First Presbyterian
Church of Albany

All Saints Day Celebration
November 1, 2026
10:30am 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 From *Eleven Chorales for Organ, Op. 122* Johannes Brahms
Blessed Are Ye Faithful Souls; My Faithful Heart Rejoices; Deck Thyself, My Soul, With Gladness

Welcome & Announcements

Ringing of the Bell

Choral Introit *These are They That Follow the Lamb* Edward Bairstow
First Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir

These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth.
These were redeemed from among all,
being the first-fruits unto God and to the Lamb.
And in their mouth was found no guile,
for they are without fault before the throne of God.

***Call to Worship**

One: We gather, with the company of the faithful:
All: those who know the way to the kingdom
and those who are just beginning their pilgrimage.
One: We gather, remembering the ones we call saints:
All: those who made compassion their day job,

and those who have no day named after them.

One: We gather, praising God for all who have shaped our faith:

All: those who showed us the dance steps of heaven,
and those who taught us to play the instruments of joy.

***Hymn** *All of Life is Filled with Wonder* HYMN TO JOY

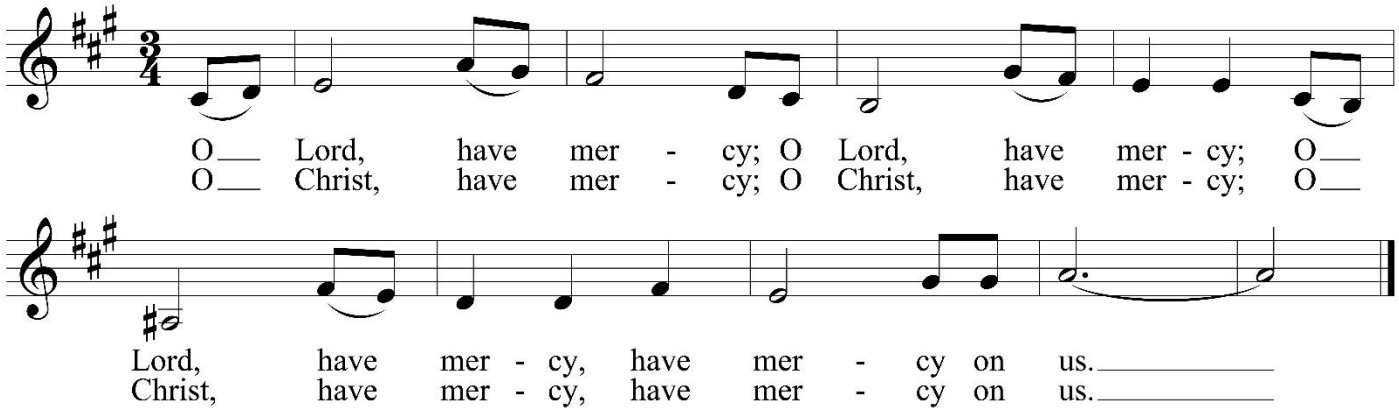
words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

***Prayer of Confession**

Eternal God, in every age you have raised up people to live and die in faith. We confess that we are indifferent to your will. You call us to proclaim your name, but we are silent. You call us to do what is just, but we remain idle. You call us to live faithfully, but we are afraid. In your mercy, forgive us. Give us courage to follow in your way, that joined with those from ages past, who have served you with faith, hope, and love, we may inherit the kingdom you promised in Jesus Christ.

Silent prayers of personal confession may be offered.

***Kyrie Eleison No. 578** *O Lord, Have Mercy* ORE PORIAJU VEREKO



***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

The Word

New Testament Lesson 1 John 3:1–3 (N.T. p. 240) Jerry Nathan

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Anthem *I Am the Resurrection and I Am the Life* William Croft

First Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir

Stephanie Helmer, *cello*

"I am the resurrection and the life," saith the Lord.
"They that believeth in me, though they were dead, yet shall they live:
and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand
at the latter day upon the earth.
And though after my skin worms destroy this body,
yet in my flesh shall I see God:
whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another.

We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.
The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the Name of the Lord.

