

***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.*



*June 12, 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, during the summer months, people stop for a chat and refreshments in Huntley Garden (weather permitting) 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.

**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

June 12, 2016

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Avery Tunningley

*Old 124th Louis Bourgeois*

arr. by George Blake

*See How Great a Flame Aspires* "Arfon"

arr. Lani Smith

*Allegro from the Suite in D* John Stanley

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson

The grace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT *Holy, Holy, Holy* arr. Douglas Wagner

\*HYMN *Speak, O Lord*

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You  
To receive the food of your holy word.  
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;  
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,  
That the light of Christ might be seen today  
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us  
All Your purposes, for Your glory.

**Teach us Lord full obedience,  
Holy reverence, true humility.  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
In the radiance of Your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise  
Cause our eyes to see,  
Your majestic love and authority.  
Words of power that can never fail;  
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.**  
**Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;  
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,  
That will echo down through eternity.**

**And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;  
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, 'til your church is built  
And the earth is filled with Your glory.**

Stuart Townend & Keith Getty

\*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 are killed by fear, anxiety,  
and shame. Help us to live fully the  
resurrection life you have given us. Amen.**

\*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)

**God welcomes all, strangers and friends;  
God's love is strong and it never ends!**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

(*from Our Song of Hope*)

**God's Spirit speaks in the world  
according to God's ultimate word in Christ.  
In every time and place,  
in ancient cities and distant lands,  
in technology and business,  
in art and education,  
God has not been left without a witness.  
The Word has entered where we have  
failed to go.**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

*Holy Manna*

Wm. Moore  
Arr. N. Palmer

Brothers, sisters come to worship  
and adore the Lord, our God.  
Will you pray with all your power,  
while we try to preach the word?  
All is vain unless the Spirit  
of the Holy One comes down;  
Let us pray that Holy Manna  
will be showered all around.

Brothers, see poor sinners 'round you  
trembling on the brink of woe,  
Death is coming, doom is moving;  
can you bear to let them go?  
See our fathers, see our mothers  
and our children sinking down;  
Brothers, pray and Holy Manna  
will be showered all around.

Sisters will you join to help us?  
Moses' sisters aided him:  
Will you help the trembling mourners,  
who are struggling hard with sin?  
Tell them all about the Savior,  
tell them that he will be found;  
Sisters, pray and Holy Manna  
will be showered all around.

Let us love our God supremely,  
let us love each other too.  
Let us love and pray for sinners,  
till our God makes all things new.  
Then he'll call us home to heaven,  
at his table we'll sit down.  
Christ will gird himself and serve us  
with sweet manna all around.  
Let us pray that Holy Manna  
will be showered all around.

George Atkin, 1819, alt.

FIRST LESSON Jim Miller  
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit  
**Amen.** *Psalm 32 (pg 506)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Luke 7:36-8:3 (pg 66)*

SERMON *Canceling Debt* Bill Levering

\*HYMN *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive* #347

MINUTE FOR MISSION  
*Stephen Ministry*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Klokken Tower Ringers*  
*Swing Low, Sweet Chariot* Arr. Patricia Cota

\*DOXOLOGY #592  
*Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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 *O Day of Peace* #450

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE  
*Twofold Amen* Robert Bennett

POSTLUDE *Sicilian Mariners*  
*Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing*

+ + +

**Entered into Eternal Rest**

Frank C. Hammett – 6/3/16

Private service was held on June 4, 2016.

**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:

*Mandalay Grems, Helen P. Lindsay, Ruth  
Doering, Grance Vandewater, Bernetta Cronk,  
Walter Kozak, Roland Carreker, Rev. Donald  
Troost, Sonia Lintner*

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.

## **In Memoriam**

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Don Troost by Carol Troost and Deborah Troost.

## **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:** Working Group on Girls,  
Kathleen McLean

**June 19:** Make Room Update – Fred and Lisa

**June 26:** American Flags & Church,  
Bill Levering and Darwin Brudos

## **Jazz Vespers Every Sunday ~ 5:00 pm**

**Today:** ‘Azzaam Hameed, piano

**June 19:** Peg Delaney Trio

**June 26:** Tim Olsen, piano

## **Music Notes**

Today’s Anthem is one of the oldest published American folk hymns. It appeared in a shape-note tune book in 1829 and continues to be used as an opening song at shape-note singing events. Shape-note is a musical notation system in which shapes are added to the note stems to simplify finding pitches.

Today is the last Sunday for Chancel Choir and Klokken Tower Ringers participation in service until this Fall. We thank all our musicians for their gift of music!

