



First Presbyterian Church of Albany

BRINGING THE LIGHT OF FAITH TO ALL

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost • June 23, 2024 • 9:30am Worship



Welcome!

Whether you are worshipping with us for the first time or have grown up here at FPC,
we are glad you are worshipping here this morning!

The Gathering

**indicates when to rise in body or spirit*

Prelude

Fantasy and Fugue in D Minor

Johann Pachelbel

Welcome & Announcements

Ringling of the Bell

*Call to Worship

One: God has summoned us to this place, at this time.

All: The Holy Spirit surrounds us and moves us to offer our worship.

One: Even so, life seems to be one difficulty after another; it feels like each storm is followed by another storm.

All: There are many problems around the world and concerns here in our city.

One: Where would we rather be, among the stormy seas of life, than in a boat with our Lord Jesus Christ?

All: Just as he left his disciples in a state of wonderment,

One: so too are we amazed at what he does.

All: May we always remember that Christ is with us, here in the boat.

One: Let us worship the living God.

*Hymn No. 35

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

*Prayer of Confession

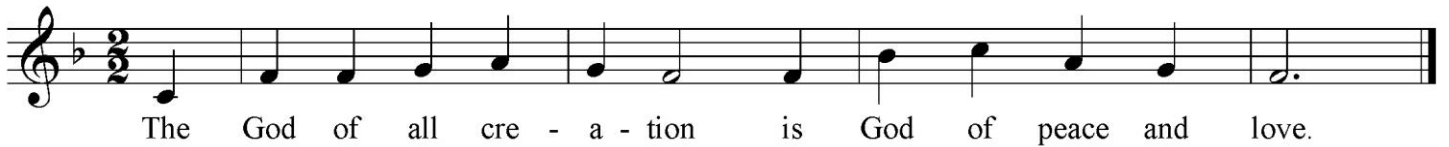
Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son.

Silent prayers of personal confession may be offered.

Psalm 107

Joshua Gurwitz, *tenor*

(Cantor sings the refrain once then followed by the congregation)



Give thanks, for the Lord is good; God's steadfast love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the Lord speak out, you that are gathered from all the lands. **(R)**

Some lost their way on their desert journey, finding no city to call their home; they were hungry and thirsty; exhausted, they called to the Lord. **(R)**

They called to the Lord in their trouble; God delivered them from all their distress; straight to a city, a home secure. **(R)**

Give thanks to the Lord, all people; God's wonders are made known from age to age. Those who are thirsty are satisfied; the hungry are given abundant food. **(R)**

Gospel Lesson

Mark 4:35-41 (N.T., p. 39)

One: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Sermon

What Are You Really Afraid of?

Glenn D. Leupold

Our Response

*Hymn No. 756

O God of Every Nation

LLANGLOFFAN

Prayers of the People

Lee Helsby

*There is a "Prayers of the People" book on the table in the back of the sanctuary. We encourage the congregation to write their concerns and thanksgivings in the book before the service so they can be included in the Prayers of the People. Several petitions are offered, each concluding with: O God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

Offering of Ourselves and Our Gifts

Ushers will pass the offering plates to each pew. There are also offering receptacles located in the back of the sanctuary. You may place your offering in one on the way into worship or as you leave. You may also donate online at <https://firstpresalbany.org/give/> or scan the QR code to the right.



