

The First Church in Albany



*"Lord, help us all from bondage flee,
and let us all in Christ be free."
from "When Israel Was in Egypt's Land"*

Sunday, June 22, 2025, 10am

Radio Station: 87.9

Prelude *"Selection"*

Welcome, Announcements, & Blessing

II Corinthians 13:14

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." **Amen.**

Call to Worship *Based on Psalm 42*

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

L: Come, let us worship the Lord our God, whose love quenches our thirst.

P: We are parched and thirsty for God's healing word.

L: Let us praise God who is with us always.

P: We seek the one who will not desert us.

L: Let us open our hearts to God who calls us by name.

P: We come, seeking reconciled relationship with God. AMEN.

***Opening Hymn** (see p. 5)
“Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”

Prayer of Confession & Call New Living

O God, we find ourselves being caught up in troubles, not knowing which way to turn or how to extricate ourselves from the traps of our dilemmas. Lord, you know that so many of these dilemmas and burdens are of our own creation, coming out of our stubbornness and fear. We find it much easier to turn our back on people in need, or just write a check and hope that the problems go away. Forgive us when we decide not to become involved in the solution, when we would rather back off from helping and turn and run for cover. We ask you to give us an extra measure of courage and strength, along with your forgiving love, that we may again place our whole trust in you. In Jesus' Name, we pray. **AMEN.**

Words of Assurance

Let go of the demons that bind you in sorrow. Jesus Christ has broken the chains. Jesus reaches out in love for you. Receive God's loving blessings, for they are given especially for you. **AMEN.**



***Passing the Peace** (during the passing of the peace, children please come forward for a message and blessing.)

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us greet one another with a honk of the horn and hand-sign of peace.

Children's Message & Blessing

Prayer for Illumination

Creator God, open our ears and our minds to hear your word as it is proclaimed in your Holy Scriptures.

Sermon Texts

Kings 19:1-15a; Galatians 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon Go Deeper, Go Forward

A Prayer of Blessing on the Word

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.
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Prayers of the People by the People

***Offertory & Sending Hymn** (see p.6)

“When Israel Was in Egypt’s Land”

“This song is about freedom from bondage. In the story of the Israelites' Exodus from Egypt, God sent Moses to Pharaoh repeatedly to carry the divine message, “Let My people go,” but each time Pharaoh refused. Sometimes the bondage of the Israelites became worse, yet God told Moses to persist, and eventually, the Israelites were freed after God had shown His power through the ten plagues. True freedom never comes unless the power of God is behind it; yet when God moves, [God] is irresistible.” - hymnary.org Bulletin notes

***Charge & Blessing**

God has poured blessing after blessing upon you. You are healed and sent forth to serve in God’s world. Go now in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, Amen.

***Postlude** “*Selection*”

Worship Leadership

Preacher: Jo Prout

Liturgist: Peter Pagerey

Keyboardist: Iteke Prins

Vocalist: Wendy Hughs

Audio/Video: Joshua Bliss,
Stephen Reohr

CCLI License #463379; One License #A-700689

Note:

- **Tuesday, June 24 is Primary Election Day, 6am-9pm. First Church is an election Polling Place**
- **Next Sunday, June 29**, will be our first **Communion & Fellowship Sunday** of the summer. We’ll **ordain and install** officers, **celebrate communion**, and enjoy a **cookout after worship**. Burgers, veggie burgers, and hot dogs will be grilled, but **please bring a side dish or to share!**

35 Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

1 Praise ye the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous - ly
 3 Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a
 reign - eth, O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
 dore him! shel - ters thee un - der his wings, yea, so
 All that hath life and breath, come now with

health and sal - va - tion! All ye who hear, now to his
 gen - tly sus - tain - eth! Hast thou not seen how thy de -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

tem - ple draw near; join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sires e'er have been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for aye we a - dore him.

This very strong 17th-century German hymn employs many phrases from the psalms, especially Psalms 150 and 103:1-6. It did not receive an effective English translation until the mid-19th century, but has remained popular ever since, thanks in part to its stirring tune.

TEXT: Joachim Neander, 1680; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt.
 MUSIC: Stralsund Erneverten Gesangbuch, 1665; harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863

LOBE DEN HERREN
 14.14.4.7.8

When Israel Was in Egypt's Land 52

1 When Is - rael was in E - gypt's land, let my peo - ple go;
 2 "Thus saith the Lord," bold Mo - ses said, "Let my peo - ple go!
 3 "No more shall they in bond - age toil: let my peo - ple go!
 4 O let us all from bond - age flee; let my peo - ple go!

op - pressed so hard they could not stand, let my peo - ple go!
 If not, I'll smite your first - born dead. Let my peo - ple go!"
 Let them come out with E - gypt's spoil: let my peo - ple go!"
 And let us all in Christ be free: let my peo - ple go!

