

***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.

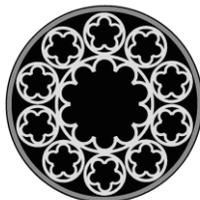
It shall be our aim to bring joy to little children, instruction and high ideals to youth, inspiration to men and women in the midst of life, and comfort to those in life's later years; and to labor together for the betterment of humankind.

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.



March 5, 2017



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 Friendship Hall.

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 in the Walton House.

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. Those in grades K-2 are welcome to join church school after children's message.

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 Dirck Romeyn room 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.

First Sunday In Lent

March 5, 2017

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Avery Tunningley

March in D J.S. Bach

Peace and Love and Joy
J. Rosenmuller/J.S. Bach

Toccata in C J.S. Bach

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson

The grace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT *Introit for Lent* John Yarrington

*HYMN #81

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (silent prayer)

*GODS FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE *Gloria, Gloria*

Round



Latin Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!
Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

The Apostles' Creed – Traditional version

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus
Christ his only Son our Lord; who was
conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the
Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he
descended into hell; the third day he rose**

**again from the dead; he ascended into
heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of
God the Father Almighty; from thence he
shall come to judge the quick and the
dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy
catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of
the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

Lord Jesus, Think on Me Derek Healey

Lord Jesus, think on me
And purge away my sin;
From earthborn passions set me free,
And make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me
With care and woe opprest;
Let me thy loving servant be
And taste thy promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
Nor let me go astray;
Through darkness and perplexity
Point thou the heav'nly way.

Lord Jesus, think on me
When flows the tempest high:
When on doth rush the enemy,
O Saviour, be thou nigh.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
That, when the flood is past,
I may the eternal brightness see,
And share thy joy at last.

Synesius (375-430)
Allan W. Chatfield (1808-1896), tr.

FIRST LESSON Chris Fernandes

Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.
Amen. *Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 (pg 2)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 4:1-11 (pg 3)

SERMON Bill Levering
Spiritual Temptations

*HYMN #501
Bread of Heaven, on Thee We Feed

MINUTE FOR MISSION Chris Li
Roots And Wisdom

OFFERING
OFFERTORY *Wondrous Love*
Paul Christiansen

*DOXOLOGY #592
Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
INVITATION and PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and
praise!**

SANCTUS (*unison*) Carl Steubing

**Holy, holy Lord God of Hosts, heav'n
and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be
to Thee O Lord, most high.**

DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS

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 *Friends in Faith* Delores Dufner

1 Friends in faith who fol - low Je - sus, hear the
2 Friends who strive to fol - low Je - sus, walk the
3 Friends who dare to fol - low Je - sus, trust and
4 Firm in faith, now fol - low Je - sus; live the

mes - sage of the cross: World - ly wis - dom
way that Je - sus trod: Spir - it - filled, in
pray through dark - est night: Christ has con - quered
gos - pel you have heard: Be good news to

now is fol - ly; world - ly rich - es count as loss.
hu - man weak - ness, cast your cares up - on our God.
death and e - vil; Christ is joy and life and light.
all who know you, lov - ing do - ers of the Word.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Friends in Faith

Restoration

POSTLUDE

Sicilian Mariners

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

+ + +

First Forum

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

Today: Saves Lives Suicides, Director of American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Laura Marx

Mar 12: FRC Youth Group Work Camp Report, Rev. Stacey Midge

Mar 19: Creation Care Commitments, Rev. Daniel Carlson

Celebratory or Memorial Flowers

Sign up for flowers in the church office where you can choose a date for donating flowers to remember a loved one or to honor a special event. 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.

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary in the glory to God and in loving memory of Carl Settle by his wife Sue Settle.

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:

Peter Ipsen, Daniel Thuener, Roy Stratton, Len Garver

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.

New Member Class - TODAY

Interested in a closer relationship with this congregation? Bill Levering will lead a membership orientation meeting. It includes a tour of the church and a chat about who we are. is held in the church office at 3pm.

There's Help in Your Time of Need

At one time or another we all look to caring friends to accompany us while we work through difficulties and related feelings. A Stephen Minister can be such a friend. We have new Stephen Ministers, who are ready and committed to care for those in need! If you or someone you know could benefit from this ministry, please contact Daniel Carlson or another Stephen Leader.

Lenten Devotional

The Lenten Devotional booklet prepared by First Reformed members is available.

