



First Presbyterian Church of Albany

BRINGING THE LIGHT OF FAITH TO ALL

Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost • October, 13 2024
10:30 Worship

The Gathering

**indicates when to rise in body or spirit*

Prelude

Pastorale and Aria

Dale Wood

Welcome, Announcements & Minute for Mission

Ringing of the Bell

Choral Introit

Love the Lord Your God

Michael Lister

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your might, and all your understanding. And love one another as yourselves.

***Call to Worship**

One: To live in awe and fear of God is the beginning of wisdom.

All: God created us to seek out our creator throughout our lives.

One: God knew we'd need help with that, so God told us to set aside one day a week to be a Sabbath, a day of rest and to reconnect with God as well as our true selves.

All: Even when we freely admit that God had not been our priority, God wants us to come and worship.

One: Even when we are distracted by the pursuit of wealth or power or whatever else may hold the central place in our lives where God should be, we are welcome here.

All: God embodies grace and love, every day.

One: God is love. Let us worship the living God.

***Hymn No. 32**

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

ELLACOMBE

*Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed. God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our redeemer.

Silent prayers of personal confession may be offered.

*Kyrie Eleison 551

Lord, Have Mercy

LAND OF REST

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

*Declaration of Forgiveness

*The Welcome and Peace

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

The congregation greets one another with words and signs of peace.

*Gloria Patri No. 582

Glory To God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

GLORY TO GOD (VASILE)

1. Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me, and to the
2. World with - out end, with - out end. A - men. World with - out

Son, whose grace has set me free, and to the Spir - it, whose love has
end, with - out end. A - men. World with - out end, with - out

set me free. As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.
end. A - men.

The Word

Old Testament Lesson

Job 23:1-11 (O.T., pp. 470-471)

Rachel Hoppins

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:1-15

Joshua Gurwitz, *tenor*

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



My God, my God, why have you forsaken me: why are you so far from my help, and from my cry of distress? O my God I cry out in the daytime, but you do not answer: at night also, but I get no relief. **(R)**

But you are the Holy One: enthroned on the praises of your people. Our ancestors trusted in you: they trusted and you delivered them. They called to you and were rescued: they put their trust in you, and were not disappointed **(R)**

But I am a worm and something less than human: an object of scorn and an outcast of the people. All those who see me laugh me to scorn: they curl their lips and toss their heads saying, "You trusted in God for deliverance: if God care for you, let God rescue you." **(R)**

But you are the one who took me out of the womb: you keep me safe upon my mother's breast. On you have I been cast ever since I was born: and you are my God even from my mother's womb. Be not far from me, for trouble is close at hand: and there is no one to help me. **(R)**

Many bulls have come around me: great bulls of Bashan close in on me from every side. They open wide their mouths at me: like ravening and roaring lions. **(R)**

I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart within my breast has melted like wax. My mouth is parched as dry clay; my tongue clings to my jaws: and I am laid in the dust of death. **(R)**

Anthem

Treasures in Heaven

Joseph W. Clokey

First Presbyterian Chancel Choir

Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal.

But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Ask and it shall be given to you; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you, for everyone that asketh receiveth, and they that seeketh findeth, and to them that knocketh it shall be opened.

Gospel Lesson

Mark 10:17-31 (N.T., pp. 46)

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pestered by Selfishness

Glenn Leupold

Our Response

*Hymn No. 343

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

GERMANY

Prayers of the People

Karen Brown

*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

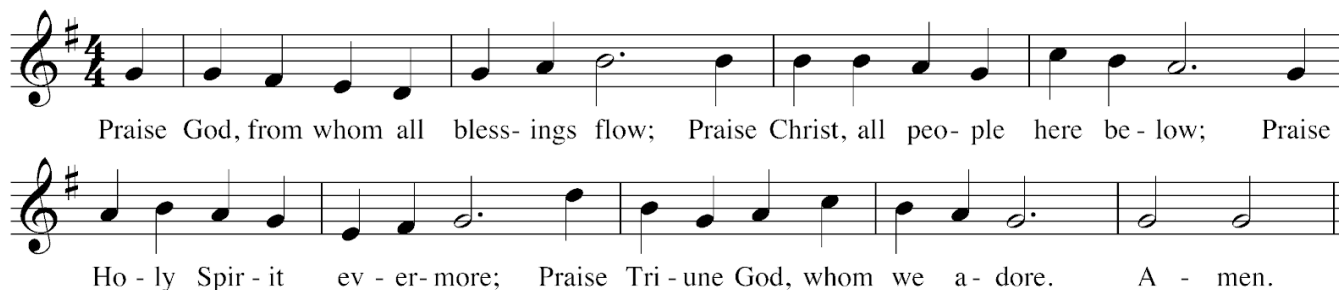
Ushers will pass the offering plates to each pew. There are also offering receptacles located in the back of the sanctuary. You may place your offering in one on the way into worship or as you leave. You may also donate online at <https://firstpresalbany.org/give/> or scan the QR code to the right.



