



First Presbyterian Church of Albany

BRINGING THE LIGHT OF FAITH TO ALL

Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost • Consecration Sunday
October 27, 2024 • 10:30 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

Ein' feste Burg ist unser Gott

Dietrich Buxtehude

Welcome

Announcements

Minute for Mission

Ringling of the Bell

Choral Introit

Awake My Heart

William Billings

Awake, my heart; arise, my tongue, prepare a tuneful voice;
In God, the life of all my joys, aloud will I rejoice.

***Call to Worship**

One: God is in this house today.

All: For God longs to be in relationship with us.

One: God is in this house today.

All: For God loves the sinners and the saints.

One: God is in this house today.

All: For God sees all, claims all, and loves all.

One: God is in this house today.

All: So let us worship Holy God.

***Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy on us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

Silent prayers of personal confession may be offered.

***Kyrie Eleison 578**

O Lord, Have Mercy

ORE PRIAJU VEREKP

O Lord, have mer - cy; O Lord, have mer - cy; O
 O Christ, have mer - cy; O Christ, have mer - cy; O

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

***Declaration of Forgiveness**

***The Welcome and Peace**

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

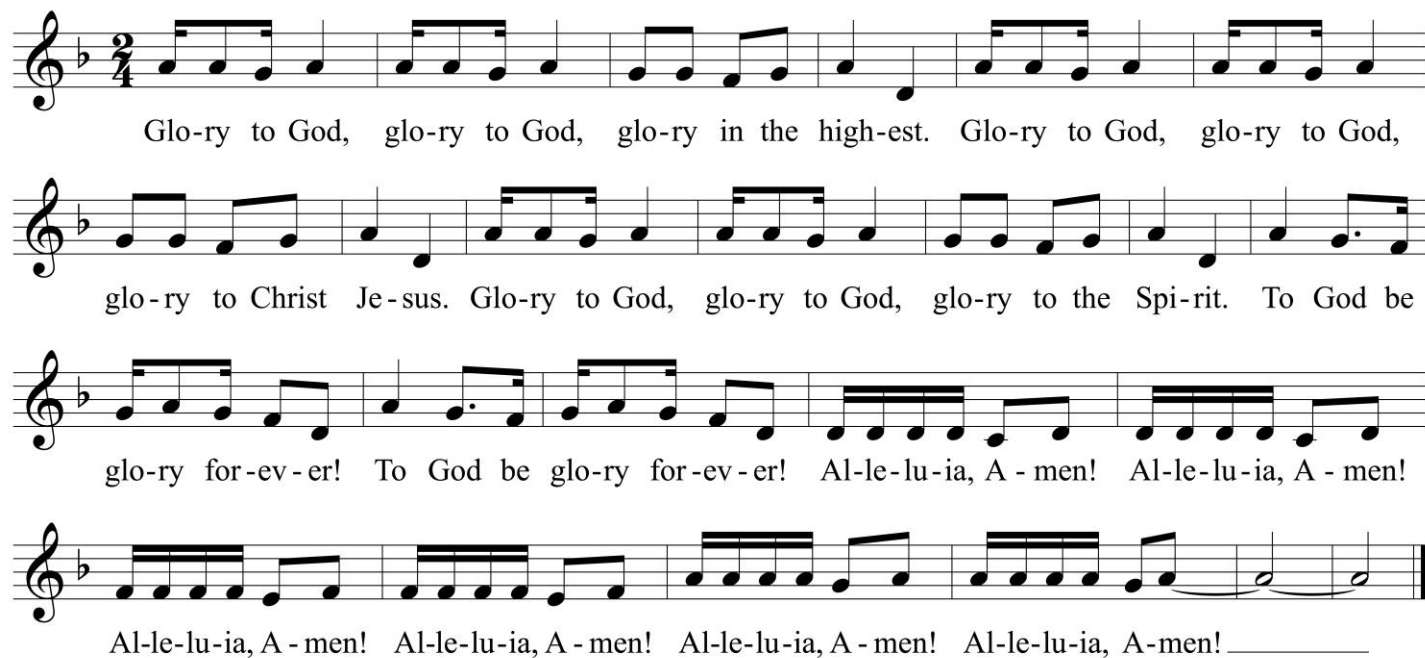
All: And also with you.