Refrain

Go down, (go down,) Mo - ses, (Mo - ses,) way down in E - gypt's

land; tell old Pha - raoth: let my peo - ple go!

Nothing in Hebrew Scripture resonated more deeply with the experience of African Americans in North America than Israel's slavery in Egypt. In this spiritual's recurring line, "Let my people go," past and present became one, as they still do for all who are oppressed.

Prayer LIST as of 6.11.25

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

♥ *Indicates a new listing*

Current Concerns

- ♥ For our friend Donald Hansen, who we recently learned passed away.
- For Ian Leet, recovering from an injury after a fall.
- Brian Brooks, brother of Gayle Wlodkowski-Hitchcock, with health concerns

Give Thanks

- We give thanks for a successful start to our summer season. Drive-In Worship and Hot Dogs in the Park have begun. We enjoyed a blessed Pentecost and Pride Sunday last week.

Ongoing Needs

- Olivia Gaydushek
- Wilma Sheffer
- 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 fires, earthquakes, etc.
- For war-torn places and area of conflict throughout the world
- For those in our immediate area dealing with gun violence and its aftermath

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.

FCIA HOT DOG WEDNESDAY @NOON THROUGH LABOR DAY

We love treating our neighbors to lunch every Wednesday. We hope you can join us. It's a hot one, but we are ready with cold beverages and all the hot dog goodness!



Clee Park, 110
North Pearl St.
Albany
right next to FIRST
CHURCH

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THE FIRST CHURCH IN ALBANY

JUNE 2025



MON
23

OBSERVING JUNETEENTH
OFFICE CLOSED

TUE
24

PRIMARY VOTING ZIMMERMAN HALL 6AM - 9PM
PANTRY 9AM



WED
25

CENTERING PRAYER POWELL RM NOON
AA MEETING NOON
HOT DOGS IN THE PARK NOON



THU
26

PANTRY 9AM

SUN
29

DRIVE-IN WORSHIP [AT] FCIA 10AM
11AM

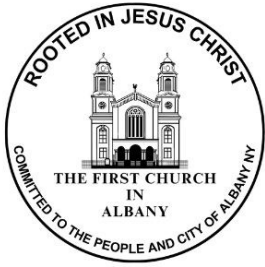


First Church
Grill-Out CLEE PARK

FOR MORE INFO VISIT US AT WWW.FIRSTCHURCHINALBANY.ORG



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hello SUMMER

**SUNDAY,
JUNE 29**

**AFTER
WORSHIP**

**IN CLEE
PARK**

IT'S TIME FOR A SUMMER FAMILY PICNIC... A FIRST CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC!

Dogs & Burgs
Meat & Meatless
Options will be
available.

First Church

Grill-Out

CLEE MEMORIAL PARK

F. REYNOLD CLEE - D.D., LITT. D.
FIRST CHURCH IN ALBANY
PASTOR FROM 1943 - 1959



July 2025



SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

AUGUST 2025		1	2	3	4	5
		Pantry 9am Consistory 6:30pm	Centering Prayer 12pm AA 12pm Hot Dogs 12pm	Pantry 9am	4th of July Office Closed	
FOCUS CHURCHES OF ALBANY Combined Worship Service 9:30am, 1st Presbyterian No worship at FCIA		Pantry 9am	Centering Prayer 12pm AA 12pm Hot Dogs 12pm	Pantry 9am		
Drive-In Worship 10am Lemonade Lull		Pantry 9am	Centering Prayer 12pm AA 12pm Hot Dogs 12pm	Pantry 9am		
Drive-In Worship 10am Lemonade Lull		Pantry 9am FOCUS Board Mtg 6:30pm	Centering Prayer 12pm AA 12pm Hot Dogs 12pm	Pantry 9am		
Drive-In Worship 10am Communion Sunday		Pantry 9am	Centering Prayer 12pm AA 12pm Hot Dogs 12pm	Pantry 9am	Happy INDEPENDENCE Day!	



Key:



Communion Sunday



Pantry 9am



Centering Prayer 12pm



Book Study



Hot Dogs



AA 12pm



Coming in Aug. • Aug. 3 (Sun.) - FOCUS Service 9:30am @ Emmanuel Baptist Church, No Worship at FCIA