

***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.

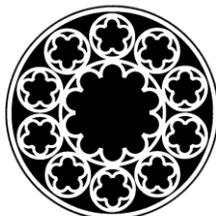
It shall be our aim to bring joy to little children, instruction and high ideals to youth, inspiration to men and women in the midst of life, and comfort to those in life's later years; and to labor together for the betterment of humankind.

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.



500 YEARS OF
REFORMATION



October 29, 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 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.

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

October 29, 2017

*The congregation may stand.

**catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of
the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRELUDE Avery Tunningley

Joyful Alleluia Robert J. Hughes
Grand Triumphant Chorus Alexander Guilmant
Prelude and Fugue in C major J. S. Bach

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*
Martin Luther's Original Rhythmic Version

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

RECOGNITION Tilton Memorial Fund

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**Forgive what our lips tremble to name,
what our hearts can no longer bare, and
what has become for us a lonely burning.
Set us free from a past that we cannot
change and open to us a future in which
we can be changed.**

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*) #579
Glory Be To The Father

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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**

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM *From All That Dwell Below the Skies*
Schenectady, Nehemiah Shumway
Arr. Alfred Fedak

From all that dwell below the skies,
let the Creator's praise arise;
let the Creator's name be sung,
through every land by every tongue.

Refrain:

Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord,
eternal truth attends Thy Word;
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore,
till suns shall rise and set no more.

To God I cried when troubles rose;
He heard me and subdued my foes.
He did my rising fears control,
and strength diffused through all my soul.

With all my powers of heart and tongue
I'll praise my Maker in my song;
Angels shall hear the notes I raise,
Approve the song, and join the praise.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748) paraphrase of Ps. 117 and 138.

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Romans 12:2-3* (pg 162)

SERMON Bill Levering
Humility and Transformation

*HYMN #421(v 1-4)
The Church of Christ in Every Age

MINUTE FOR MISSION Cathy Lewis
Stewardship

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott*
Georg Phillipp Telemann

(Translation of the German)

A mighty fortress is our God, a trusty shield & weapon.

He helps us free from every need that hath us now o'ertaken.
God's word and Luther's teaching will never die.

*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 *Now Thank We All Our God* #555

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Threefold Amen*
Traditional

POSTLUDE *Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing*
Sicilian Mariners

+ + +

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:

Evelyn Johnson, F. David Schweizer, Ted DeBoer, Robert V. Shepherd, John Schmulbach, 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 my parents from Cynthia Hamilton.

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.

MUSIC NOTES

Today we honor Helen and Osmon Tilton the parents of Margaret and Anne. We are so appreciative of the family's generosity in establishing the Tilton Fund that has made recent improvements to the organ possible. Helen Tilton was an accomplished organist and choir director at UPC for many years and often played the FRC organ for citywide choral events.

Today's Anthem, *From All that Dwell Below the Skies*, is based on a tune named "Schenectady" which was written by Nehemiah Shumway, born in 1761 in Oxford, MA. Shumway went into teaching and later farming in Jefferson County, New York, after having lived for a time in both Albany and Schenectady. During his time in Schenectady he was likely a member of our congregation. The version heard today was commissioned for the Schenectady Bicentennial Choir Festival held at our church in 2009.

The Offertory is Georg Phillip Telemann's (1681 – 1767) *Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott* (A Mighty Fortress is Our God) with text by Martin Luther whose act of nailing his 95 Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany on October 31, 1517 started the Protestant Reformation.

We thank the brass quartet for today's accompaniments: David and Robert Hosley, trumpets; William Hoeprich and Jonathan Kusche, trombones. We are happy to have Union College Choir Members joining us today for the Telemann.

Mohawk House Coffee Area
Open from 9am-3pm on Monday-Friday.

