

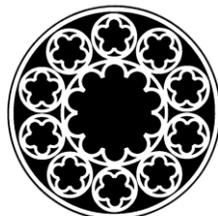
***The Covenant of Our
Congregation
Adopted in 1962***

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.



July 30, 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.

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 30, 2017

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

Theresa McMahon

Wayfaring Stranger

Traditional

Pilgrim Song

Mary Dana Shindler

Morning Has Broken

Gaelic Melody

10:00 a.m.

GREETING

Jonathan Vanderbeck

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN *O God Beyond All Praising*



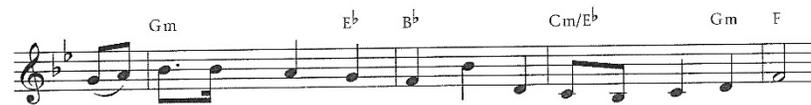
1 O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to-day
2 The flower of earth-ly splen-dor in time must sure-ly die,
3 Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we bring,



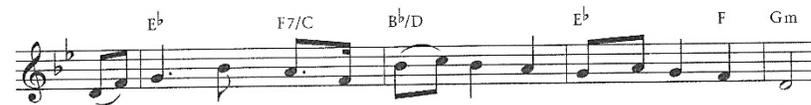
and sing the love a-maz-ing that songs can-not re-pay;
its fra-gile bloom sur-ren-der to you, the Lord most high;
that we who know your fa-vor may serve you as our King;



for we can on-ly won-der at ev-ery gift you send,
but hid-den from all na-ture the e-ter-nal seed is sown—
and wheth-er our to-mor-rows be-filled with good or ill,



at bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end.
though small in mor-tal sta-ture, to hea-ven's gar-den grown:
we'll tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you still:



We lift our hearts be-fore you and wait up-on your Word,
for Christ, your gift from heav-en, from death has set us free,
to mar-vel at your beau-ty and glo-ry in your ways,



we hon-or and a-dore you, our great and might-y Lord.
and we through him are giv-en the fi-nal vic-to-ry.
and make a joy-ful du-ty our sac-ri-fice of praise.

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

O bountifully gifting God, you seek to sow in our hearts the word of your kingdom for the nourishment and joy of the world. Yet we have not always listened for your voice in that which is inscribed, spoken, and sensed. And when we do hear, you alone know the ways we undercut our understanding and restrict our responses to your limitless love. Have mercy on us on account of Christ our Lord and enrich the soil of our souls that we might bear the abundant fruit of the Spirit for your glory. Amen.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

**God welcomes all!
Strangers and friends!
God's love is strong
And it never ends! (2x)**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

Accra Confession of Faith

We believe that God has made a covenant with all of creation. God has brought into being an earth community based on the vision of justice and peace. The covenant is a gift of grace that is not for sale in the market place (Is 55.1). It is an economy of grace for the household of all of creation. Jesus shows that this is an inclusive covenant in which the poor and marginalized are preferential partners and calls us to put justice for the "least of these" (Mt 25.40) at the centre of the community of life. All creation is blessed and included in this covenant (Hos 2.18ff).

*PASSING THE PEACE

MUSICAL OFFERING

Servant Song

Richard Gillard

FIRST LESSON *Psalms 119:125-136* (pg 569)
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.
Amen. Carol Troost

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Genesis 29:1-28* (pg 25)

SERMON Jonathan Vanderbeck
A Family Affair

*HYMN *What Does the Lord Require* #405

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *In the Garden*
C. Austin Miles

*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 *We Are Called*

**Come! live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom of the city of God!**
Refrain:
**We are called to act with justice.
We are called to love tenderly.
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.**

**Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!**

**We are called to be hope for the hopeless,
so all hatred and blindness will be no more!**

**Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign and we'll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love**

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing
Sicilian Mariners

+ + +

Entered Into Eternal Rest

Herm Lintner – 7/20/17

Cards can be sent to his Daughter Diane Hibbard
at 33 Cam Ave. Woodbury, CT 06798

Music Notes

We welcome singer/guitarist Theresa McMahon this morning. Theresa is a cantor and member of the choir of St. Thomas the Apostle in Delmar. *We are Called*. David Haas. ©1988 GIA Publications. *God Welcomes All*. John Bell. ©2008 GIA Publishing. OneLicense #700-700.

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:

Robert Templeton, William Hubbard, Charles VanWie, Bill Piper, Alice Niedrach

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.

Columbarium Accessible on Sundays

Those wishing to visit the columbarium during construction may do so on Sunday mornings from 11-11:30am. Our sexton, Tom Mahan will be stationed at the church office entrance to provide safe passage to the columbarium during this time.

Youth Group:

Make-Your-Own-Ice-Cream, and NYC Trip.

We had a great game night this past Sunday. Join us next Sunday, August 6 from 6-7pm, for a make-your-own-ice-cream night! Pastor Jonathan will teach everyone how to make their own ice cream and will also have all the fixings for sundaes. Milk allergy? No problem. Just let him know and he'll have non-dairy versions available too! RSVP by Friday the 4th so we'll know how many supplies we'll need.