Gospel Lesson Matthew 5:1–12 (N.T. p. 4)

One: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Sermon *All Saints Day* Miriam Lawrence Leupold

Litany of Thanksgiving for the Saints

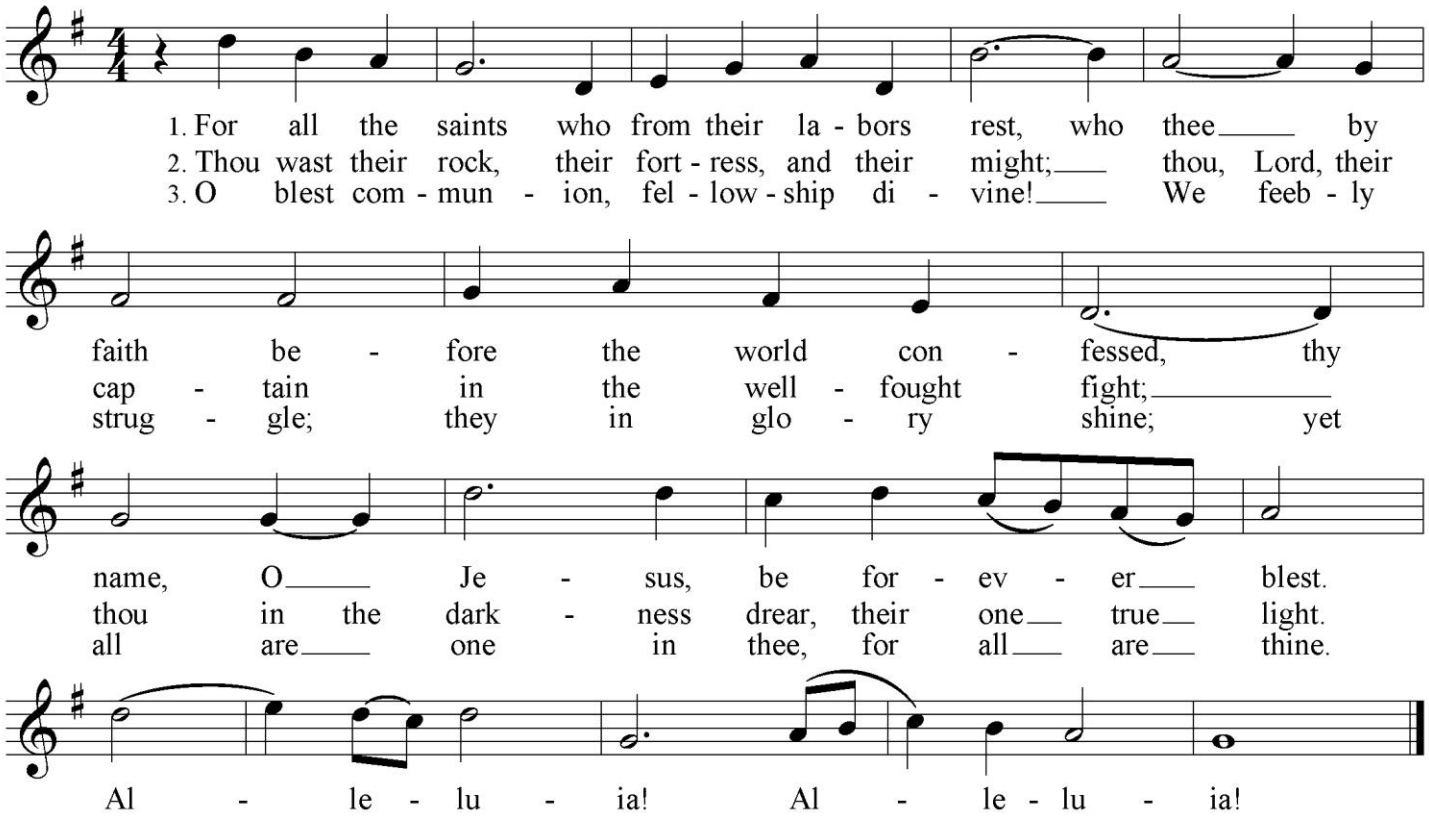
A Pastor will read the names of those members of First Pres who have died this past year. After each name, a bell will ring, a candle lit and a verbal response spoken by all in thanksgiving for each life. Worshippers are then invited to either come to a microphone (located in the middle aisle or at the back of the church) or remain seated and say a name out loud of someone who has died. After each name, a bell will ring, a candle lit, and a verbal response spoken by all in thanksgiving for each life.