New Sunday AM Adult Class Starts - Today

The *Boundaries* study takes participants on a unique journey - of spiritual growth, challenge to change, problem solving, recovery, and hope. It offers practical help, encouragement, insight and wisdom to all who struggle with their inability to say no, as well as to anyone who seeks to live a healthy and balanced life. This class is based on the book (copies available in the bookshop) *Boundaries – When to Say Yes, How to Say No, to Take Control of Your Life* by Cloud and Townsend. Leading this event is Lisa Ettkin, one of our Stephen Leaders, Sundays at 8:30am. For more info. contact Lisa at (518)631-4410 lisa@paintingbylisa.com.

***FLASH FALL SALE* Caramel Apples!**

When is the last time you had a good old-fashioned caramel apple?! The youth group will be selling them for one day **ONLY** immediately following worship **Today**. All are hand-dipped and decorated by the youth and made with local apples. Cost is \$5 each or buy 3, get one free! Come find us in the entrance near the heritage room, all proceeds benefit the youth mission fund. Can't make it? Any that remain will be available from the church office to purchase on Monday.

Youth Group - Bowl-a-thon! – Today

Instead of regular youth group, we'll be going bowling to benefit SAFE Inc., a local at-risk youth shelter. Cost is \$10 and covers the cost of shoes, games, and pizza. Come dressed in your favorite costume; they'll be giving away prizes too. Meet at Boulevard Bowl at 1315 Erie Boulevard at **12:30pm** for check-in. Bowling goes from 1-3pm. RSVP to Pastor Jonathan by e-mail **TODAY** if you are coming, or tell him at youth group.

Children's Fall Arts Fun! – Today

Today at 4pm-5pm in the Mohawk House. Dorothy will have some Fun Fall Crafts and activities for our younger members. Come on out and have some fun mingling. Homemade fall themed snacks will be provided.

Care and Prayer – Today

Need a moment for prayerful support after worship? Trained Stephen Ministers will be available in the Dykstra Chapel after the service on the last Sunday of each month to sit with, listen to, and pray for & with you. Please stop by if this sounds like it may be just what you need.

Avery Presents – Nov 3

This Friday at 7pm, Theresa McMahon will present "American Roots/Songs of Love & Home". This will be the second time Theresa has prepared a show for us, and based on what she did for us last year; this should be one of the highlights of the season. Admission is free and a reception will follow the performance.

Saturday Breakfast Fellowship – Nov 4

“Observations and Reflections from A Bicycle Ride in Cuba” Dan Brudos, a teacher in the Schenectady School District, a son of our congregation (i.e. Darwin & Ellie), and an international traveler. Dan embarked on a solo bicycle trip around Cuba. He experienced the everyday life and reality of the Cuban people. It is an adventure few American's have traveled.

Historical Drama Play – Nov 5

The Archives and Historical Committee is presenting “We All Become Brothers and Sisters” on November 5, at 2pm in the Sanctuary. In this production, the Civil War has recently ended and the former slaves are struggling to find a place in a free society. Eliphalet Nott, head of Union College for 62 years, died five days ago; at his wake, former students have arrived in Schenectady to attend. Five of them — a local minister, the US Secretary of State, a future US President, a former General of the Confederacy, and a member of the Choctaw Tribe who was a Confederate officer — convene at the Nott residence with Nott's widow and his personal secretary. They, along with Nott's ghost, engage in a dramatic portrayal of the hopes and fears for themselves, for each other, and for the country.

Justice Action Committee New Book Club and Lunch - Sundays Nov. 5 & 19, Dec. 3

"*A Light in the Window: The City Mission Of Schenectady.*" Please join the JAC as we discuss Chris Graf's book. We are meeting on 3 Sundays at 12pm in the Mohawk House for discussion, reflection and consideration of how we can support the light in the window. Books are available in the book shop. Please contact Liz Mastrianni, lzmstro@gmail.com, for more information.

Bookshop / Heritage Room

Good Grief! That's an expression many of us use, as did the Peanut characters in Charlie Brown. So, is there anything good about grief? The Bookshop has the following books which may give an answer: *God and Human Suffering* (Hall), *The Bible on Suffering; Social and Political Implications* (numerous contributors) & *Companionship In Grief* (memoirs of C.S. Lewis, John Bayley, Donald Hall, Joan Didion and Calvin Tillin).