Lenten Class Information

Our five-week study and worship programs on Wednesday evenings begins this Wednesday, 7pm. See the First Things newsletter for course descriptions.

Devotional Discussion 9am

Every Sunday morning in Lent you may share what of devotional writings in this Lenten Devotional moved you in the past week. Share how it moved you and perhaps why as we grow in our faith and in our understanding of foundational texts in the Christian tradition. Discussion led by Norma Brown.

Sunday School and Children's Music

All Children's Sunday school and Music Classes have moved to the Walton House near the church office. For everyone's safety, parents must sign out their child upon pickup. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Shannon Kerwin or Jamie Ipsen 399-6848.

Each Sunday:

Learn to play the Ukulele: 9am-9:55am

Church School: K-8,

after the Children's Message

Children's Music: Kirk Ringers, Singers, Orff:
11:15am – 12pm

Music Notes

Friends in Faith. © 1992, OCP Publication. All rights reserved. OneLicense #A700-700.

Sunday Refreshments

For about a year there will be a few changes in refreshments around Sunday morning worship. Dirck Romeyn room will house treats and beverages and you will find the hearty aroma of coffee wafting from the back of the sanctuary. Lacking a dishwasher and storage, paper products will be used for the duration.

Name Tags

To the left of the Narhtex, the name tags are stuck to a board on your right. If you don't have a name tag and would like one, please write your name with on a white visitor pew card and drop in the collection plate. Your name tag will get made and placed on the aforementioned board.

Columbarium

The Columbarium is always open every Sunday and will remain open throughout the building renovation.

Food and Clothing Donations

Behind the door to the bookshop are two plastic bins with lids marked "food" and "clothing". Leave your donations in the appropriate bin. Call Bill Clock 641-2585 when you leave a donation.

Johnson Library

Heritage, Bookshop, Library: during renovations, one room fits all. It's located between the Dirck Romeyn room and the Church Street church door, so it's easy to browse after Sunday service. You'll find church-related items for sale, some library books for circulation and church history information. On the desk, there are yellow forms for ordering books at a 30% discount through librarian, Ruth Roinos. The Bookshop committee is also pleased to announce that Christina Jones has taken over as chair.

Donations

Help the Youth Group After Church. SICM is assembling spring bags for children who use the Emergency Food Pantry. Please consider donating one or more of the following items: 8"x10" gift bags, Small games/puzzles, Sidewalk chalk, Yo-yos, Jump ropes, Bubbles, Coloring books and crayons, Craft supplies, Small outdoor games, Healthy snacks (100% fruit snacks, granola bars, etc.) There is a donation box available in the office for these items, which must be dropped off by March 26.

Wednesdays During Lent March 8 – April 15

Cookies & Conversations 6:30pm

Meet and greet in the sanctuary before class begins.

Lenten Classes 7pm

Our traditional five-week study offering four classes.

Evening Worship 8pm

A quiet service at the end of the evening led by Daniel Carlson.

We gain the strength of the temptation we resist. - Ralph Waldo Emerson

The biggest human temptation is to settle for too little. - Thomas Merton

Most dangerous is that temptation that doth goad us on to sin in loving virtue. - William Shakespeare

Do not worry about avoiding temptation. As you grow older it will avoid you.
- Joey Lauren Adams

Why comes temptation but for man to meet And master and make crouch beneath his foot, And so be pedestaled in triumph? - Robert Browning

Most people would like to be delivered from temptation but would like it to keep in touch. - Robert Orben

There are several good protections against temptations, but the surest is cowardice.
- Mark Twain

Coming Up

See the newsletter or call the church office for more information

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
Today	3pm	New Members Class	Membership orientation meeting/ Tour	Office
Today	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Mardi Gras Celebration	Sanctuary
Mar 6	11am	Group V	Discuss Lenten Programs. Call Maria Todd	Dirck Romeyn
Mar 7	10am	Horizon Bible Study	Bible Study	Dirck Romeyn
Mar 7	7pm	Short Short Writing	Writing group for 1000 words or less	Dirck Romeyn
Mar 8	6:30pm	Cookies & Conversations	Meet & Greet before classes begin	Sanctuary
Mar 8	7pm	Lenten Classes	Four distinct educational opportunities	TBD
Mar 8	8pm	Lenten Evening Worship	Contemplative Communion at the end of the evening	Sanctuary
Mar 9	10am	Stitch Group	Hand craft together. Joan Lindsay: 399-3153	Dirck Romeyn
Mar 10	7pm	WORD Service	Abby Norton on the theme enthusiasm	Dirck Romeyn
Mar 11	8am	Men's Breakfast at Scotia	Guest speaker Bill Kenneally	Brink Hall FRC Scotia
Mar 12	11am	SICM	Youth group assembling spring bags	FRC
Mar 17	11am	Group VII	Questions Contact Connie Young	Dirck Romeyn