One: a name is read

All: We give thanks and praise to you, O God!

Our Response

***Hymn No. 326** *For All the Saints* (verses 1–3) SINE NOMINE



Prayers of the People Carolyn Lemmon

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 of the boxes on the table 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 right.

Offertory *O How Amiable* Ralph Vaughan Williams

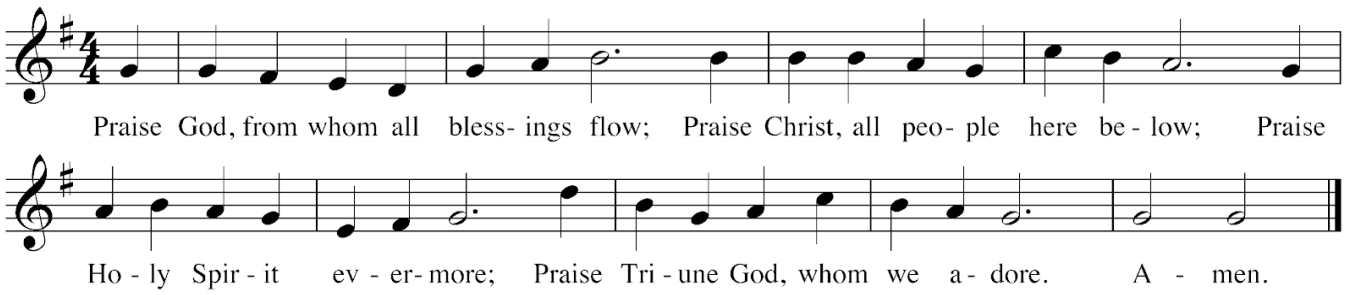
First Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir

O how amiable are thy dwellings; thou Lord of hosts!
My soul hath a desire and longing to enter in to the courts of the Lord:
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:
even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my king and my God.

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be always praising thee.
The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us:
prosper thou the work of our hands upon us.
O prosper thou our handy work, o prosper thou our handy work.
O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

Doxology** ***(sung in unison)



***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: 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.

When you come forward for communion, note the tablecloth on the communion table. There are names written by church members and guests of those important in our lives who have died. At the conclusion of the worship service, you are also invited to write the name of someone important in your life who has died on the tablecloth on the communion table. This reminds us of the time to come when we shall all partake of communion together at the heavenly banquet.

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 *Pie Jesu* John Rutter

Rose Hunsberger, *soprano*

Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem.
Pious Lord Jesus, give them rest.
Requiem aeternam, dona eis, Domine.
Rest eternal, give them, Lord.
Sempiternam requiem, Dona eis, Domine
Everlasting rest, give them, Lord.

Prayer after Communion

Holy God, you have called us to run with patience, to be faithful through the years, to bring hope to a broken world. Help us each day to be your people and to live lives of uncommon faith and love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

