

***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.

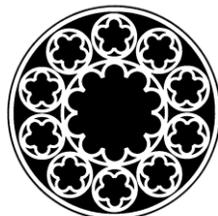
It shall be our aim to bring joy to little children, instruction and high ideals to youth, inspiration to men and women in the midst of life, and comfort to those in life's later years; and to labor together for the betterment of humankind.

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.



6th-century mosaic of the loaves and fish from the apse of the Byzantine Church of Tabgha on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, the traditional site of the feeding of the 5,000.



July 23, 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 Downstairs 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

If you have lost or misplaced an item at church, please check the basket found in the Narthex located at the front of the church.

Columbarium

The Columbarium will remain open during construction except during asbestos mitigation.

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 23, 2017

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

The Usual Suspects

Could You?

Andy Chestnut

I Threw it All Away

Bob Dylan

Hallelujah

Leonard Cohen

Ballad of a Thin Man

Bob Dylan

10:00 a.m.

GREETING

Daniel Carlson

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Gregg Mast

*HYMN

Step By Step

O God, you are my God, and I will ev-er praise
you. O God, you are my God, and I will ev-er praise
you. I will seek you in the morn - ing, and I will
learn to walk in your ways. And step by step you'll lead
me, and I will fol-low you all of my days.

PREPARATION FOR SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION OF PARENTS AND CHILD

James and Erika Pincher; Ella Marie Pincher

RENOUNCIATION, PROFESSION, AND PROMISE OF PARENTS

*PROMISE OF CONGREGATION

Do you promise to love, encourage and support this sister by teaching the gospel of God's love, by being an example of faith and character by giving the strong support of God's family in fellowship, prayer and service?

We do.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BAPTISMAL COVENANT

DECLARATION, INTRODUCTION AND

SONG *Borning Cry* Kate Rose

*BLESSING AND WELCOME

Welcome our new sister in Christ.

Joyfully we receive you into the body of Christ. Join with us as we give witness in the world to the good news, for we are all one in Christ Jesus. Alleluia!

*PASSING THE PEACE

MUSICAL OFFERING

What a Wonderful World Thiele and Weiss

FIRST LESSON *Psalm 139:1-14* (pg 577)

Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.

Amen. Kristin Lion

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *John 6:1-14* (pg 97)

SERMON Gregg Mast

*HYMN #434

Today We Are Called to Be Disciples

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Be Who You Am*
Andy Chestnut

*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 *For the Beauty of the Earth* #473

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing
Sicilian Mariners

+++

Entered Into Eternal Rest

Herm Lintner – 7/20/17

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:

George Feiker, Richard Gordon, Alice Junker, Rhonda Phillips, Leonard B. Vandenberg, Albert Demont, Jean Diesem

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

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 Risseuw, 2140 Niskayuna Drive, Niskayuna, NY 12309.

Baptismal Party at Font

With joy we welcome into God's household our newest baptized member, Ella Marie Pincher, daughter of Erika and James Pincher. Accompanying Ella and her parents to the baptismal font this morning are her Godparents: Brittany Dexter-Jackson, Lori Pincher (Jim's mother), and Ed Zampella (Erika's father).

Music Notes

We thank The Usual Suspects for today's music: Andy Chestnut, bass guitar, vocals; Brian Litz, lead vocals; John Norton, keyboards; Roger Rose, lead guitar, vocals; Mark Sheehan, drums, vocals. *Step by Step*. David Beaker Strasser. © Kid Brothers of St. Frank Publishing, Admin. BMG Songs. CCLI License 11256325.

Vacation Bible School

Wednesdays August 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th from 5-7 pm. Crafts, games, stories, music and more! Pizza dinner will be provided at 5:30. VBS is open to everyone ages 4 and older. Bring family and friends!

Summer Lunches

1st Reformed members will be serving lunches to children at the Yates Housing Community the month of August. The SICM lunch menu will be different this year in hopes of better serving the needs of the children. The sign-up schedule for helpers is in the Dirck Romeyn room or you can call the church office at 377-2201.

Youth Group Event - Tonight!

Thanks to everyone who joined us for our trip to Lake Placid. Our next event will be a pizza and game night here at the church from 6-7:30pm tonight in the Walton Conference Room located above the office. Bring your favorite card game, board game, or whatever other type of game you have. We'll supply the pizza, drinks, and snacks. All youth (6th grade to those who just graduated high school) are welcome. Contact Pastor Jonathan with questions.

Youth Group Call for Volunteers

If you are interested in volunteering for youth group this coming fall as a youth leader or would be willing to host the youth group for an evening or make snacks, please contact Pastor Jonathan. You will be notified about a volunteer meeting to be held near the end of the summer.

