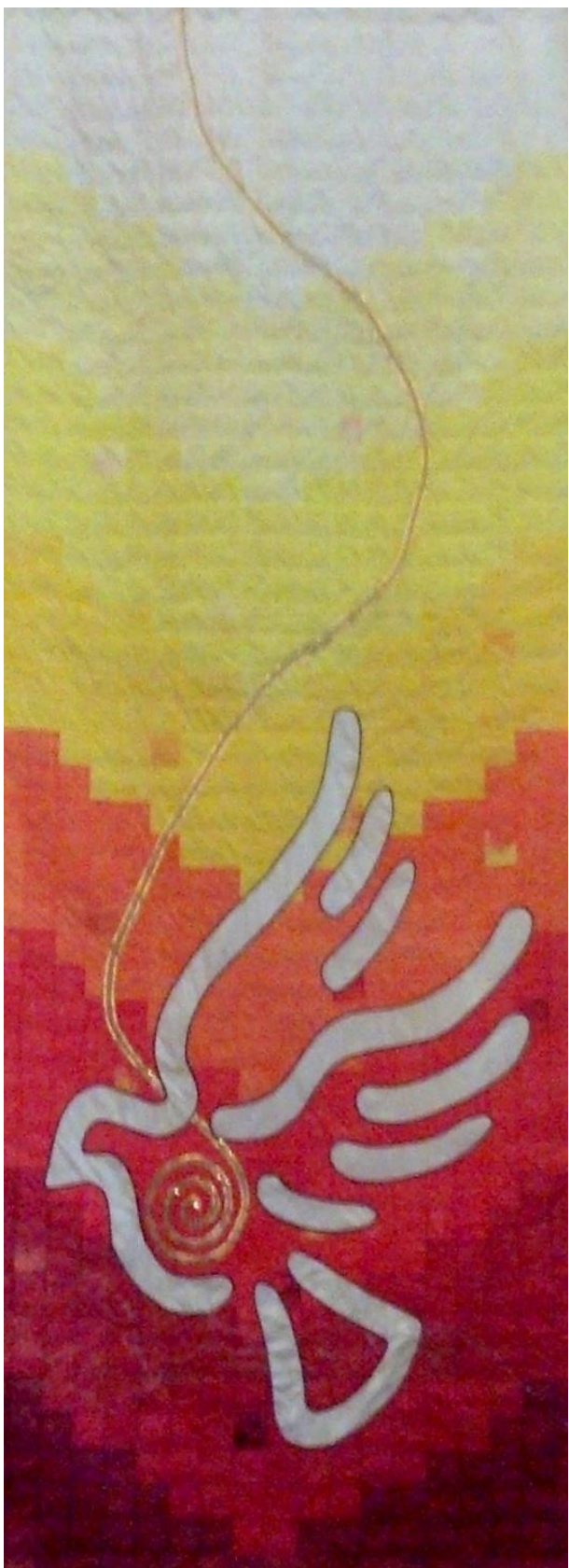




Emmanuel Friedens Church

*Twenty-fourth Sunday
after Pentecost
(Giving Sunday
Christ the King Sunday)*

November 23, 2025 10:00 AM

*218 Nott Terrace
Schenectady, New York 12307
(518) 374-4114*

*E-mail: ebcfried@nycap.rr.com
Website: www.emmanuelfriedens.org
www.facebook.com/emmanuelfriedenschurch*

*A Welcoming, Open and Affirming
Congregation*

*American Baptist
and
United Church of Christ
Congregation*



Welcome to Emmanuel Friedens Church

Our worship service will be held in the Sanctuary at 10 am.
Online Worship will also be available at 10 AM live on Facebook and Zoom
(see below)

Facebook Live from the Emmanuel Friedens Church Facebook page

Log in to Facebook, and go to the Emmanuel Friedens page on Sunday morning.

If you have difficulty locating it, the link is: <https://www.facebook.com/Emmanuel-Friedens-Church-122934277889274/>

If you have a Facebook account and want to be notified about Emmanuel Friedens events, log into Facebook, go the Emmanuel Friedens Church Page and click “Like”.

The service will “go live” at 9:55 am to allow time to find it on Facebook before the service begins at 10 am.

OR

Join Zoom gathering

Zoom by internet:

<https://zoom.us/j/7050534826?pwd=eWdMNmJBT0FpK1ZHeE1jS0ZyNUVZQT09>

Meeting ID: 705 053 4826 Password: 063310

***Please note: To connect to Zoom, please hold down
the “control key-CTRL” and hit the link.***

This should connect to Zoom.

