



# Altamont Reformed Church

Transfiguration Sunday  
Blanket Sunday

February 14, 2021

## **WE GATHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD!**

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. **Amen.**

*Welcome*

*Call to Worship*

God, the mighty one, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

**Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.**

Our God comes and does not keep silence; before God is a devouring fire and a mighty tempest.

**God calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that God may judge the peoples:**

“Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice.”

**The heavens declare God’s righteousness, for God alone is judge.**

*Prayer of Confession*

God of compassion, on this last Sunday of Epiphany, as we anticipate the time of Lenten testing, we ask that you would help us look deeply into our hearts. We know that you know us better than we know ourselves. We are often dishonest with ourselves, with others, and most of all, with you.

**Forgive us, Lord, for the wrong things we have done and the right things we have left undone. Have mercy on us and shape us into the people you have created us to be. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Assurance of Pardon:* Psalm 103:8, 10-12

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The Lord does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is God's steadfast love towards those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far does God remove our transgressions from us.

*The Law of God*

*Ministry of Music*

**“God, You Wrap Your Love Around Us”**

God, you wrap your love around us, like a blanket, soft and warm.  
You give rest when we are weary, you protect us from the storm.  
May each person who finds shelter in these blankets that we share  
Also feel the joy and comfort of your love's protecting care.

Jesus, you were once a baby, sought by those who would destroy.  
Into Egypt you were carried – far from home, a little boy.  
Were you wrapped up warm to travel, safe from terror, free from harm?  
Did you feel God's strong protection, snuggled there in Mary's arm?

May the women, men, and children fleeing danger every day  
Know, through us, your living presence; you walk with them on their way.  
Spirit, as you give them comfort, teach us here to freely give;  
May we blanket this world over with your love, so all may live.

Tune: Charles Crozat Converse, 1868 ("What a Friend We Have in Jesus") Text: ©1999 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Copied from *Gifts of Love: New Hymns for Today's Worship* by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (Geneva Press, 2000).

## GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH THE WORD

*Prayer for Illumination*

*Scripture Text:* Mark 9:2-9

*Sermon: "Listen Up!"*

## WE RESPOND WITH GRATITUDE

*Announcements*

Blanket the World with Love!

*Prayers of the People*

*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.**

*Choral Benediction*

*Benediction*

Today's worship leader is Kitt Jackson, a commissioned Preaching Elder and long-time member of our congregation, assisted by members of the Benevolence Committee.

## LOOKING FORWARD

**Wednesday, Feb. 17:** 7 p.m., Ash Wednesday Zoom service with Helderberg Reformed.\*

**Sunday, Feb. 14:** 10:30 a.m., Virtual Worship Service. The homepage of our website ([altamontreformed.org](http://altamontreformed.org)) will direct you to the link and phone number.

### *\*Ash Wednesday Service*

This year's joint service with Helderberg Reformed Church will be held on Zoom at 7 p.m. Helderberg Reformed is hosting this year, so you will need to access the service with the link below. Ash Wednesday begins the 40-day season of Lent.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9862994246>

Phone: 1-646-558-8656

Meeting ID: 986 299 4246

### *Church World Service Blankets+ Campaign*

From Feb. 14 to March 14, contributions will be collected to support CWS efforts to supply blankets, hygiene kits, tents, COVID-19 education, and other tools to refugees and to those suffering from natural disasters. **Donations in the form of checks made out to the Benevolence Committee, with "blankets" on the memo line,** will be received for the entire month.

Donations of any amount are welcome. For each \$10 received a small paper heart will be added to a large heart on Kitt Jackson's dining room wall so she can share our progress each week. Our goal is to raise a total of \$1000 to "blanket the world with love." **Donations can be mailed to Kitt Jackson at 10 Rita Ct., Delmar, NY 12054** or put in her mailbox at church. Please include a note to dedicate your hearts, either in memory or in honor of someone who has brought love to your life.

If you prefer to include blanket donations in with the regular weekly or monthly giving that you send to the church office, please send a separate check made out to the Benevolence Committee with "blanket" on the memo line and enclose a note indicating the heart dedication, or send Kitt an email ([kitt82@verizon.net](mailto:kitt82@verizon.net)) so she can fill the dedication out for you.

Our gifts support the Blankets+ Program of Church World Service in disaster and refugee relief. People need blankets and much, much more. ARC has supported this important program for more than 30 years. Visit

[www.cwsglobal.org](http://www.cwsglobal.org) to learn more about the life-saving work of Church World Service in some 30 countries around the world.

### ***Pet Food Drive a Huge Success!***

A big thank you to everyone who donated items to the Joel Edwards DVM Pet Food Drive. With COVID-19 and the winter months, these items are especially appreciated. Donations were presented to the Altamont Community Food Pantry and other neighboring pantries, the Guilderland Animal Shelter, and the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society. Here are our totals:

Dry dog food: 627 lbs.

Dog treats: 11 boxes

Cans of dog food: 24

Dry cat food: 232 lbs.

Cat treats: 5 box

Meal and gravy packets: 32

Cans of wet cat food: 398

One box litter

One box “mouse, rat, and hamster food”

### ***Recordings of Worship Services***

Listen to or download recordings from a link on the website home page.

### ***Weekly Bulletins Available on our Website***

Check out the homepage of our website. We have added the weekly bulletin as a download. The bulletin will usually be available by Friday afternoon.

### ***Updates Requested***

Because we do not see each other on a regular basis, it is very important that you email ([nancymacarc@gmail.com](mailto:nancymacarc@gmail.com)) or call (518-861-8711) the office if you have an update or an addition to our prayer corner, address and phone number changes, and requests for our *ARCLite* via email.

*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.

**2021 Consistory**

Rev. Matthew J. van Maastricht

**Elders**

Bill Johnson  
Clara Lasselle  
Tulla Pangburn  
Steve Simmons  
Angie Stewart

**Deacons**

David Lasselle  
Deb Ritzko  
Barb Sargent  
Nancy Webb

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