Offertory

The Cameroon Singers

*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.

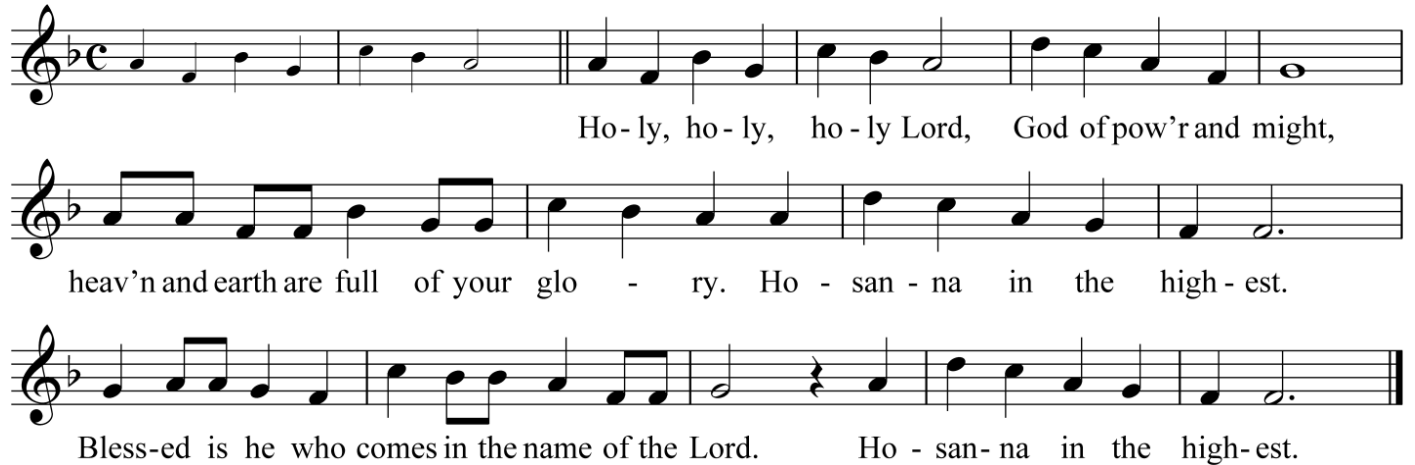
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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:



One: ...Hear us now as together we pray the prayer Jesus taught us to pray, saying:

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

The Goodness of God
Joshua Gurwitz, *tenor*

C.P.E. Bach

How great is the goodness of God almighty!
Is there any one who has not known God's goodness?
For all gifts come from God Almighty, all praise and honor belongeth to them.
Let all consider what God hath given.
All that we have are gifts from God above.
The Lord hath not forgotten us ,and we should not forget this love.

O God, let thy goodness and love be boundless and always remain before, our eyes.
O strengthen us with thy great power.
Let all our lives be given to thee.
O grant comfort in time of trouble.
Be thou our guide thru joyful days, for we would not forget thy goodness.
With thankful hearts we sing thy praise.

Prayer after Communion

All: Holy and Eternal God, you are as far away as the distant stars and as close as our breath. You meet us at this table and we discover our hearts burning within us. Go with us as we leave this place, so that your light and your life may shine brightly for all to see. Amen.

The Sending

***Hymn No. 42**

Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure

WINCHESTER NEW

***Charge and Blessing**

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

***Responsive Hymn 288**

Spirit of the Living God

LIVING GOD

Spi - rit of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me. Spi - rit of the liv - ing God,
fall a - fresh on me. Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.
Spi - rit of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Postlude

Trumpeting

Dale Wood

*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 8:45am to 12:15pm and is staffed by experienced childcare providers Morgan Rosekrans and Mary Margaret Cabuhat.

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

9:15-10:15 Education Classes in the Education Building

Godly Play in the Preschool Class on 2nd floor (age 3 thru kindergarten)

Godly Play in The Upper Rooms on 3rd floor (Grades 1-5)

Youth Education in the Youth Room on 2nd floor (Grades 6-12)

Announcements

Today the **Adult Education Class** discussed a presentation by Robert P. Jones at the Freedom Rising conference on the topic of racism and white rationalization. **Next Sunday**, October 20, Patricia Fennell will lead us in part two of her class on long term illness.

