher, son-in-law of Joyce Recene
- For Jill Busman, continuing medical treatment, and for her husband, Kent, as he supports her

## GiveThanks

-  • For the Food Pantries of the Capital District and their efforts in partnership with many pantries like ours, to provide delivery for those who are not able to physically get to their pantry.
- For our coming together in worship, and the to praise God
- The Church of today, and the Church of the future.

## Ongoing Needs

- Olivia Gaydushek
- Mia Westman
- For our broken world, may the example of Jesus Christ lead us all to choose our words and actions from hearts of love and justice
- For the food insecure wrestling with loss of benefits, and for pantries and food banks as they try to fill the needs
- For all those impacted by mass-shooting incidents, for peace and comfort

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

**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.

# Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.  
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:  
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.  
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;  
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.  
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

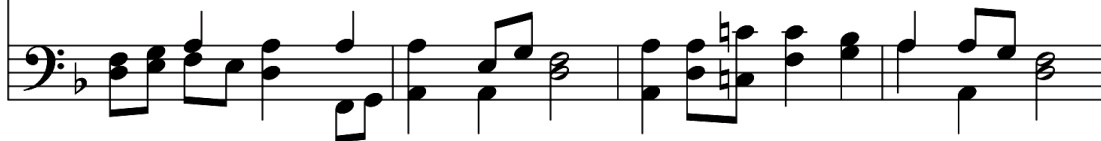
# 11 Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud



1 Source and Sov-ereign, Rock and Cloud, For-tress, Foun-tain, Shel-ter, Light,  
 2 Word and Wis-dom, Root and Vine, Shep-herd, Sav-ior, Ser-vant, Lamb,  
 3 Storm and Still-ness, Breath and Dove, Thun-der, Tem-pest, Whirl-wind, Fire,



Judge, De-fend-er, Mer-cy, Might, Life whose life all life en-dowed:  
 Well and Wa-ter, Bread and Wine, Way who leads us to I AM:  
 Com-fort, Coun-selor, Pres-ence, Love, En-er-gies that nev-er tire:



May the church at prayer re-call that no sin-gle ho-ly name

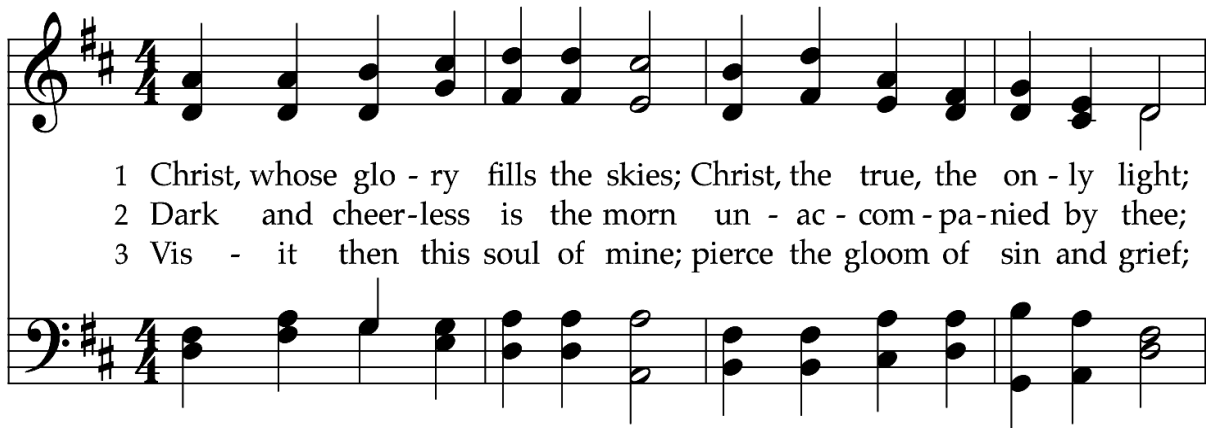


but the truth be-hind them all is the God whom we pro-claim.

