

***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.

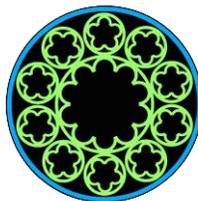
It shall be our aim to bring joy to little children, instruction and high ideals to youth, inspiration to men and women in the midst of life, and comfort to those in life's later years; and to labor together for the betterment of humankind.

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.



November 20, 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.

Reign of Christ Sunday

November 20, 2016

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Avery Tunningley

Allegro John Stanley
Rigaudon David H. Hegarty
Toccatina in A minor Walker Baylor

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Bill Levering

The grace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Stacey Midge

INTROIT Chancel Choir
Klokken Tower Ringers

Praise the Lord's Mighty Name in Song
Thomas Ravenscroft

*HYMN (*see back page*) *Our God Reigns*

*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*)

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

Come, Let Us Join Johann Crüger
Arr. Alice Parker

Come, let us join our cheerful songs
With angels round the throne.
Ten thousand thousand are their tongues,
But all their joys are one.

"Worthy the Lamb that died," they cry,
"To be exalted thus!"
"Worthy the Lamb," our hearts reply,
"For He was slain for us!"

Jesus is worthy to receive
Honor and power divine;
And blessings more than we can give,
Be, Lord, forever Thine.

Let all that dwell above the sky,
And air and earth and seas,
Conspire to lift Thy glories high,
And speak Thine endless praise!

The whole creation join in one,
To bless the sacred Name
Of Him Who sits upon the throne,
And to adore the Lamb.

Isaac Watts

FIRST LESSON Ellie Rowland
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit
Amen. *Psalm 46 (pg 517)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Colossians 1:11-20*
(pg 200)

SERMON Stacey Midge
Claiming the Reign of Christ in Chaotic Times

*HYMN *Crown Him with Many Crowns* #151

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

The Christ Theme (Alleluia) Miklos Rozsa

*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 #142

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Chancel Choir & Klokken Tower Ringers

Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace

American Folk

POSTLUDE

Sicilian Mariners

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

+ + +

Entered into Eternal Rest

Richard Blackmer

November 17, 2016

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, November 26, 2016 at 1pm in the sanctuary.

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:

Jean Anderson, Norman Reed, Mary Jane Fleming, Violet Delack, Richard (Dick) Mathews

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.

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.

Thanksgiving Offering – TODAY

Concerned for the Hungry

Monies collected at our church will be sent to Concerned for the Hungry and are used to purchase supplies in bulk at greatly reduced prices to help stretch the dollars. Checks should be made payable to FRC (*Concerned for the Hungry* in the memo line), **unless it is eligible for GE Matching**, then please make check payable to Concerned for the Hungry.

Fair Trade Coffee and Teas

Half-price sale on remaining Fair Trade coffee & teas in the Faith Bookshop.

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday ~ 5:00 pm

Today: Jazz Thanksgiving Festival, 4pm

Nov 27: David Gleason, piano

Thanksgiving Jazz Festival - Today

The annual Thanksgiving Jazz Festival and Vespers will take place on **Sunday, November 20 in the main sanctuary from 4-6pm**. On the program will be: Nat Phipps, piano; Keith Pray, sax; Tom D'Andrea, drums; Peg Delaney, piano; Jim Corigliano, sax; Tim Coakley, drums; Bill Delaney, bass; Pete Toigo, bass; and Colleen Pratt, vocals.

The Youth program will have refreshments available at intermission. Admission is \$10, \$5 students and retirement community residents.

First Forum

Held most Sundays after worship at 11:15am in Poling Chapel. Suggestions for programs are welcome; Contact Amy Brule 785-8201, Peggy King 370-1885, or Joe Doolittle 384-1700.

Today: Alyx Gleason, Siena College
3D Printing-Making Robotic
Hands & Arms

Nov 27: Coffee & Conversation

Youth Group Mission Trip Fundraiser

Today, the youth group is selling authentic saucijzenbroodjes. There will also be some to sample at fellowship time during refreshments. These hand-rolled sausages wrapped in pastry, often called pigs-in-a-blanket, are a delicious appetizer or meal and go well with a bowl of soup on a cold winter's evening. The pigs will come unbaked and are ready to be popped into the freezer or baked up fresh that afternoon. \$16/dozen, or \$9/half-dozen. Donations also gratefully accepted! All proceeds will go towards offsetting the cost of the youth group mission trip this February.

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.

Today: Selling pigs in a blanket after the worship service.

Nov 27: Attend the Advent Festival at church.

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.