Each month the **FOCUS Food Pantry** requests items from its member churches. FPC's October donation is bar soap. All items must be new and unopened. The **FOCUS Food Pantry** is also requesting one-pound bags of rice, as they are unable to get these from suppliers. Please leave donations

in the box in Assembly Hall. Questions? Call Susan Sneeringer at 518-496-4793.

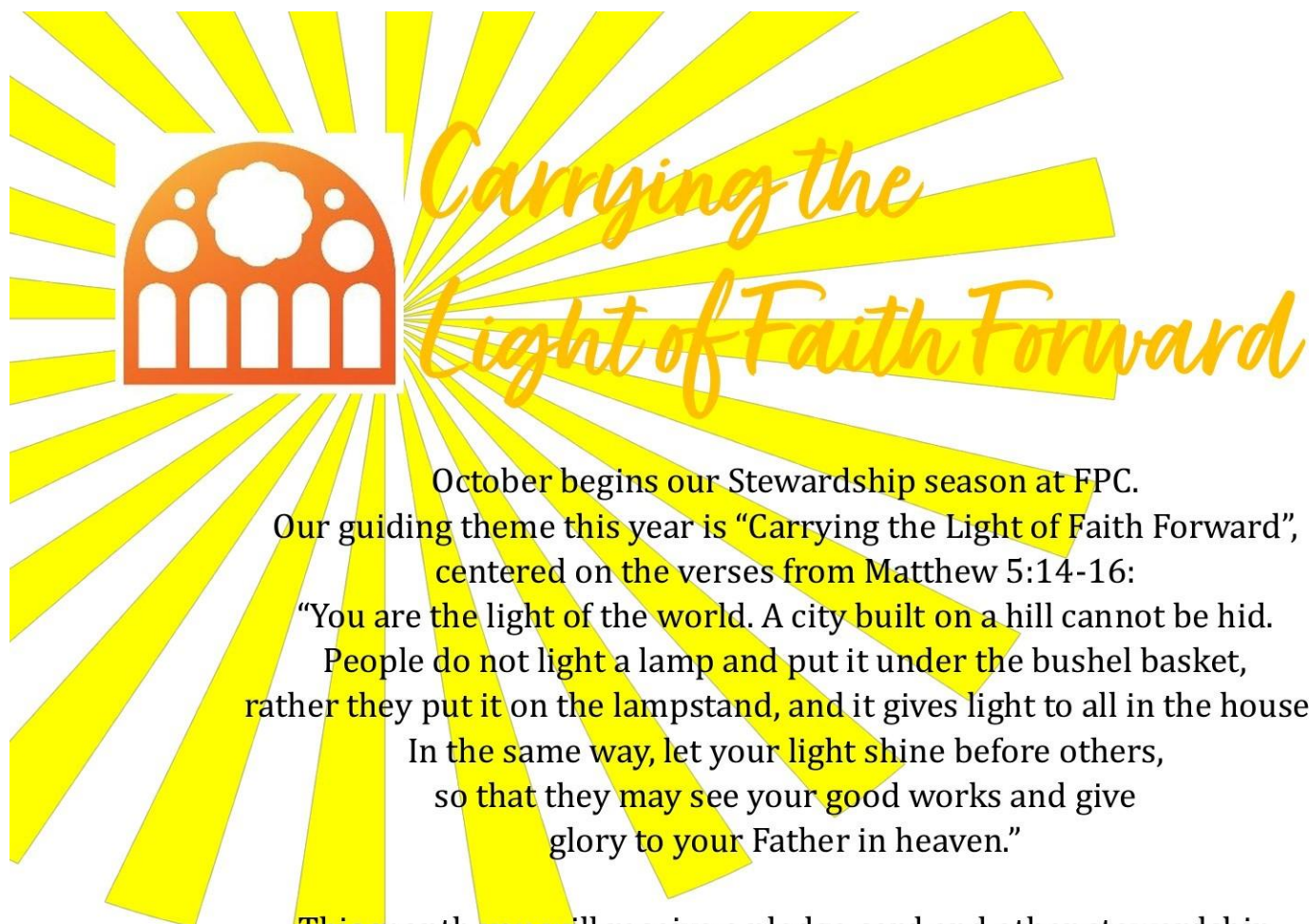
The parament (the cloth on the pulpit) and the pastors' stoles (the cloth around their necks) represent children of the world and will be worn for the month of October. The other paraments, (lectern and communion table) are green, the liturgical color for **Ordinary Time** (Monday after Pentecost through Saturday before the First Sunday of Advent). Green is a sign of life in nature and as such represents growth, life and hope.

