

***The Covenant of Our  
Congregation  
Adopted 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.*

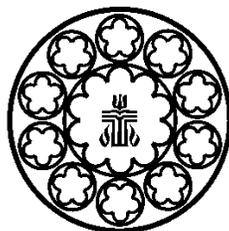
*It shall be our aim to bring joy to little children, instruction and high ideals to youth, inspiration to men and women in the midst of life, and comfort to those in life's later years; and to labor together for the betterment of humankind.*

*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.*



*April 3, 2016*



***First Reformed Church***  
8 North Church Street  
Schenectady, New York, 12305  
(518) 377-2201  
[www.1stReformed.com](http://www.1stReformed.com)

## Welcome to First Reformed Church

*We are a welcoming and affirming congregation and absolutely everyone is invited to our worship, activities, and service.*

If you are a first time visitor we hope you feel at home here. Please fill out a little white pew card and place it in the offering plate and join us after the service for coffee and refreshments. Stop by a welcome table at the entrance to the Sanctuary.

### Non Emergency Number

Schenectady Police: 518-630-0911

### Parking

You may park in **any** of the lots around the church or the Stockade Inn on Sunday mornings.

### 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.

### Elders in Worship

Past and current leaders we call 'Elders' walk in together at the beginning of worship and sit in the front pew. This is to identify them as servants of the mission of the church and make it easy to see who you might talk to about the life of our congregation.

### Joining the Congregation

To become a member of the congregation, there is a one-time orientation, a meeting with the governing board, and a reception in worship. If you are interested in the next orientation please fill out a white pew card.

### Communion

Our congregation celebrates the Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of the month. All followers of Christ are invited to share this meal.

### Hearing Assistance



We have a hearing aid loop system that will make it easier to hear. Ask an usher.

### Child Care on Sunday

Childcare for babies through age four is available from 9:45am until noon in Kinderwyk, which is located in the building near the church office entry.

### Church School

All children in grades K-8 are welcome to join in our Church School activities by leaving immediately after the Children's Message. Parents can pick up their children at 11:15am upstairs in room 20.

### Church School on Communion Sundays

On Communion Sundays (the first Sunday of the month) youth in grades 3-8 remain in the service to participate in Communion while those in grades K-2 are welcome to go upstairs after the Children's Message for church school activities.

### Children's Worship Bulletins

Special bulletins for children, ages 3-6 and 7-12 are available each Sunday. If the ushers are not handing them out, just ask for one.

### After Worship

Typically after worship, people stop for a chat and a cookie in Assembly Hall before going to a learning opportunity that lasts until noon. Visitors are welcome to join in.

### Service Online

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

### Lost and Found

We have a lost and found basket in the Narthex (at the front entrance of the church). If you have lost/misplaced an item at church, please check this basket.

## Second Sunday of Easter

April 3, 2016

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Thursday Belles

*Shalom Chaverim* arr. Sondra Tucker

*'Tis a Gift to be Simple* arr. Anna Laura Page

*Aria* Michal Helman

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

INTROIT *The Strife is O'er* Victory

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #302

*I Danced In the Morning*

\*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**God of new life, we thank you for the hope you have given us through Jesus Christ.**

**We confess that we do not always live into that hope. We do not honor the bodies you have given us or the bodies of others. We are chained by fear, anxiety, and shame. Help us to live fully the resurrection life you have given us. Amen.**

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)

**Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah!**

**Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah!**

**Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah!**

**Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-lu-jah!**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

(*from Our Song of Hope*)

**Jesus Christ is the hope of God's world. In His death, the justice of God is established; forgiveness of sin is proclaimed. On the day of the resurrection, the tomb was**

**empty; His disciples saw Him; death was defeated; new life had come. God's purpose for the world was sealed.**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

*Silence the Stones* Craig Courtney

We must silence the stones with our praise.

We must sing to the Ancient of Days.

Stones are ready to shout

if we fail to cry out.

We must silence the stones with our praise.

Mountains quake in the sound of God's voice.

Let His people before Him rejoice.

Those He chose to redeem

come and join in the theme.

We must silence the stones with our praise.

Lift His name! Give Him praise!

Ev'ry hand to Him raise!

With one voice to Him sing:

Mighty God, the Creator,

Redeemer, Sustainer and King!

