

Sunday, September 15, Final Drive-In Worship of 2024

Radio Station 87.9 FM

Prelude *"Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"*
arr. J. Carter

Welcome, Announcements, & Blessing

As I open my eyes,
I can see the heavens that tell of your glory.
Allow me to be part of this creation
That proclaims your handiwork
And your real presence in the world. Amen

Call to Worship

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

Leader: Look at the heavens!

People: They are shouting the glory of God.

Leader: The days and the nights declare the
magnificence of God's creative works.

**People: Their voice goes through all the
earth and their words reach the ends of
the world.**

Leader: Let our words of praise be acceptable to
you.

Our Lord, our rock, our redeemer!

*Opening Hymn

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Prayer of Confession & Call New Living

You have called us, O God,
And we have refused to listen;
You have stretched out your hand
And we have not taken it.
We have taken what you have given us
And used those gifts to hurt others and defy
you.

We have refused to be tamed by your
wisdom.

Forgive our inability to recognize you
And live out the reality of your gospel.

Give us the insight we need

To understand your place in our lives

So that our words and actions reflect

The glory of God in the lives of others.

In the name of the Messiah, we pray. Amen

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

beep

beep

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

Let the words of our mouths

And the meditation of our hearts

Be acceptable to you, O Lord.

Be our Rock and our Redeemer. **Amen**

Sermon Text Mark 7:24-37

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you oh Christ!

Sermon *Lift Him Up*

A Prayer of Blessing on the Word

***Offertory & Sending Hymn**

“As Moses Raised the Serpent Up”

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.**

***Charge & Blessing**

When people ask, Who is this Jesus?

Do not be ashamed of the gospel;

Share with them that Jesus loved the world so
much

That he lived for us, suffered for us, died for us,

And rose again for us,

And invite them to follow Christ.

May God, our Wisdom, pour out God's
Thoughts in you
And make God's words known to you.
May Jesus Christ, our Messiah,
Give you the strength to carry your cross and
To follow him.
And my the Holy Spirit, our Tongue of fire,
Guide our words and our actions,
As we strive to bless the world with our witness.

***Postlude** *"To God Be the Glory"*
arr. J. Carter

Note: *Everyone is invited to the final Lemonade Lull of the summer in Clee Park after worship. The Joint Board Meeting previously scheduled after the Lemonade Lull is postponed.*

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Mashona Walston

Liturgist: Rev. Trey Tirpak

Keyboard: Iteke Prins

Vocalist and/or specialist: Glenn Claydon,
vocalist

Audio/Visual: Joshua Bliss, Stephen Reohr

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PRAYERS, CONCERNS & JOYS

- For Uncle Rev. Trey Tirpak and family on the birth of his nephew, Henry Ezra to his brother and sister-in-law.
- Donald has returned to the hospital.
- Stephen Giguere, Virginia's husband, diagnosed with cancer.
- Shawn Giguere, Virginia's son, with a health diagnosis.
- David Allen, recovering from emergency surgery.
- Mary Bon, recovering from a recent injury to her knee.
- Donna Linen's health concerns, friend of the Dorn's.
- Teresa Wheeler's grandmother Cindy, with health concerns
- Donna Jones
- Michelle Williams
- Mia Westman
- Becky Gardner
- Donna Schultz
- Carol LaBatte
- Sam, son of Barb and Dave Andrews, with continued health concerns
- Ken Lucas, friend of Philip Labatte
- For Jennifer Recene Gallagher
- Harold Bushnel
- Alex Bliss
- Mary Weijola
- Cheryl Gowie
- Anthony, of the Brown Family
- Olivia Gaydushek
- Ministers, staff, and leaders of First Church as they move forward into our everchanging world.
- Those dealing with natural disasters exasperated by climate change.
- Prayers for Ukraine, Israel and Palestine and all areas of conflict across the globe. May we all remember to lead with love.
- For an end to gun violence here in Albany, in the U.S., and around the world.
- U.S. Federal, State and Local Elections

If you have a concern or joy you would like to share with our church family, email office@firstchurchinalbany.org or call the office at 518-463-4449



CENTERING PRAYER

Each Wednesday
at noon

The First Church in Albany
110 North Pearl St.
Albany NY 12207

Join us for the wonderful practice of Centering Prayer.

Contemplative and grounding, Centering Prayer helps you to focus on your connection to God and find peace in your spiritual journey.

Centering Prayer is a good way for us to strengthen our prayer muscle. Led most often by Senior Minister Rev. Dr. Mashona Walston of First Church, everyone is welcome!

firstchurchinalbany.org



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I want to let you know that the NY State Council of Churches trip to Israel-Palestine, originally planned for September, has been rescheduled for April 22 - May 1, 2025. Attached is a flyer with information. If you are thinking of participating and/or would like more information, please let me know.