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

***Gloria Patri No. 585**

Glory To God

MACHU-PICHU



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry in the high-est. Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God,
glo-ry to Christ Je-sus. Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to the Spi-rit. To God be
glo-ry for-ev-er! To God be glo-ry for-ev-er! Al-le-lu-ia, A - men! Al-le-lu-ia, A - men!
Al-le-lu-ia, A - men! Al-le-lu-ia, A - men! Al-le-lu-ia, A - men! Al-le-lu-ia, A-men! _____

The Word

New Testament Lesson Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-17 (N.T., pp. 193, 194) FPC Youth

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

A Blessing

Martin Shaw

First Presbyterian Chancel Choir

Go forth into the world in peace. Be of good courage.

Hold fast that which is good. Render to no one evil for evil.

Strengthen the fainthearted. Support the weak. Help the afflicted.

Honor all people. Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you and remain with you forever. Amen.

Gospel Lesson Mathew 5:13-16 (N.T., p. 4)

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Carrying the Light of Faith Forward

Miriam Lawrence Leupold

Our Response

***Hymn No. 767**

Together We Serve

SAN ANSELMO

Prayers of the People

Molly Dowell

*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

Thy Perfect Love

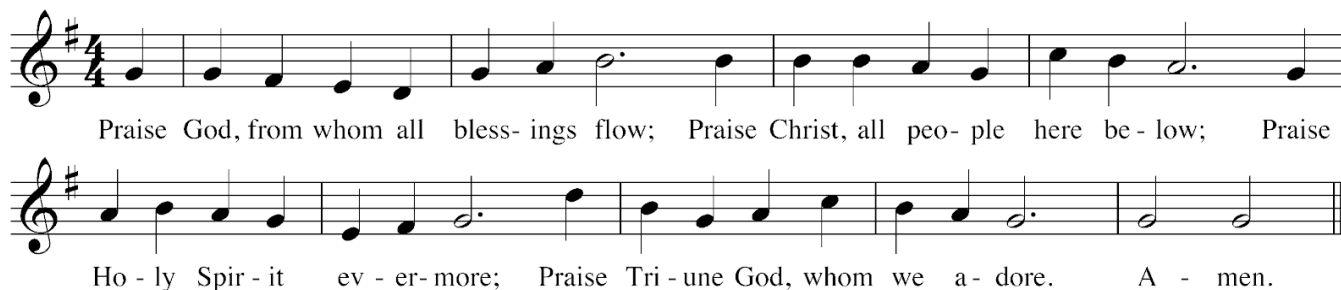
Katherine Lee Scott

Jesu, my love, my joy, my rest, thy perfect love close in my breast that I thee love and never rest; and make me love thee of all things best, and wound my heart in thy love free that I may reign in joy evermore with thee.

Therefore be a reflection of god as dearly loved children; and lead a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself for us.

Jesu, my love, my joy, my rest, thy perfect love close in my breast that I thee love and never rest; and make me love thee of all things best, and wound my heart in thy love free that I may reign in joy evermore with thee.

***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)

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

B’yado

Craig Taubman

Fiona McKinney, *alto*

My soul I give to you
My spirit in your care
Draw me near
I shall not fear
Hold me in your hand
Draw me near
I shall not fear
Safely in your hand

Prayer after Communion

All: Eternal God, having shared in your sacred covenant-renewing meal, let us now also share in your sacred work on earth. As we have received sustenance for our bodies, minds and spirits, may we share our transformed selves with other people and families in our local and global communities. We dedicate our lives to your service, through One who came to model a life of service. Amen.

