

Fourth Sunday in Lent  
March 14, 2010  
*Is your cell phone on?*

9:40 a.m.

VOLUNTARY

*A Suite of Passion Hymn Settings (1967)*

Wilbur Held

1. "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"
2. "Ah, Dearest Jesus"
3. "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"
4. "Go to Dark Gethsemane"
5. "O Darkest Woe"
6. "The Royal Banners Forward Go"

10:00 a.m.

+ + + **The Approach to God** + + +

GREETING

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WORSHIP ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

INTROIT

*Humble Yourself*

Hal Hopson

\*HYMN #403

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

Converse

\*OUR NEED FOR GOD

Prayerful silence...

Greek Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
English Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy. Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy.

Silent prayers...

\*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE #579 *Glory Be to the Father* Gloria Patri

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*from the Brief Statement of Faith*)

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

MUSICAL OFFERING *Brethren, We Have Met To Worship*

H. Hannay  
Klokken Ringers

+ + + **The Word of God** + + +

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord of love, help us to hear your Word. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

*Psalm 32:6-7(page 507)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

\*HYMN #390

*O Savior, in This Quiet Place*

St. Stephen

SECOND LESSON

*Romans 8:21-31 (page 157)*

SERMON

*The Phenomenology of Prayer*

Bill Levering

+ + + **The Response to God** + + +

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*When Rooks Fly Homeward*

Arthur Banyon

When rooks fly homeward and shadows fall,  
When roses fold on the hay-yard wall,  
When blind moths flutter by door and tree,  
Then comes the quiet of Christ to me.

When stars look out on the Children's Path,  
And grey mists gather on ean and rath,  
When night is one with the brooding sea,  
Then comes the quiet of Christ to me.

Joseph Campbell

\*DOXOLOGY (Hymn 592)

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

MINUTE FOR MISSION      *Damien Center*      Dan Butterworth

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.**

\*HYMN #392      *Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord*      Hall

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE      *Threefold Amen*      Traditional

\*POSTLUDE      *Fugue in C minor*      Johann Sebastian Bach

\*The congregation may stand.

### Welcome

If you are a first time visitor, please fill out a little white card and place it in the offering plate. If you are interested in becoming a member, please speak with one of the ministers after the service. We are eager to know and serve you. Everyone is invited to enjoy fellowship and refreshments after the service in Assembly Hall.

### Need Help?

Large print bulletins and audio receivers are available to assist you. Please ask an usher. Special bulletins for children are also available. Restrooms are located out the front right doorway of the sanctuary.

### Service Online

A recording of each of our worship services is online at [1stReformed.com](http://1stReformed.com) one or two days following the service.

### Caring for Children During Worship

Childcare for babies through age four is available between 10:00 and noon in Kinderwyk, which is located in the building near the church office entry.

### Kinderwyk needs more help!

Please consider assisting on a Sunday of your choice to care for our children. Contact Sarah Bachorik (357-2014) or talk to one of the ministers to participate in this important ministry.

### Church School

Children in grades K-8, who are visiting today, are welcome to join in our Church School activities! Follow the 'crowd' out of the sanctuary immediately after the Children's Message. Parents can pick up their children at 11:15am in Room 20 on the 2nd floor (at the top of the stairs).

### Prayers of the People

Requests for prayer may be noted on a pew card and placed in the offering plate. As part of our prayers this morning we remember with thanksgiving members of this congregation who entered eternal rest in previous years about this time. If you are aware of a departed member, whose name has not been noted near the anniversary of their death please speak with one of our ministers or contact the church office.

+ + +

### Celebratory or Memorial Flowers

Today's flowers placed in the chancel, to the glory of God, are given by Vernetta Thuener and family in loving memory of Daniel J. Thuener and in celebration of Zane Eldene, born March 7, 2010 to Elaine Thuener and Amir Salem. We are grateful that these

flowers, which represent our prayers and praise, will be taken to church members in recognition of a need or celebration.

### Music Note

Today's Offertory, "When Rooks Fly Homeward" was suggested by choir member Lynn Wilkanowski, who had sung the piece in her high school select choir in Northport under the direction of Sandy Valerio. Over the years Lynn became very close to the director and his family, learning of the untimely death of their 28 year old son Timothy last April. According to Lynn, singing the last line of the song, "Then comes the quiet of Christ to me..." gives her chills: "it's so true, meditative, calming and peaceful, like the smile and generosity Timothy Valerio lived and shared for only 28 years." We thank Lynn for bringing this moving anthem (which was in our choir library) to our attention.