Justice Action Council Food Drive

We are collecting both **peanut butter** and **canned tuna** all throughout the month of November, please bring in any brand as these are in great demand. Justice Action Council is sponsoring this targeted food drive to help one of our sister churches in classis, Trinity Reformed Church, launch their very own food pantry in Rotterdam, which has very few pantries of their own. There is a box in the Dirck Romeyn room for your donations or you can bring them to Pastor Jonathan's office.

Water Filters for Puerto Rico

Elder Del Pierce has initiated a small effort to supply water filters to people without drinking water in Puerto Rico. As you may have read, there are still thousands of our citizens in this life threatening situation. Del is looking for the names of people you know in PR to whom water filters could be sent directly. If you know someone there that we can send a box of filters to, Del would love to help make that happen.

What you're supposed to do
when you don't like a thing is change it.
If you can't change it,
change the way you think about it."
— Maya Angelou

"What transforms this world is —
knowledge. Do you see what I mean?
Nothing else can change anything in this
world. Knowledge alone is capable of
transforming the world, while at the same
time leaving it exactly as it is. When you
look at the world with knowledge, you
realize that things are unchangeable and at
the same time are constantly being
transformed." — Yukio Mishima

"When she transformed into a butterfly, the
caterpillars spoke not of her beauty, but of
her weirdness. They wanted her to change
back into what she always had been. But she
had wings." — Dean Jackson

"...I don't just wish you rain, Beloved - I
wish you the beauty of storms..."
— John Geddes, *A Familiar Rain*

"Practice is the hardest part of learning, and
training is the essence of transformation."
— Ann Voskamp

"There is no perfection, only beautiful
versions of brokenness."
— Shannon L. Alder

"The Reformer is always right about what's
wrong. However, he's often wrong about
what is right." — G.K. Chesterton

"How does one become butterfly?" Pooh
asked pensively.

'You must want to fly so much that you are
willing to give up being a caterpillar,' Piglet
replied.

'You mean to die?' asked Pooh.

'Yes and no,' he answered. 'What looks like
you will die, but what's really you will live
on.' — A.A. Milne

Coming Up
See the newsletter or call the church office for more information

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
Oct 29	8:30am	Boundaries Adult Class	A new study Group on <i>Boundaries – When to Say Yes, How to Say No, to Take Control of Your Life.</i>	Mohawk House - Pres
Today	9am	Chords of Love	We meet every Sunday. Any kids ages 8-18 are welcome. No experience needed.	Mezzanine
Today	11am	Reception for Julie Panke	Join us for our celebration of Julie's Music Ministry at FRC.	Dirck Romeyn
Today	11am	Carmel Apple Sale	Youth group is selling caramel apples. All local apples. Cost is \$5 each or buy 3, get one free!	Front St. Entrance
Today	11am	Care & Prayer	Trained Stephen Ministers available to sit with, listen to, and pray for and/or with you.	Dykstra Chapel
Today	11am	Harvest for the Pantry Dinner	Ellie Rowland and Inge-Lise Pangburn will be selling tickets for the Harvest for the Pantry dinner. Cost is \$30 per person	See Ellie or Inge-Lise
Today	12:30pm	Youth Group - Bowl-a-thon	Bowling to benefit SAFE Inc. Cost is \$10 and covers shoes, games, and pizza. Wear a costume!	1315 Erie Boulevard
Today	4pm	Children's Fall Arts Fun	Fun Fall Crafts and activities for our younger members. Come on out, have some fun and getting to know other youngsters.	Mohawk House Lunn
Today	*5pm*	Youth Group	We will be decorating caramel apples to sell to help raise money for our mission fund.	Friendship Hall
Oct 31	10am	Horizons Bible Study	We will continue as usual on 10/31, 11/7 & 11/14, then hold our last class for this study on 12/3.	Mohawk House Pres.
Nov 1	9:30am	Kerygma Conversations	Discussion of chapter 9 & 10 in <i>The Story of Christianity.</i>	Dirck Romeyn
Nov 1	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Wednesday evenings till 8pm. No experience is needed. Call the church office to borrow a ukulele.	Sanctuary
Nov 2	10am	Stitch Group	Meets every Thursday. Contact Joan Lindsay.	Mezzanine
Nov 2	7:30pm	Chancel Choir	Can't make it, come to Sunday 9am rehearsals Contact Corine Salon csalon@nycap.rr.com.	Sanctuary
Nov 3	7pm	Avery Presents	Theresa McMahon will present "American Roots/Songs of Love & Home".	Sanctuary
Nov 4	8am	Saturday Breakfast	"Observations and Reflections from A Bicycle Ride in Cuba" – Dan Brudos	Dirck Romeyn
Nov 5	11:15am	First Forum	Stewardship – Brad and Cathy Lewis	Sanctuary
Nov 5	2pm	Historical Drama Play	The Archives and Historical Committee is presenting "We All Become Brothers and Sisters".	Sanctuary
Nov 5	3pm	New Members Class	Interested folks are invited to a membership orientation that includes a tour of the church.	Church Office
Nov 6	11am	Group V	Contact Maria Todd with Questions.	Dirck Romeyn

