



# Altamont Reformed Church

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 14, 2021

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## WE GATHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD

*Prelude*

Audrey Daly, Organist

*Lighting of the Christ Candle*

*Welcome*

*Call to Worship*

People of God, let us say to the Lord:

**You are my God; I have no good apart from you.**

The Lord is our chosen portion; we have a goodly heritage.

**Bless the Lord, who gives us counsel.**

Keep God always before you.

**God shows us the path of life.**

**In God's presence there is fullness of joy.**

*Hymn* ..... "The God of Abraham Praise" (pg. 7 of this bulletin)

*Prayer of Confession*

Gracious God, we know that you are rich in mercy to all who call on you. Hear us now as we humbly confess our sins. We have broken your holy laws by our deeds, by our words, and by the selfish desires of our hearts. Forgive us, Lord, for our ingratitude, our pride, and our willfulness.

**Merciful God, grant us pardon for our sins, deliver us from evil, preserve us in good, and lead us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

*Assurance of Forgiveness*

1 John 1:8-9

*The Law of God*

*Passing of the Peace\**

The peace of Christ be with you!

**And also with you!**

## *Gloria Patri\**

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 without end. Amen, amen.

## *Ministry of Music*

“Blest Are They” (David Haas/arr. Mark Hayes)

Blest are they, the poor in spirit, theirs is the kingdom of God.  
Blest are they, full of sorrow; they shall be consoled.

**Rejoice and be glad, be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!  
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!**

Blest are they, the lowly ones; they shall inherit the earth.  
Blest are they who hunger and thirst; they shall have their fill.

Blest are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs.  
Blest are they, the pure in heart; they shall see God.

Blest are they who seek peace; they are the children of God.  
Blest are they who suffer in faith; the glory of God is theirs.

Blest are you who suffer hate, all because of me.  
Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom; shine for all to see.

## **GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH THE WORD AND SACRAMENT**

### *Children’s Message*

### *Prayer of Illumination*

### *Scripture Text:*

Amos 1:1-2; 5:14-15, 21-24

### *Sermon*

## **WE RESPOND WITH GRATITUDE**

### *Affirmation of Faith*

From the Belhar Confession\*

**We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family. We believe that God has revealed himself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people, and that in a world full of injustice and enmity. We believe that God is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor, and the wronged. To the one and only God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

\*The Belhar Confession has its roots in the struggle against apartheid in South Africa. In 2010 it was adopted by the Reformed Church in America as one of its doctrinal standards. It addresses the three issues pertaining to all churches: unity of the church and unity among all people, reconciliation within church and society, and God’s justice.

## WE RESPOND WITH GRATITUDE

### *Announcements*

### *Offering*

### *Doxology\**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below:  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### *Prayer of Dedication\**

### *Sharing of Joys and Concerns*

### *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.

*Closing Hymn* ..... “Come, Live in the Light” (pg. 8)

### *Benediction\**

### *Postlude*

\*Indicates the congregation stands, if able

We welcome our worship leader Kitt Jackson, long-time ARC member and commissioned Preaching Elder in the Classis of Schenectady.

## VOLUNTEERS TODAY

Ushers/Greeters ..... Craig & Barb Sargent  
Side Door Usher/Greeter.....Sallie Townsend  
Offering Counters..... Barb Sargent & Tracy Mayer  
AV Support..... Mike Mayer

## FUTURE VOLUNTEERS

	November 21	November 28	December 5
Ushers/Greeters	Judi Dineen & Noreen Novack	Marianne Baratier & Angie Stewart	Claudette Riek & Deb Ritzko
Offering Counters	Judi Dineen & Noreen Novack	Marianne Baratier & Angie Stewart	Claudette Riek & Deb Ritzko
AV Support	Mike Gilman	Tom Boink	Nancy Webb

## COMING THIS WEEK

<b>Today</b>	<b>Benevolence Committee</b> after worship <b>Veteran Food Drive</b> continues
<b>Mon., Nov. 15</b>	<b>Men's Study Group</b> , 7 p.m.
<b>Tues., Nov. 16</b>	<b>Altamont Free Library Story Time</b> in Fellowship Hall, 10:30-11:15 a.m.
<b>Wed., Nov. 17</b>	<b>Consistory</b> meeting, 7 p.m.
<b>Thurs., Nov. 18</b>	<b>Chancel Choir Rehearsal</b> in the sanctuary, 7 p.m.
<b>Sun., Nov. 21</b>	<b>Teen/Adult Education</b> in Fellowship Hall, 9:30 a.m. <b>Chancel Choir Rehearsal</b> in the sanctuary, 9:30 a.m. <b>Worship Service</b> in the sanctuary and on Zoom, 10:30 a.m.