The Sending

***Hymn No. 697**

Take My Life

HENDON

Time of Commitment

Postlude

Ein' feste Burg ist unser Gott

Paul Manz

*You may be seated if you wish to listen to the postlude.
Please join your church family in a Celebration Lunch in the Assembly Hall.*

*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.*

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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 Odom 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)

Adult Education is the Rose Room

Announcements

Today the **Adult Education Class** had a discussion about “church and state”. **Next Sunday**, come and be a part of a sharing of stories and anecdotes of joy, hope, and faith. You are encouraged to bring a few to share in the class.

All Saints – Next Sunday, November 3, we will celebrate *All Saints Day* in worship. People will be invited to name those who have died.

The Session has called **the congregation to meet** in-person in the sanctuary on Sunday, November 10, at 11:45 following the 10:30 am worship service for the purpose of acting on the recommendations of the 2024 Nominating Committee.

- Glenn and Miriam Lawrence Leupold, Moderators of Session
- Marian Eaton, Clerk of Session



Aging With Pride
Monthly Potluck
Sunday, November 3,
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.

Each month the **FOCUS Food Pantry** requests items from its member churches. FPC’s November donation is shampoo. 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.

First Fridays at First Presbyterian

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

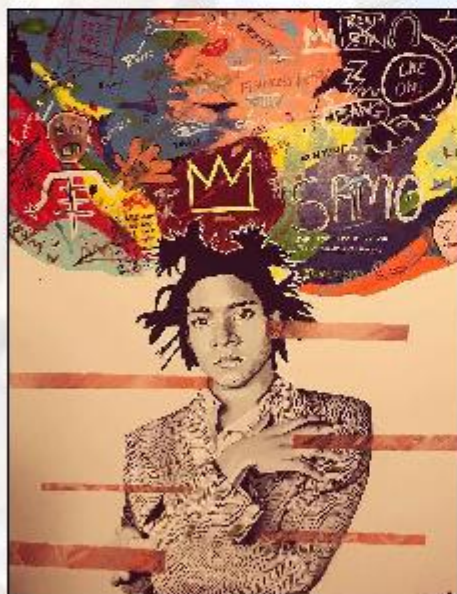
A Night of Jazz

Dave Fisk - Tenor Saxophone

Mike Benedict - Vibes

Mike Lawrence - Bass

Andy Hearn - Drums



In the Gallery:
Paintings
by Julia Durgee
and Kimberli Who

6:00 pm Concert

Gallery hours: 5:30 ~ 8:00 pm

362 State Street, Albany NY



Carrying the Light of Faith Forward

During worship today you are invited to make a financial pledge to First Presbyterian Church of Albany.

You can use the pledge card which will be passed out during the service or you can go online at firstpresalbany.org/pledge/

Plan to stay for a celebration lunch in Assembly Hall after worship today. All are welcome!

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

First Pres Community Partners Lunch & Learn Lecture Series

The Outreach & Mission Committee invites you to our next
Lunch & Learn Lecture
immediately following worship at 11:45 a.m.

Sunday, November 17, 2024

Individuals Experiencing Homelessness:
Best Practices for Community Response



Speakers:

Janine Robitaille (Chief Executive Officer)
Shahmeeka Chaney-Artis (Program Director, Community Connections)
Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless

The O&M Committee will provide the main course, bread, and beverages.

We ask that members of our congregation please bring
a dessert or side dish to round out the menu (not required but appreciated!)