### Vespers Every Sunday, 5pm

#### Today – Chamber

David Ciucevich, clarinet

#### March 21 – Jazz

Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea; drums

#### March 28 – Organ

Elinore Farnum, Organist

#### April 4 – Jazz

Mike Benedict, vibraphone; Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

### Faith Bookshop

On sale today: winter caps with the church logo and one-of-a-kind scarves hand knit by Ronnie. On display for purchase: books of particular interest during the Lenten season.

### **Richard Foster's Categories of Spiritual Disciplines**

Spirituality is more than prayer. Thirty years ago, the Quaker scholar Richard Foster developed categories of spiritual discipline that millions have found useful:

The Inward Disciplines: Meditation, Prayer, Fasting, Study

The Outward Disciplines: Simplicity, Solitude, Service

The Corporate Disciplines: Submission, Confession, Worship, Guidance, Celebration

### **Norton Levering's Spiritual Triggers**

Time, Location, Posture, Sensation, Person, Decision, Object

### **Take a look at the Narthex Cases**

Thanks to Tom D'Andrea the Narthex cases now have exhibits about our weekly Vespers. One window is on Jazz, the other on Chamber and Classical music.

Have you an idea for the windows? What's your committee doing? If you would like to design a case or cases contact Laura Linder at 882-6866 or 281-4764.

### **Music Highlights for Lent and Easter**

Anthems by the Chancel Choir during Lent will include some more reflective works to complement Dr. Levering's sermons dealing with "Spiritual Tools." On March 21: *the Prayer of St. Columba* by Richard Shepard. In this anthem we pray that God be "a bright flame" before us, a "guiding star" above us, a "smooth path" beneath us, and "kindly shepherd" behind us. Palm Sunday on March 28 will feature our children's choirs and a new anthem by the Chancel Choir, written by Craig Courtney and accompanied on the conga by Tom D'Andrea. A brass

quartet will accompany our hymns and anthems on Easter Sunday, April 4, including *Easter Proclamation* by John Ferguson and *Now Is Christ Risen, Alleluia!* by Johann Sebastian Bach.

### **Share Food and Fellowship**

The soup is on every Wednesday of Lent! Come on down for food and fellowship at 6pm. You needn't sign up for dinner – just show up, if you wish to be fed both in body and soul.

### **LENT @ FRC**

**Wednesday Lenten Series** starts at 6pm with a simple supper of soup (vegetarian or meat), salad, bread, and desert. At 7:15pm the learning begins: Stacey teaches Music as a Spiritual Practice; Bill leads a Preacher's Preview for the Sunday's scripture and sermon; Daniel guides a discussion on God and Human Suffering, based on the book of the same title (available in the bookshop for purchase; reading required each week). At 8:30pm a brief service of prayer, silence, and communion in our sanctuary chancel is offered.

**During the Sundays within Lent**, Bill Levering will be preaching on the disciplines of meditation, fasting, and prayer. Several of the First Forums following worship will feature a prominent presenter, from the community, who will speak on the sermon theme of that Sunday.

**Childcare for Lent** will be provided in Kinderwyk from 7-9pm each Wednesday evening.

### **FRC Greening Team**

On Monday, March 15 at 6:30pm in the church offices we'll follow up on our February pre-snowstorm brain-storm session by selecting our focus areas for this year and developing action plans. Any members or friends who would like to view--and comment on--our downpour of ideas for fostering greater awareness and care of God's creation may visit the church website; go to the activities tab, then the Greening Team page where a link will take you to our team blog. We warmly welcome others who desire to help us grow into our mission statement, which is posted on the Green Space bulletin board in Assembly Hall with other timely news and views.

### **Damien Center Open House**

After many months of preparation, the Schenectady Damien Center has finally moved to its new and permanent home at 615 Nott Street! To celebrate, we are inviting clients, volunteers, donors, SICM members, and interested community members to join us for an Open House on March 16, from 3 to 6pm. Visitors will be able to tour the new building, read about current and upcoming programs, and view presentations about the face of HIV/AIDS today. An official Chamber of Commerce dedication ribbon-cutting will take place at 4:30pm. We hope you can join us during this exciting time!

### **Tuesdays Ladies Group**

On March 16 at 7:30pm the group will meet at Connie Young's home, 1400 Keyes Ave. Should you have questions, please contact Connie at 393-7061.

### **Group VII**

On March 19 at **9:30am** in the Dirck Romeyn Lounge, Elaine Springsted will present a program on The Lord's Prayer. Co-hostesses: Nancy Wainwright and Mary Jewett.

### **Lenten Retreat with Daniel Carlson**

In light of last week's sermon and service focusing on the command to be still, here's a warm invitation to come away for a few days to a beautiful place with plenty of silence for meditation and prayer!