Kerygma Summer Talks and Treks

Join the jovial group of those committed to continuing to gather and learn year-round for a final on-site conversation and off-site exploration: a chat about Intentional Christian Communities on July 26, 9:30-11am; a day visit to a Bruderhof Community in the Hudson Valley, August 23. Contact Rev. Carlson to participate in either or both of these opportunities.

Columbarium

Accessible Sundays 11-11:30am

Those wishing to visit the columbarium during construction may do so on Sunday mornings following worship. Our sexton, Tom Mahan will be at the church office entrance to provide safe passage to the columbarium during this window of time.

Chords of Love – Beginning August 2

Ukulele for kids starts up again August 2 and will meet every Wednesday from 6-7pm. Kids ages 8-16 are welcome. No experience needed. As an added bonus, each week there will be a free pizza at 5:30pm. Please call the church office to RSVP for pizza and if you need to borrow a ukulele.

Adult Ukuleles – Beginning August 2

Adult Ukulele will meet Wednesday evenings from 7-8pm beginning August 2 from 7-8:15pm. No experience is needed. If you are new to our group, please call the church office if you need to borrow a ukulele.

Ordination of Jeremy Bork – Aug 5

Come participate in former covenanter and current member Jeremy Bork's ordination to the office of Minister of Word and Sacrament on Saturday, August 5, 3pm at Camp Fowler. While a student at Western Theological Seminary Jeremy served as Middle School Ministries Coordinator at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Grand Rapids and will be joining their pastoral staff soon as an ordained minister. Bonus: arrive early (1-3pm) and take part in Fowler's Mid-summer Celebration featuring an open waterfront and tours. Stay later and enjoy a BBQ Fundraiser (\$15); reservations recommended to jakenneally@aol.com. Those interested in sharing a ride may contact Daniel Carlson.

The available restrooms are now down one flight of steps at the rear of the sanctuary. There is a chair assist available there as well.

Church Meeting - August 20

After worship, we will gather to talk in very broad terms about the next steps for our professional staff and our music program. All members are invited. No decisions will be made but committees might be formed.

July and August Pot Luck Lunches

If you're open to hosting a potluck on Sundays directly after church at your home, let James Gonda know at jgonda12309@gmail.com Please also indicate which Sunday(s) you're available.

Fall Picnic - September 10

All are invited to stay after church on September 10 for a time of fun, food, and fellowship! Please bring a dish to share. Volunteers are needed for set-up before the picnic and breakdown /clean-up after the picnic. Sign-up at the church office

Updated Church Directory

Updated issues of the directory will be coming out in September. Please submit a photo of yourself to 1streformedpub@gmail.com if we do not already have one or wanted to add an updated one. If you have had any address or phone number changes since prior years or wanted to make sure, something was changed please contact church office by August 27.

Sunday Refreshments

Many thanks to all of you, who so kindly baked, cut-up, unwrapped and in all ways helped provide sustenance and refreshments during post service. We need your continuous help. Please consider picking a Sunday to bring in treats of your choice for all to enjoy. A signup sheet is located in the Dirck Romeyn room.

Reminder

Greeting visitors to our church is joyful work. The apostle Paul wrote, "Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." (Romans 15:7) Thank you for showing kindness to strangers in our midst.

Support & Care

If you are able to occasionally provide a meal for members who are recuperating or who are homebound, please let us know. Contact Kim Burgoyne at 399-1337 or Vickie McGowan-Horan at 852-0113.

Prayer Shawl Knit Group

Beginning September we will meeting on the 4th Thursday of every month at 10am in the home of Ginny McDermott at 21 Carrie Ct, Niskayuna.

New Edition of Beverwyck

The fourth edition of The Beverwyck Anthology, First Reformed's literary magazine, is printed and bound and awaiting your perusal. Complimentary copies are in the Archives Room /Bookstore and on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

Faith Bookshop

Need a great baptism gift? Consider a Bible designed for just this purpose! Come to the Faith Bookshop (in the Archives/Heritage room) and peruse our collection of Bible offerings for all your gift giving needs.

Johnson Library

The Johnson Library has added several new books to its shelf. In *Crossing the waters*, Leslie Fields tells us how to better understand the biblical stories of the fishermen-disciples of the New Testament. Kenneth Woodward in *Getting religion* looks at how religion came to be a contentious factor in the twenty-first century. *Hidden Figures* by Margot Shetterly tells the story of the black female mathematicians who helped NASA send men into space. Elizabeth Rosenthal writes a history of the crisis of American health care in *An American Sickness*. Benjamin Doolittle (son of Joe & Gay Doolittle) shares a collection of sermons from the viewpoint of a Physician-Pastor in his book, *From the pulpit to the bedside*. Also, take home a copy of *The Christian Century*, a periodical whose mission statement is "Thinking Critically, Living Faithfully".