Hallelujah, now sing the amen!

Hallelujah! All glory! Amen!

From His throne our God reigns.

Sing out loud the refrain.

We will silence the stones with our praise.

FIRST LESSON Amy Brule

Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy

Spirit. **Amen.** *Isaiah 25:6-9 (pg 652)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL READING *Luke 24:13-49 (pg 90)*

Mary and Daniel Carlson

James Gonda, Jacob Etkin

\*HYMN *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!* #104

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Thursday Belles

Olivia Cox, Cello

*You Raise Me Up*

arr. Joel Ramey

\*DOXOLOGY #592

*Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

COMMUNION PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

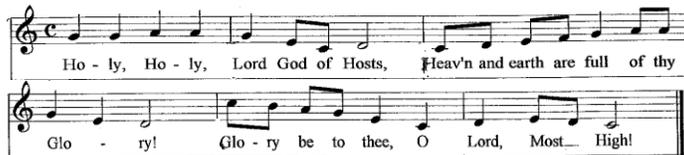
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise!**

SANCTUS (*sung in unison*) Carl Steubing



COMMUNION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

**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 *The Day of Resurrection!* #118

\*COMMISSIONING OF BRAD LEWIS

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CLOSING RESPONSE

*Shalom*

arr. Sondra Tucker

+ + +

**Entered into Eternal Rest**

Ann P. Stobell – 3/17/16

### Prayers of the People

Requests for prayer may be noted on a pew card and placed in the offering plate. We pray regularly for those who are ill, those who serve their country, those who hunger, and those who are our enemies. As part of our prayers this morning, we remember with thanksgiving members of our church who entered eternal rest in previous years about this time:

*Robert Matz, Margaret Reed, Roy Peters, Virginia Bard, Roberta Hambleton, William Rickard*

If you are aware of a departed member, whose name has not been noted near the anniversary of their death, please contact the church office.

### Celebratory or Memorial Flowers

A flower calendar is posted on the right side of the Poling House entrance to the sanctuary wherein you can choose a date for donating flowers to remember a loved one or to honor a special event. Please inform the church office of your wishes. The cost of the flowers is \$30 for two bouquets. You may send your check payable to Chancel Guild, c/o Marlene Risseuw, 2140 Niskayuna Dr., Niskayuna, NY 12309.

### Music Notes

*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!* arr. John Bell and Graham Maule. © 1990 WGRG GIA Publications. All rights reserved. OneLicense #700-700

### First Forum

After worship most Sundays at 11:15am in Poling Chapel, suggestions for programs are welcome from any committee or member; simply contact: Amy Brule 785-8201, Peggy King 370-1885, or Joe Doolittle 384-1700.

**Today:** First Futures; Fred Daniels & Lisa Etkin

**Apr 10:** Celebration; Coffee & Conversation

**Apr 17:** *To Serve the World We Touch;*

Rev. Daniel Carlson

### **In Honor**

Today's flowers are given in honor of Thursday Belles and the 10 years that we have enjoyed together. Their colorful personalities are represented in the variety of blossoms in this arrangement. Tis a Gift, Judy Moore

### **Reception for Judy Moore**

Please join the members of Thursday Belles in Assembly Hall, as together we celebrate Judy's retirement from being the director of this bell choir. All are welcome!

### **Children's Eastertide Festival - TODAY**

This community wide celebration of Spring starts at 11:30am and includes: face painting, a bounce house, and an egg hunt at noon.

### **Faith Bookshop**

The Bookshop will be open briefly after today's church service.

### **Looking For Something To Read?**

*Great News!* The second edition of *The Beverwyck Anthology*, First Reformed's literary magazine, is now available in the bookstore. Packed with fiction, nonfiction, photography, and poems; stop in today for your personal copy!

### **JAC Book Club**

Copies of *Waking Up White* are available from Mary Jewett, 355-8059.

### **First Futures**

Some of you may have received, and all of you will soon, the April edition of *First Things*. In it is a discussion of the Phase 2 Design process for the First Futures Campaign. It describes a series of upcoming meetings with the architect and how you can offer your thoughts and suggestions. During the week of April 11 a meeting will be held on the new Fellowship Hall and the kitchen. Look for details in *First Things*, coming to your mailbox soon!