### *Food Drive for Veterans Ends Tomorrow*

Our Congregational Life Committee is accepting donations to benefit the Veterans & Community Housing Coalition. **The drive ends tomorrow.** A bin is located in the back parking lot entryway and at the top of the back staircase under the bulletin board. Baskets also are in the front and back of the sanctuary today.

Our donation list: stew, soups, microwave items, macaroni and cheese, granola bars, snack bags, snack items, juice boxes, and snack packs for children. Thank you!

### *Poinsettias for Advent and Christmas*

If you would like to purchase poinsettias to adorn the sanctuary during the coming Advent season, order forms are available in the front and back of the sanctuary and on our website.

- ◆ The cost is \$13 per plant. Checks can be made out to John or Natalie Drahzal. Please leave the form with a check or cash in their box downstairs, give it to them, or mail it to them.
- ◆ You can call them at 518-871-9735. Their mailing address is PO Box 174, E. Berne, NY 12059.
- ◆ **The last day for forms and payments is Wednesday, Nov. 24.**

### *Thank You from the Congregational Life Committee*

Thanks to the ARC family for:

- ◆ Helping us send 75 Veterans Day thank you cards to local veterans and veterans who are friends and family of congregation members.
- ◆ Contributing food donations that benefit the Veterans & Community Housing Coalition.
- ◆ Participating in the Heroes Project Christmas Stocking Packing event.

### *ARC's Living Nativity*

Our nativity presentation remains an important part of the Altamont Community Tradition holiday celebration. Our Living Nativity will take place on **Sunday, Dec. 19, at 3 p.m.** on the front lawn of

the church. Invite a friend and watch the story of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, presented in this unique and beautiful way.

Angels and shepherds are needed! Contact Natalie and John Drahzal at 518-872-9735 or [drahz03@gmail.com](mailto:drahz03@gmail.com) if you would like to participate.

### ***O ARC Christmas Tree, O ARC Christmas Tree***

The Congregational Life Committee invites you to be part of the Altamont Festival of Lights on Sunday, Dec. 19. We have purchased a tree as part of the community tree display located in Orsini Park. Now we need decorations (preferably home-made) to decorate our tree. Anyone in our ARC church family can add a decoration to our tree. Watch for details soon.

### ***Save These Dates***

- ◆ **Sunday, Dec. 5:** The annual Congregational meeting after our 10:30 a.m. worship service, both in person and on Zoom.
- ◆ **Sunday, Dec. 19:** The annual Living Nativity on the church lawn at 3 p.m.
- ◆ **Friday, Dec. 24:** The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service in the sanctuary and on Zoom at 7 p.m.

### ***Support Camp Fowler's Silent Auction***

The Camp Fowler Silent Auction starts at 10 a.m. tomorrow, Nov. 15, and runs through 6 p.m. on Nov. 21. Visit [www.campfowler.org](http://www.campfowler.org) to see the items you can bid on. This is a great opportunity to buy some unique gifts and support the ministry of Camp Fowler.

### ***Guidelines for Worship in the Sanctuary During Covid***

*Masks.* The wearing of masks is optional for those who have been fully vaccinated (two weeks past receiving the final vaccine dose). Masks are still required indoors for people who have not been fully vaccinated.

*Sanitizing.* Please continue to use the hand sanitizers at each entrance to the sanctuary.

### ***Worship Services Continue on Zoom***

ARC continues to offer the virtual option of Zoom services each week. It is the same link already posted on the homepage of our website. Our weekly bulletin is available as a download. The bulletin usually will be available by Friday afternoon.

