

Welcome

to the First Church in Albany

Sunday, September 8, 2024 Drive-In Worship

Radio Station 87.9 FM

Prelude *“Variation 13 from “The Goldberg’s”*
J.S. Bach

Welcome, Announcements, & Blessing

Here at the feast of God’s holy word and holy meal, eyes and ears are opened so that we may all be made glad and filled with hope.

Call to Worship

Votum: I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord. **Amen.**

People: God has lavished us with every perfect gift from above and called us to living intimacy through the beloved one, Jesus Christ our Lord. (Jas. 1:17, Song 2:10)

***Opening Hymn**

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Prayer of Confession & Call New Living

God of favor, we have not been true to you. You have chosen the poor in the world, but we have dishonored them. You plead the cause of the afflicted, but we crush them. We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have chosen to uphold cast systems over systems of kindness. We have favored the rich and despised the poor. We have dismissed the needy with empty words. Soften our hearts and purge our hearts. Heal our unbelief and turn us back to 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.

beep

beep



Children's Message & Blessing

Prayer for Illumination

Bread of the world in mercy broken,
Wine of the soul in mercy shed,
By whom the words of life were spoken,
And in whose death our sins are dead.

Sermon Text

Mark 7:24-37

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Knock Again

A Prayer of Blessing on the Word

***Offertory & Eucharistic Hymn**

"Bread of the World in Mercy Broken"

The Celebration of the Lord's Supper

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 our thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Lord's Prayer (Please Sing)

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**

"When We Must Bear Persistent Pain"

***Charge & Blessing**

Favored by the excellent name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, share your bread with the poor, advocate for the afflicted, show your faith in acts of kindness, love your neighbor as yourself.

Seek justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.

***Postlude** *“Song Without Words” in F Major*
F. Mendelssohn

Note: *You are invited to partake of our Lemonade Lull in Clee Park after worship and enjoy fellowship with your church family. Next week, there will be a Joint Board Meeting after Lemonade Lull.*

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Mashona Walston

Liturgist: Rev. Trey Tirpak

Keyboard: Eugene Sit

Vocalist and/or specialist: Glenn Claydon,
vocalist

Audio/Visual: Joshua Bliss, Stephen Reohr

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**CENTERING
PRAYER**

**Each Wednesday
at noon**

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

PRAYERS, CONCERNS & JOYS

- 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.
- Cheryl Gowie's cousins, the Wishmyer family, whose younger daughter was killed earlier this month, also just lost their sister-in-law during a routine surgical procedure.
- Deshawn, son of a friend from Hot Dog Thursdays, who was shot over the weekend here in Albany along with another man. Deshawn is expected to recover.
- For the family of Jean Greenshields Burns, Cheryl Gowie's cousin, as they grieve her passing. Jean was a member of First before she and her late husband moved to Loudonville Community Church.
- For Stephanie, the daughter of Cheryl Gowie's cousin, who was a victim of Hurricane Debbie as the storm came through Virginia. Prayers for Stephanie's husband Pete, parents Rev. Jim and Debbie, and sister Christie as they mourn their loss.
- Husband to Susan and father to Patti.
- Donna Linen's health concerns, friend of the Dorn's.
- The Monthie and Stallmer families in the passing of Kathy Stallmer, mother-in-law of Peter Monthie.
- Family and loved ones in the passing of Rev. Harlan Ratmeyer.
- Rev. David Cooper, having fallen and broken his hip. He is in considerable and continual pain.
- Judith Utley-Suess and Rev. LeRoy Suess in the passing of Judith's brother John.
- Joanne Farrell and John Patterson Teresa Wheeler's grandmother Cindy, with health concerns
- Donna Jones
- Edie Leet, for healing and steady recovery after surgery. Michelle Williams, for recovery
- Matt, cousin of Barb Andrews with health issues
- 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
- Alexis Parry, niece of Cheryl Gowie
- Gail Santimaw, friend of Judith Utley-Suess
- 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