Also, if you're planning to come to NYC on Saturday August 12, let Pastor Jonathan know ASAP so he can buy train tickets. We'll be gone all day and arrive back to church around 9pm that evening. Cost is \$20, which includes round-trip train fare and subway fare. This is our big summer event so we hope to see you!

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 to be notified about a volunteer meeting to be held near the end of the summer.

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!

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.

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.

Kerygma Summer Talks and Treks

Join the jovial group of those committed to continuing to gather and learn year-round for a final off-site exploration: a day visit to a Bruderhof Community in the Hudson Valley, August 23. Contact Rev. Carlson to participate.

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.

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.

Roots & Wisdom

Open house August 8 from 9:30-11:30am at Sustainable Living Center 180 PTL Arthur Chairs Lane. Activities will include meeting the 2017 crew, garden tours, presentations given by our summer crew about edible weeds, landscaping and flower arrangements and samples we will also show recipes made with produce from our garden. RSVP at cy155@cornell.edu by August 1.

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.

Sunday Refreshments

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.

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

Living History and Family Fun – Sept 17

The Fellowship Committee is sponsoring a trip to the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome on Sunday, Sept. 17, directly after church. The show starts at 2pm; Admission is \$25 for ages 18-64; \$20 for military and 65+; \$12 for youth 6-17; 5 and under, free. RSVP to James Gonda at 607-765-5349 or jgonda12309@gmail.com.

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.

Prayer Shawl Knit Group

Beginning September we will be 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.

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.

Coming Up				
See the newsletter or call the church office for more information				
Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
Aug 2	5pm	Vacation Bible School	Crafts, games, stories, music and more! Pizza will be provided at 5:30. Open to everyone ages 4 and older. Bring family and friends!	Sanctuary
Aug 2	6pm	Cords of Love	Ukulele for kids will meet every Wednesday till 7pm. Kids ages 8-16 are welcome. No experience needed. Free pizza at 5:30pm.	Sanctuary
Aug 2	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Meets Wednesday evenings till 8pm No experience is needed. If you are new call the church office to borrow a ukulele. Free pizza will be provided at 5:30pm.	Sanctuary
Aug 5	3pm	Jeremy Bork Ordination	Come celebrate former covenanter Jeremy Bork as he is ordained as a minister	Camp Fowler
Aug 6	6pm	Youth Group	Make-Your-Own-Ice-Cream & Game Night	Friendship Hall Kitchen
Aug 12		Youth Group	NYC Day Trip – RSVP to Jonathan ASAP	Off-site
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.	Off-site
Aug 23	7pm	Contemplative Worship	Guitar-accompanied songs, guided meditation on Scripture, communion & prayers.	Sanctuary
Sept 10	11am	Church Picnic	All are welcome for a time of fun, food, and fellowship! Please bring a dish to share.	Church

“Dark and difficult times lie ahead. Soon we must all face the choice between what is right and what is easy.” – J.K. Rowling, from Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire

“You have the power to change perception, to inspire and empower, and to show people how to embrace their complications, and see the flaws, and the true beauty and strength that’s inside all of us.” – Beyoncé

“Now we are forced to recognize our inhumanity
Our reason coexists with our insanity
And though we choose between reality and madness. It’s either sadness or euphoria”
– Billy Joel

“You can't separate peace from freedom because no one can be at peace unless he has his freedom.” – Malcolm X

“The whole world is a theatre for the display of the divine goodness, wisdom, justice, and power.” – John Calvin

“Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.” – President Barack Obama

“If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude.”
– Maya Angelou

Sunday, July 30

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

Monday, July 31

9:00am Men's News Group

Tuesday, August 1

10:00am Morning Prayer
 11:00am Staff Meeting
 1:00pm Worship Planning
 7:00pm Short Short Writing

Wednesday August 2

1:00pm Pastoral Team Meeting
 5:30pm Kids Summer Ukulele
 7:00pm Adults Summer Ukulele

Sunday, August 6

10:00am Worship
 10:00am Communion
 10:15am Church School K-5
 5:00pm Jazz Vespers
 6:00pm Youth Group - Ice Cream

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Jazz Vespers	Dave Gleason, solo piano	Nat Phipps, Pete Toigo, Tom D'Andrea
Bookshop/Heritage	Sarah Howes	Christina Jones
Counting Deacons	Ellie Brudos, David Bundy	Ralph Rosenthal, Kim Burgoyne
Greeters	Amy Brule, Joanne Bedell	Birdie Blackmer
Flower Delivery	Claire Hughes, Del Pierce	Cathy & Brad Lewis
Preacher	Jonathan Vanderbeck	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Birdie Blackmer, Gay Doolittle, Jerry Griggs, Joyce Griggs	Amy Brule, Wayne Brule, Barbara Walton
Reader	Carol Troost	Amy Brule
Ushers	Gerry Myers, Crystal Mongillo, Justine Ochal, Ralph Rosenthal	Tom Burgoyne, David Burgoyne, Joe Gotwals, Karen Gonda, Berta Phipps, Nat Phipps