## **Youth Group Schedule**

Our youth group does not meet regularly during the summer months, but stay tuned for special activities to come! If you would like to be added to the email list, please contact Stacey at revstacey@gmail.com.



## **TODAY - Summer Refreshments move to The Huntley Garden**

Whenever possible, refreshments after the service will be served in the Huntley Garden. Please consider signing up for helping in Assembly Hall. You will also find an important instruction sheet for summer procedures.

## **Church School for Summer**

There will always be a prepared craft or game activity for the children each Sunday if anyone chooses to attend. We may be meeting upstairs in room 20, Kinderwyk, or outside (weather permitting), but you will always pick up your children in the Kinderwyk Building. If you would like to volunteer to help, contact Blythe.

## **Make Room Campaign Update**

Many thanks to the numerous people who have pledged and donated to the Make Room Campaign. Pledge cards continue to come in, so if you haven't sent yours it's not too late! Meanwhile, **the Phase 2 Design process** is still underway, and during the week of **June13** we will hold our second follow up meeting regarding both Community Use and Sustainable Building Practices. Thank you, everyone!

### **Sacred Spaces Gentle Yoga – June 13**

This weekly class moved to Mondays. It meets from 6-7:15pm in the Dirck Romeyn room and is open to all levels of practice including those who may be new. Bring a yoga mat and any other props you wish to use. For more info, call Mary LaFountain (225-3240). Cost \$10/class and there are two free slots for FRC members.

### **Summer Kerygma Conversations-June 15**

Dietrich Bonhoeffer's classic book on Christian community, *Life Together* is the focus for this group that seeks to grow in faith and practice. Join us the first and third Wednesday of June, July, and August, 9:30-11am, in Dirck Romeyn room. Contact Rev. Carlson to get a book.

### **Dutch Exchange Program Concert - June 15**

Folk singers Nanne & Ankie, from the Netherlands, will perform in Poling Chapel, Wednesday evening June 15. Come & enjoy the music at 7pm, and/or the potluck supper in Assembly Hall at 6pm. Bring a favorite casserole or salad to share. Dessert & beverage will be provided. A free will offering will be taken to help support this year's Schenectady/ Nijkerk adult exchange in September. Contact Laura Lee at lleelinder@gmail.com or 281-4764 with ????

### **Group VII – June 17**

Our Annual Picnic will take place on Friday, June 17 at 11:30am. It will be held at the home of Connie Young, 1400 Keyes Avenue. Call Connie at 393-7061 with any questions.

### **Stephen Ministers Care**

When was the last time someone really listened to you? Fully attentive and appreciative listening. That's one of the essential ways our Stephen Ministers care for others. We need more Stephen Ministers to extend Christ's care to those going through a valley of life crisis. Want to find out more about serving in this way? Follow the signs down the hall and stop by the table outside Assembly Hall today.

### **Midmonth Evening Meal and Worship**

Our delicious dinners and contemplative worship on Wednesdays transitions to monthly gathering for the warmer months of the year. Join us **June 22** at 6pm in Assembly Hall for a feast--the main dish is provided; sides, salads, desserts are invited. The service which follows at 7pm is optional, though often the destination of diners, and attended by some who don't often come for dinner. In the quiet of Poling Chapel we attend to the love of God for all creation via guitar accompanied songs, guided meditation on Scripture, Communion, prayers, and Christ's peace. The rest of the dates are: July 13 and August 17.

### **Prayer Shawl Knit Group**

We meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 10am in the home of Ronnie Bartholic, 2305 Almeria Road.

### **Evening Circle Pot-Luck Picnic - June 22**

Yes, this was scheduled for May, but has been postponed. Sally Bestgen has graciously agreed to host (again) and we hope for a wonderful turnout for our year-end pot luck picnic at 6pm. Please let one of the Sallys know that you'll be there. And encourage your friends to join you. Sally B (346-0304) or Sally Clark (377-2154).

### **SICM Summer Lunches at Yates**

First Reformed members are needed to volunteer everyday for four weeks in August: the weeks of August 8, 15, 22, and 29. It will take one and a half hours of your time. Please sign up in Assembly Hall or the office. You can do one day, one day a week, each day for one week, or whatever fits your schedule. Questions, contact Ellie Rowland at erowland@nycap.rr.com or 250-4302.

### **Faith Bookshop**

If during these summer Sundays you wish to visit the Bookshop and you find it closed, a Bookshop committee member will be glad to help you. Seek out Birdie Blackmer, Bill Clock, Ginny Laumeister or Nancy Wainwright.