Why resist temptation? There will always be more. - Don Herold

The force of the blow depends on the resistance. It is sometimes better not to struggle against temptation. Either fly or yield at once. - F. H. Bradley

I never resist temptation because I have found that things that are bad for me do not tempt me. - George Bernard Shaw

We usually know what we can do, but temptation shows us who we are. - Thomas à Kempis

Every life is a march from innocence, through temptation, to virtue or vice. - Lyman Abbott

The last temptation is the greatest treason: to do the right deed for the wrong reason. - T. S. Eliot

Never succumb to the temptation of bitterness. - Martin Luther King Jr.

Nothing makes it easier to resist temptation than a proper bringing-up, a sound set of values - and witnesses. - Franklin P. Jones

All men are tempted. There is no man that lives that can't be broken down, provided it is the right temptation, put in the right spot. - Henry Ward Beecher

Lead us not into temptation. Just tell us where it is; we'll find it. - Sam Levenson

No temptation can ever be measured by the value of its object. - Colette

There is not any memory with less satisfaction than the memory of some temptation we resisted. - James Branch Cabell

Temptation is the devil looking through the keyhole. Yielding is opening the door and inviting him in. - Billy Sunday

Sunday, March 5

9:00 am..... Devotional Discussion
 9:00 am..... Chancel Choir
 9:00 am..... Ukulele Practice
 10:00 am..... Worship
 10:00 am..... Communion
 10:15 am..... Church School K-5
 11:15 am..... First Forum
 11:15 am..... Children's Music
 3:00 pm..... New Members Class
 5:00 pm..... Jazz Vespers – Mardi Gras

Monday, March 6

9:00 am..... Men's Newsgroup
 11:00 am..... Group V
 7:00 pm..... Klokken Tower Ringers

Tuesday, March 7

10:00 am..... Morning Prayer
 10:00 am..... Horizons Bible Study
 11:00 am..... Admin Staff Meeting
 11:30 am..... Support & Care
 1:30 pm..... Worship Planning
 7:00 pm..... Short Short Writing

Wednesday, March 8

1:00 pm..... Archives
 1:00 pm..... Pastoral Team Meeting
 2:00 pm..... Staff Meeting

Thursday, March 9

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

Friday, March 10

7:00 pm..... WORD Service

Sunday, March 12

9:00 am..... Devotional Discussion
 9:00 am..... Chancel Choir
 9:00 am..... Ukulele Practice
 10:00 am..... Worship
 10:15 am..... Church School K-5
 11:15 am..... First Forum
 11:15 am..... Children's Music
 5:00 pm..... Jazz Vespers

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Jazz Vespers	Mardi Gras- Skip Parsons, clarinet; Ken Olsen, trombone; Christian Diefendorf, banjo; Tim Coakley, drums; Pete Toigo, bass;	Scott Bassinson, piano
Bookshop/Heritage	Nancy Wainwright	Bill Clock
Counting Deacons	David Bundy, Caroline Welch	Vickie McGowan-Horan, Rebecca Grande
Greeters	Sally and Bob Clark	Ruth and Ken Roinos
Flower Delivery	Carol DeLaMarter, Jennifer Evans	Cynthia Hamilton, Lisa Etkin
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Jonathan Vanderbeck
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Carolyn Jones-Assini, Christine Daniels, Gay Doolittle, Lis Mastrianni, Walt Robb, Jeanne Shoulder, Maria G. Todd, Barbara Walton	Carolyn Jones-Assini, Jack Bestgen, Birdie Blackmer, Marilyn Leach, Richard Rose, Ellie Rowland
Reader	Chris Fernandes	
Ushers	Del Pierce (head usher), Michael Horan, Christine Lund, Vickie McGowan-Horan, Doug Todd	Alden Brown, Hendrick Arnold, Joanne Arnold, Adam Kerwin