



# Altamont Reformed Church

Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

January 31, 2021

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

*Welcome*

*Call to Worship*

God comes into a world filled with uncertainties and darkness.

**God seeks out the voids of belief and conviction.**

God embraces the wounded and broken.

**God knocks down the walls of division and strife.**

God is the candle shining in the darkness of our days.

**God is the light of our lives.**

God is the one who makes all things new.

**Praise be to God, now and forevermore!**

*Prayer of Confession*

**O God, source of life and grace, we are aware that we are, at times, prisoners of fear and habit. Through the healing touch of Christ, set us free to live and to love, that we may be the people you have created us to be. Amen.**

*Assurance of Pardon:* 2 Corinthians 5:17

*The Law of God*

*Ministry of Music*

**“Great Are You, Lord”**  
(M.W. Smith & D.D. Smith)

Great are you, Lord: you are holy and just;  
by your power we trust in your love.  
Great are you, Lord: you are faithful and true;  
by your mercy you prove you are love.

Great are you, Lord, and worthy of glory!  
Great are you, Lord, and worthy of praise!  
Great are you, Lord, we lit up our voice, we lift up our voice:  
Great are you, Lord! Great are you, Lord!

**GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH THE WORD**

*Prayer for Illumination*

*Scripture Text:* Mark 1:21-28

*Sermon*

**WE RESPOND WITH GRATITUDE**

*Announcements*

*Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession*

*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*

## LOOKING FORWARD

**Friday, Feb. 5 – Monday, Feb. 8:** Joel Edwards Memorial Pet Food Drive\*

**Saturday, Feb. 6:** 10 a.m. to noon, Boy Scouts receiving drop-off pet food donations in the back parking lot.

**Sunday, Feb. 7:** 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.

### *\*Pet Food Collection Honoring Joel Edwards*

The Congregational Life Committee is sponsoring a Pet Food Drive in conjunction with Super Bowl Weekend, and the well-loved Puppy and Kitten Bowls on Super Bowl Sunday. The Joel Edwards, DVM Memorial Pet Food Drive will happen the weekend of Friday, February 5 to Monday, February 8, in honor of our beloved chairperson, Joel Edwards. **We will be collecting dry dog food and either dry or wet cat food.** Bins will be located inside the church at the top of the back staircase below our big bulletin board by the kitchen door when the church building is open or in the back parking lot entryway.

There will be a special “drive through” opportunity on Saturday, February 6 from 10 a.m. to noon. Members of our local Boy Scout troop will be in the back parking lot of the church to receive your pet food donations. You won’t have to get out of your cars. Thank you!

### *Annual ARC Winter Painting*

Join us on Saturday, Feb. 13, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. as we work on several painting projects. Email Greg Goutos at [ggoutos@nycap.rr.com](mailto:ggoutos@nycap.rr.com) or call him at 518-861-6052 if interested. Please bring a small paint brush.

### *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.

### **Altamont Reformed Church**

P.O. Box 671

129 Lincoln Avenue, Altamont, New York 12009

518-861-8711

Pastor Matthew J. van Maastricht 518-861-8711 ext. 301 (o)

Parsonage: 518-595-5125

Email: [pastormatthew.arc@gmail.com](mailto:pastormatthew.arc@gmail.com)

Church email: [info@altamontreformed.org](mailto:info@altamontreformed.org)

Church website: [www.altamontreformed.org](http://www.altamontreformed.org)