

FIRST CHURCH IN ALBANY

Founded 1642

A National Historic Site

A BICENTENNIAL WORSHIP SERVICE

commemorating the

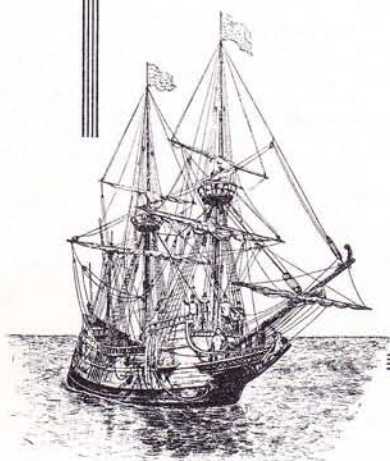
DUTCH INFLUENCE ON EARLY AMERICA

and the present-day arrival of the

OLD SHIPS FROM THE NETHERLANDS



Pastors: Bert E. McCormick
William M. Cameron, Jr.



BICENTENNIAL WORSHIP SERVICE

JULY 11, 1976 — 10:30 A. M.

PRELUDE: "Prelude and Fugue in D Minor" (Dorian) - - - J. S. Bach

DOROTHY SAMTER, *Organist*

*INVOCATION (*in unison*)

Like ships being driven into port, like wanderers begging refuge from the darkness of night, like hungry souls seeking living bread, like flowers turning to the sun, like prodigals seeking the father when all is spent: So we come to Thee, Almighty God, seeking hope after fear, calm after storm, and rest after work. Satisfy our deeper longings with Thy presence and peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

*HYMN 515: "God of Our Fathers" - - - - - National Hymn

PRAYER OF AWARENESS (*in unison*)

On this special occasion whereby this congregation remembers with honor its rich Dutch heritage and whereby our sailing visitors from The Netherlands pay tribute to the two-hundredth birthday of our nation, we pray, O God, that we may be continually aware of our oneness with Thee, of a loyalty that stretches beyond national boundaries to a love of all mankind for whom Thy Son died. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

MINISTER: O Lord, help us to know we are forgiven.

PEOPLE: And we shall sing your praise.

*GLORIA PATRI

NETHERLANDS FLAT AND ROUND BOTTOM BOAT ASSOCIATION

Captain R. Kremer

ANTHEM: "Greater Love" - - - - - Ireland

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 107:23-29

in English - - - - - Dominie McCormick

in Dutch - - - - - Mr. P. J. van Lunteren

RECOGNITION OF THE DUTCH SETTLERS SOCIETY OF ALBANY

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

IN ENGLISH

O God, we come together as your people, though from two continents, with different hopes and cares, with different languages and customs. Yet we are Thy same sons and daughters. Therefore listen now, O God, to what we want to become and for whom.

IN DUTCH

O God, wij komen als Uw mensen tezamen, zij het van twee werelddelen, met verschillende hoop 'en zorgen, met verschillende talen en gewoontes. Toch zijn wij dezelfde broeders 'en zusters. Daarom luister nu, O God, naar wat wij willen worden en voor wie.

MORNING PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

IN ENGLISH

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, for ever. Amen.

IN DUTCH

Onze Vader, die in de hemelen zijt, Uw naam worde geheiligd. Uw koninkrijk kome. Uw wil geschiede gelijk in de Hemel also ook op aarde. Geef ons heden ons dagelijks brood. En vergeef ons onze schulden gelijk ook wij vergeven onze schuldenaren. En leidt ons niet in verzoeking, maar verlos ons van den boze: Want Uwer is het Koninkrijk, en de Kracht, en de Heerlijkheid, tot in Eeuwigheid. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE: "The Heart Can Push the Sea and Land" - Persichetti

REGISTRATION OF ATTENDANCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS FROM THE CITY OF ALBANY - - Mayor Erastus Corning, II

OFFERING

The offering pole-bags in use this morning are of the Dutch tradition and from the late 1700's.

