

THE FIRST CHURCH IN ALBANY

(Reformed Church in America)

110 North Pearl Street
Albany, NY 12207
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www.firstchurchinalbany.org

**The Second Sunday
of Lent**

**February 28, 2021
10:00 am Sunday Worship**

**Service
*via ZOOM***



Please keep in prayer this week...

- The family and friends of Wayne Silvasian
- The family and friends of Linda Becker Heim
- The family and friends of Jane Ward
- The family and friends of Joline Mondore
- The family of Agnes Hevi
- Larry Underdue
- Judith Suess & Leroy
- Amy Carr (Gillespie family)
- Cindy Gillespie, in benevolence for the loss of her father
- Kathy Stallmer (Monthie family)
- Brown family
- Pagerey family
- Steve Hoffman
- Beth
- Gertrude Dorn
- Ginger
- Charles Welge
- First Church Staff and Leaders

Prayer Concerns? If you would like your church family to join you in prayer, please share your concerns and joys with us. Call the office at 518-463-4449 or email fciaofficemanager@gmail.com.

Prelude

“Give Me Jesus”

arr. H.T. Burleigh

Rose Hunsberger, soloist

Give Me Jesus

Negro Spiritual
arranged by
H. T. BURLEIGH

Andante

Voice

Piano *p*

O — when I come to die, O

when I come to die, O — when I come to die, Give me Je -

sus. Give me Je - sus, Give me Je - sus, You may

have all dis worl' Give me Je - sus, Dark mid-night was my

cry, Dark mid-night was my cry, Dark mid-night was my cry, Give me

Je - sus, Give me Je - sus give me Je - sus, You may

have all dis worl', Give me Je - sus. Give me Je - sus give me

Je - sus, You may have all dis worl', Give me Je - sus.

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship Psalm 22:23-31

²³You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

²⁴For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

²⁶ The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD. May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

²⁹To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

³⁰Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord, ³¹and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.



Hymn #336 *from Rejoice in the Lord Hymnal*

“At the Name of Jesus”

Confident in God's grace, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,
our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide, and too deep to undo.
Forgive what our lips tremble to name,
what our hearts can no longer bear,
and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.
Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
open us to a future in which we can be changed;
and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image;
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

from the Book of Common Worship

Assurance of Pardon

If the vision seems to tarry
wait for it;
it will surely come...
it will surely come...

Prayer of Illumination

(from the hymn "Spirit of the Living God," Iverson)

Spirit of the Living God,
Fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me,
use me.



A Reading of Scripture

Romans 4:13-25

¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void.

¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us,

¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") --in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be."

Continued...

A Reading of Scripture

Romans 4:13-25

¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb.

²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God,

²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.

²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness."

²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone,

²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead,

²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

The Word of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

“Give Me Jesus”

The Prayer and Blessing on the Word

The Response to God



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.

Hymn #67 *from Rejoice in the Lord Hymnal*

“Be Thou My Vision, O Lord of My Heart”

Benediction

(based on Micah 6:8)

Go in peace—to do justice;
love mercy—be kind and gentle to yourself and others;
and walk humbly with your God—God is beside you, in you, and from you,
today and all days...Amen.

~written by Rev. Sally May, Mallet's Bay Congregational Church, Colchester VT, and posted on Discipleship Ministries <https://umcdiscipleship.org>

Postlude

Improvisation on "King's Weston"

J. Foster

WORSHIP LEADERS:

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Mashona
Walston, Senior Minister;
Guest Organist: Justan Foster
Liturgist: Jean Lamere
Soloist: Rose Hunsberger

Tech Team:

Ian Leet, Josh Bliss, and
Stephen
Reohr

**We welcome all who gather
to worship God this
morning, especially visitors
and friends from near and
far.**