### **Sweet April Showers Do Bring May Flowers**

- Thomas Tusser

Sweet post-service refreshments do bring many to Assembly Hall! Please sign up in Assembly Hall with your sweetheart or sweetest friend to host a Sunday in April or May.

### **Our Eastertide Offering:**

#### **One Great Hour of Sharing**

This offering is directed to 3 important causes. The Hunger Program works to alleviate hunger throughout the world and supports ministries addressing homelessness and affordable housing. The Disaster Assistance Program provides disaster response locally, nationally, and throughout the world. Self-development of People partners with groups that assist those oppressed by poverty or social systems to help people take charge of their lives. Please share your resources to change lives with this offering. Envelopes are located in the pew racks.

### **RCA Special Council**

The 2015 General Synod voted to hold a special council to find a constitutional way forward amidst our disagreements about the inclusion of LGBTQ people. Brad Lewis is a member of the team that is convening that council, and we are commissioning him today as he enters into that work later in April. As a member church of Room for All, which advocates for the full inclusion of people of all gender identities and sexual orientations, we pray for a conclusion that witnesses to Christ's boundless love and welcome to all.

### **Midweek Meal & Worship on Wednesdays**

All who are hungry for good food and fellowship are invited to a home-cooked feast each Wednesday of April in Assembly Hall at 6pm. A brief contemplative service of worship including communion follows at 7pm in Poling Chapel.

<b>Sunday Volunteers</b>	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Claire Hughes and Vickie McGowan-Horan	Dave Hjelmar and Cathy Lewis
<b>Greeters</b>	Sally & Bob Clark	Norma & Dale Brown
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Gini McDermott Sally & Jack Bestgen	Joanne Bedell Sally and Bob Clark
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Birdie Blackmer	Committee Member
<b>Liturgist</b>		Daniel Carlson
<b>Preacher</b>	Daniel Carlson	Bill Levering
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Art Casey, Christine Daniels, Gay Doolittle, James Gonda, Mary Jewett, Gene Zeltmann, Brad & Cathy Lewis	George Davidson, Gay Doolittle, Margaret Schadler, Jeanne Shoulder, Brad & Cathy Lewis
<b>Reader</b>	Amy Brule	Brad Lewis
<b>Refreshments</b>	Thursday Belles	Alice Reception
<b>Ushers</b>	Bill Clock (head usher), Lou Acquasanta, Jacob Etkin, Nancy Wainwright	Del Pierce (head usher), Christine Lund, Michael Horan, Vickie McGowan-Horan, Doug Todd



