



Altamont Reformed Church
Second Sunday of Lent
February 25, 2024

Prelude

“My Heart is Filled with Longing” Hassler, J.S. Bach
Audrey Daly-Gilman, Organist

THE LITURGY OF APPROACH

Votum

Call to Worship

God of mercy, you hear the cries of the afflicted.

God of love, you hear the voice of our pain.

You save us, and we praise you.

You bless us, and we worship you.

By the mystery of the cross you are with us in our suffering.

Redeem us, and bring us to life.

***Hymn: “To God Be the Glory” (Blue) #66**

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God

our sins are too heavy to carry,

too real to hide, and too deep to undo.

Forgive what our lips tremble to name,

what our hearts no longer can bear,

and what has become for us

a consuming fire of judgment.

Set us free from a past we cannot change;
open us to a future in which we can be changed;
and grant us grace to grow more and more
into your likeness and image;
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: Isaiah 49:15, 66:12-13
The Law of God

***Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

***Gloria Patri (Purple) #581**

Glory be to the father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in
the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world with-out end. Amen, Amen.

Ministry of Music “JESU Medley” Arr. by Otis Skillings
Sun of my soul! Thou Saviour dear, it is not night if Thou be near.
Oh, may no earthborn cloud arise to hide Thee from Thy servant’s eyes!
Jesus, the very thought of Thee, with sweetness fills my breast; but sweeter
far Thy face to see, and in Thy presence rest, and in Thy presence rest.
Fairest Lord Jesus! Ruler of all nature! O Thou of God and man the Son!
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, Thou, my soul’s glory, my soul’s
glory, Thou my soul’s glory joy, and crown!

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Children’s Message

***Hymn: “Be Thou My Vision” (Blue) #382**

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Mark 10:32-52 (New Testament pp. 46 & 47)

Sermon

***Affirmation of Faith**

I believe in God the Creator,
who made me and all things,
who set me on my path in this world.

I believe in God the Savior,
who is one with the Creator,
who rescued me and all creation
from the depredations of our violations
against God and creation.

This man, Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ,
walked a path through this world,
taking on human form having been born of a woman
through the power of the Holy Spirit.
He lived and worked in this world among people just like me.
He walked God's path to death on a cross,
and rose from the dead to open our pathway to eternal life.

I believe in God the Holy Spirit, my counselor and guide,
who is one with the Creator and the Christ,
who through the body and blood of Jesus
brings me into communion with all people, past, present and future;
who calls me to walk a sacred way of life through this world,
caring for creation and the people I meet on the way,
loving them, helping them, welcoming them without prejudice,
being God's hands and feet in the world. Amen.

Public Welcome of New Members

THE LITURGY OF RESPONSE

Announcements

Offering

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below: Praise God above, ye heav'n-ly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People with the Lord's Prayer

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, for ever. Amen.

***Closing Hymn: "O Jesus, I Have Promised" (Blue) #369**

***Choral Benediction**

***Benediction**

Postlude "Lord Jesus Christ, Turn Thou to Us" Johann Gottfried Walther

** indicates the congregation stands, if able.*

WELCOME as we worship together. Please join us for coffee hour fellowship after our worship service.

TODAY we welcome into our ARC membership Agbor Effiom, Matt and Erin Parker (with daughters Ellie and Maggie), and Carol Ward.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

PLEASE SPEAK TO A GREETER ABOUT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

CHILDREN BULLETINS & SACK COLORING PAGES are in the front of the sanctuary.

ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES are in the back of the sanctuary.

LARGE PRINT HYMNAL: If you are visually challenged, a larger version of the *Glory to God* hymnal is available in the front or back of the sanctuary. The covers are black.

VOLUNTEERS FOR TODAY

Greeter & Counters.....Deb McKee & Laurie Warner
 Side Door Greeter.....Sallie Townsend
 AV Support.....Mike Gilman
 Coffee Hour.....Noreen Novak & Barb Sargent

FUTURE VOLUNTEERS

	March 3	March 10	March 17
Greeters	Craig & Barb Sargent	Lois Ginsburg & Marianne Baratier	Jan Chisholm & Jeff Counterline
Offering Counters	Barb Sargent & Nancy Twaddell	Lois Ginsburg & Marianne Baratier	Jan Chisholm & Jeff Counterline
AV Volunteer	Ryan Brewer	Tom Boink	Mike Gilman
Coffee Hour	John & Natalie Drahzal	Angie & Charlie Stewart	Betty Ketcham & Dave Glass

COMING UP

Today 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall; Faith Formation mtg. in the lounge
 6:30 p.m. Joint Bible 101 Study with Helderberg Reformed at Helderberg
 Thurs. Feb. 29 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal
 Sun. Mar. 3 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal
 10:30 a.m. Worship Service with Communion
 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall
 6:30 p.m. Joint Bible 101 Study with Helderberg Reformed at Helderberg

AT A GLANCE-READ BELOW FOR DETAILS ON THE FOLLOWING:

- Only a few volunteers needed for March 4 community dinner
- “Blanket The World With Love” Campaign Continues
- Hand towels still needed for CWS hygiene kits
- RCA Reconstruction Team virtual meetings
- Tuesday, March 19 Women’s Potluck Dinner
- Joel Edwards Annual Pet Food Drive
- Time to order Easter Flowers
- You can still join the Joint Bible 101 Study

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MARCH 4 COMMUNITY DINNER

There are still a few openings. Check out the sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall. You can also call the church office or email Nancy at nancymacarc@gmail.com.