Sunday, October 29

500th Anniversary of the Reformation
 8:00am.....Organ Practice
 8:30am.....Boundaries Adult Class
 9:00am.....Choir Rehearsal
 9:00am.....Chords of Love
 9:45am.....Kinderwyk
 10:00am.....Worship
 10:15am.....Church School K-5
 11:00am.....Julie Panke Reception
 11:00am.....Care and Prayer
 11:00am.....Carmel Apple Sale
 11:15am.....Kirk Ringers
 12:30pm.....Youth Group Bowl-a-Thon
 2:00pm.....Living History / Family Fun
 2:00pm.....Play Rehearsal
 4:00pm.....Children's Fall Arts Fun
 5:00pm.....Jazz Vespers
 5:00pm.....Youth Group

Monday, October 30

9:00am.....Men's News Group

Tuesday, October 31

10:00am.....Morning Prayer
 10:00am.....Horizons Bible Study
 11:00am.....Admin Staff Meeting
 7:00pm.....Short Short Writing

Wednesday, November 1

9:30am Kerygma Conversations
 1:00pm Pastoral Team Meeting
 7:00pm Adult Ukulele
 7:00pm Theology of Race & Racism

Thursday, November 2

7:30am Breakfast Bible Bunch
 10:00am Stitch Group
 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, November 3

7:00pm Avery Presents

Saturday, November 4

8:00am Saturday Breakfast

Sunday, November 5

8:00am Organ Practice
 8:30am Boundaries Adult Class
 9:00am Choir Rehearsal
 9:00am Chords of Love
 9:45am Kinderwyk
 10:00am Worship
 10:00am Communion
 10:15am Church School K-5
 11:15am Forum
 11:15am Kirk Ringers
 2:00pm Historical Drama Play
 2:00pm New Members Class
 5:00pm Jazz Vespers
 6:00pm Youth Group

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Jazz Vespers	Azzaam Hameed, solo piano	Nat Phipps, Pete Toigo, Tom D'Andrea
Bookshop	Birdie Blackmer	
Counting Deacons	Gay Doolittle, Bill Rochelle	Andy Chestnut, Therese McCarty
Greeters	Ellie Rowland and Lyn Gordon	Charles & Inge-Lise Pangburn
Flower Delivery	Susan and Paul Houpt Inge-Lise and Chuck Pangburn	Jim and Sharron McCullough Sally Clark
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
Processing Elders	Jeanne Shoulder, Barbara Walton, Jerry Griggs, Joyce Griggs, Bill Rochelle, Richard Rose	Liz Mastrianni, Darwin Brudos, Arthur Casey, Gay Doolittle, Eric Evans, Mary Jewett, Walt Robb, Maria Todd
Reader	Norma Brown	Therese McCarty
Ushers	Tom Burgoyne (head usher), David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Karen Gonda, Berta Phipps, Nat Phipps	Bill Clock (head usher), Julia Etkin, Lisa Etkin, Aline Stabler, Christina Jones, Matt Jones, Nancy Wainwright