The Sending

***Hymn No. 730** *I Sing a Song of the Saints of God* GRAND ISLE

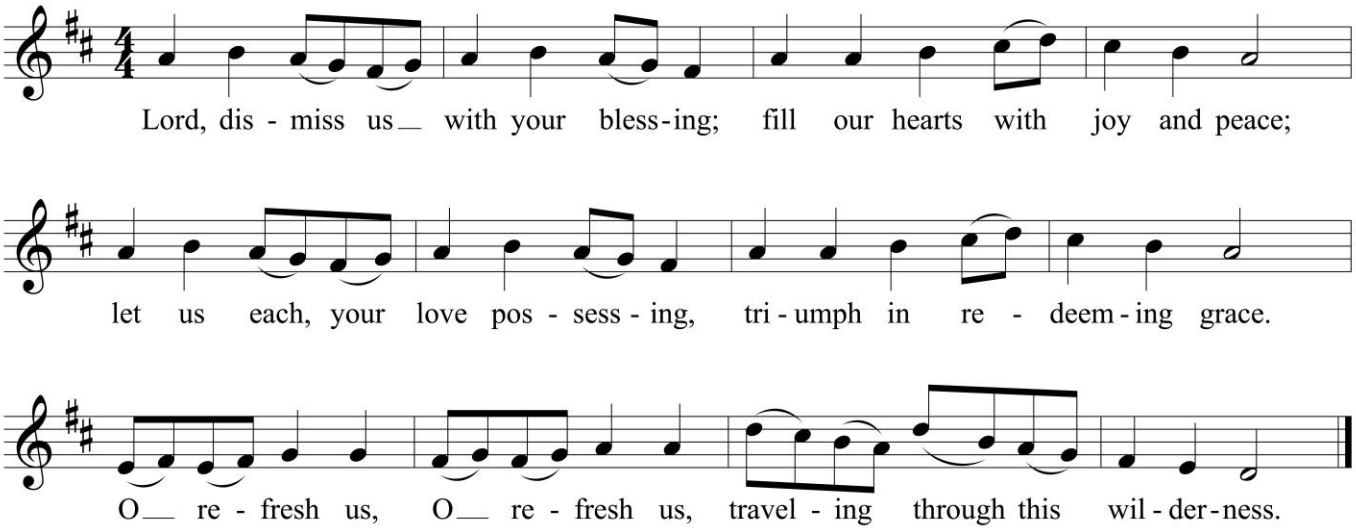
***Charge**

One: Go now to be saints of God this week.
All: Not to be holier-than-thou folks, but people who keep an eye out for those the world has overlooked.
One: Go now to be servants of Jesus this week.
All: Not to be those who are better than others, but those who humble themselves in service.
One: Go now to be companions of the Spirit this week.
All: Not those who are on the inside path, but those who walk with all who have lost their way.

***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



Postlude *Placare Christe Servulis* Marcel Dupré

You may remain 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 BIBLES are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary.

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Serving you on Sunday, November 1

Sanctuary Ushers/Greeters: Patricia Harman, Kathie Keck, Amy Robinson, Linda Stevens, and Alison Stewart
Online Worship Assistant: Jeff & Meddy Jacques
Scripture Reader: Jerry Nathan
Prayer Reader: Carolyn Lemmon
Communion Servers: Alison Stewart and Ellen Eisenbraun
Offering Counters: Laura Schultz and Carol Green
Audio Visual Specialist: Bruce Brynolfson

Serving you on Sunday, November 8

Sanctuary Ushers/Greeters: Sean Abunaw, Ellen Eisenbraun, Amy Jenal, and Sarah Lansaw
Online Worship Assistant: Mary Rogers
Scripture Reader: Sarah Lansaw
Prayer Reader: John Myers
Communion Servers: Susan Pearson and Betsy Hadden
Offering Counters: John Myers and Joe Mathias
Audio Visual Specialist: Dwight Cheu

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.

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 exclusively on YouTube.

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 in the Rose Room

Announcements

Education Classes for all ages are held 9:15am each Sunday morning. Come join us Sunday, November 8, in the Adult Education Class for Bold and Untold Stories from the Bible: Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego – Daniel Chapter 3**.**