I am also writing to let you know that I will be joining another faith leaders' delegation to Palestine-Israel in a few weeks. This one is being organized by Christians for a Ceasefire in response to a [call from Palestinian Christians](#) who are asking their fellow Christians "to join us here, to pray with us, to walk with us, and to stand with us in our struggle for justice and peace." The delegation will be led by staff from the [Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center](#) in Jerusalem. Sabeel is also helping to coordinate another larger interfaith delegation with Rabbis for a Ceasefire later in August.

We will be meeting with human rights and faith based organizations within Palestinian and Israeli communities. We also hope to meet with families of both Israeli and Palestinian hostages.

You can learn more (and if you choose, make donation to Sabeel to help support such delegations) here: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/team/2661990a-eb83-4e77-967e-347d6f195051>

Feel free to share information about the NY State Council of Churches trip with others who may be interested, but for security reasons please use your discretion in sharing information about the August peace delegations.

Sincerely, John (Paarlberg)

Holy Land Pilgrimage



New York State
Council Of Churches

April 22 - May 01, 2025

From New York, NY (JFK)

Other Cities Available

Package Price: \$3690

Package Price Includes:

- Round trip airline ticket
- Double occupancy accommodations
In Luxury hotels each night
- Breakfast, lunch, and dinner
- Ten days sightseeing in modern, air-
conditioned private bus
- English speaking Christian tour guide
- **Jerusalem**
- **Bethlehem**
- **Sea of Galilee**
- **Jericho**
- **Nazareth**



Register Online

Follow us on



Good Shepherd Travel

www.goodshepherdtravel.com

Toll Free: 1-844-659-5263

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THE FIRST CHURCH IN ALBANY



MON

16

PANTRY 9 AM

PRAYER SHAWL MTG.

