

***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.*

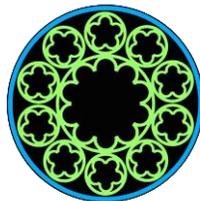
*It shall be our aim to bring joy to little children, instruction and high ideals to youth, inspiration to men and women in the midst of life, and comfort to those in life's later years; and to labor together for the betterment of humankind.*

*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.*



*October 30, 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 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](http://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 30, 2016

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Avery Tunningley

*Poco Maestoso* Stephen Heller  
*St. Anthony's Chorale* Franz Josef Haydn  
*To God Be the Glory* William H. Doane

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

*Worship the Lord* John Porter

\*HYMN (*see insert*) Avery Tunningley, piano

*We Are Called*

\*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

*Offertory* John Ness Beck

With what shall I come before the Lord,  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings,  
Shall I come before Him with yearling calves?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousand rivers of oil?  
Shall I give Him my firstborn for my  
transgressions,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

He has shown you, O man;  
He has shown you what is good.

And what does the Lord require of you,  
but to do justice and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly, walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6:6-8

FIRST LESSON Liz Mastrianni

Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit  
**Amen.** *Micah 6:8 (pg.866)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Ephesians 4:32 (pg.193)*

SERMON Bill Levering

*The Primacy of Kindness*

\*HYMN *Help Us Accept Each Other* #358

MINUTE FOR MISSION Rev. Dr. Bob White

Rev. Dr. Lorena Parish

*Urban Ministry ~*

*New Brunswick Theological Seminary*

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

*Verleih uns Frieden* Felix Mendelssohn  
(*Grant us peace*)

Verleih uns Frieden gnädiglich,  
Herr Gott, zu unsern Zeiten.  
Es ist doch ja kein anderer nicht,  
der für uns könnte streiten,  
denn du, unser Gott, alleine.  
In these our days so perilous,  
Lord, peace in mercy send us;  
No God but thee can fight for us,  
No God but thee defend us;  
Thou our only God and Savior.

Martin Luther, 1524

\*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 #260  
*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### \*CHORAL RESPONSE

*Twofold Amen* Dresden

### 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:

*John Schmulbach and Vera Van Zandt*

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 in celebration of Darwin Brudos' 90th birthday from his family.

## 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

Today's Offertory is in honor of the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation beginning when Martin Luther nailed to the church door in Wittenberg Germany his 95 theses on October 31, 1517. Luther wrote this text and in general had a huge influence on German hymnody.

## 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:** Urban Ministry

Rev. Dr. Lorena Parish

**Nov 6:** Joe & Gay Doolittle

“Fearless Generosity” Stewardship

**Nov 13:** Fred Daniels & Brandon Stabler

Making Room

### **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:** Tim Olsen, piano

**Nov 6:** Mike Lamkin, piano

**Nov 13:** Scott Bassinson, piano

**Nov 20:** Jazz Thanksgiving Festival, 4pm

### **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.

**Nov. 12** - Sorting Thanksgiving Basket donations for Concerned for the Hungry. Meet at Keane School at 1252 Albany St. from 10am-2pm. Lunch will be provided.

### **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** – *Offertory* (Beck) Micah 6:8

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

**Nov 13** – *One Thing More* (Marshall)

**Nov 20** – *Come, Let Us Join* (Parker)

### **Fair Trade coffee and teas**

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

### **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!

### **Horizon Bible Study**

The Horizons Bible study "Who Is Jesus?" will not meet on Nov. 22 but otherwise will continue on Tuesdays at 10am in the Poling Conference room through Dec. 13.

### **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](mailto:jgonda12309@gmail.com). Copies of Vol 1, 2, 3 are available in the bookshop and the office.

### **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](mailto:RevJonathan16@gmail.com), or (616) 822-3644 with questions or to volunteer to help. Thanks, and we hope to see you soon!

### **Stephen Minister Training Continues**

This week our Stephen Ministry training class will be exploring the benefit of professional mental health care as well as occasions when referral to such caregivers and other community resources is appropriate.

### **Prayer Shawl Knit Group**

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.

### **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.

### **Looking for your ancestors?**

Schenectady Antiques Club invites anyone interested to attend "Tracing Our Ancestry, How to Find Our Roots," on Nov. 3 at 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.

### **First Friday Performance Series – Nov. 4**

Ensemble Pastourelle featuring Soprano Corine Salon, pianist Michael Clement and Susan Martula, first clarinetist of the Albany Symphony will appear in concert in the main sanctuary on Nov. 4 at 7pm.