Come
and
walk

THE
LABYRINTH
at First Presbyterian
Church

Monthly
every
3rd Thursday

11am-2pm
& 5-7pm



October begins our Stewardship season at FPC. Our guiding theme this year is “Carrying the Light of Faith Forward”, centered on the verses from Matthew 5:14-16:
“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket, rather they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

This month you will receive a pledge card and other stewardship materials in the mail. During worship, we will hear from members of the congregation about what FPC and right stewardship means to them, and we invite you to prayerfully consider the same as you determine how best to use your time, talents and treasure in service of the kingdom writ large and small.

Please also save the date for Consecration Sunday on **October 27**, when we will collectively present our pledges in worship and enjoy fellowship together with a delicious lunch in Assembly Hall.

Let's keep the light burning brightly at First Pres.

As we learned from Susan Cotner of the Albany Community Land Trust, the lack of affordable housing is due to several factors. However, the city of Albany has one reason that no other city can claim. On Friday, October 18 at 7:00 pm, Movies that Matter, right here at First Pres will take an in-depth exploration of our neighbor, the Empire State Plaza. What was in place before the Plaza? Why did it come to be? What have been the long term consequences since it was erected? “The Neighborhood That Disappeared” is a documentary about Albany that looks at

those questions and raises others. In addition to the documentary, we will engage in a discussion led by Ann Pfau and David Hochfelder, two of the founders of the 98 Acres in Albany Project. Ann and David have done extensive research into the issues surrounding the Empire State Plaza and look forward to sharing with us.



First Pres'
MOVIES THAT MATTER
NOW SHOWING

FRIDAY - OCTOBER 18 - 7:00 PM

**THE NEIGHBORHOOD
THAT DISAPPEARED**

FREE MOVIE & FRESHLY POPPED POPCORN
Feel free to bring other snacks to share.

First Pres' Jericho Theatre on the third floor
362 State St - Albany

518-449-7332
www.firstpresalbany.org



On **Saturday, October 19**, from 10 am to 2 pm, at First Presbyterian Church, Albany, the Anti-Racism Task Force will offer an Anti-Racism Training: “Words Have Meaning: the Intersection of Faith and Anti-Racism” by Charlene Holmes, Chief Equity Officer and Founder of Imana Borena, Inc.

The training is being offered free of charge to all members of Albany Presbytery and members of congregations. A catered lunch will be provided. Please RSVP by October 12 to ARTF Co-Chairs Mary Anne Davis, mad.maryanne@gmail.com or Donna Elia, delia001@nycap.rr.com

!!!!HELP WANTED!!!!

Capital Area Council of Churches Emergency Overflow Shelter 2024-25

First Pres has made a commitment for several years to provide dinner for the men at the overflow shelter www.capareacc.org/projects/emergency-overflow-homeless-shelter/. This shelter serves people who have no other shelter options in Albany County during the cold weather, November until April.

Our slot is the third Monday of the month: Nov 18, Dec 16, Jan 20, Feb 17, Mar 17 and Apr 21.

Please consider signing up for one of these months

Cooking a hearty dinner for 25 hungry men may sound daunting. Here are some ideas to make it more doable:

- Sign up to share a week with another church member.
- Your church small group could take one week & challenge other small groups to do the same
- You love to bake....but do not cook – volunteer to make dessert.
- You don't cook!! How about purchasing a ready-made dinner

contact Karen Brown karenbrown1@gmail.com or 518-817-2295 for more info.

See the signup sheet and info page in the Assembly Hall on the Outreach & Mission Opportunities and Info Table

New Breath Spirituality Center



Grand Opening!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25TH
7PM-8:30PM

First Presbyterian Church of Albany
362 State Street
Albany, NY 12210

Come eat some small bites, hear about New Breath, learn about our programs, and meet our Executive Director.