Fowler has set aside Chi-Rho House for a contemplative retreat. Each day there will be an opportunity to share in spoken and sung, morning, noon, and evening prayer. Indoors, comfortable space for reading, journaling, informal conversation, music, and handwork around the blazing hearth is available. Outdoors, Fowler's wooded trails await trekking by boots, show shoes, or skis. For those who wish, opportunities will be provided for individual pastoral conversation with Daniel, the retreat leader. A light breakfast, lunch, and full dinner will be provided daily. Each participant will have their own room and private bath, unless otherwise requested, thus allowing for a greater opportunity for mediation and prayer as well as limiting the size of the group to no more than a dozen.

The retreat has been structured to allow for those who are interested to attend for either the weekend (Friday evening-Sunday, \$80), the start of the week (Sunday-Tuesday morning, \$80), or both (Friday-Tuesday, \$140). Participants will include those from other churches within the Albany Synod. Daniel may be contacted for further details, including financial

assistance. To register visit [www.campfowler.org](http://www.campfowler.org) or call the Fowler office 631-6789. Flyers are posted on board outside Assembly Hall.

### Mission Shareholders' Dinner

Thank you to all who made our Mission Trip to Brooklyn possible! The Mission Shareholders' Dinner will be held on March 21 at 6pm. Come and join us for good food, pictures, and stories from our time working with the Greenpoint Reformed Church food pantry and soup kitchen.

### Winter VBS

Thanks to all who helped make "Let's Make a Rainbow" VBS a wonderful experience for the kids who attended. Mark your calendars for April 5th - 9th for the next exciting Vacation Bible School. We'll be making a VBS video production (take off on CBS) of Jesus' parables. Kids and helpers age 5 – 95 welcome! Register with the church office 277-2201 or phone Jamie Ipsen for information 399-6848.

### Easter Flowers

Each Easter, members of Chancel Guild adorn our church with beautiful Easter Flowers. Your family can contribute to remember a loved one or honor a loved one.

Please send your suggested donation of \$20.00 to Chancel Guild c/o Marlene Risseeuw, 2140 Niskayuna Drive, Niskayuna, NY 12309 and contact the Church Office with the following:  
In Honor of... In Memory of...

Even if you have donated in previous years please place an order for 2010 by March 29. Thank you.

### Christian Seder on Holy Wednesday

Our congregation will be getting a deeper understanding of Jesus' Last Supper with an experience of the Seder meal. We will have a Seder led by Dr. Levering on Holy Wednesday, March 31. The Seder is in the context of a meal, so folks should arrive at 6:30pm with a big dish to share or bring a pizza or something like that. We will try to be done by 7:30. Children are welcome and encouraged to attend.

### Nominations

The Nominating Committee of First Reformed Church is charged to nominate Elders and Deacons to serve two-year Consistory terms. The Committee will begin its work this month including soliciting recommendations from the congregation for candidates for Elder and Deacon. Those being recommended and those making recommendations must be active members of First Reformed Church. Candidates for Consistory should be representative of the congregation, have leadership vision and skills, and be active participants in the worship and activities of this church. Elders and Deacons together with the Ministers form the Consistory, which is the governing body of this congregation. Elders exercise particular concern for the internal life of the church e.g. Worship, Education, and Congregational care. Deacons exercise particular concern for the outreach of the church e.g. Mission and Benevolence, Finance, Pastoral Concerns, Property. Elders and Deacons will be elected at the annual meeting of the congregation on **May 23, 2009.**

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Tom Lindsay, Jeanne Shoulder	Mike Beals, Joe Gallagher
Deacons/Ushers	Kendra Adams, Emilio Pagan-Yournou, Nicholas Blinckmann, William Faulkner	Karlyne Drimalas, Nelson Drimalas, Griffin Laycock, Steve Breitenbach, Keith Muse, Susan Muse, Jeanne Shoulder
Elders	Bob Beadle, Rachel Hewitt, Peggy King, Linda Witkowski, Eugene Zeltmann	Carol DeLaMarter, Jerry Griggs, Marlene Risseeuw, Emile Walraven, Eugene Zeltmann
Faith Bookshop	Linda Witkowski	Rae Forster
First Forum	Coffee & Conversation	Sermon Reflection: Prayer Imam Genghis Kahn
Flower Delivery	Mary Jewett, Carol Troost	Donna & Dave Bundy, Nancy & Earl Wainwright
Greeters	Diane & Peter Ontkush	Ronnie Bartholic, Ginny Laumeister
Head Usher	Earl Wainwright	Mike Beals
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik, Joanne Bedell	Sarah Bachorik, Laurie Wilson
Liturgist		
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Reader	Art Hudak	Nancy Wainwright
Refreshments	Breitenbach's, Betty Bumgarner	Karlyne Drimalas, Vernetta Thuener