Then enter the meeting ID and password

Dial by any phone (voice and sound only)

1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 705 053 4826 Password: 063310

A recorded video version of this service

will be available after 11 AM on Sunday mornings. At a time of your choice, go to the church’s website, <http://emmanuelfriedens.org/> and click on the link located on the Home page for the video of that day.

Sunday, November 23, 2025
Order of Worship



Prelude

"Give Thanks"

Henry Smith
Minister of Music: Dianna Parisi

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Katy Stenta

Call to Worship

Rev. Dr. Katy Stenta

God, you know for what we wait

We feel thin, stretched, and dry, like butter scraped over too much bread

We long, with more longing than those who in winter wait for spring

With more longing than those who in the dark deepest night, await morning

So we long, to know our belovedness

Let us breathe into our Belovedness



+Opening Hymn

"We Praise You, O God"

The New Century Hymnal
(Black) #420

+The Peace of Christ

Pastor: The Peace of Jesus Christ be with you all

People: And also with you.

The Prayers of the People (Celebrations and Concerns)

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer-Traditional-debt/debtors

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.

The Children's Message

Rev. Dr. Katy Stenta

Special Music

"Thankful"

(The Albany Gay Men's Chorus)

Carole Bayer Sayer, David Foster
and Richard Page
arr. Mark Hayes



At Emmanuel Friedens Church, we believe that the love of God is extended to all of God's condition. We light the Welcoming, Open, and Affirming candle as an expression of our solidarity and shared mission with the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists and with the Open and Affirming Churches of the United Church of Christ. The lighting of this candle represents our invitation to everyone, including those of every gender identity and sexual orientation, to participate fully in the ministry of the Body of Christ.



+Hymn

"O for a World"
(Verses 1, 2, 3, 5)

The New Century Hymnal
(Black) #575



Prayer of Confession: **God, we confess that we don't know. We do not know if these bones can live. We confess our weariness, with church, with worship, with the work of it all. We long for true rest and sanctuary. We confess that we do not always believe that you know. Help us to Prophesy, breathe on us your creativity and truth we pray. (Silent Confession) Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon: Hear the Good news, we are beloved, exactly as we are, so Christ has already died and been resurrected for us, so we can know the truth in our hearts **(All) In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.**



Scripture Readings

Psalms 130:5-8, Ezekiel 37:1-14

Mary Lou Chotkowski

Sermon

"Blessed to Be A Blessing: Can These Bones Live"

Rev. Dr. Katy Stenta



Call for the Offertory Living Abundantly Week 7: Giving Sunday

This Sunday, we dedicate our intentions for giving for the coming year—Please gift your estimate of giving for 2026. These tithes and gifts are a sign of our thanksgiving and dedication to God's work within us.

Offering

"You Say"

Lauren Daigle



+Doxology

**We ask you, God, these walls to bless;
fill with your love their emptiness;
and make their door a gateway true
to lead us from ourselves to you.**



+Offertory Prayer **God send us into the world, knowing we are God-breathed, rejoicing in our belovedness, knowing that we are loved exactly as we are. Amen.**



+Closing Hymn

"Now Thank We All Our God"
(Verses 1, 2)

The New Century Hymnal
(Black) #419



+Blessing and Dismissal



Postlude
(The Albany Gay Men's Chorus)

"Exultate Pacifica"

Randall Johnson

+ Please stand, if you are able

As a Welcoming and Affirming/Open and Affirming Church, Emmanuel Friedens Church welcomes and affirms all persons without regard to gender, marital status, age, race, sexual orientation, or abilities, inviting all into membership, mission and leadership.

The Babyfold is open during worship but there is no scheduled supervision.

Hearing assists are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Fellowship Time: Following the worship service, please join us in the Gathering Room for refreshments.

Visitors Invitation: All visitors are invited to sign into the red book at the entryway of the sanctuary.

Announcements for the Week of November 23, 2025

Let us welcome members from the Albany Gay Men's Chorus to our worship service today. They will be participating in the service, and singing two musical selections.