First Fridays at First Presbyterian

An Experience of Visual and Musical Art
Friday, November 1, 2024

A Night of Jazz

Dave Fisk - Tenor Saxophone
Mike Benedict - Vibes
Mike Lawrence - Bass
Andy Hearn - Drums



In the Gallery:
Paintings
by Julia Durgee
and Kymberli Who

6:00 pm Concert
Gallery hours: 5:30 ~ 8:00 pm
362 State Street, Albany NY

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Today	11:45am Fellowship Time 5:00pm Youth Fall Fun Overnight
Monday, 10/14	Office Closed 7:00pm FCC Rehearsal
Tuesday, 10/15	6:45 pm Session Meeting
Wednesday, 10/16	12:00 pm Endowment Subcommittee meeting
Thursday, 10/17	7:00 am Men's Bible Study 11:00 am Labyrinth monthly walk 5:00 pm Labyrinth monthly walk 6:15 pm Octet Rehearsal 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Friday, 10/18	7:00 pm Movies that Matter
Saturday 10/19	10:00 am Anti Racism Training
Next Sunday, October 20	9:15 am Adult Education 9:15 am Children's Education (1st through 5th grade) 9:15 am Preschool Education 9:15 am Youth Education 9:30 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Worship Service in the sanctuary and livestreaming on Facebook 11:45 am Fellowship Time 12:00 pm December First Friday Music Rehearsal

Serving you on Sunday, October 13

Sanctuary Ushers/Greeters: John Abunaw, Kate Pruzek, Bob Stevens, Linda Stevens, Sahil Yashib

Online Worship Assistant: Mary Rogers

Scripture Reader: Rachel Hoppins

Prayer Reader: Kate Pruzek

Communion Servers: Jon Rice & Amy Jenal

Offering Counters: Ron Geuther & Amy Robinson

Audio Visual Specialist: Bruce Brynolfson

Serving you on Sunday, October 20

Sanctuary Ushers/Greeters: Jeff Durgee, Ellen Kemp, Rachel Smith, Roseline Takor

Online Worship Assistant: Alison Stonbely

Scripture Reader: Ellen Eisenbraun

Prayer Reader: Peg Schalit

Communion Servers: Kendra Smith-Howard & Kevin Fuscus

Offering Counters: Laura Schultz & Marc Boucher



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, Youth Director • Steven Minchin, Office Administrator*



Check out our socials!

32 I Sing the Mighty Power of God

1 I sing the might - y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,
 2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.
 3 There's not a plant or flower be - low but makes thy glo - ries known.

that spread the flow - ing seas a - broad and built the loft - y
 God formed the crea-tures through the Word, and then pro-nounced them
 And clouds a - rise, and tem-pests blow, by or - der from thy

skies. I sing the wis-dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day.
 good. Lord, how thy won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er I turn my eye,
 throne, while all that bor-rows life from thee is ev - er in thy care,

The moon shines full at God's com-mand, and all the stars o - bey.
 if I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!
 and ev - ery-where that we can be, thou, God, art pres-ent there.

With minimal revision this text brings together six of the eight four-line stanzas in an 18th-century hymn written for children and originally headed "Praise for Creation and Providence." The anonymous German tune provides a fitting sense of breadth and wonder.

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life 343

1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
 2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad - owed
 3 From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, from hu - man
 4 The cup of wa - ter given for you still holds the

cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
 thresh - olds fraught with fears, from paths where hide the
 grief and bur - dened toil, from fam - ished souls, from
 fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -

self - ish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
 lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.
 sor - row's stress, your heart has nev - er known re - coil.
 tudes to view the sweet com - pas - sion of your face.

5 O Master, from the mountainside,
 make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
 among these restless throngs abide;
 O tread the city's streets again;

6 Till all the world shall learn your love,
 and follow where your feet have trod;
 till glorious from your heaven above
 shall come the city of our God.

Because dense populations always result in concentrated hardships, this vivid yet timeless evocation of urban need connects to our own day as well as to Jesus' lament over Jerusalem (Matthew 23:37/Luke 13:34). This tune was the first used with this text and is now customary.

Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure 42

(Psalm 145)

1 Your faith - ful - ness, O Lord, is sure in
 2 The eyes of all are fixed on you; by
 3 Lord, you are just in all your ways, and
 4 My mouth shall speak your praise, O Lord; my

all your words, your gra - cious deeds; you gen - tly lift all
 you their wants are all sup - plied; your o - pen hand is
 kind in ev - ery - thing you do; for - ev - er near you
 soul shall bless your ho - ly name; let all things liv - ing

bur - dened souls and well pro - vide for all our needs.
 boun - ti - ful and ev - ery soul is sat - is - fied.
 stand to hear and help all those who call on you.
 join the song of praise, from age to age the same.

This paraphrase of verses from the latter part of Psalm 145 celebrates God's providential care for all creation, especially for those in any need or trouble. This anonymous German tune was apparently introduced to English hymnody by John Wesley in a 1742 music collection.