

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
August 22, 2021
First Presbyterian Church
Albany, NY

Called by God to reduce the widening gap between rich and poor

The Gathering

Prelude

Grave from Organ Concerto in G Major, BWV 592

J.S. Bach

Welcome & Announcements

***Call to Worship**

***Hymn No. 645**

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above
(Only Soloist Singing)

MIT FREUDEN ZART



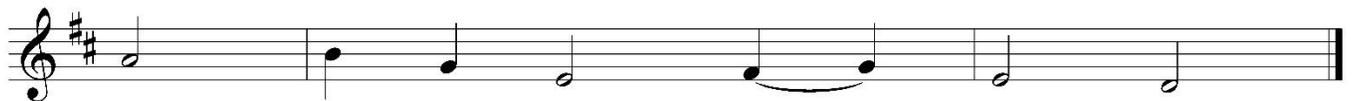
1. Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the__ God of all cre - a - tion,
2. What God's al - might - y power has made God's gra - cious mer - cy__ keep - eth;
3. The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but,__ through all grief dis - tress - ing,
4. Thus all my toil - some way a - long I__ sing a - loud thy prais - es,



the God of power, the God of love, the__ God of our sal - va - tion.
by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade God's watch - ful eye ne'er sleep - eth.
an ev - er - pres - ent help and stay, our__ peace and joy and bless - ing,
that all may hear the grate - ful song my__ voice un - wear - ied__ rais - es.



With heal - ing balm my soul is filled, and ev - ery faith - less mur - mur stilled:
With - in the king - dom of God's might, lo! all is just and all is right:
as with a moth - er's ten - der hand God gent - ly leads the cho - sen band:
Be joy - ful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and bod - y, take your part:



to God all praise and__ glo - ry!

***Prayer of Confession**

***Declaration of Forgiveness**

The Word

Old Testament Lesson Joshua 24:1–2a, 14–18 (O.T., pp. 215, 216) Don Mark

One: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson Matthew 13:44–48, 51–53 (N.T., p. 15) Judy Mark

One: The gospel of the Lord

All: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Psalm 121

One: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon *Safe Keeping* Glenn D. Leupold

Our Response

Anthem *O Jesu, Joy of Loving Hearts* Strassburg
Fiona McKinney, *alto* Arr. Johannes Brahms

O Jesu, joy of loving hearts, thou fount of life, thou light of all
from the best bliss that earth imparts, we turn unfilled to thee again.

O Jesu, Lord divine, thy love within us shine.

Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood; thou savest those that on thee call;
To them that seek thee, thou are good, to them that find thee, all in all.

O Jesu, Lord divine, thy love within us shine.

O Jesu, ever with us stay; make all our moments calm and bright;
Cause the dark night of sin away; shed o'er the world thy holy light.

O Jesu, Lord divine, thy love within us shine.

Prayers of the People

*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

Offering receptacles are located in the back of the sanctuary. You make place your offering in one on the way into worship or as you leave. You may also donate online at firstpresalbany.org/donate.

Prayer of Dedication

The Eucharist (Thanksgiving)

Communion

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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.

Breaking of the Bread and Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

The Sending

*Hymn No. 45

I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes
(Only Soloist Singing)

DUNDEE CM



1. I to the hills will lift my eyes; from whence shall come my aid?
2. God will not let your foot be moved; your guard - ian nev - er sleeps;
3. Your faith - ful keep - er is the Lord, your shel - ter and your shade.
4. From e - vil God will keep you safe, pro - vide for all your need.



My help is from the Lord a - lone, who heaven and earth has made.
God's watch - ful and un - slum - bering care pro - tects and safe - ly keeps.
'Neath sun or moon, by day or night, you shall not be a - fraid.
Your go - ing out, your com - ing in, God will for - ev - er lead.

