



First Christian Church

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Come To The Light

Second Sunday of Lent

March 01, 2026
10:00 A.M. Worship Service
Pastor Jeff Seger

Welcome

*Opening Hymn - #377 - Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

**Passing of the Peace*

Call To Worship: (from Psalm 121)

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills, where does my help come from?
People: **My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.**
Leader: The Lord watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.
People: **The Lord will keep you from all harm.**
ALL: **He will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going, both now and forevermore.**

Opening Prayer:

Creator God, we come to you with our petitions, praise, and prayers this morning. Fill us with your Holy Spirit and guide us as your Church in this very place. Bless us as only you can. Help us to reach out to others who are hurting in any way this morning. Lead our Church and all your Churches. Help us to follow you. We thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and we pray all things in his holy name. Amen.

Prayer Hymn - #273 – Jesus Paid It All

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory forever.
AMEN*

Please continue to remember in prayer...			
- Our Church Family	- Cole Dunlap	- Barbara McVicker	- Kate DeWees
- George Cover	- Nancy Dunlap Sr.	- Jim Lefler	- Kayln Hall
- Bethel Ford	- Meg Smith	- Marsha Gastineau	- Luke Smith
- Larrinda Wolf	- Nancy Justice	- Jan Merritt	- Mia Berarducci
- Patti Coons	- Vianne Lewis	- Audrey Parmele	- Rick Williams
- Phil Lewis	- Tonya Todd-Barker	- Betty Malone-Lintner	- Sandra Schauer
- Shirley Maxwell	- Dan Wood	- Joey Funkhouser	- Paul & Abbie Parmele

Scripture Text: John 3: 1 – 21 (NRSV)

Nicodemus Visits Jesus

³ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that

person.” ³ Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹ “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷ “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸ Those who believe in him are not condemned, but those who do not believe are condemned already because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹ But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

Scripture Readings - John 3: 1 – 21 (NRSV)

Sermon - “*Come To The Light*” — Pastor Jeff Seger

Invitation to Generosity and Presentation of the Gift

*Doxology - #382 - Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

***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 for the Gifts

Intro to Communion - #256 - The Old Rugged Cross

Words of Institution

Prayer for the Bread and the Cup - Distribution of both Bread and Cup

OFFERTORY & COMMUNION

*The bread and the cup are distributed together.
Please hold until you are invited to partake together.*

*Hymn of Invitation - #523 - God Be with You ‘Til We Meet Again

*Benediction

Leader: May God bless you and keep you. May God’s face shine upon you
and be gracious to you. May God look upon you with kindness
and give you peace.

People: Amen.

Todays Meeting:

10:00 a.m. - Sunday Worship Service - Pastor Jeff Seger

Weekly Meetings:

Wednesday, March 4th

11:45 a.m. - Lenten Lunch @ FCC

6:00 p.m. - Wacky Wednesday

Sunday, March 8th

10:00 a.m. - Worship Service - Pastor Jeff Seger

Beginning Balance As Of 2-23-26	6955.75
Expenses/Payroll x3	4417.52
Weekly Offering	1265.00
Difference	-3152.52
Ending Balance	3803.23

Announcements:

Week of February 22nd - Attendance: 31; Live Stream Views: - YouTube Live: 12; Approx. Views: 18 - 49

Youth Group – Wacky Wednesday: will meet Wednesday, March 4th at 6:00 p.m. Meal provided by Alice Gaard & Connie Blacketter. Thank you Alice & Connie!

Offering Statements: were mailed out. If you have any questions or if there are changes to be made, please call or email Angela M-W-F 10am – 3pm. Office: 219-866-7871. Email: fcc.manageroff@gmail.com.

Lenten Lunch Schedule: RAMA invites the community to join in the fellowship of the 2026 Lenten Lunches. Each luncheon begins at 11:45 a.m. and concludes at 12:45 p.m. The recommended donation for each lunch is \$6.00. All proceeds go to Helping Hand Fund.

Lenten Lunch Schedule

March 4th - First Christian Church

March 11th - St. Luke Lutheran

March 18th - St. Augustine

March 25th - Brushwood

April 1st - Hope Community will host an evening Seder dinner

April 2nd - Maundy Thursday

April 3rd - Good Friday

LifeWise Academy: is a released-time religious instruction (RTRI) program that provides Bible-based education to public school students in Rensselaer Central School Corp, specifically targeting Van Elementary for grades 3-5. It is an optional program that occurs during school hours, is privately funded, and requires students to be transported off-site. If you are interested, and would like to know more, there are copies of information a rep dropped off to the church office in the narthex. You can also visit: lifewise.org.

March Birthdays

3 - Viana Lewis

4 - Kris Bailey

5 - Pauline Amsler

6 - Matt Beehler, Stephen Nicole

7 - Charles Griffin, Kalyln Hall

8 - Haylie Newcomb

9 - Andy Morris, Ali Phillips

10 - Cathy Eldridge, Addie Dobson

11 - Josh Eldridge

14 - Sandy Todd

15 - Regina Sanders

18 - Cody Lintner, Heidi Phillips

19 - Laura Lefler-Kinnaird, Jim Lefler

21 - Craig Jackson

23 - Casey Boose

25 - Travis Mattocks

26 - Jeff Phillips

April Birthdays

1 - Helen Putman

5 - Phil Lewis

6 - Claude Grow

7 - Kathy Williams

10 - Patrick Williams, Jenny Craig

12 - Chase Eldridge

13 - Randy Grow, Ellis Gastineau

14 - Crystal Cover, Chad Maxwell

15 - Nathan Bailey

16 - Lisa Jackson

19 - Bethel Ford

21- Marcia Smith-Wood

24 - Verna McNeal

29 - Eileen Phegley, Kate DeWees

March Anniversaries

3 - Dennis & Pam Sayler - 1973

6 - Marcia & Ote Wood - 1982

26 - Gary & Regina Sanders - 1988

April Anniversaries

14 - Claude & Kim Grow - 1984

16 - Richard & Cathy Eldridge - 1983