### **Potluck by Youth Ed Committee – Nov. 5**

The Youth Ed Committee is sponsoring a potluck dinner on Nov 5 at 5pm in Friendship Hall. We welcome families with children of any age as well as anyone in the church who is interested in some good food and fellowship. If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to Tom Mancuso at [tom.mancuso@ymail.com](mailto:tom.mancuso@ymail.com)

### **Men's Breakfast – Nov. 5**

The group will meet at 8am on Sat, Nov. 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.

### **SICM Harvest Dinner – Nov 6**

Harvest for the Pantry dinner for the SICM Food Pantry will be Nov. 6, 4-7pm at First Scotia. Tickets \$30 (\$25 eligible for GE matching) and are available from Ellie Rowland at coffee hour.

### **Word Service – Nov. 7**

This month will feature, Rev. Coombs who is a board member of the Network of Biblical Storytellers. The service presents fine music, autobiographical stories, works from our short-short fiction group, and a minister or two. It takes place on the second Friday of every month at 7pm.

### **Women's Group – Nov. 7**

The Women's Group will meet on Monday, Nov. 7 at 11am in the Dirck Romeyn room.

### **TLC (Tuesday Lunch Club) – Nov. 8**

The Persian Bite was so delicious and delightful, the Fellowship Committee has planned another second Tuesday outing, Nov. 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.

### **Operation Christmas Child Boxes Due Nov.13**

Please see our new display in Assembly Hall! Brochures with packing instructions and labels can be found here as well as the red & green boxes. Regular shoe boxes or similar sized containers with removable lids are still acceptable. Boxes should be filled with small toys, school supplies, hygiene items, socks, gloves, etc. A check payable to Samaritan's Purse indicating O.C.C. on the memo line (\$7 shipping fee) should accompany each box. For more information, contact Shannon Kerwin 374-2542 or shan2112@yahoo.com.

### **Group VII – Nov. 18**

Group VII has their next meeting on Nov. 18 at 10am in the Dirck Romeyn Room. The program will be by Her Treasure Box.

“My religion is very simple. My religion is kindness.” — Dalai Lama XIV

“Guard well within yourself that treasure, kindness. Know how to give without hesitation, how to lose without regret, how to acquire without meanness.” — George Sand

“Life is mostly froth and bubble,  
Two things stand like stone.  
Kindness in another's trouble,  
Courage in your own.” —  
Adam Lindsay Gordon

“Be a little kinder than you have to.” —  
E. Lockhart, *We Were Liars*

“Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a harder battle.” — Plato

“Three things in human life are important: the first is to be kind; the second is to be kind; and the third is to be kind.” — Henry James

“Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.” — Desmond Tutu

“No one has ever become poor by giving.” — Anne Frank, *diary of Anne Frank: the play*

**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  
 12:15 pm ..... Book Study  
 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

**Monday, October 31**

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

**Tuesday, November 1**

10:00 am ..... Morning Prayer  
 10:00 am ..... Horizon Bible Study  
 11:30 am ..... Support and Care  
 7:00 pm ..... Short-short Writing Group

**Wednesday, November 2**

9:30 am ..... Kerygma Conversations  
 5:30 pm ..... Chat 'n' Chew

**Thursday, November 3**

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

**Friday, November 4**

7:00 pm ..... First Friday Performance Series

**Saturday, November 5**

8:00 am ..... Men's Breakfast  
 5:00 pm ..... Potluck Family Dinner

**Sunday, November 5**

9:00 am ..... Chancel Choir  
 10:00 am ..... Worship & Communion  
 10:15 am ..... Church School K-5  
 11:00 am ..... Refreshments  
 11:15 am ..... First Forum  
 11:15 am ..... Kirk Ringers & Singers, Orff  
 11:15 am ..... Chancel Guild  
 3:00 pm ..... New Member Class  
 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

<b>Sunday Volunteers</b>	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Bill Rochelle and Richard Rose	Cath Lewis, Doug Todd
<b>Greeters</b>	Chuck and Inge-Lise Pangburn	Joan & Tom Lindsay
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Inge-Lise Pangburn and Joanne Arnold	Doug Todd and Sandy Moynihan
<b>Liturgist</b>	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
<b>Preacher</b>	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Phil Falconer, Jerry & Joyce Griggs, Peggy King, Tom Lindsay, Richard Rose,	Birdie Blackmer, Gay Doolittle, Brad & Cathy Lewis, James Gonda, Keith Muse, Maria Todd
<b>Reader</b>	Liz Mastrianni	Gene Rowland
<b>Hospitality</b>	Barbara Mancuso & Family	Gay Doolittle
<b>Ushers</b>	Bill Clock (head usher), Ray Bostick, Jacob Etkin, Kay Koroma, Nancy Wainwright	Bill Martin (head usher), Kip & Joanne Arnold, Alden Brown, Adam Kerwin