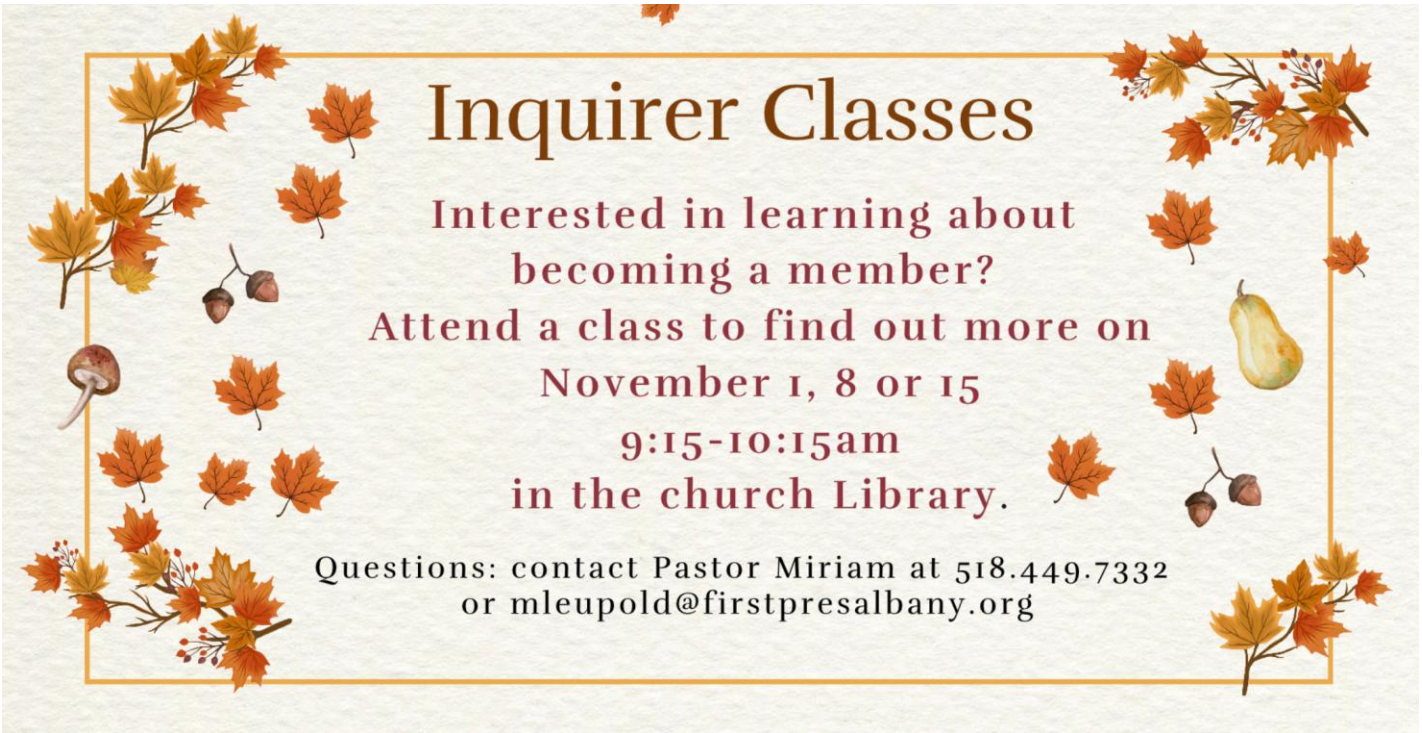
Each month the **FOCUS Food Pantry** requests items from its member churches, FPC's **November** donation is deodorant. All items must be new and unopened. Please leave donations beside the spring water dispenser in the hall by the gender-neutral restroom. Questions? Call Susan Sneeringer at 518-496-4793.

The **paraments** (the cloth on the pulpit, lectern, and communion table) and the **pastors' stoles** (the cloth around their necks) are white, the liturgical color for All Saints Day.

Aging With Pride Monthly Potluck is today from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. This is a wonderful opportunity for LGBTQ+ seniors to come together in a welcoming, supportive environment to share food, stories, and laughter.

The Food Justice, SNAP, and Daily Bread event scheduled for Tuesday, November 3 has been cancelled due to Election Day.

This year it is ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT to VOTE. Check to make sure you are registered to vote and know where to vote. In some areas, polling locations have been closed to cause chaos and prevent people from casting their ballots. Please go to https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov to check your eligibility and encourage everyone you know to do the same.



Practicing Radical Hope

A Message from the Stewardship Team

Many thanks to all who filled out a financial pledge card for 2027 in worship or sent it to the church. If you have not submitted your pledge card, we hope you will do so soon.

We are counting on you!