Offertory

Brotherhood

Robert Schumann

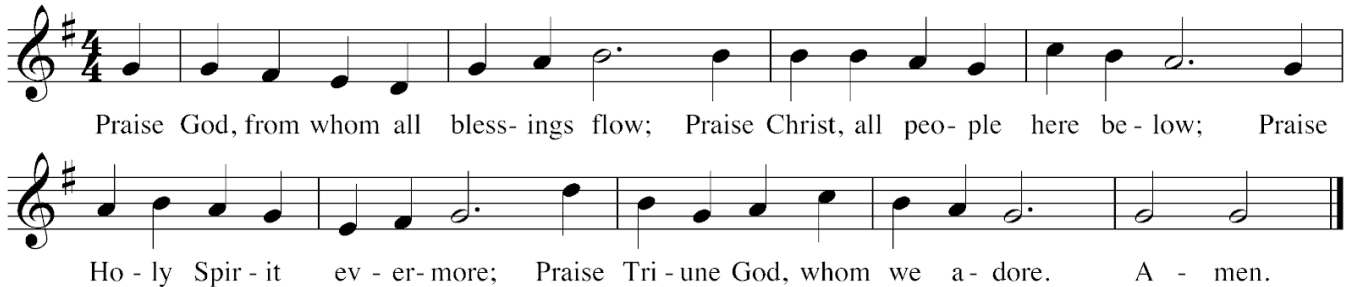
Joshua Gurwitz, *tenor*

God is of the East possessed, God is ruler of the West!
North and South do join the lands resting in their gentle hands.

They, the only righteous one wills that right to each be done,
to their many names everyone sing their highest praise, Amen.

God is of the East possessed, God is ruler of the West!
Error seekest always to deceive me, only thou are able to retrieve me;
Both in action and in song, keeping pathway right and free from wrong.

*Doxology (*sung in unison*)



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise Christ, all peo-ple here be-low; Praise
Ho-ly Spir-it ev-er-more; Praise Tri-une God, whom we a-dore. A-men.

*Prayer of Dedication

The Eucharist (Thanksgiving)

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

All those, including children, who seek the way of Christ and desire fellowship in the church are invited to the Lord's Table to share in our common meal of Thanksgiving.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

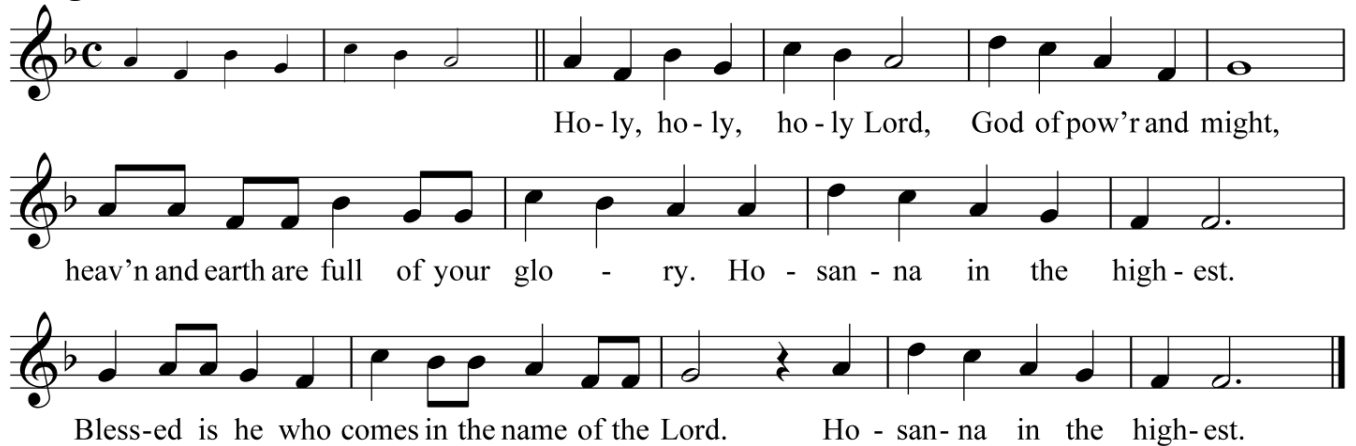
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

(prayer continues with sung responses)

One: ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All Sing:



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

One: ... in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All Sing:



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a-gain.

One: ...All glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

All Sing:



A-men. A-men.

One: And now with the confidence of the children of God, we are bold to pray:

All: 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.