Please sign up on the sheet in Assembly Hall. Thank you

!!!!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**

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Monday, 10/28 7:00pm FCC Rehearsal

Tuesday, 10/29 7:30 pm Christian Education Meeting

Thursday, 10/31 7:00 am Men's Bible Study
6:15 pm Octet Rehearsal
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, 11/01 5:30 pm First Friday Gallery
6:00 pm First Friday Concert

Next Sunday, 11/3 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
12:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
1:00 pm Aging with Pride Monthly Potluck

Serving you on Sunday, October 27

Sanctuary Ushers/Greeters: FPC Youth, Molly Dowell, Lillie McLaughlin

Online Worship Assistant: Fadia Ghobrial

Scripture Reader: FPC Youth

Prayer Reader: Molly Dowell

Communion Servers: Sue Haney & Roger Green

Offering Counters: Carol Green & John Myers

Audio Visual Specialist: Dwight Cheu

Serving you on Sunday, November 3

Sanctuary Ushers/Greeters: Sue Haney, Lee Helsby, Harriet Seeley, Alison Stonbely

Online Worship Assistant: Jeff & Meddy Jacques

Scripture Reader: Sarah Clermont

Prayer Reader: Ellen Eisenbraun

Communion Servers: Stephanie Ragone & Mirabelle Beck

Offering Counters: Yousaf Mathias & Leslie Cheu



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!

ADORATION

611 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee; earth and heaven re-lect thy rays;
 3 Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus which the morn-ing stars be-gan.

Hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore thee, o-pening to the sun a-bove.
 stars and an-gels sing a-round thee, cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise.
 Love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us, join-ing all in heav-en's plan.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness; drive the dark of doubt a-way.
 Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
 Ev-er sing-ing, march we on-ward, vic-tors in the midst of strife.

Giv-er of im-mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re-joice in thee.
 Joy-ful mu-sic leads us sun-ward in the tri-umph song of life.

This well-known melody was created to provide a choral setting for J. C. F. von Schiller's poem, "An die Freude" (To Joy), as the final movement of the composer's *Ninth Symphony*. The author, a prominent Presbyterian pastor and author, wrote the words with this tune in mind.

Together We Serve

767

Capo 3: (G) (D) (Em) (Bm7)
 B \flat F Gm Dm7

1 To - geth - er we serve, u - nit - ed by love,
 2 We seek to be - come a bea - con of hope,
 3 We wel - come the scarred, the wealth - y, the poor,
 4 To - geth - er, by grace, we wit - ness and work,

(C) (G) (Am7) (Dsus) (D)
 E \flat B \flat Cm7 Fsus F

in - vit - ing God's world to the glo - ri - ous feast.
 a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.
 the bus - y, the lone - ly, and all who need care.
 re - mem - ber - ing Je - sus, in whom we grow strong.

(G) (D) (C) (Bm)
 B \flat F E \flat Dm

We work and we pray through sor - row and joy,
 We learn, year by year, to let love shine through
 We of - fer a home to those who will come,
 To - geth - er we serve in Spir - it and truth,

(G) (C) (G) (Am) (D7) (G)
 B \flat E \flat B \flat Cm F7 B \flat

ex - tend - ing God's love to the last and the least.
 un - til we see Christ in each per - son we meet.
 our hands quick to help, our hearts read - y to dare.
 re - mem - ber - ing love is the strength of our song.

The first three words of this text appear in the website address for First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo, California, for whose centennial the hymn was commissioned. The text draws on Ephesians 4:11-16, a passage describing the many gifts and ministries within the body of Christ.

Take My Life

697

1 Take my life and let it be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold; not a mite would I with - hold;

take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti -
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sa -
 take my in - tel - lect and use ev - ery power as

cease - less praise; let them flow in cease - less praise.
 ful for thee, swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 ges from thee, filled with mes - sa - ges from thee.
 thou shalt choose, ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
 it shall be no longer mine.
 Take my heart, it is thine own;
 it shall be thy royal throne,
 it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
 at thy feet its treasure store;
 take myself and I will be
 ever, only, all for thee,
 ever, only, all for thee.

This hymn of consecration radiates from the repeated word "take," resulting in a remarkably full survey of a person's attributes and possessions and giving weight to the "all" at the end. The composer of the tune was influential in the renewal of Reformed hymnody in French.