

THE FIRST CHURCH IN ALBANY

(Reformed Church in America)

110 North Pearl Street

Albany, NY 12207

(518) 463-4449

www.firstchurchinalbany.org

The Third Sunday of Lent

March 7, 2021

10:00 am Sunday Worship

**Service
*via ZOOM***



Please keep in prayer this week...

- The family and friends of Wayne Sivaslian
- The family of Frank, uncle of Rebecca Gardner
- 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

“If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee”

arr. M. Kellner
NEUMARK

Welcome and Announcements



Call to Worship

Psalm 19

¹The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

²**Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.**

³There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

⁴**yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,**

⁵which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

⁶**Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat.**

⁷The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;

⁸**the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;**

⁹the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.**

¹¹Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²**But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.**

¹³Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

¹⁴**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

Hymn #136 *from Rejoice in the Lord Hymnal*

“Let Us With A Gladsome Mind”

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

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and what we have left undone.

We have not loved you
with our whole heart and soul
and mind and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as
ourselves.

In your mercy,
forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.

from the Book of Common Worship

Moment of Silence

Assurance of Pardon

God's love has been poured into our hearts
through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The proof of God's amazing love is this:

While we were sinners Christ died for us.

Because we have faith in him,

we dare to approach God in confidence.

Romans 5:5, 8; Hebrews 4:16

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

John 2:13-22

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables.

¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables.

¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!"

¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."


¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?"

¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?"

²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body.

²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.



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

The Sermon

“Rage”

The Prayer and Blessing on the Word



Meaning of the Sacrament and the Invitation

The Communion Prayer

THE lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

You are worthy of our thanks and praise,

Sanctus

**Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you
My heart is glad to say the words,
You are holy Lord**

**Dying Christ destroyed our death
Rising he restored our life
We await his coming in glory.**

The Response to God



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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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn #363 *from Hymn, Psalms, and Spiritual Songs*

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

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

"Jesus, Still Lead On"

P. Manz

SEELENBRÄUTIGAM

WORSHIP LEADERS:

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Mashona Walston, Senior Minister

Guest Organist: Justan Foster

Liturgist: Norma Jean Ballou

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.