### ***Prayer Requests and Updates***

If you have an update or a name to add to our prayer corner list, please call the church office or email Nancy McNiven at [nancymacarc@gmail.com](mailto:nancymacarc@gmail.com).

### ***Recordings of Sermons***

Recordings are available on the ARC website ([altamontreformed.org](http://altamontreformed.org)). See the link on the home page under "Sermon Recordings."

# 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  
Steve Simmons  
Angie Stewart  
Laurie Warner

### Deacons

David Lasselle  
Carol Lennebacker  
Noreen Novak  
Deb Ritzko  
Barb Sargent

PO Box 671 ♦ 129 Lincoln Ave., Altamont, NY 12009 ♦ 518-861-8711

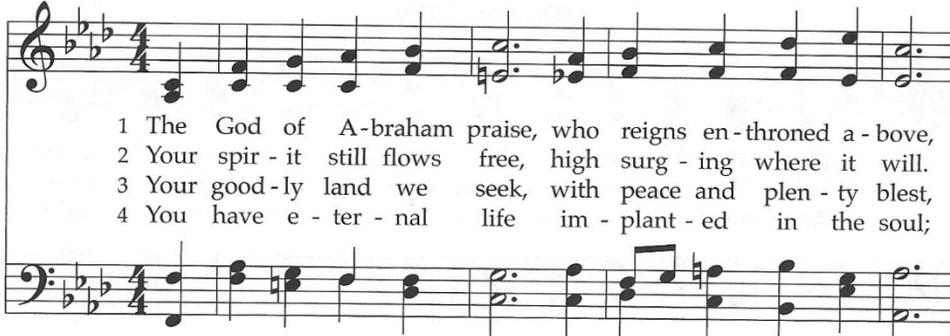
Pastor Matthew J. van Maastricht 518-861-8711, ext. 301

Parsonage: 518-595-5125 ♦ Email: [pastormatthew.arc@gmail.com](mailto:pastormatthew.arc@gmail.com)

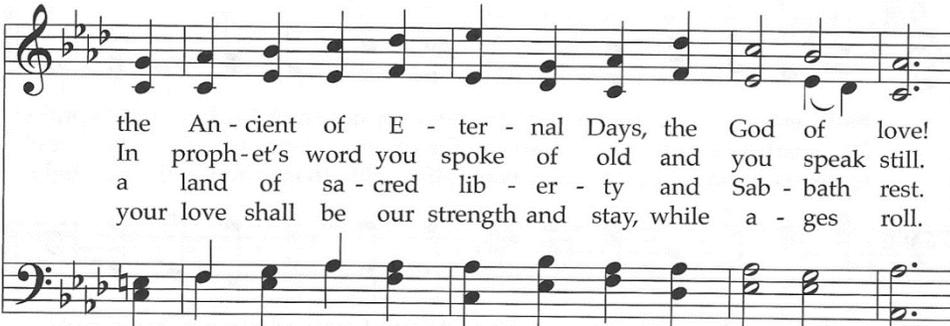
Church email: [info@altamontreformed.org](mailto:info@altamontreformed.org)