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

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THE FIRST CHURCH IN ALBANY



MON PANTRY 9 AM

09

WED PANTRY 9 AM

11

CENTERING PRAYER 12 PM

AA MEETING 12 PM

THUR A NIGHT OF WORSHIP 7 PM

12

POTLUCK AT 6PM

SUN FINAL DRIVE-IN WORSHIP

15

10 AM

**FOLLOWED BY LEMONADE LULL AND JOINT
BOARDS MEETING**

NEXT WEEK - WE RETURN TO THE SANCTUARY

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



The First Church in Albany
110 North Pearl Street, Albany NY 12207
518-463-4449
www.firstchurchinalbany.org

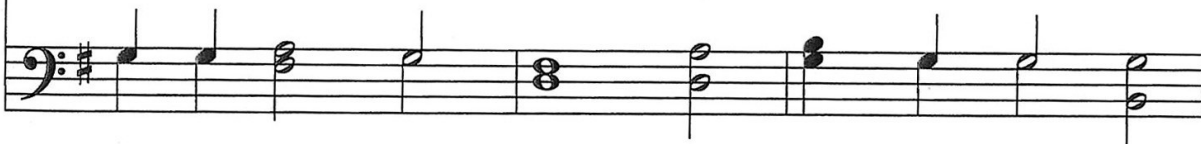
O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing



1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my
2 The name of Je - sus charms our fears, and
3 Christ speaks, and lis - tening to his voice new
4 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as
5 To God all glo - ry, praise, and love be



dear Re - deem - er's praise, the glo - ries of my
bids our sor - rows cease, sings mu - sic in the
life the dead re - ceive; the mourn - ful wak - en
sist me to pro - claim, to spread through all the
now and ev - er given by saints be - low and



God and King, the tri - umphs of God's grace!
sin - ner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.
to re - joice; the poor in heart be - lieve.
earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy name.
saints a - bove, the church in earth and heaven.



This text comes from an eighteen-stanza hymn the author wrote to mark the first anniversary of his life-changing conversion experience. It is now customarily the first hymn in Methodist hymnals worldwide. This tune, adapted from a German composer, is the usual North American setting.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.; Spanish trans. Federico J. Pagura;
Korean trans. The United Methodist Korean Hymnal Committee, 2001

AZMON
CM

MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

Spanish Trans. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. Music Services, Brentwood, TN)

Korean Trans. © 2001 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. Music Services, Brentwood, TN)