Nov. 27: *Companions All Sing Loudly* (Dicie)

Dec 4: *Alleluia! Rejoice! The Lord Shall Come* (Liebergen)

Faith Bookshop

Although the move is some months away, the Bookshop is preparing for a new location during the church renovations and we are beginning to reduce our inventory. Currently, all books with pink stickers on the cover are half price.

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. 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.

Pledge Update

Have you made your pledge for 2017? The easiest way to do it is to go online at 1stReformed.com and you will see a link on the left. It takes less than 30 seconds.

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.

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.

Intergenerational

Advent Festival Nov 27

Gather the evening of the first Sunday of Advent, Nov. 27, with those of all ages for a covered dish dinner and seasonal activities. For the meal at 5, bring food to share that begins with the letter A (for Advent—any Appetizer will do) or food that is purple or blue (contemporary Advent colors). After our dinner the crafts commence, including the making of lovely Advent wreaths from natural materials! We'll conclude by 7pm with a brief liturgy around our candlelit wreaths. Those wishing to share a favorite Advent craft or activity may contact Daniel Carlson.

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.

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.

First Friday in December

Jean Leonard, soprano will offer a program of seasonal music December 2 at 7pm in Poling Chapel. She will be accompanied by Avery Tunningley. Jean sang for us last year and did a wonderful job. Please join us for an evening of great music.

Breakfast with Saint Nicholas

Sunday, December 4, in Assembly Hall. All are welcome.

Christmas Idea

It won't cost a penny! For the person who enjoys reading, how about the first three volumes of The Beverwyck, FRC's literary magazine, bundled with a red ribbon? Free copies are in the bookstore.

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.

Prayer Shawl Knit Group

Because of the November holidays, our next meeting will be on December 1 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.

Stephen Minister Training Continues

This week our Stephen Ministry training class will be engaging the module: Helping Those in Danger of Suicide Get the Help They Need. In this session they will learning information and practices which will equip them to know how to minister to those who may have suicidal thoughts, feelings, and intentions. We give thanks to God for this class of Stephen Minister Trainees and the compassionate, skilled, trustworthy, and faith-filled service for which they are preparing in the power of the Spirit of Christ.

Sunday, November 20

9:00 am Chancel Choir
 10:00 am Worship
 10:15 am Church School K-5
 11:00 am Refreshments
 11:00 am Youth Group Mission Sales
 11:15 am First Forum
 11:15 am Kirk Ringers & Singers, Orff
 4:00 pm Thanksgiving Jazz Vespers

Monday, November 21

9:00 am Men's News Group
 7:00 pm Klokken Tower Ringers

Tuesday, November 22

10:00 am Morning Prayer

**Thursday, November 24 – Church Closed
Happy Thanksgiving****Friday, November 25 – Church Closed****Saturday, November 26**

1:00pm Richard Blackmer Service

Sunday, November 27 - First Day of Advent

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

Sunday Volunteers	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Lyn Gordon, Ralph Rosenthal	David Bundy, Carol Troost
Greeters	Inge-Lise and Chuck Pangburn	Mike & Vickie Horan
Flower Delivery	Joan Lindsay, Sue Zeltmann	Ralph Rosenthal, Connie Young
Liturgist	Bill Levering	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Stacey Midge	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Tom Lindsay, Del Pierce, , Richard Rose, Margaret Schadler, Gene Zeltmann	Jerry & Joyce Griggs, Carolyn Jones- Assini, Keith Muse, Barbara Walton
Reader	Ellie Rowland	Barbara Walton
Hospitality	Sally Clark	Barbara Walton
Ushers	Art Shultes (head usher), Jeanette Davidson, Don Davidson, Joan Lindsay, Jim McCullough	Glenn Blinkmann (head usher), Gerry Myers, Crystal Mongillo, Justine Ochal, Ralph Rosenthal

Our God Reigns

Leonard E. Smith, Jr.

How love - ly on the moun - tains are the feet of one
Christ had no state - ly form, and had no maj - es - ty,
Out from the tomb Christ came with grace and maj - es - ty;

5
Who brings good news good news;
that we should be drawn to Him.
He is a - live, He's a - live!

9
An - nounc - ing peace, pro - claim - ing news of hap - pi - ness;
Christ was de - spised and we took no ac - count of him
God loves us so see here His hands His feet His side;

13
our God reigns
Yet now He reigns with the Most High!
Yes we know He is a - live!

Refrain

Our God reigns! Our God reigns!

21
Our God reigns! Our God reigns! D.C.

(c) 1974, 1978 L. E. Smith, Jr. New Jerusalem Music