

***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.

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

love,
joy,
peace,
patience,
kindness,
goodness,
faithfulness,
gentleness,
and self-control



June 26, 2016



First Reformed Church
8 North Church Street
Schenectady, New York, 12305
(518) 377-2201
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 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.

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

June 26, 2016

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

Suite No. 12

JS Bach

arr. Anthony Cirone

Andrew Janack, vibraphone

Mary McGuinness, marimba

Vertical River

Blake Tyson

Andrew Janack, vibraphone

Mary McGuinness, marimba

10:00 a.m.

GREETING

Stacey Midge

The grace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN *For the Fruit of All Creation*
to the tune *All Through the Night*

**For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God.**

**Gifts bestowed on every nation,
thanks be to God.**

**For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping,
thanks be to God.**

**In the just reward of labor,
God's will is done.**

**In the help we give our neighbor,
God's will is done.**

**In our worldwide task of caring
For the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.**

**For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God.**

For the good we all inherit,

thanks be to God.

**For the wonders that astound us,
For the truths that still confound us,
Most of all that love has found us,
Thanks be to God.**

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**O God of compassion, we come to you
tired from wrestling with things. We are
empty and broken. Forgive our laziness
and fear, we pray. Give us a new sense of
hope and energy to be the love for the
world you are to us.**

*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)

**We hear the Spirit's call
to love one another
opposing discrimination of race or sex,
inviting us to love one another,
and to share at every level
in work and play
in church and state
in marriage and family
and so fulfill the law of Christ.**

*PASSING THE PEACE

MUSICAL OFFERING

Pie Jesu

John Rutter

Marissa Scott, soprano

*Pie Jesu Domine,
Dona eis requiem.*

Pious Lord Jesus,
Give them rest.

*Pie Jesu Domine,
Dona eis requiem sempiternam.*

Pious Lord Jesus,
Give them everlasting rest.

FIRST LESSON Ellie Rowland
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit
Amen. *Psalm 16 (pg 495)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Galatians 5:1, 13-25*
(pg 190)

SERMON *Spirit and Flesh* Bill Levering

*HYMN *O Perfect Love*

**O perfect love,
all human thought transcending,
Lowly we stand in prayer
before thy throne,
That we may find a love
that knows no ending
Reflecting care and peace
that is your own.**

**O perfect life,
bring forth our full assurance
Of tender charity
and steadfast faith,
Of patient hope and
quiet brave endurance
With childlike trust that
fears not pain nor death.**

**Grant us the joy
that brightens earthly sorrow.
Grant us the peace
that calms all earthly strife.
Be with us now;
help us to face tomorrow.
Show us the way
to timeless love and life.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Sheep May Safely Graze JS Bach
arr. Brian Slawson

Erin Erberhardt, marimba; Mary McGuinness,
marimba; Andrew Janack, vibraphone

*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 *I've Got Peace Like a River* #368

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Sicilian Mariners
Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

+ + +

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:

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 Risseeuw, 2140 Niskayuna Drive, Niskayuna, NY 12309.

Music Notes

Erin Eberhardt is a 2016 graduate of Saratoga Springs High School. Erin will be attending the Berklee School of Music in Boston, MA for marimba performance in the fall. *Mary McGuinness* is a 2016 graduate of Burnt Hills Ballston Lake High School. Mary will be attending the Webb Institute in Glen Cove, NY where she will be studying naval architecture and marine engineering. Erin and Mary are both students of Andy Janack. *Marissa Scotti* will be a senior at Guilderland High School and is a voice student of Corine Salon. This season she sang 'Maria' in West Side Story at the Egg and was a soloist with Pro Music at Troy Music Hall.

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday ~ 5:00 pm

Today: Tim Olsen, piano

July 3: Nat Phipps Trio

July 10: Scott Bassinson, piano

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: American Flags & Church,
Bill Levering and Darwin Brudos

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.

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.



Summer Refreshments in 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.

United Prayer Ministry

Linda Witkowski has returned to her home, for which we give thanks, but she is very weak and cannot receive visitors at this point. Please continue to pray for her and Jack at this critical time of hoped for convalescence.

Stephen Ministry Info. Seminar -TODAY

Interested in the possibility of becoming trained and commissioned to extend God's love to others going through a difficult time? Attend the Informational Seminar led by Daniel Carlson in the Dirck Romeyn room right after worship this morning!

Prayer Shawl Knit Group

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

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.

Kitchen Leftovers

The Assembly Hall kitchen has acquired many a wayward dish, platter, & bowl (we tend to keep any serving spoons which come our way.) Please retrieve your items from a table in Assembly Hall.

Sacred Spaces Gentle Yoga – June 27

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 29

There's yet room in the circle and a book on the shelf (Dietrich Bonhoeffer's, *Life Together*) for anyone seeking to grow in faith and faithfulness. We meet every other Wednesday of June, July, and August, 9:30-11am, in the Dirck Romeyn room. Contact Rev. Carlson to participate.

The Short-Short Writing Group – July 5

A writing critique group meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the Dirck Romeyn Room. Short-Shorts are stories, essays, memoirs, or other non-fiction works told in 1,000 words or less. Contact James Gonda for more info, at jgonda12309@gmail.com

Midmonth Evening Meal & Worship-July 13

Join us on Wednesday July 13 at 6pm in Assembly Hall for a delicious dinner--the main dish is provided; sides, salads, desserts are invited. A brief contemplative service follows at 7pm, in the quiet of Poling Chapel where we attend to the love of God for all creation via guitar accompanied songs, guided meditation on Scripture, Communion, prayers, and Christ's peace. Final summer date: August 10.

Faith Bookshop

If 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.

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.

Call For Submissions!

The *Beverwyck Anthology* is now accepting submissions for its Fall 2016 issue. Deadline for submissions is August 31. 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.

Classis Assessment

You have received a letter about our Classis assessment. We are currently assessed \$93.91 a member to keep the denomination & its mission going. It's a lot, but we don't mind since it keeps us together nationally. It's sort of a franchise fee per member.

Shepherds Needed to Feed the Sheep

FRC is committed to provide lunch at the Salvation Army on: Sept. 7, Oct. 5, and Nov. 9 in 2016. Join three friendly servers at the Salvation Army from 11am-1:30pm. We have fun! Contact Connie Young at 393-7061 or cyoung50@nycap.rr.com.

“I'd rather laugh with the sinners than cry with the saints.” — Billy Joel

“Few men have virtue to withstand the highest bidder.” — George Washington

“Courage is the most important of all the virtues because without courage, you can't practice any other virtue consistently.” — Maya Angelou

“There is perhaps no phenomenon which contains so much destructive feeling as 'moral indignation,' which permits envy or hate to be acted out under the guise of virtue.”
— Erich Fromm, *Man for Himself: An Inquiry into the Psychology of Ethics*

“(God) cannot "tempt" to virtue as we do to vice. He wants them to learn to walk and must therefore take away His hand; and if only the will to walk is really there He is pleased even with their stumbles.” — C.S. Lewis

“The virtuous man contents himself with dreaming that which the wicked man does in actual life.” — Sigmund Freud, *The Interpretation of Dreams*

“The enemy is within the gates; it is with our own luxury, our own folly, our own criminality that we have to contend.”
— Marcus Tullius Cicero

“Be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves, like locked rooms and like books that are now written in a very foreign tongue. Do not now seek the answers, which cannot be given you because you would not be able to live them. And the point is, to live everything. Live the questions now. Perhaps you will then gradually, without noticing it, live along some distant day into the answer.” — Rainer Maria Rilke

“The problem with people who have no vices is that generally you can be pretty sure they're going to have some pretty annoying virtues.”
— Elizabeth Taylor

“He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire.” — Winston S. Churchill, *Wealth, War, and Wisdom*

“Every one suspects himself of at least one of the cardinal virtues, and this is mine: I am one of the few honest people that I have ever known.”
— F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*

“We value virtue but do not discuss it. The honest bookkeeper, the faithful wife, the earnest scholar get little of our attention compared to the embezzler, the tramp, the cheat.”
— John Steinbeck, *Travels with Charley: In Search of America*



Sunday, June 26

10:00 am Worship
 10:15 am Church School K-5
 11:00 am Refreshments
 11:15 am First Forum
 11:15 am Stephen Ministry Info Meeting
 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers

Monday, June 27

9:00 am Mens Newsgroup
 6:00 pm Yoga

Tuesday, June 28

10:00 am Morning Prayer
 7:00 pm Short-short Writing Group

Wednesday, June 29

9:30 am Kerygma
 11:30 am First Things Volunteers

Sunday, July 3

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

Office Closed Monday, July 4



Sunday Volunteers	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Linnea D'Andrea and Nancy Wainwright	Joan Lindsay and George Trimarco
Greeters		
Flower Delivery	Debbie Dingman Jane & Phil Falconer	Judy Shopmyer Jeanette and Don Davidson
Faith Bookshop	Committee Member	Committee Member
Liturgist	Stacey Midge	Bill Levering
Preacher	Bill Levering	Stacey Midge
Processing Elders	Jerry & Joyce Griggs, Tom Lindsay, Del Pierce, Kitty Trimarco, Barbara Walton	Jeanette Davidson, James Gonda, Mary Jewett, Brad Lewis, Cathy Lewis, Kitty Trimarco
Reader	Ellie Rowland	Brad Lewis
Refreshments	Ellie & Gene Rowland	Barbara Walton
Ushers	Bill Clock (head usher), Jacob Etkin, Ray Bostick, Kay Koroma, Nancy Wainwright	Del Pierce (head usher), Jim & Sharron McCullough, Carol Troost, Christine Lund