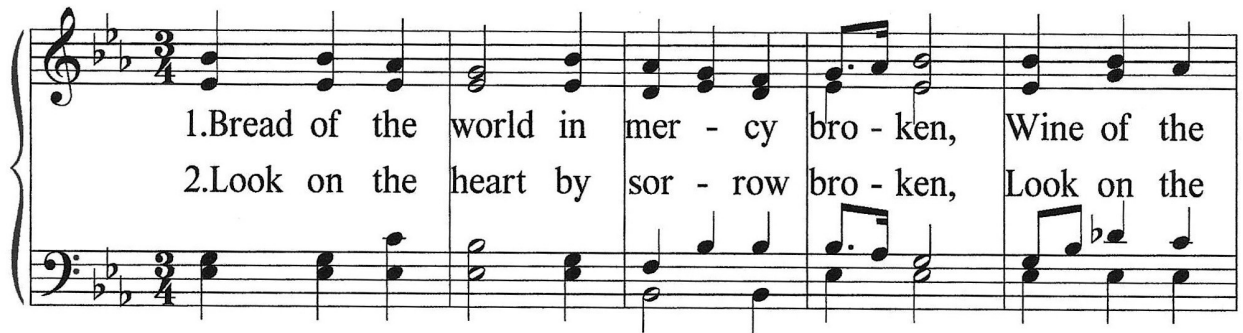
Bread of the World in Mercy Broken

EUCCHARISTIC HYMN 98 98

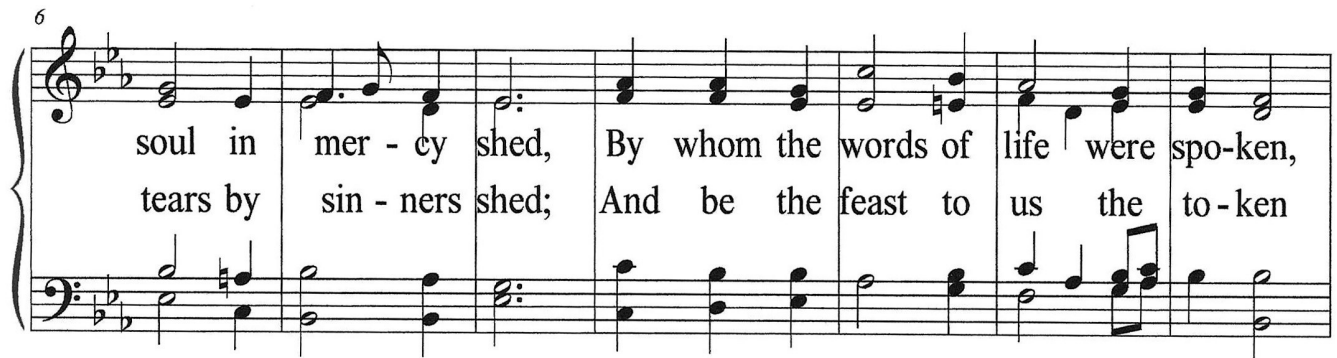
Reginal Heber, 1827

John S. B.. Hodges, 1868

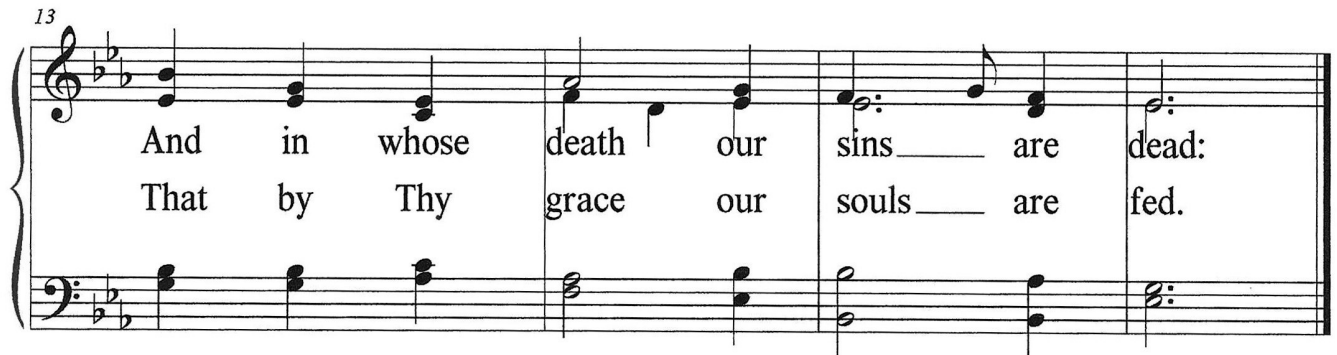
1. Bread of the world in mer - cy bro - ken, Wine of the
2. Look on the heart by sor - row bro - ken, Look on the