If you didn't receive a pledge card OR cannot find your card, copies are available on the table in the back of Sanctuary. Another option is to go to our website (firstpresalbany.org/pledge/) and fill out a pledge card online.

THE EXCHANGE IS HERE!

Real life. Real questions. Real conversation.

The Exchange is a monthly gathering for youth in grades 6–12 to connect, enjoy light refreshments, and explore the questions and situations that come with growing up.

Powered by NEC: Notice • Explore • Choose, each Exchange will give young people space to hear different perspectives, build practical life skills, explore how faith may inform everyday life, and decide what they want to carry forward.

The Exchange is open to First Pres youth and to friends and family members in grades 6–12 who are connected to First Pres through someone they know.

First Tuesday of each month | 5:30 – 6:30pm | First Pres

Bring your questions. Bring your perspective.
There's something worth exchanging.

First Fridays at
First Presbyterian

An Experience of Visual and Musical Art

Friday, November 6, 2026

Mead Us in the Middle (Ages)

featuring

The Bleecker Consort

with Art and Selected Readings by

Lora Lee Ecobelli

Featuring selective craft beverages from local vendors

Presented in support of

prism Counseling & Advocacy

6:00 pm Concert

Gallery: 5:30 - 8:00 pm

Our Construction Loan Will Help Build Other Presbyterian Churches!

We have chosen to finance a portion of our Welcoming Place for All project through the Presbyterian Investment & Loan Program, a nonprofit program of PC(USA). With the Investment & Loan Program, we will save money on the cost of financing our project and help build other churches in two ways.

First, a portion of the interest we will pay on our loan will go back into funds that will be used to make loans to other Presbyterian churches. Second, we will have the opportunity to invest in Term Notes with the Investment Loan Program and those investments will help our sister churches build, expand and renovate. The Rev. Dr. Clayton Thomas from the Investment & Loan Program will be with us on **Sunday, November 8**. Following worship, there will be a lunch provided in the Rose Room where Thomas will give a brief presentation on how you can support our loan and those of other Presbyterian congregations through your savings and investments. (sign up info below)

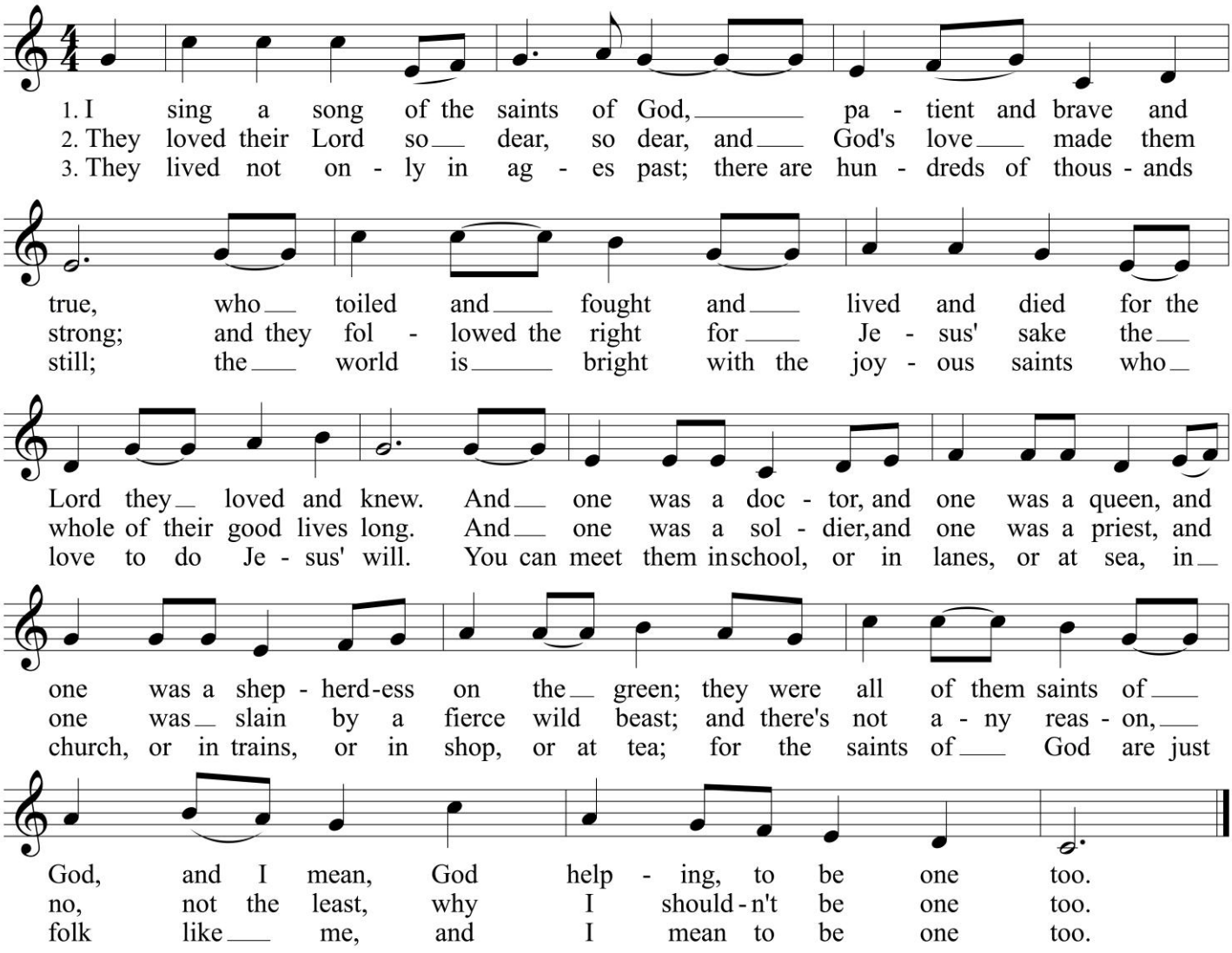
The Presbyterian Investment & Loan Program is an innovative way for our denomination to help build new churches and expand or renovate existing churches. Funds for these loans come from Presbyterian investors – individuals like you and me, congregations investing a portion of their funds and deposits from governing bodies like our presbytery and synod.