*Benediction

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

*Responsive Hymn No. 749 v. 2

Come! Live in the Light!
(Only Soloist Singing)

WE ARE CALLED



Come! O - pen your heart! _____ Show your mer - cy to all those in fear! We are



called _____ to be hope for the hope - less so hat - red and vio - lence will be _____ no more. _____



_____ We are called to act with jus - tice; _____ we are called _____ to love ten - der - ly; _____



_____ we are called to serve one an - oth - er, _____ to walk hum - bly with God. _____

Postlude

Presto from Organ Concerto in G Major, BWV 592

J.S. Bach

*We ask that everyone leave the building following the ushers instructions.
Please join us in the parking lot for Fellowship Time, weather permitting.*

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Serving you today is Usher/Greeter Team D:

David Chapin, Don Mark,
Marilyn Riddle & Phillip Riddle

Serving you today as offering counters: Yousaf Mathias & Bruce Brynolfson

Serving you on August 29 is Usher/Greeter Team E:

FPC Youth

Serving you on August 29 as Scripture Readers are:

Diane Cornell & Richard Gascoyne

Serving you as offering counters on August 29: David Takor & David Wood

We welcome visitors to our worship services. This summer we are transitioning back to in-person worship. We continue to livestream our service on Facebook.

We welcome children to our worship services. Nursery care for children age birth through kindergarten is not currently provided. We hope to provide care in the near future as guidelines allow.

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.

The First Presbyterian Church

“is a house of prayer for all people.” (Isaiah 56:7)

We welcome persons of differing abilities of all economic and ethnic groups of any sexual orientation

To share with us the joy, the power, the challenge of God’s good news in Jesus Christ.

Revised by Session
November 16, 2004

**Join us for worship each Sunday.
Our services are in-person livestreamed on Facebook unless otherwise noted.
Note our worship times and invite a friend to worship with you this summer in-person or online!**

| Date | Time | Summer Worship with Communion |
|-------------|-------------|---|
| August 29 | 10:00am | Worship Service |
| Sept 5 | 10:00am | FOCUS Worship at Trinity Methodist Church, 235 Lark St. in Albany |
| Sept 12 | 10:00am | Worship Service |

Announcements

In-person worship reminder with COVID-19 case numbers going up again locally, it's especially important to follow the direction from Session that social distancing be maintained during in-person worship. This means maintaining at least a 6-foot distance between people in the pews, unless they live in the same household.

Summer is beginning to wane and Fall is right around the corner. With Fall comes the beginning of school. **The Wizard's Wardrobe**, a free, after-school tutoring program is looking for tutors for the new school year. We will be holding our first tutor training on the two **Saturdays of September 11 & 18**. We meet from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM. We provide a light breakfast, snacks, and beverages. Just bring a sandwich and something with which to write. The first Saturday focuses on the effects that racism and poverty have on our students. The second Saturday focuses on brain development, the 5 components of reading, and lesson planning. We work with elementary age students. They need to be in the first or second grade to start with our program and they may remain with us through elementary school if they would like to. Since our goal and hope is to have all our students reading on grade level by the end of 3rd grade, we feel we need to start early to have a chance of succeeding. The reason for this is that children learn to read in the first three grades and from fourth grad on, they read to learn. If you are interested in becoming a tutor, please get in touch with Debra Fagans at edfagans@mac.com or call 518-776-0664.

OFFICERS OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SESSION

Class of 2022

Annette Johnson
Jessica Lamson
Mary Rogers
Kendra Smith-Howard

Class of 2023

Leslie Cheu
Marian Eaton
Carol Green
Lee Helsby

Class of 2024

Owen Gilbo
Ellen Kemp
Lillie McLaughlin
Eric Weinhold

DEACONS

Class of 2022

Karen Brown
Ann Hannay
Sebagala Kimuli

Class of 2023

Mirabelle Beck
Susan Haney
Stephanie Kite
David Takor

Glenn D. Leupold, Co-Pastor
Michael C. Lister, Director of Music
Trevor Kahlbaugh, Organist
Jamie Mamone, Office Administrator
Fred Boehrer, FOCUS Exec. Dir.



Miriam Lawrence Leupold, Co-Pastor
Molly Dowell Baum, Youth Director
Kevin Goolsby, Custodian
Carlie D'Annunzio, Financial Administrator

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