Breaking of the Bread and Communion of the People

The congregation is served at the front of the sanctuary, coming forward by the center aisle and returning by the side aisles. Communion is by intinction – take a piece of bread from the loaf or a piece of pita from the plate, dip it into the cup of juice, and eat. When served, you may respond by saying “Amen,” “Thanks be to God,” or another response. You may choose a sealed prepackaged communion element from one of the baskets – the ones with “GF” are gluten-free. If you prefer to receive communion in the pew, you may remain in your seat and signal an usher. Servers will bring you the elements.

Communion Music*Thee We Adore, O Hidden Savior, Thee*

Thomas Aquinas

Joshua Gurwitz, *tenor*

Thee we adore, O hidden Savior, thee who at this blessed feast art pleased to be;
both flesh and spirit in thy presence fail, yet here thy presence we devoutly hail.

O blest memorial of our dying Lord, who living bread to all doth her afford!
O may our souls forever feed on thee, and thou, O Christ, forever precious be!

Fountain of goodness, Jesus, Lord and God,
cleanse us, unclean, with thy most cleansing blood;
increase our faith and love, that we may know
the hope and peace which from thy presence flow.

O Christ, whom now beneath a veil we see, may what we thirst for soon our portion be,
to gaze on thee unveiled, and see thy face, the vision of thy glory and thy grace.

Prayer after Communion

**Holy God, we give you thanks that you have claimed us as your own and
nourished us in this meal as members of Christ's body. By the work of your
Spirit within us give us the grace to glorify you as one living body in the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Sending***Hymn No. 463***How Firm a Foundation*

FOUNDATION

Charge and Blessing**Response by the People (*in unison*) Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Amen.**

***Responsive Hymn No. 546 v.1** *Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing* SICILIAN MARINERS



Lord, dis - miss us_ with your bless-ing; fill our hearts with joy and peace;



let us each, your love pos - sess - ing, tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace.



O_ re - fresh us, O_ re - fresh us, travel - ing through this wil - der-ness.

Postlude

Choral Song

Samuel Wesley

You may be seated if you wish to listen to the postlude.

Please come to Assembly Hall for Fellowship Time.

For your convenience and as an aid to your worship experience, large print hymnals and Bibles are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary.

The music is reprinted under CCLI License #2853455 and OneLicense #A-716938.

All are Welcome in this Place!

New faces and voices are always welcome and add to the spirit of our worship, education, mission and fellowship. Let us know you worshipped with us by either filling in the yellow card in the pew in front of you or by scanning the QR code. Pastors Miriam & Glenn use email addresses to share congregational email and important announcements about the life of the church.



First Presbyterian Church

is a community for all people where apprentices of Jesus seek to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God.

We are called by God to envision and work toward eradicating systemic poverty, eliminating structural racism and sharing the experience of the good news of God's love, peace and joy.

We welcome children to our worship services. Nursery care for children ages birth through kindergarten is provided on the second floor of the Christian Education Building. Nursery care is available from 9:10am to 11:10am and is staffed by experienced childcare providers Morgan Rosekrans and Mary Margaret Cabuhut.

Parking is available on Sunday mornings in Washington Park. There is also a parking lot on Washington Avenue just west of Lark Street available during church services on Sunday mornings. The church parking lot on Sunday mornings is reserved for visitors and for those who, for physical reasons, need close access to the church. Please note the spaces reserved for those with disabilities, and please do not block other cars.

We continue to livestream our Sunday worship services on Facebook.

Christian Education on Sunday mornings will resume September 15

9:15-10:15 Education Classes

Godly Play in the Preschool Class (age 3 thru kindergarten)

Godly Play in The Upper Rooms (Grades 1-5)

Youth Education in the Youth Room (Grades 6-12)

Adult Education Class in the Rose Room and MS Teams

Announcements

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given by Rachel Smith, in memory of Dwight C. Smith, Jr. on his birthday.

The paraments (the cloth on the communion table) and the pastors' stoles (the cloth around their necks) are rainbow to celebrate Pride month.

Each month the **FOCUS Food Pantry** requests items from its member churches. The donation for FPC for June is shampoo. All items must be new and unopened. Please leave donations in the box in Assembly Hall. Questions? Call Susan Sneeringer at 518-496-4793.