11:30 AM

WED

17

PANTRY 9 AM

CENTERING PRAYER 12 PM

AA MEETING 12 PM

SUN

22

**RETURN TO INDOOR
WORSHIP**

10 AM

FOLLOWED BY COFFEE HOUR

**NEXT WEEK - BLESSING OF THE PRAYER
SHAWLS**

**FOR MORE INFO VISIT US AT
WWW.FIRSTCHURCHINALBANY.ORG**

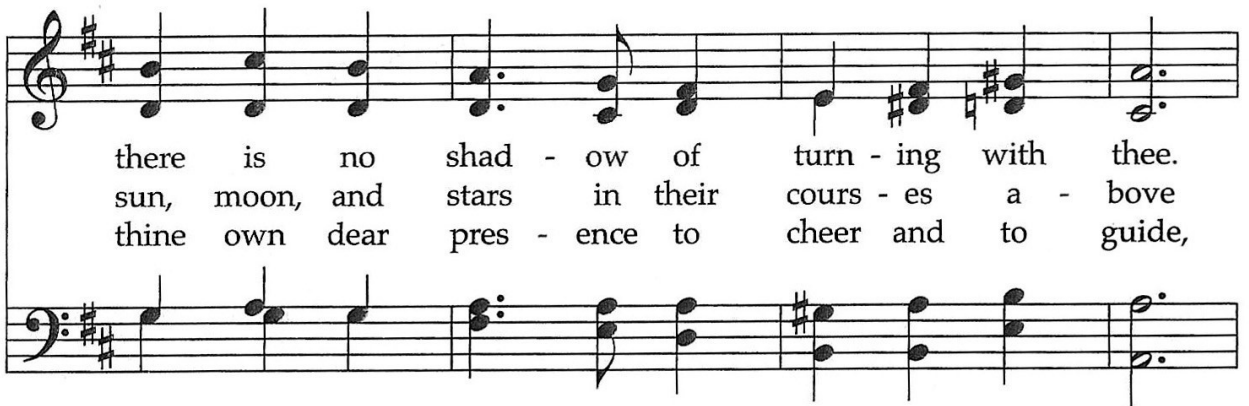


The First Church in Albany
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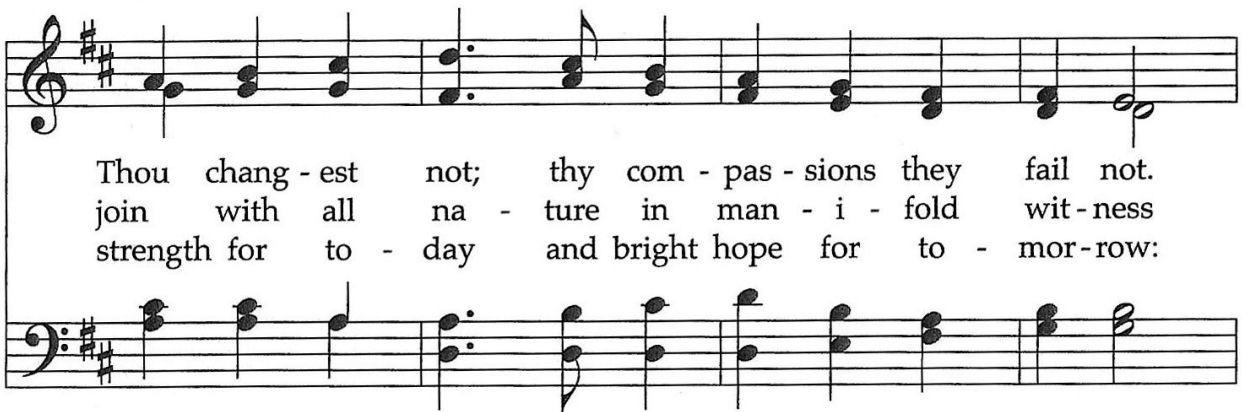
Great Is Thy Faithfulness




1 *Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,



Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:



As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 오 신 실 하 신 주

Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.
 날 마 다 자 비 를 베 푸 시 며

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.
 일 용 할 모 든 것 내 려 주 시 니

Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 나 의 구 주

*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22-23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

As Moses Raised the Serpent Up

JOHN 3:14-17

Descant

4 For God so loved the world he made, he gave his
 D G C Gsus G Bm

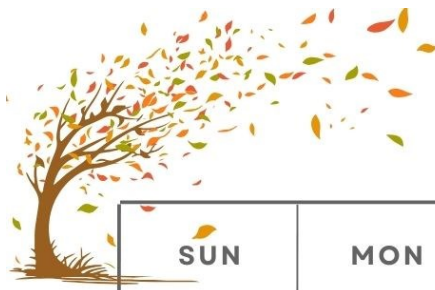
1 As Mo - ses raised the ser - pent up, so must God's
 2 For God so loved the world he made, he gave his
 3 God did not send Christ to the world that he might
 4 For God so loved the world he made, he gave his

own be - lov - ed Son; all who be - lieve in him will
 Em G Dsus D G C

Son be lift - ed high, that who - so - ev - er will be -
 own be - lov - ed Son; all who be - lieve in him will
 then con - demn us all, but that the world by Christ's own
 own be - lov - ed Son; all who be - lieve in him will

live - not die, but live for - ev - er - more.
 G Am Dsus D C G

lieve in him may live e - ter - nal - ly.
 live - not die, but live for - ev - er - more.
 death might then be ran somed from the fall.
 live - not die, but live for - ev - er - more.



September

2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>1</p>  <p>FOCUS Service at Westminster Pres. (No worship service at First Church)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>★ LABOR DAY ★</p> <p>☆☆☆ DAY ☆☆☆</p>  <p>Pantry 9am</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>  <p>Pantry 9am</p>  <p>AA 12pm</p>  <p>Centering Prayer 12pm</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p>  <p>Drive-In Worship 10am</p>  <p>Communion Sunday</p>  <p>Lemonade Lull</p>	<p>9</p>  <p>Pantry 9am</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Special Consistory meeting via Zoom 6:30 pm</p>	<p>11</p>  <p>Pantry 9am</p>  <p>AA 12pm</p>  <p>Centering Prayer 12pm</p> 	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>  <p>Potluck & First Thursday Night of Worship</p>	<p>14</p>  <p>Outch Cleaning</p>
<p>15</p>  <p>Drive-In Worship 10am</p>  <p>Lemonade Lull</p>	<p>16</p>  <p>Pantry 9am</p>  <p>Prayer Shawl Mtg. 11:30am</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>  <p>Pantry 9am</p>  <p>AA 12pm</p>  <p>Centering Prayer 12pm</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p>  <p>Indoor Worship 10am</p>  <p>Coffee Hour</p> 	<p>23</p>  <p>Pantry 9am</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>  <p>Pantry 9am</p>  <p>AA 12pm</p>  <p>Centering Prayer 12pm</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>  <p>Choir Rehearsal 6:30PM</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p>  <p>Indoor Worship 10am</p>  <p>Choir</p>  <p>Coffee Hour</p>  <p>Blessing of Prayer Shawls</p> 	<p>30</p>  <p>Pantry 9am</p>					

Key:

