

***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.

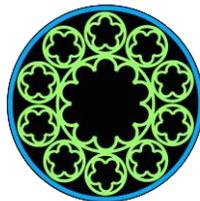
Our ideal is a church of the open mind, the warm heart, the hopeful spirit, and the social vision which ever seeks to express, in all walks of life, the mind of Jesus.

Love Languages

Language	Actions	Communication	Avoid
Words of Affirmation	Spoken words, written cards, letters	Encouragement, compliments, affirmations	Pointless criticism, harsh words
Quality Time	Doing things together, planned events	Places with no interruptions, undivided attention	Isolation, too long between interactions, being 'busy'
Gifting	Gift giving, remembering special occasions, doing favors	Private gifts, facial expressions, receiving gifts well	Materialism, forgetting special events, unenthusiastic receiving
Acts of Service	Assisting with tasks, being helpful	"What can I do?" "How can I help more?" "I did . . . for you."	Forgetting promises, overcommitment to other tasks, ignoring needs
Physical Touch	Hugs, pats, sitting close	Non-verbal affirmation	Physical abuse, threats, neglect, corporal punishment

From The Five Love Languages by Gary Chapman © 1955

October 23, 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 children 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 usually posted at 1stReformed.com after a few days. Live streaming is also available there.

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.

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

October 23, 2016

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

Anne-Marie Barker Schwartz, violin
Petia Kassarova, violoncello

Violin Sonata in F Major
G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Stacey Midge
The grace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT
Let Us Worship Tom Benjamin

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

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)
Infinite God, forgive us when we cannot see beyond our own interests. We pray your pardon on our selfishness and our constant search for distraction and comfort. Heal our hearts, we pray, so that we may live for a larger vision and love for a noble end.

*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 the Confession of 1967

Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage. People are free to seek life within the purpose of God: to develop and protect the

resources of nature for the common welfare, to work for justice and peace in society, and in other ways to use their creative powers for the fulfillment of human life.

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM Petia Kassarova, violoncello
Set Me as a Seal David N. Childs

Set me as a seal upon your heart,
As a seal upon your arm.
For love is as strong as death,
Many waters cannot quench love,
Neither can floods drown it.

Song of Solomon

CHOIR DEDICATION

FIRST LESSON Brad Lewis
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit
Amen. *Psalm 19 (pg 498)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Ephesians 4:29 (pg 194)*

SERMON Bill Levering
Love Languages

*HYMN
Not for Tongues of Heaven's Angels #531

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Andrew Snow, viola
Petia Kassarova, violoncello
Karen Hosmer, English horn
Ann-Marie Barker Schwartz, violin

Marion's Prayer Robert Broemel

*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

#376

Gloria, Gloria

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Threefold Amen

Traditional

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:

Alice Harrington, Virginia (Ginnie) Mills

Evelyn Johnson, F. David Schweizer

Ted DeBoer, Robert V. Shepherd

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.

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mark McDermott by his wife & sons.

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 Drive, Niskayuna, NY 12309.

Church Directories

Updated directories are available in the church office.

Post-service Refreshments in Assembly Hall

Join us for refreshments after worship in Assembly Hall. Please consider providing treats and hosting our post-worship fellowship by signing up for a couple of Sundays during the year. The sign-up sheet and instructions are in Assembly Hall. Direct any questions you may have to hospitality coordinators Gay Doolittle, gaysdoolittle@gmail.com 399-0499 or Barbara Walton, waltonbl@aol.com/346-1943.

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: The Election

Zoe Oxley, Union College professor

Oct 30: Urban Ministry

Rev. Dr. Lorena Parish

Ring into Fall!

Klokken Tower Ringers cordially invite you to come and experience the joy of handbell ringing! Our usual rehearsal date is Monday at 7pm in the Poling conference room. Contact Judy Moore at, jbmnotes@nycap.rr.com with any questions.

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday ~ 5:00 pm

Today: Azzaam Hameed Trio

Oct 30: Tim Olsen

Church School

Children in grades K-5 are invited to go upstairs for church school after the Children's Message; those in grades 6-8 may choose whether to remain in the service or help out with the younger children. Additional teachers are needed, so if any parents or other adults are willing to volunteer regularly or as a substitute, please contact Shannon Kerwin or the office.

New for Kids!

Learn to play the ukulele (or join us and share your expertise if you already know how to play!) We will be meeting in two groups each Sunday morning in room 20:

Grades 6-12 - 9-9:30 lesson, 9:30-9:59 practice

Grades 1-5 - 9:30-9:59 lesson & practice

Kirk Ringers, Singers & Orff

Kirk Ringers, Singers, and Orff will meet from 11:15am to noon in room 20 (at the top of the stairs) each Sunday. We have loads of special music planned and lots of participants are needed! Any child of Church School age is invited to join us. No prior experience required. Come and find out what we are all about. If you have any questions, please contact Jamie Ipsen.

Youth Group Schedule

Youth in grades 6-12 are welcome to join any or all of our youth group events, and friends are always invited. We have service projects and active social events approximately monthly.

October 30, 12:30-3pm Bowlathon to benefit Safe Inc. The cost is \$25, which includes bowling, shoes, and a pizza lunch.

Choir invites you to Drop-In for Anthem

For singers who cannot make it to regular Thursday night Chancel Choir rehearsals, you are welcomed and encouraged to join us on Sunday morning at 9am in the Sanctuary for anthems which may be familiar to you.

Today – *Set Me as a Seal* (Childs)

October 30 – *Offertory* (Beck) Micah 6:8

November 6 – *The Saints of God* (Bassi)

November 13 – *One Thing More* (Marshall)

Faith Bookshop

Today you'll find two unique Halloween books, and other items young folks would enjoy, on the front table in the Bookshop. Also, some bookspooks slipped in and placed pink this-is-now-half-price stickers on selected books. Come in now, before it all vanishes!

Fair Trade coffee and teas

Half price sale! Stop by Faith Bookshop and pick up remaining inventory of Fair Trade coffee & teas.

Beverwyck Vol. 3 Available

The Short-short writers group released vol. 3 of the Beverwyck Anthology book. Copies are now available in the bookshop and the office.

Horizon Bible Study

We meet every Tuesday at 10am in the Poling Conference room. We started our nine-week study on "Who Is Jesus?" Join us.

Stitch Group

Our church stitch group meets every Thursday at 10am in Poling Conference room. Work on whatever project you have. For more info, contact Joan Lindsay, 399-3153.

Johnson Memorial Library

Books may be borrowed for four weeks. On the card in the back of the book, list your name, address, and phone number. Enjoy the library for all it has to offer and please return the books.

The Short-Short Writing Group

A writing critique group meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 7pm in Assembly Hall. 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.

Join Us for Chat 'n' Chew

Wednesday from 5:30-7pm, we gather in Assembly Hall to enjoy a home-cooked meal, spend time in community and conversation, and

talk about various topics on religion, faith, and culture. ALL are welcome! Please get in contact with Jonathan at RevJonathan16@gmail.com, or (616) 822-3644 with questions or to volunteer to help. Thanks, and we hope to see you soon!

Word Service

Our WORD service is a collection of stories about particular topics, much like an NPR feature. It takes place on the second Friday of the month. The next service is on Friday, November 11 at 7pm. The service presents fine music, autobiographical stories, works from our short-short fiction group, and a minister or two.

Stephen Minister Training Continues

This week the Stephen Ministry training class will be exploring the difference between passive, assertive and aggressive behavior and gaining skills in both healthfully relating to others and affirming their own worth.

Prayer Shawl Knit Group –October 27

We meet on the fourth Thursday of the month at the home of Ronnie Bartholic. All are welcome to join us and if you have any questions please give Ronnie a call at 393-7679.

FRC Fellowship Lunches – October 28

Our first meeting is Friday, Oct. 28, in Assembly Hall at 11:30am. Our speaker, Mike Munger, is the Director of Safety at SCCC. The topic of his talk is “*Surviving an Active Shooter Situation*”. Join us, bring a dish to share, visit with friends, make new friends, enjoy the “fellowship” and an informative talk!

Remember, Fellowship Luncheon is open to both men and women. Please sign up, either by phone 346-0304 or in Assembly Hall. Our hostesses are Sally Bestgen and Amy Brule.

Musicians of Ma’alwyck Concert Here at FRC, October 28 – 7pm

Our first concert, which is titled *Transfigured Night* features the lushly romantic string sextet. Complimentary tickets for FRC members are available in the church office.

New Member Class

Interested in a closer relationship with this congregation? Dr. Levering will be leading membership orientation meetings that include a tour of the church and a chat about who we are. It lasts 90 minutes and is held in the church office at 3pm on the first Sunday of the month.

Men’s Breakfast

The group will meet at 8:00am on Saturday, November 5, in Assembly Hall. Breakfast will be prepared by Karen Gonda and Brad Lewis. Our speakers will be Bill Levering and Andy Chestnut, discussing their recent trip to Africa. For those who heard their First Forum presentation, Bill has indicated that they will talk about additional topics "not for general consumption". Please sign up in Assembly Hall, come and bring a friend. For more information, contact Gene Rowland at erowland@nycap.rr.com or 250-4302.

TLC (Tuesday Lunch Club)

The Persian Bite was so delicious and delightful, the Fellowship Committee has planned another second Tuesday outing, November 8. Next up is Moroccan food compliments of Tara Kitchen at 431 Liberty Street, just down from City Hall. This is another highly rated (#1 by Yelp, three years in a row), locally owned, authentic, ethnic restaurant. In addition, Tara Kitchen has a line of distinctive jarred sauces for sale. The restaurant is small and doesn't take reservations, so let's meet a few minutes before 12pm to better assure a seat at this popular spot. Call Gay Doolittle (399-0499) or email overdoo@msn.com to RSVP.

Looking for your ancestors?

Schenectady Antiques Club invites anyone interested to attend "Tracing Our Ancestry, How to Find Our Roots," on Nov. 3, 1 pm, Assembly Hall. Librarian/Archivist Michael Maloney of Schenectady County Historical Society will speak about genealogy - how to get started, how to find and search ones own records. He'll also speak of resources at SCHS.

Sunday, October 23

9:00 am Chancel Choir
 10:00 am Worship
 10:15 am Church School K-5
 11:00 am Refreshments
 11:15 am First Forum
 11:15 am Kirk Ringers & Singers, Orff
 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers

Monday, October 24

9:00 am Men's News Group
 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry Training
 7:00 pm Klokken Tower Ringers

Tuesday, October 25

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

Wednesday, October 26

9:30 am Kerygma Conversations
 11:30 am First Things Volunteers
 5:30 pm Chat 'n' Chew

Thursday, October 27

7:30 am Breakfast Bible Bunch
 10:00 am Stitch Group
 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry
 7:00 pm Ensemble Practice
 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Friday, October 28

7:00 pm Musicians of Ma'alwyck Concert

Sunday, October 30

9:00 am Chancel Choir
 10:00 am Worship
 10:15 am Church School K-5
 11:00 am Refreshments
 11:15 am First Forum
 11:15 am Kirk Ringers & Singers, Orff
 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers

Sunday Volunteers	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Claire Hughes and Cathy Lewis	Bill Rochelle and Richard Rose
Greeters	Birdie Blackmer	Ralph Rosenthal
Flower Delivery	Laura Lee Jamie and Dan Ipsen	Inge-Lise Pangburn and Joanne Arnold
Faith Bookshop	Committee Member	Committee Member
Liturgist	Stacey Midge	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Carolyn Jones-Assini, Bill Rochelle Jeanette Davidson, Liz Mastrianni, Brad & Cathy Lewis	Phil Falconer, Jerry & Joyce Griggs, Peggy King, Tom Lindsay, Richard Rose,
Reader	Brad Lewis	Gene Rowland
Hospitality	Ellie and Gene Rowland	Barbara Mancuso & Family
Ushers	Tom Burgoyne (head usher), David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Joan Lindsay, Berta & Nat Phipps	Bill Clock (head usher), Ray Bostick, Jacob Etkin, Kay Koroma, Nancy Wainwright

P *roverbs 21:2*

Whoever keeps his mouth and his tongue keeps himself out of trouble.

P *roverbs 12:18*

There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

P *salm 141:37*

Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips!

P *roverbs 15:44*

A gentle tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.

T *itus 3:23*

To speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people.

I *Peter 2:1-25*

So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander.

C *olossians 4:6*

Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

I *Corinthians 13:1-13*

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

P *roverbs 15:28*

The heart of the righteous ponders how to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things.