## **Stephen Ministry Picnic**

All currently active and inactive Stephen Ministers (and respective spouses/family members) are invited to our annual pull-out-the-stops picnic, Thursday, June 23, 6pm at Lisa Etkin's home. Contact Lisa (631-4410) to indicate you're coming, what you'll bring, and get directions.

## **Call For Submissions!**

The *Beverwyck Anthology* is now accepting submissions for its Fall 2016 issue. Fiction, non-fiction, travel pieces, memoir, all told in 1,000 words or less are acceptable. Submissions may be emailed as a WORD doc to Rudy and Kathy Petersen, Editors-in-Chief, at [threeoaksgarden@yahoo.com](mailto:threeoaksgarden@yahoo.com). Deadline for submissions is August 31.

## **Pocket Prayer Shawls**

The Prayer Shawl Group is making pocket prayer shawls designed to fit in a pocket, purse, or backpack and can travel with you. Like a full-sized prayer shawl, the pocket shawl can remind you of God's comfort, support and closeness. Hold this prayer shawl in your hand and be reminded that God is always with you. Pocket prayer shawls will be available on the tables at the entrances to the sanctuary and in the church office. There is no charge for the shawls.

## **Lost and Found Basket in Narthex**

Current contents include: blue & maroon umbrella, red umbrella, red & green framed glasses, cleaning cloth for glasses, grey sweatshirt, grey winter hat, and a Vail water bottle. Several jewelry items are in the office.

+ + +

“I will not let anyone walk through my mind with their dirty feet.” — Mahatma Gandhi

“I sincerely believe that banking establishments are more dangerous than standing armies,  
— Thomas Jefferson

“I'm living so far beyond my income that we may almost be said to be living apart.”  
— E.E. Cummings

“Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure nineteen six, result happiness. Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure twenty pound ought and six, result misery.”  
— Charles Dickens, *David Copperfield*

“If you owe your bank a hundred pounds, you have a problem. But if you owe a million, it has.” — John Maynard Keynes

“The gift was not large as money goes, and my need was not great, but the spirit of the gift is beyond price and leaves me blessed and in debt.”  
— Robert Fulghum, *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*

“If history shows anything, it is that there's no better way to justify relations founded on violence, to make such relations seem moral, than by reframing them in the language of debt—above all, because it immediately makes it seem that it's the victim who's doing something wrong.”  
— David Graeber, *Debt: The First 5,000 Years*

“As it turns out, we don't "all" have to pay our debts. Only some of us do.”  
— David Graeber, *Debt: The First 5,000 Years*

**Sunday, June 12**

10:00 am ..... Worship  
 10:15 am ..... Church School K-5  
 11:00 am ..... Refreshments  
 11:15 am ..... First Forum  
 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

**Monday, June 13**

9:00 am ..... Mens Newsgroup  
 6:00 pm ..... Yoga  
 7:00 pm ..... Klokken Ringers

**Tuesday, June 14**

10:00 am ..... Morning Prayer  
 6:30 pm ..... Standing Committee Mtgs.  
 7:30 pm ..... Consistory

**Wednesday, June 15**

9:30 am ..... Kerygma  
 6:00 pm ..... Nijkerk Concert in Poling Chapel

**Thursday, June 16**

7:30 am ..... Breakfast Bible Bunch

**Sunday, June 19**

10:00 am ..... Worship  
 10:15 am ..... Church School K-5  
 11:00 am ..... Refreshments  
 11:15 am ..... First Forum  
 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

<b>Sunday Volunteers</b>	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Lyn Gordon and Claire Hughes	Gay Doolittle and George Trimarco
<b>Greeters</b>	Cynthia Gallagher	Karen & James Gonda
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Jeanne Shoulder and Natalie & Dick Davis	Mary Jane Fisher
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Committee Member	Committee Member
<b>Liturgist</b>	Daniel Carlson	
<b>Preacher</b>	Bill Levering	Daniel Carlson
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Tom Lindsay, Carolyn Jones-Assini, Jeanne Shoulder, Birdie Blackmer	Darwin Brudos, Gay Doolittle, Peggy King, Adam Mason, Kitty Trimarco, Barbara Walton
<b>Reader</b>	Jim Miller	George Trimarco
<b>Refreshments</b>	Cynthia Hamilton	Lorraine Aumic
<b>Ushers</b>	Glenn Blinckmann (head usher), Sharron & Jim McCullough, Gerry Myers, Justine Ochal	Tom Burgoyne (head usher), David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Karen Gonda, Berta & Nat Phipps