



Altamont Reformed Church
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 1, 2023

Prelude

“Gift of Finest Wheat” arr. Charles Callahan
Audrey Daly-Gilman, Organist

WE GATHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD!

Votum

Welcome

Call to Worship

Here in this place where others have worshiped,
we stand on holy ground!

Here in this place where songs of praise have been sung,
we stand on holy ground!

Here in this place where prayers have been said,
we stand on holy ground!

Come and hear God speak to your needs.

Come and let go of the burdens you carry.

Come and expect an encounter with God.

We are fully here in this sacred space.

***Hymn: “God is Here!” (Purple) #409**

Prayer of Confession

God, we confess that we cling to our lives.
We protect and provide for ourselves
We do not love perfectly, afraid of the cost.
**Forgive our selfishness, heal our fear,
and deepen our trust in your grace,
that we may let go of our lives,
take up the cross of love,
and receive true life from you. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon: Psalm 145:13-14
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 “One World, One Communion” Pepper Choplin

**One world, one communion, one faith in Christ, the Son.
One world, one communion, and there is room for ev’ryone.
 Wherever people gather to share the bread and cup,
 though we are many, we are one in love.
 So much we have in common, though we are miles apart,
 through the Holy Spirit, we are one in heart.
And so we are one world, one communion, one faith in Christ, the Son.
One world, one communion, and there is room for ev’ryone.
 Wherever bread is broken and where the cup is poured,
 brothers and sisters, we are one in the Lord.
 Though many things divide us, with great diversity,
 through the pow’r of love we will find unity.
 So help us see there’s one world, one communion,**

one faith in Christ, the Son. One world, one communion,
and there is room for ev'ryone, There is room for ev'ryone.
There is room for all, for all who come.

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

Children's Message

***Hymn: "We Are Standing on Holy Ground" (Purple) #406**

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Exodus 1:8-14; 3:1-15 (Old Testament p. 49 and p. 50)

Sermon

***Affirmation of Faith**

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Meaning of the Sacrament

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving (Insert)

Communion Hymn: "Feed Us, Lord" (Purple) #501

Words of Institution

WE RESPOND WITH GRATITUDE

Thanksgiving After Communion (Insert)

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 followed by 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: "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky" (Purple) #69**

***Benediction**

Postlude "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name" arr. Donald Busarow

** indicates the congregation stands, if able.*

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

PLEASE SPEAK TO A GREETER ABOUT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

CHILDREN BULLETINS AND SACK COLORING PAGES are available 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

Greeters and Counters..... Claudette Riek & Deb Ritzko
 Side Door Greeter.....Sallie Townsend
 AV Support.....Michael Gilman

FUTURE VOLUNTEERS

	October 8	October 15	October 22
Greeters	Craig & Barb Sargent	Angie Stewart & Michelle Stevens	Dan & Christine Capuano
Offering Counters	Barb Sargent & Tracy Mayer	Angie Stewart & Michelle Stevens	Christine Capuano & Marianne Baratier
AV Volunteer	Ryan Brewer	Tom Boink	Michael Gilman

COMING UP

Today 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall
 6:30 p.m. Fall Altamont/Helderberg Book Group at ARC
 Mon. Oct. 2 5-6:30 p.m. First Monday of the Month Community Dinner
 7:00 p.m. Men’s Study Group
 Thurs. Oct. 5 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal
 Sat. Oct. 7 11:00 a.m. Ron Sands Memorial Service
 Sun. Oct. 8 9:30 a.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal
 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
 11:30 p.m. Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall
 6:30 p.m. Fall Altamont/Helderberg Book Group at ARC

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED UNTIL 1:00 PM TOMORROW.
 HOWEVER, THE BUILDING WILL BE OPEN BY 8:45 A.M.**

THERE IS STILL TIME TO JOIN

The fall 2023 Altamont-Helderberg Reformed book group meets Sunday nights here at ARC at 6:30 p.m. This fall's study is *Kneeling with Giants, Learning to Pray with History's Best Teachers* by Gary Neal Hansen. This book will guide us on a 10 week journey of an invitation to a deeper connection to God by practicing different methods of prayer. Participants are invited to acquire books from their favorite bookseller or library, and there are some funds available if the book cost is in any way a barrier.

ARC COMMUNITY DINNERS RETURN TOMORROW MONDAY, OCTOBER 2

Our very popular First Monday of the Month Free Community Dinner returns tomorrow. We serve 5:00-6:30 p.m. Don't miss a chance to enjoy good food and fellowship. Invite a friend.

PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY DRIVE FOR OUR LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

Start shopping for our P & J collection now. This drive will run Friday, October 20 through Sunday, October 22. Bins will be located in the back parking lot entryway and at the top of the back staircase under the bulletin board. Baskets will also be located in the front of the sanctuary on Sunday, October 22.

A FAITH FORMATION BRAINSTORMING SESSION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

Through the ages, the Church of Christ has undergone many changes. That comes as no surprise. What has come as a surprise is that we now find ourselves caught up in a period of change and it is not just this “little-church-under-the-mountain”. Statistics indicate broad changes in church participation everywhere, and many people are puzzling over why this is happening. But even as confusing shifts occur, the prudent thing to do is adapt to the change that is at our doorstep.

Though our children are few and our busy selves reach an older age, we want to continue in our growth as faithful followers of Christ and to be “good news” to a world heavily stressed and anxious over many things.

To such an end the consistory is initiating a Faith Formation committee to direct and oversee plans for the nurture of our church family. **As this committee begins its planning, we are inviting all interested people to join us during the coffee hour on Oct. 15 to brainstorm new ideas for organizing our efforts to grow our faith.**

This is a one-time event and if you like to seriously play with ideas and ‘think outside the box’, your presence would be most welcome and helpful. Any questions may be directed to Pastor Matthew or Carole deForest.

THE FRONT STEPS TO THE SANCTUARY

Please continue to use caution when using the Lincoln entrance to the sanctuary. It will be a few weeks before the new staircase work is undertaken and completed.

PRAYERS FOR:

Deb Ritzko’s brother, **Bob Haines**, after successful vascular bypass surgery this week to restore circulation to his legs; **Peg Jackson**, Kitt’s sister-in-law, who received very bad news after completing treatments, and faces a difficult decision

CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR:

Joan Whinnery, facing new health challenges; Natalie’s sister, **Carolann**; Keith Baratier’s father, **Paul**, back at home after a hospital stay; **Brian Cummings**, brother-in-law of Marianne Baratier and **Lori**, sister of Angie Stewart, both in treatments; **Jim Pavoldi**; **Barbara Ryan**

THOSE WITH LONG-TERM HEALTH ISSUES: Patti Percoski; Eric Tooker; Paula and Karen Eagan; Lois Wood

IN LONG-TERM CARE: Clara and Ralph Lasselle in Kingsway Community Assisted Living; Jeanne Picard-Fish at the Atria Guilderland; Joan Whinnery at Judson Meadows Ass't Living in Glenville

ALTAMONT REFORMED CHURCH STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Altamont Reformed Church is a community of Christian believers called by God to be part of the living Body of Christ, to worship God our King and to obey Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Enabled by the Holy Spirit, we pledge to study the Bible and live the Good News. We endeavor to serve and care for each other and to reach out to the world, sharing God's love and inviting all to join in joyful discipleship.

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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