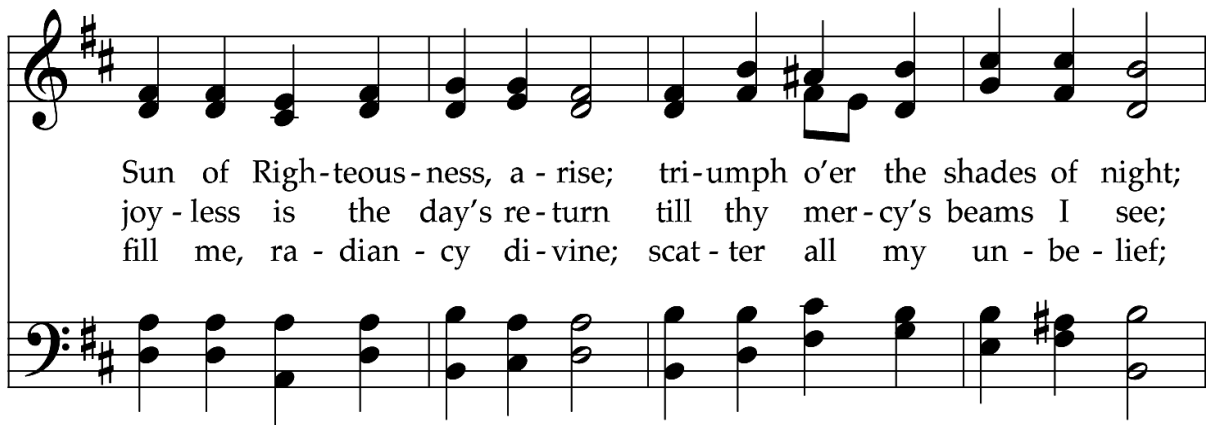


These scriptural names and images of the Triune God express a theological view reinforced by the structure: the stanzas deal, in turn, with each Person of the Trinity and the refrain affirms their unity. The swirling patterns of the Welsh tune add much energy to the text.

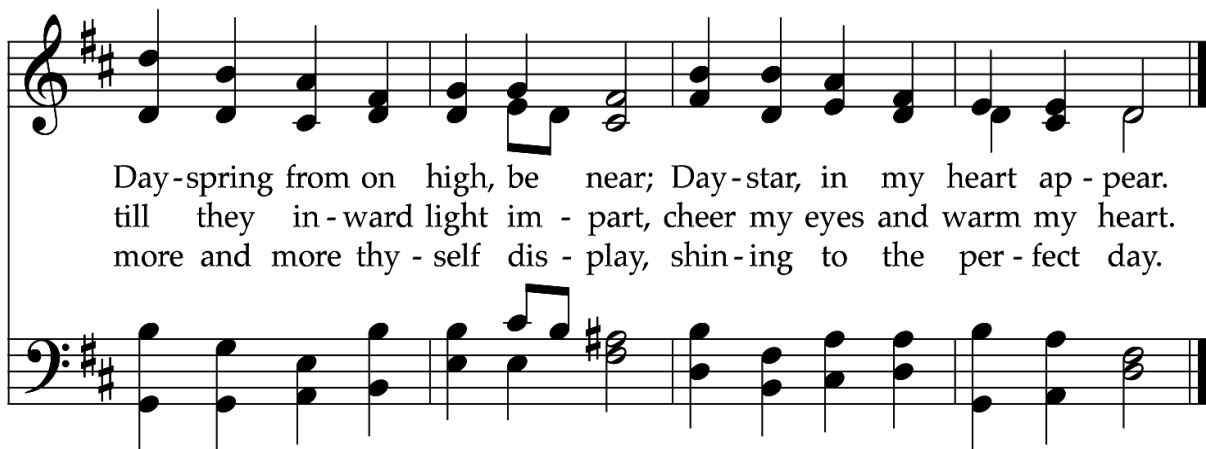
# Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies 662



1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies; Christ, the true, the on - ly light;  
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pa-nied by thee;  
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief;



Sun of Righ-teous-ness, a - rise; tri-umph o'er the shades of night;  
joy - less is the day's re - turn till thy mer - cy's beams I see;  
fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.  
till they in - ward light im - part, cheer my eyes and warm my heart.  
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

This well-crafted morning hymn opens by celebrating daylight as an image of Christ, the true Light, then ponders life without light, and culminates in a prayer for inward light. The tune's name honors its German roots: Ratisbon is the former English name for Regensburg.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1740  
MUSIC: German folk melody; adapt. Johann Werner, 1815; harm. William Henry Havergal, 1847

RATISBON  
7.7.7.7.7



CELEBRATION OF LIFE  
**IAN DAVID LEET**

**April 11, 2026**

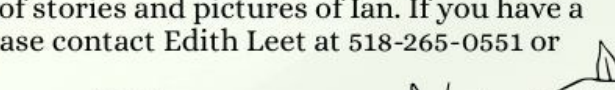
at  
Emmanuel Baptist Church  
Visit with the family at 10am  
Service begins at 11am  
Luncheon to follow

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Ian was an active member of First Church for almost six decades. He was also active in the ministries of Emmanuel, where his wife, Edith, is a member. The service will be conducted by Reverend Trey Tirpak, former pastor at First Church, and Reverend Kathy Donley, pastor of Emmanuel. Visiting with the family will begin at 10 am. The worship service will begin at 11 am, and a luncheon at the church will follow. Since Ian willed his body to the Albany Medical Center Anatomical Gift Program, there will be no interment.