“BLANKET THE WORLD WITH LOVE” CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

Church World Service works in both immediate disaster relief and long-term recovery, as well as supporting ongoing community development programs. Our gifts help provide tents, blankets, hygiene kits and other supplies to refugees, people in shelters, and disaster victims in the US and around the world. Visit www.cwsglobal.org to learn more about their work.

Donations of any amount are welcome, and for each \$10 received a paper heart will be affixed to the wall heart in the sanctuary. Our goal is \$1,000, filling the heart with 100 small ones. Checks should be made out to "ARC Benevolence" with "blankets" on the memo line. They can be given to a member of the Benevolence Committee after worship any Sunday during the campaign. Hearts may be dedicated in memory or in honor of someone who has brought love to your life.

CWS HYGIENE KITS

As part of the Church World Service Blanket and Tool Campaign, the Benevolence Committee has been collecting items for hygiene kits distributed to refugees and disaster victims. **In order to fill incomplete kits, they still need:**

hand towels (approximately 15" x 28") No fingertip, bath, dish or micro-fiber towels

Please drop towel donations in the plastic bin in the Missions Corner of Fellowship Hall. Thank you.

RCA RECONSTRUCTION TEAM VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE MEETINGS SET

The first week of March is the time to join in one of the gatherings to hear the team share the updated recommendations it plans to bring to General Synod 2024. There are four dates and times available. Go to the homepage of the RCA website. Scroll down to “Latest News” and click on “Virtual Roundtable Meetings...” You will see the dates and times of the gatherings. To register, click on the one you want, and you will receive a link to that gathering. You can also read all about the team and the preceding gatherings etc. in preparation for this gathering.

WOMEN’S POTLUCK DINNER TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 6:00 P.M.

As spring showers arrive, come celebrate a little Easter and shower our kitchen with some needed items. There is a sign-up list in the back of the sanctuary of items requested by many who use the kitchen. If we left anything off feel free to add. No need to wrap! Any questions or to sign-up call Barbara Wilford-518-313-9633.

ANNUAL JOEL EDWARDS DVM MEMORIAL PET FOOD DRIVE

In memory of Joel and his dedication to animals as an honored veterinarian, we are holding our fourth pet food drive to benefit food pantries and pet shelters in our area.

When: Friday March 15 through Monday, March 18 Donations may be brought to the church anytime during those four days.

Donations gladly accepted: Dry dog food (no bags bigger than 20 lbs. please), and either dry or wet cat food

Where can I drop off items?

- A bin will be located in the back parking lot entryway to the church.
- There will be a bin at the top of the back staircase under the bulletin board, and baskets will also be in the sanctuary on Sunday, March 17. Thank you for your support of animals in need.

IT'S TIME TO ORDER EASTER FLOWERS

Believe it or not, it is time to think about ordering Easter plants for the chancel for Easter Sunday, March 31. Please complete the form available in the sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, or printed in the March ARC Lite. Return forms to John or Natalie Drazhal or mail them to John and Natalie at 1512 Thompsons Lake Rd. East Berne, NY 12059, **by Sunday, March 17.** Each plant will be \$15 and all will be in 6" pots. Make checks payable to John or Natalie. If you have questions, you can call them at 518-872-9735.

BIBLE 101: JOINT BOOK STUDY WITH PASTOR MATTHEW

The Bible is a complex book, it is made up of several different genres, written by many hands, in three languages, over thousands of years. This seven week series will look at the *content* of our Bibles: genre, main themes, major characters, and overarching storylines. This will not be a Bible study in a traditional sense, but a study *about* the Bible. Our study will be structured with *A Guide to Bible Basics* by Tyler Mayfield, however, there is no book that is required, there will be plenty of handouts.

Come and join us. We meet Sundays at 6:30pm at Helderberg Reformed Church.

PRAYERS FOR:

Jim Pavoldi had his bone marrow transplant last Thursday, and is facing critical days ahead; **Joyce Laiosa**, sister of Steve Ritzko, in the hospital with heart related issues; **Claudette Riek**, in chemotherapy treatments; **Becky Stanley**, neighbor of Deb and Steve Ritzko in the hospital for an extended time

CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR:

Nancy Harrigan, sister of Jackie Gregory, at Spaulding Rehab Hospital in Boston; **Sher Seppa**; Kitt’s sister-in-law, **Linda Santy**; **Natalie**, daughter of Judi’s brother Jack; **Jan Davis**; **Sandra**, daughter of Lois and Ron Ginsburg; **Brian**, brother-in-law of Marianne Baratier; **Emmit**, Diane Stedman’s grandson; Keith Baratier’s father **Paul**; **Curt Damhof**; **John & Marlene Williams**; **Patti Percoski**; **Paige and Eric Tooker** (Cystic Fibrosis); **Paula and Karen Eagan**; **Lois Wood**; **Barbara Ryan**; **Clara and Ralph Lasselle** in Kingsway Community Assisted Living; **Jeanne Picard-Fish** at Daughters of Sarah; **Joan Whinnery** at Judson Meadows Ass’t Living in Glenville

PRAYER REQUESTS AND UPDATES

If you have a name to add to our prayer corner list, or an update, please call the church office or email Nancy at nancymacarc@gmail.com Altamont Reformed Church

CONSISTORY

Rev. Matthew J. van Maastricht

Elders

Bill Johnson
Carole deForest
Claudette Riek
Angie Stewart
Laurie Warner

Deacons

Jan Davis
Carol Lennebacker
Noreen Novak
Deb Ritzko
Barb Sargent

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