Sunday, July 7, we will be worshipping with other FOCUS congregations at 10:00am at the First Church in Albany, 110 N Pearl St, Albany, NY 12207.



Aging With Pride
Monthly Potluck
Sunday July 7th

1:00pm - 3:00pm First Pres Church. This is a wonderful opportunity for LGBTQ+ seniors to come together in a welcoming, supportive environment to share food, stories, and laughter. Why is this gathering important? As we age, connecting with others who share similar life experiences can be incredibly enriching. LGBTQ+ seniors often face unique challenges and may not have the same support networks as others. Whether you're bringing a dish to share or simply bringing yourself, your presence is what matters. This event is secular and open to all LGBTQ+ seniors looking for fellowship and connection. Let's make each gathering a testament to our vibrant community spirit!

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Sunday, June 23 10:45 am Fellowship Time

Tuesday 6:00 am Local, State & Congressional Primary Elections
6:30 pm FOCUS Board meeting

Wednesday 7:00 pm Dads' Small Group

Next Sunday, June 30 9:30 am Worship Service in the sanctuary and livestreaming on Facebook and YouTube
10:45 am Fellowship Time



Presents:

The Songs We Sing

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2024 | 7 P.M.
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH | 21 HACKETT BLVD., ALBANY, NY

SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2024 | 3 P.M.
SLOC MUSICAL THEATER | 427 FRANKLIN ST., SCHENECTADY, NY

Join us as AGMC performs a selection of uplifting and triumphant ensembles from different popular composers and musicals.

*A portion of proceeds benefitting
St. Anne Institute's Runaway and
Homeless Youth Shelter*

St. Anne
Institute

Visit our website for
more information and
to purchase tickets.



www.albanygmc.org

Serving you on Sunday, June 23

Sanctuary Ushers/Greeters: Joanne Gascoyne, Richard Gascoyne, Amy Jenal,
Bob Stevens & Linda Stevens

Online Worship Assistant: Fadia Ghobrial

Scripture Reader: Roger Green

Prayer Reader: Lee Helsby

Communion Servers: Kathie Keck & Lillie McLaughlin

Offering Counters: Amy Robinson & Janna Pfluger-Boucher

Audio Visual Specialist: Dwight Cheu

Serving you on Sunday, June 30

Sanctuary Ushers/Greeters: John Abunaw, David Hannay, Kate Pruzek,
& Sahil Yashib

Online Worship Assistant: Alison Stonbely

Scripture Reader: Kendra Smith-Howard

Prayer Reader: Jon Rice

Communion Servers: Marian Eaton & John Myers

Offering Counters: Janna Pfluger-Boucher & Carol Green

Audio Visual Specialist: Bruce Brynolfson



First Presbyterian
Church of Albany

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*Glenn D. Leupold, Co-Pastor • Miriam Lawrence Leupold, Co-Pastor • Michael C. Lister, Director of Music
Trevor Kahlbaugh, Organist • Molly Dowell Baum, Youth Director • Fred Boehrer, FOCUS Exec. Dir.*



Check out our socials!

***Hymn No. 35**

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN



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



O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and sal - va - tion!
shel - ters thee un - der his wings, yea, so gen - tly sus - tain - eth!
All that hath life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



All ye who hear, now to his tem - ple draw near;
Hast thou not seen how thy de - sires e'er have been
Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain;



join me in glad a - do - ra - tion!
grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
glad - ly for aye we a - dore him.

***Hymn No. 756**

O God of Every Nation

LLANGLOFFAN



1. O God of ev - ery na - tion, of ev - ery race and land,
2. From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
3. Lord, strength-en those who la - bor that all may find re - lease
4. Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,



re - deem the whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand.
from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc - tion through the night,
from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
when hat - red and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,



Where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
from pride of race and sta - tion and blind - ness to your way,
when hope and cour - age fal - ter, your still small voice be heard;
till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and jus - tice reign



in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
de - liv - er ev - ery na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.
with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.
and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

***Hymn No. 463**

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can be said than to you God hath said,
I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."