OFFERTORY: "Jubilate Deo Omnis Terra" - - - - - Peeters

*DOXOLOGY - - - - - "Old Hundredth"

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

IN ENGLISH

Almighty and Eternal God, we humbly beseech Thee, bless Thee our gifts. For who are we, that we should be able to offer such voluntary gifts? For all things come of Thee and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.

*(liturgy of the Netherlands
Reformed Church)*

IN DUTCH

Almachtige en eeuwige God, wij smeken U ootmoedig, zegen Gij onze garen. Want wie zijn wij, dat wij in staat zouden zijn zulke vrijwillige garen te schenken? Want het komt alles van U en wij geren het U uit uw hand. Amen.

*(Dienstboek voor de Nederlandse
Hervormde Kerk)*

PRESENTATIONS TO THE CAPTAINS AND CREWS OF THE

BOLLE BEERTJE

DE HOP

SCHUIMER

BOLLEWIEF

MINKE LOKKE

VROUWE LOTJE

DANKBAARHEID

NJORD

ZEVIJA

*HYMN 17: "We Praise Thee, O God" - - - Old Netherlands Melody

MESSAGE: "A Dutch Legacy" - - - - - Dominie McCormick

The pulpit and its hourglass in use this morning came from the Netherlands in 1656 and are the oldest artifacts of their kind in the United States.

*HYMN 521: "Eternal Father, Strong to Save" - - - The Seaman's Hymn

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE: "Go Ye into All the World" - - - Gumpeltzhaimer

POSTLUDE: "America" - - - - - C. Ives

*please stand.

We are grateful to Mrs. Betty Pierce, Mrs. Jeanette Schuyler, and Miss Janet Walker, who are distributing this morning to our guests and visitors historical brochures of First Church.

Memorial

The chancel flowers and the radio broadcast over Station WABY are given by Mr. Walther M. Mueller in memory of family and loved ones.



A VIEW OF THE LATE PROTESTANT DUTCH CHURCH in the CITY of ALBANY.

FIRST CHURCH IN ALBANY

First Church in Albany, the second oldest church in New York State, was organized in 1642 by Dominie Johannes Megapolensis, a missionary from the Netherlands. In 1974 it was made a National Historic Site by act of the United States Congress.

Services were first held in the homes of colonists, then in a warehouse, and next in a log building. In 1654 the "Blockhouse Church" was built at what is now State and Broadway. In 1715 the "Stone Church" was erected around the frame of the Blockhouse Church". In 1799 the present sanctuary was built and called the "North Church" inasmuch as part of the congregation established the "South Church". These two congregations were reunited in 1938 after a fire destroyed the "South Church", then known as the Madison Avenue Reformed Church.

First Church has many treasured possessions made specifically for this congregation. Its pulpit with hour glass is America's oldest, made in Holland, purchased for twenty-five beaver skins, and first installed in 1656 in the "Blockhouse Church". Its weathercock is also America's oldest, was first mounted in 1656, and is now in one of the church's display cases. Also on display are two silver communion beakers, one made in Holland in 1660 and the other made in New York in 1678, the latter of which museums have described as "one of the finest pieces of Colonial American silver in existence". It has two original land grants (from General Nicolls in 1667 and from General Thomas Dongan in 1688) and its original charter granted by King George I of England in 1720. Many other historical silver, artifacts and documents are either on display or in the church vault.

First Church has maintained an active ministry in the Albany-Rensselaer community. Its services are broadcast over WABY each Sunday. It conducts this area's first drive-in/park-in worship ministry (from April through October). It sponsors a day-care center in its church Monday through Friday. It conducts a summer lot recreational program. During the day its Clee Memorial Park serves as a downtown oasis of greenery and at night its lighted church towers can be seen for miles.

Perhaps the most interesting feature of First Church today is its "melting pot" composition where people of different backgrounds come together in worship and service. Blessed with a rich history, First Church faces the future. You are invited to share in its ministry.