Sunday, July 23

10:00am Worship
 10:15am Church School K-5
 5:00pm Jazz Vespers
 6:00pm Youth Group Game Night

Monday, July 24

9:00am Men's News Group

Tuesday, July 25

10:00am Morning Prayer
 11:00am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, July 26

9:30pm Kerygma Talk
 1:00pm Pastoral Team Meeting

Sunday, July 30

10:00am Worship
 10:15am Church School K-5
 5:00pm Jazz Vespers

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Jazz Vespers	Azzaam Hameed, solo piano	Dave Gleason, solo piano
Bookshop/Heritage	Birdie Blackmer	Sarah Howes
Counting Deacons	Andy Chestnut, Carol Troost	Ellie Brudos, David Bundy
Greeters	Lisa Etkin, Julia Etkin & Jacob Etkin	Amy Brule, Joanne Bedell
Flower Delivery	Marey Bailey, Kitty and George Trimarco	Claire Hughes, Del Pierce
Preacher	Gregg Mast	Jonathan Vanderbeck
Processing Elders	Joanne Arnold, Liz Mastrianni, Jeanne Shoulder, Carol DeLaMater	Birdie Blackmer, Gay Doolittle, Jerry Griggs, Joyce Griggs
Reader	Kristin Lion	Carol Troost
Ushers	Art Shultes, Jeanette Davidson, Don Davidson, Joan Lindsay, Jim McCullough, Sharron McCullough	Gerry Myers, Crystal Mongillo, Justine Ochal, Ralph Rosenthal

Coming Up				
See the newsletter or call the church office for more information				
Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
July 23	6pm	Youth Group	Pizza and game night here at the church	Walton
July 26	9:30am	Kerygma	A talk about Intentional Christian communities; contact Rev. Carlson.	Dirck Romeyn
Aug 5	3:00pm	Jeremy Bork Ordination	Come celebrate former covenanter Jeremy Bork as he is ordained as a Minister.	Camp Fowler
Aug 17	6:30pm	Stephen Ministry Supervision	Informal summer supervision for Stephen Ministers with Care Receivers.	Dirck Romeyn
Aug 20	11am	Church Meeting	We will talk in broad terms about the next steps for our professional staff & our music program	Dirck Romeyn
Aug 23	9:30am	Kerygma Talk	A visit to the Bruderhof; contact Rev. Carlson to participate.	Offsite
Sept 10	11am	Church Picnic	All are welcome for a time of fun, food, and fellowship! Please bring a dish to share.	Church

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We are a welcoming and affirming congregation and absolutely everyone is invited to our worship, activities, and service.

THE CONSISTORY

MINISTERS

Bill Levering, Senior Minister
Daniel Carlson, Associate Minister
Jonathan Vanderbeck, Interim Minister of Youth and Outreach

OFFICERS

James Gonda, Amy Brule, Senior Elders
Catherine Lewis, Treasurer
Joanne Bedell, Clerk

ELDERS

Joanne Arnold
Amy Brule
James Gonda
Marilyn Leach
Brad Lewis
Liz Mastrianni
Del Pierce
Jeanne Shoulder
Barbara Walton
Caroline Welch

DEACONS

Sarah Bachorik
Andy Chestnut
Fred Daniels
Lyn Gordon
Dave Hjelmar
Christina Jones
Matt Jones
Peter Ontkush
Richard Rose
Ralph Rosenthal

MISSIONERS

Isaiah Teeling, Home Furnishings
Anthony Turner, Habitat for Humanity
Nicole Margiasso, Patty's Place
Chris Li, Roots & Wisdom

CHURCH STAFF

Julie Panke, Music Director
Avery Tunningley, Organist
Corine Salon, Artistic Coordinator
Jamie Ipsen, Director of Children's Music
Dorothy Linder-Mitchell, Interim Children's Ministry Director
Heather Scribner, Office Administrator
Jani Pittman, Office Assistant
Nancy Marie Mohammadi, Evening Coordinator
Lyn Gordon, Sunday Receptionist
Gary Nelson, Facility Supervisor
Diana Wahid, Housekeeper
Isha Amzad, Housekeeper
Dave Bogatka, Maintenance
Tom Mahan, Sexton