Singers are invited to join the Emmanuel choir to sing "Greater Love Hath No One" by John Ireland and "I Will Not Leave You Comfortless" by Everett Titcomb. Please contact Michael Clement at 518-377-0930 if you are interested. Help is also needed for the luncheon, including set up, clean up, preparation of food, and serving. If you would like to work on that, please contact Ellen Corcoran at 518-527-9569 or Edith Leet at 518-265-0551 or [eleet100@gmail.com](mailto:eleet100@gmail.com). Also, the family is asking for contributions to a memory book of stories and pictures of Ian. If you have a remembrance of Ian that you would like to share, please contact Edith Leet at 518-265-0551 or [eleet100@gmail.com](mailto:eleet100@gmail.com).



A LINK TO SIGN UP WITH FOR THE CHOIR CAN BE FOUND IN YOUR EBLAST, OR YOU CAN CONTACT THE OFFICE.

The First Church in Albany

Wednesday at noon  
All are welcome!

Join us at *Centering*  
**PRAAYER** during LENT

110 North Pearl St. Albany NY 12207



# We Need Coats

Throughout the cold weather months, we have been able to provide our pantry guests, as well as other neighbors in need, with warm winter coats, gloves, hats & scarves.

Right now, we are in need of new and gently used coats for men and women, primarily. We still have some cold weather ahead of us. If you can donate these items please bring them to the workroom near the church office.

Thank you for your generosity in Jesus' name.



## SOUP & SANDWICHES

Wednesday

11:30am - 1pm

*Clee Park*

**FREE**

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

# February 2026

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

<p><b>MARCH 2026</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7</p> <p>8 9 10 11 12 13 14</p> <p>15 16 17 18 19 20 21</p> <p>22 23 24 25 26 27 28</p> <p>29 30 31</p>	<p>Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18</p>	<p>2026 Winter Olympics Friday, February 6 through Saturday, February 22</p>				
<p>1</p> <p><b>FOCUS</b> CHURCHES OF ALBANY</p> <p>Combined Winter Worship Service at Westminster Presbt. 10am</p> <p>No service at FCIA</p>	<p>2</p> <p>WiFi Project begins</p> <p>Groucho Day</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Pantry 9am</p> <p>Prayer Shawl Mtg 11:30am</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Soup &amp; Sandwiches 11:30am</p> <p>Centering Prayer 12pm</p> <p>AA 12pm</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Pantry 9am</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10am</p> <p>Castle Island Bilingual Montessori Play 5pm</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Indoor Worship 10am</p> <p>Communion Sunday</p> <p>Coffee Hour</p> <p>Castle Island Bilingual Montessori Play 2pm</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Pantry 9am</p> <p>Consistory 5:30pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Soup &amp; Sandwiches 11:30am</p> <p>Centering Prayer 12pm</p> <p>Weather vane 12:30pm</p> <p>AA 12pm</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Pantry 9am</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10am</p> <p>Happy Valentine's Days</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Indoor Worship 10am</p> <p>Coffee Hour</p>	<p>16</p> <p><b>PRESIDENT'S DAY</b></p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Pantry 9am</p> <p>Mardi Gras</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Soup &amp; Sandwiches 11:30am</p> <p>AA 12pm</p> <p>Ash Wednesday</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Pantry 9am</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10am</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Indoor Worship 10am</p> <p>Coffee Hour</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Pantry 9am</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Soup &amp; Sandwiches 11:30am</p> <p>Centering Prayer 12pm</p> <p>AA 12pm</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Pantry 9am</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10am</p>

**Key:**

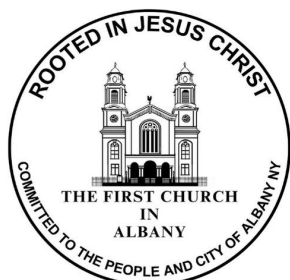
Information as of 1.21.26. Calendar subject to updates.

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



<b>MON 16</b>	 <b>HAPPY Presidents DAY</b> OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY	
<b>TUE 17</b>	 <b>MARDI GRAS</b> <b>PANTRY</b> 	<b>9AM</b>
<b>WED 18</b>	<b>SOUP &amp; SANDWICHES</b> <b>11:30AM</b> <b>IN CLEE PARK</b>	
	 <b>ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE</b> <b>NOON</b> <b>IN THE CHAPEL</b>	
	<b>SEE WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO RECEIVE ASHES</b> <b>AA MEETING</b> <b>NOON</b> <b>IN THE PARLOR</b>	
<b>THU 19</b>	<b>PANTRY</b> 	<b>9AM</b>
<b>SAT 21</b>	<b>KEYS FOR KIDS</b>	<b>10AM</b>
<b>SUN 22</b>	<b>WORSHIP</b> <b>10AM</b> <b>COFFEE HOUR</b> <b>IN ZIMMERMAN HALL</b> <b>10:45AM</b>	

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)