About The Chorus

"The Albany Gay Men's Chorus formed in 2008. Many of the founding members belonged to several other local choruses but dreamed of starting a local gay men's chorus dedicated to singing quality choral music as well as Broadway tunes, popular songs and fun novelty pieces. In the 2023 Times Union Best of the Capital Region, Albany Gay Men's Chorus was chosen as one of the Best Local Musician/Music Groups. The chorus continues to grow in size and acclaim through their many concerts, community event performances, and support of local LGBTQ+, and LGBTQ+ friendly organizations. The AGMC donates 10% of the proceeds of our concerts to various non-profit local organizations."

And remember, Emmanuel Friedens Church will host the first of two winter concerts by the Albany Gay Men's Chorus on Sunday, December 7 at 3 pm, "Jingle all the Way!" – more information below.

Today, November 23 is Giving Sunday, when we bring forward our pledges of support for the work of our church in the coming year, and we give thanks for all God's gifts. If you need a pledge card, they are located on the table at the back of the sanctuary.

Our Giving Tree: You are invited to take a gift tag for a child's gift from the tree through Sunday, November 30. The unwrapped gifts (usually toys) must be returned by Sunday, December 7 so that they may be placed underneath the tree, and later distributed to the community (City Mission of Schenectady-Toy Store).

November Meeting/Events

Every Sunday: Choir: The choir meets for rehearsal at 9 am in the choir/music room. Every one of all levels are invited to join the choir to make a joyful noise to God! The choir will sing once a month in worship and for special occasions.

Community Brunch, November 29: The church's **Community Brunch** will be held from 10:30-11:30 am. The clothing/toiletries rooms will be open for the attendees. Needs for the November Brunch-

- **donations of desserts (pies, cookies, etc)** - bring them to church on Wednesday, Nov. 26, or on Saturday, Nov. 29 before 9 am
- **donations of xmas decorations** to give to the brunch attendees (**place on the kitchen counter against the outside wall**).
- **donations of canned and dry goods**, items like tuna, peanut butter, energy or granola bars, pasta, sauce, cereal, rice, etc. There are many people that are living in temporary housing. Items that can be prepared in a microwave would be great. (**place on the kitchen counter against the outside wall**)

Fellowship Time After Worship: We need refreshments for Sundays in November (30) and December (7, 28)

Monthly Birthday Celebrations: Don't forget to record your birthdate on the calendar located on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Our next birthday celebration will be today, November 23 for November birthdays (Conor Compton-7, Ray Andersons-8, Joy Hall -9, Emilia and Emmanuel Reyes -18).

Community News:

- **A Recital of Piano Works by Michael Harrison:** Our former Minister of Music, Michael Harrison will perform with guest artist, Ann Marie Adamick, Mezzo Soprano, on Sunday, November 23 at 3 pm-First Reformed Church of Scotia, 224 N Ballston Ave in Scotia. There will be a free will offering.

- 2025 Interfaith Thanksgiving Service: today, Sunday, November 23 at 5 pm: Where: Union College Old Chapel, Library Lane in Schenectady
- Holiday Concert at Emmanuel Friedens: Emmanuel Friedens is excited to host the Albany Gay Men's Chorus concert—*Jingle All The Way!* - a choral celebration of joy, community, and inclusivity. They will perform here on Sunday, December 7 at 3 pm. The cost of a ticket is \$23 (purchasing online) and \$25 at the door. Website to purchase tickets:
<https://tickets.chorusconnection.com/agmc/events/1589>
<https://www.facebook.com/Albanygaymenschorus/>
 A flyer is posted on the office bulletin board.

The December Envoy: Articles, photos, etc. to be included into the December Envoy must be sent to the office by Tuesday, December 2. Thank you.

The Church Office will be closed on Thanksgiving and the Friday after (November 28).

Enjoy your Thanksgiving Holiday!



Emmanuel Friedens Church



Staff

Pastor		Rev. Dr. Kathryn Stenta
Music Director		Dianna Parisi
Office Administrator		Maria Puccio
Custodian		Dave Snyder

Church Hours

Pastor's Hours: Pastor Katy will be available for appointments Monday-Thursday. She will have open door office hours (no appointment necessary) every Tuesday from 9:30-11:30 am. Friday is her Sabbath Day. Telephone number and email: 518-380-6922., katyandtheword@gmail.com.

For emergency pastoral care, please contact Pastor Katy directly (see above) or through the church office.

Church Office: Monday-Friday, 9:30 am –3:30 pm

Custodian: M-W, 3:30-8:30 pm; Th., 3:30 - 9:30 pm; F.,3:30 - 7:30 pm.