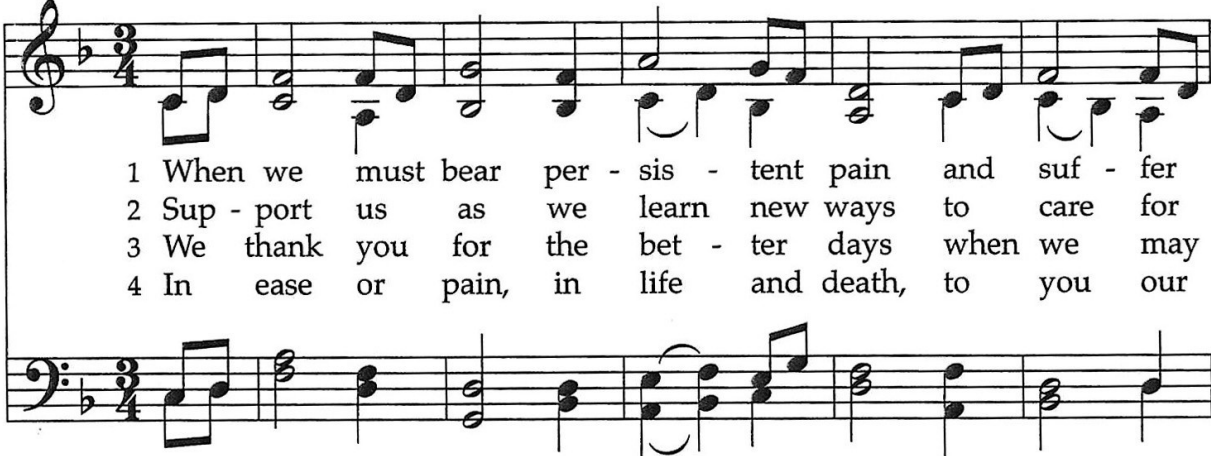
6
soul in mer - cy shed, By whom the words of life were spo - ken,
tears by sin - ners shed; And be the feast to us the to - ken



13
And in whose death our sins _____ are dead:
That by Thy grace our souls _____ are fed.



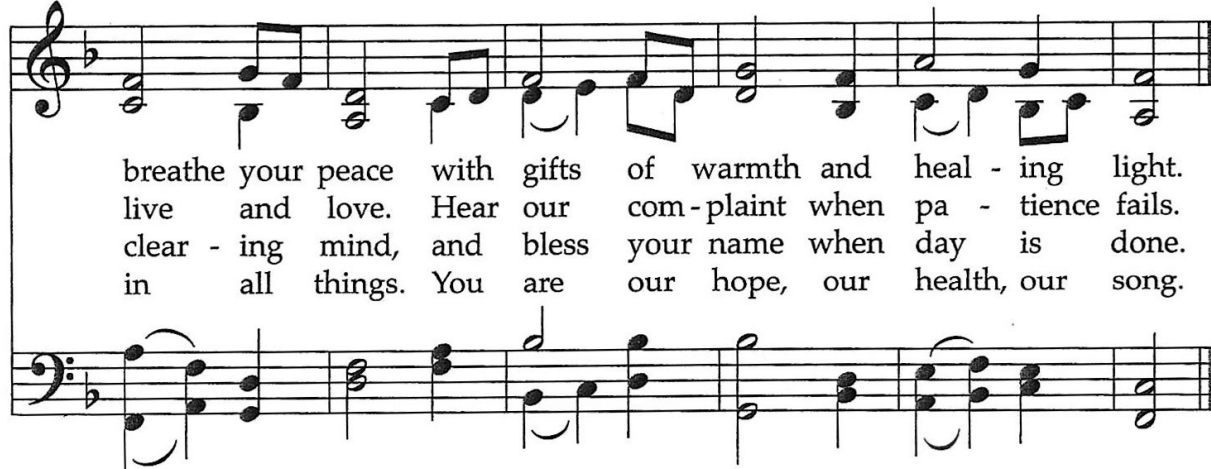
When We Must Bear Persistent Pain



1 When we must bear per - sis - tent pain and suf - fer
2 Sup - port us as we learn new ways to care for
3 We thank you for the bet - ter days when we may
4 In ease or pain, in life and death, to you our



with no cure in sight, come, Ho - ly Pres - ence,
bod - ies new - ly frail. Help us en - dure, and
smile to greet the sun, to do your work with
frag - ile lives be - long, and so we trust you



breathe your peace with gifts of warmth and heal - ing light.
live and love. Hear our com - plaint when pa - tience fails.
clear - ing mind, and bless your name when day is done.
in all things. You are our hope, our health, our song.

Reflecting the author's own experience of debilitating migraine headaches, this sung prayer speaks for many people whose lives involve constant pain, often without hope of lasting relief. This text is effectively set to a shape note tune using only five tones of the scale.