<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Family Spring Festival</b>	Apr 3	11:30	Fun for children with face painting, a bounce house, and an egg hunt. Bring friends! Open to the community.
<b>New Member Class</b>	Apr 3	3pm	90 minute orientation with building tour.
<b>Stories for Racial Healing</b>	Apr 5	7pm	At Mt. Olivet Church, 1055 Wendell Avenue. Joe Doolittle at 588-2801 for more info.
<b>WORD Service</b>	Apr 8	7pm	"Journey" is the theme of monthly story service.
<b>Men's Breakfast</b>	Apr 9	8am	Brad Lewis on "Intergenerational Accounting."
<b>Levering Reception</b>	Apr 10	11am	A reception for the Levering's and their new addition.
<b>Thursday Musical Club Spring Concert</b>	Apr 10	2:30pm	The Mendelssohn Club will join the TMC for numbers from Broadway and Randall Thompson.
<b>Tuesday Ladies</b>	Apr 12		Connie Young at 393-7061 for more info.
<b>Women's Group VII</b>	Apr 15	10am	Daniel Carlson on his thesis: <i>To Serve the World We Touch</i>
<b>Justice Action Book Club</b>	Apr 17	12pm	<i>Waking Up White</i> . Lunch included. Mary Jewett, 355-8059 for more info.
<b>Earth Sunday Frolic</b>	Apr 17	12pm	Hike the Reist Wildlife Sanctuary in Niskayuna. Info and sign up in Assembly Hall.
<b>Evening Circle</b>	Apr 27	7pm	Holly Pajak on downsizing. Sally Clark: 377-2154
<b>Short-Short Writing Group</b>	Apr 27	7pm	Writer's support group for short fiction. Contact James Gonda at jgonda12309@gmail.com
<b>Prayer Shawl Group</b>	Apr 28	10am	Held at Ronnie Bartholic's, 2305 Almeria Road
<b>Fellowship Luncheon</b>	Apr 29	11:45	John Kucij on experiences from Peace Corps to leading a project in Liberia. Potluck. Sign up in Assembly Hall or call Sally Bestgen at 346-0304. Last luncheon until September.
<b>Most Every Week</b>			
<b>Youth Group</b>	Sun	5pm	For grades 6-12, meets most Sundays for food, fellowship, learning, and service.
<b>Jazz Vespers</b>	Sun	5pm	Today: Nat Phipps Trio plus Keith Pray 4/10 Tim Olsen, Ken Olsen, Bill Delaney, Tom D'Andrea 4/17 Peg Delaney Trio plus Jim Corigliano, sax
<b>First Forum</b>	Sun	11:15am	Most Sundays after worship briefing on important topics.
<b>Men's Newsgroup</b>	Mon	9am	A secular approach to the "Week in Review."
<b>Klokken Ringers</b>	Mon	7 pm	Rehearsal of bell group.
<b>Horizons Bible Study</b>	Tues	10am	New study on Acts begins Apr 5. Ask Peg Miller for more info.
<b>Kerygma</b>	Wed	10am	Regular Bible Study.
<b>Archives</b>	Wed	1pm	Working on our history.
<b>Midweek Meal</b>	Wed	6pm	A delicious dinner; provided free of charge this Eastertide.
<b>Midweek Worship</b>	Wed	7pm	Reflective songs, prayers, & communion in Poling Chapel.
<b>Stitch Group</b>	Thur	10am	Fabric crafters. Call Joan Lindsay, 399-3153
<b>Breakfast Bible Bunch</b>	Thur	7:30am	Heretics and disagreement. Not recommended.
<b>Chancel Choir</b>	Thur	7:30pm	Rehearsal for all interested.

***The sanctuary and the chapels were adorned  
on Easter Sunday to the glory of God and in loving memory of:***

- *Our parents, Richard and Ruth Arthur, and P.J. and Edith Brownell by Dick and Judy Arthur*
- *Russell V. Jones and Dr. Charles J. Assini by the Assini family*
- *Carol Welch by the Assini family*
- *Grandpa Al Holland and my uncles, Alan and Joe Attanasio by Emily Attanasio*
- *David by Audrey Bain and Family*
- *Robert Bruce Crandell by his wife, Janet*
- *Parents and Siblings by Gay and Joe Doolittle*
- *Bill Dotter by his wife Elsie and children*
- *Carlton W. Dyer by his wife, Janice B. Dyer*
- *Rudolph and Therese Mahlberg and Paul Erickson by the Erickson family*
- *William and Louise Stange and Sam Croce by Marlene Risseeuw and the Erickson's*
- *Charles Greskovich by Maria, Chad, and Ann*
- *Melissa Greskovich by Maria, Chad, and Ann*
- *Loved ones by Cynthia Hamilton*
- *LeRoy Jewett by his family*
- *Tom and Viola Ruckman, Tom Ruckman, Jr., Ross and Hazel Marrs by the Kiesow and Tobin families.*
- *Robert Matz and Meg Kester by Mary Matz*
- *Mark McDermott by his wife Gini*
- *Richard McLane by his wife Bev, children grandchildren and great grand children*
- *Dorothy and Edmund Sanderson and Neil Moynihan by Sandy Moynihan*
- *Loved ones by Anne Peterson*
- *Our Parents by Ellie and Gene Rowland*
- *Pat Shaw Palmer by her sister, Tricia Shaw and Gerry Myers*
- *Margaret (Peg) Shultes by her family*
- *Frank Weisner by his daughter Pamela Silvano*
- *Eldon Springsted by his wife, Elaine*
- *Daniel J. Thuener by his wife Vernetta and Family*
- *Donald Troost and Dena Van Heyningen by Carol Troost and Deborah Troost*
- *Clarence and Sara Linder, Claribel Westcott Linder by the Walravens*
- *Loved ones by Martha Winchester*