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

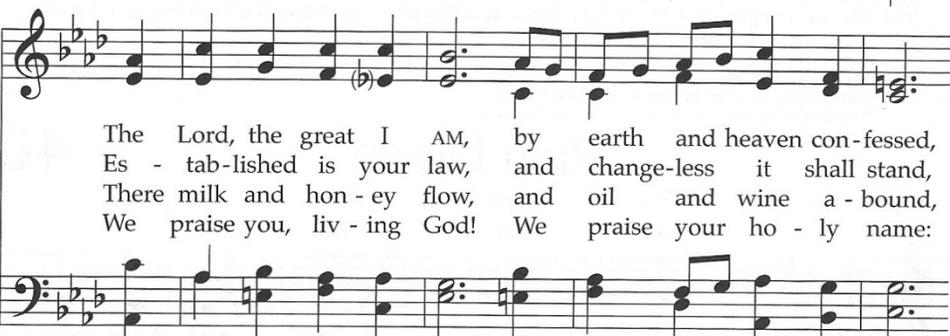
## 49 The God of Abraham Praise



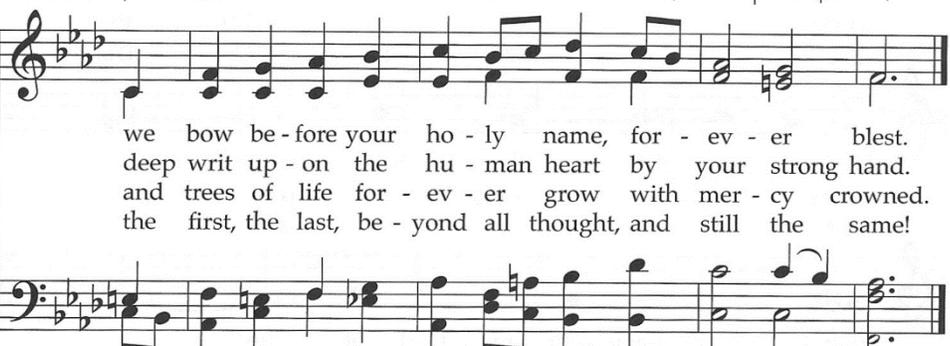
1 The God of A-braham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove,  
 2 Your spir - it still flows free, high surg - ing where it will.  
 3 Your good - ly land we seek, with peace and plen - ty blest,  
 4 You have e - ter - nal life im - plant - ed in the soul;



the An - cient of E - ter - nal Days, the God of love!  
 In proph-et's word you spoke of old and you speak still.  
 a land of sa - cred lib - er - ty and Sab - bath rest.  
 your love shall be our strength and stay, while a - ges roll.



The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con-fessed,  
 Es - tab-lished is your law, and change-less it shall stand,  
 There milk and hon - ey flow, and oil and wine a - bound,  
 We praise you, liv - ing God! We praise your ho - ly name:



we bow be - fore your ho - ly name, for - ev - er blest.  
 deep writ up - on the hu - man heart by your strong hand.  
 and trees of life for - ev - er grow with mer - cy crowned.  
 the first, the last, be - yond all thought, and still the same!

Shaped by its traditional Jewish tune, this selection of English stanzas conveys the essence of the *Yigdal*, a canticle based on a medieval Hebrew statement of faith about the nature of God and often used in synagogue worship, alternately chanted by cantor and congregation.

TEXT: Moses Maimonides, 12th cent.; vers. Daniel ben Judah Dayan, 1404; stanzas 1, 3, trans. Thomas Olivers, c.1770, alt.; LEONI stanzas 2, 4, trans. Max Landsberg, Newton M. Mann, and William C. Gannett, 1884, 1910, alt. 6.6.8.4.D  
 MUSIC: Jewish melody, 17th cent.; adapt. Meyer Lyon and Thomas Olivers, 1770

# 749 Come! Live in the Light!

## We Are Called



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the  
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your  
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that



joy and the love of the Lord! We are called  
 mer - cy to all those in fear! We are called  
 great day when all will be one! God will reign,

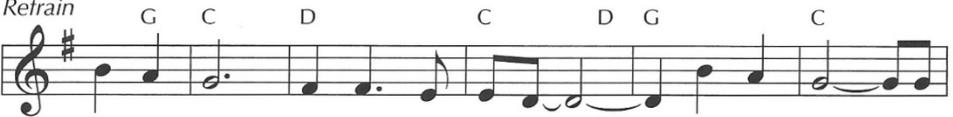


to be light for the king - dom, to live in the  
 to be hope for the hope - less so ha - tred and  
 and we'll walk with each oth - er as sis - ters and



free - dom of the cit - y of God.  
 vio - lence will be no more.  
 broth - ers u - nit - ed in love.

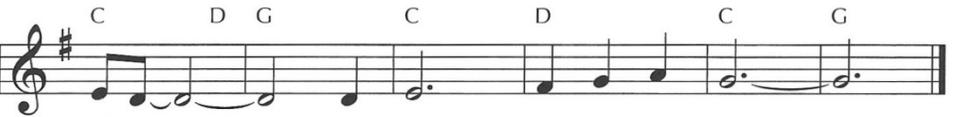
*Refrain*



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.

The thematic and musical center of this hymn on the vocation of all believers is found in the refrain, which is based on the well-known challenge of Micah 6:8, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"