**Calendar for the Week of March 14, 2010**

Sunday March 14	9:15 a.m.	High School/College Singers, Music Office
	9:15 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship & Coffee, Assembly Hall
	11:15 a.m.	First Forum, Poling Chapel
	11:30 a.m.	Kirk Ringers and Singers, upstairs - Room 20
	3:30 p.m.	Youth Orchestra, Ipsen's Home
Monday March 15	9:00 a.m.	Men's News Group, Poling Conference Room
	6:30 p.m.	Greening Team, Church Office
	7:00 p.m.	Klokken Ringers, Poling Conference Room
Tuesday March 16	9:00 a.m.	Women's Group, Walton Conference Room
	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
	11:00 a.m.	Care & Support, Poling Conference Room
	7:00 p.m.	Schenectady Nijkerk, Assembly Hall
Wednesday March 17	9:30 a.m.	Kerygma, Poling Conference Room
	12:00 p.m.	Wednesday Dialog, Assembly Hall
	6:00 p.m.	Lenten Dinner, Assembly Hall
	7:15 p.m.	Lenten Classes, Various Locations
	8:30 p.m.	Lenten Contemplative Communion, Sanctuary
Thursday March 18	10:00 a.m.	Stitch Group, Office Lobby
	11:00 a.m.	Staff meeting, Assembly Hall
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room
Friday March 19	9:30 a.m.	Group VII, Dirck Romeyn Lounge
Sunday March 21	9:15 a.m.	High School/College Singers, Music Office
	9:15 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
	10:00 a.m.	Communion, Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship & Coffee, Assembly Hall
	3:30 p.m.	Youth Orchestra, Ipsen's Home
	5:00 p.m.	Vespers, Poling Chapel
	6:00 p.m.	Mission Shareholders' Dinner

# FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

Schenectady, New York

## THE CONSISTORY

Bill Levering, Senior Minister  
 Daniel Carlson, Associate Minister  
 Stacey Midge, Minister of Mission, Outreach, and Youth  
 Andrew Chestnut, Bill Rochelle, Senior Elders  
 Fred H. Daniels, Treasurer  
 Joan Lindsay, Clerk

### Elders

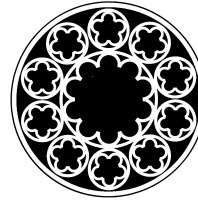
Carolyn Jones-Assini  
 Caroline Brooks  
 William Brooks  
 Andrew Chestnut  
 Christine Daniels  
 Eric Evans  
 Catherine Lewis  
 William Rochelle  
 Nancy Ellen Swann  
 Linda Ward

### Deacons

Darwin Brudos  
 Rachel Cox  
 Fred Daniels  
 Lisa Ettkin  
 Cynthia Gallagher  
 Adam Kerwin  
 Joan Lindsay  
 Jeanne Shoulder  
 Chris Van Oort  
 Caroline Welch

## CHURCH STAFF

Jamie Ipsen, Director of Children's Ministry  
 Julie Panke, Director of Music  
 Charles Moose, Organist  
 Jamie Ipsen, Director of Children's Music  
 Eric Bachorik, Director of Klokken Ringers  
 Sarah Bachorik, Director of Kinderwyk  
 Gay Doolittle and Heather Chestnut, Hospitality Coordinators  
 Heather Scribner, Office Administrator  
 Gary Nelson, Facility Supervisor



FIRST  
REFORMED  
CHURCH  
SCHENECTADY

## **THE COVENANT OF OUR CONGREGATION**

*Adopted by the Congregation in 1962*

We do hereby set forth the principles of the Christian faith as commonly held among us, believing that no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

It shall be our aim to bring joy to little children, instruction and high ideals to youth, inspiration to men and women in the midst of life, and comfort to those in life's later years; and to labor together for the betterment of humankind.

Our fellowship shall not be dependent upon identity of theological opinion, or of outward circumstance, or of denominational concern, but shall grow from a common loyalty to Jesus, a common commitment to serve the world we touch, and a common purpose to do justly, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.

Our ideal is a church of the open mind, the warm heart, the hopeful spirit, and the social vision which ever seeks to express, in all walks of life, the mind of Jesus.

March 14, 2010

**First Reformed Church**

8 North Church Street – Schenectady, New York 12305  
(518) 377-2201 [www.1stReformed.com](http://www.1stReformed.com)  
Ministers: Daniel Carlson, Bill Levering, Stacey Midge