Churches that borrow through the Program are asked to help build investments to support their loan. The money for our loan is made possible by investors from other churches. The money that we invest will be used to make loans to other Presbyterian congregations who are expanding their mission and ministry.

Specifically, our church needs to retain supporting investments equal to 20% of the amount we borrowed from the investor fund. As supporting investments rise beyond 20%, our church may qualify for additional rebates that will further reduce our cost of borrowing.

Come learn how you can steward your investments in a way that benefits both you and the Presbyterian Church we share. Please contact the church office (info@firstpresalbany.org or 518-449-7332) by November 3 to sign up. If you would like more information prior to Thomas' visit, stop by the church office to pick up an investment packet or by contact Thomas directly at clayton.thomas@pcusa.org or 502-537-8920.

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God 730



THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Sunday, 11/1	11:45am Fellowship Time in Assembly Hall 1:00pm Aging with Pride Monthly Potluck
Tuesday, 11/3	6:00am–9:00pm Election Day Voting in Assembly Hall 1:15pm Staff Meeting 5:30pm The Exchange
Wednesday, 11/4	6:30pm Administration Committee Meeting
Thursday, 11/5	8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:30am First Friday Rehearsal 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Friday, 11/6	5:30pm First Friday Art Gallery 6:00pm First Friday Concert
Sunday, 11/8	8:45am Nursery Open 9:15am Preschool, Children's, Youth & Adult Education Classes 9:15am Inquirer Class in the Library 9:30am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Worship Service in the Sanctuary and Livestreaming on YouTube 11:45am Fellowship Time in Assembly Hall 11:45am Investment & Loan Program Lunch 12:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

First Presbyterian
Church of Albany
BRINGING THE LIGHT
OF FAITH TO ALL

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firstpresalbany.org

Glenn D. Leupold & Miriam Lawrence Leupold, Co-Pastors • Michael Lister, Director of Music
Trevor Kahlbaugh, Organist • Denise Relf, Youth Director • Rob Van Brunt, Office Administrator