

***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.

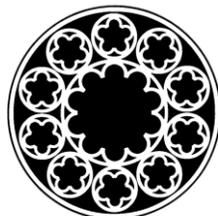
It shall be our aim to bring joy to little children, instruction and high ideals to youth, inspiration to men and women in the midst of life, and comfort to those in life's later years; and to labor together for the betterment of humankind.

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.



Christ of the Breadlines, woodcut by Fritz Eichenberg



November 26, 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.

Mohawk House Coffee Area

Open from 9am-3pm on Monday-Friday.

Child Care on Sunday

Childcare for children through Pre-k 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 office entrance.)

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 the 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.

Christ the King Sunday

November 26, 2017

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Eric Marczak, flute;
John Norton, piano

Warrior's Honoring Song Eric Marczak
Gnossienne #1 Erik Satie
Watching the Clouds Masako
The Lonely Shepherd James Last

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Bill Levering

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Daniel Carlson

INTROIT Jubilate Deo

*HYMN *Come, Christians Join to Sing* #150

*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*)

**Now thank we all our God
With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom this world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms,
Hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed - Ecumenical version

**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.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH AND
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

PROFESSIONS AND PROMISES

*PROMISE OF CONGREGATION

Do you promise to love, encourage and
support these brothers and sisters 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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Audrey Gleason, Lydia Gleason;
Jeanette Mitchell, Matthew Mitchell

BLESSING

*WELCOME

Welcome our new siblings 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

ANTHEM

Sing Ye that Love the Lord
George Frederick Handel

Hallelujah! Sing ye that love the Lord!

Join in a song of praise, a song of sweet accord!

Ye angels in the heavens, sing songs of glorious praise;
Earth echoing their joy, glad songs all voices raise!

Hallelujah! Sing ye that love the Lord!
Join in a song of praise, a song of sweet accord!
Sound trumpets, clashing cymbals, organ's mighty strains!
Hosanna in the highest! Jesus o'er us reigns!

Entered Into Eternal Rest
Ruth E. George – 11/15/17
Service here Wednesday, Nov 29 at 1pm

FIRST LESSON Mary Jewett
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.
Amen. *Psalm 100* (pg 552)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Matthew 25:31-46* (pg 29)

SERMON Daniel Carlson
Commending and Challenging Matthew's Christ

*HYMN *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!* #144

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *When Summer Ends*
by Johnnie Madden
Eric Marczak, flute; John Norton, melodica;
Abby Norton-Levering, violin

*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 *Rejoice, the Lord is King* #155

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Twofold Amen*

Traditional

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

In Memoriam and Celebration

Today's Chancel Flowers are placed in the Sanctuary to the glory of God, in loving memory of Audrey Rose Gleason (Lydia and Audrey's Grandmother) and in celebration of Jeanette and Matthew's baptism.

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:

Richard (Dick) Blackmer, Leroy Brandt, Elsie Anderson Emory, Virginia Cain, Rev. Edwin McLane, Harvey Schadler, Jean Sands Brown, Donald Lemon, Maurice B. Tracy, Eulia Arnds, Edgar Pitzer, Mary Frances Case, Robert S. Crandall

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.

Youth Group

Youth group will NOT be meeting this evening due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Next week, the youth group will be joining the Advent Festival. Join us for as we prepare for the coming of Christ.

If you are interested in joining us on the mission trip to Philadelphia, please e-mail Pastor Jonathan revjonathan16@gmail.com ASAP!

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.

Out to Lunch Bunch – Dec 1

In our quest to try all the nationalities represented here in Schenectady, Jasmine Thai at 2717 Broadway, for our next 12pm luncheon. Come join in and experience the new and different, or stick with the old and well-regarded standards. This luncheon will be Friday, December 1. All are welcome, but a heads up is helpful. Call Gay (518-399-0499) or email at gaysdoolittle@gmail.com.

Avery's First Friday - Dec 1

An Evening of Christmas Music will be presented by the Friendship Singers on Friday, Dec 1 at 7pm in the Sanctuary. The Women's Chorus from Delmar sings in 3-4 part harmony and unites songs with dance rhythms in their program. The Chorus, under the direction of Marie Liddle, presents many concerts in the area. A reception follows the concert. So come usher in the holiday with music presented by the Friendship Singers.

Restroom

If you are looking for a first floor handicap acceptable rest room the Mohawk House is open.

Saturday Breakfast Fellowship - Dec 2

A light breakfast will be served. We are looking for a few volunteers to assist in serving/set up and for program ideas and topics for 2018. Our December 2 Breakfast at 8am will be *The Universe: A Tour of Numbers Small and Large* based on book chapter by Neil Degrasse Tyson. The size and scale of the universe is both far larger and far smaller than we can imagine. This will be a very brief tour of this range of numbers and things and is presented by Bill Ward, a beginner, for beginners.

Church School – Dec 3

Rehearsals from 11:15–12pm each Sunday are VERY important, as we will be covering all the Christmas Eve Service preparations. Please make every effort to attend each week!!

JAC Book Club and Lunch – Dec 3

Please join the JAC as we discuss Chris Graf's book "*A Light in the Window: The City Mission Of Schenectady*." We are meeting on Dec 3 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 info.

Advent Festival – Dec 3

Plan now to attend this beloved inter-generational gathering from 5-7pm featuring a covered dish dinner and seasonal activities-- including making Advent wreaths to take home! Those wishing to share a favorite Advent craft or activity may contact Dorothy Linder-Mitchell. Sign up today in the Dirk Romeyn room, narthex, sanctuary, or the church office.

Annual Troy Victorian Stroll – Dec 3

Celebrate Christmas with your FRC family and friends on Sunday, Dec. 3, at the Annual Troy Victorian Stroll, the Northeast's largest free holiday festival with more than 100 live performances; eat, drink and be merry at dozens of cafes, restaurants and food vendors and wrap up your Christmas shopping at more than 35 clothing, jewelry and gift boutiques. Bundle up and meet in the parking lot at 12pm. RSVP to James Gonda at 607-765-5349 or jgonda12309@gmail.com.

Faith Bookshop

Open every Sunday after worship. We have assorted prayer cubes and several wonderful children's books.

Gifts for the Men of City Mission

Now is this the time you can bring Christmas gifts of new warm clothing the manger for the Men of City Mission. Pick up a suggested gift tag from the basket located next to the manger. Gifts can be brought unwrapped to the manger through **Sunday, December 17. NOTE: The manger is located in the Dirck Romeyn Room.**

Water Filters for Puerto Rico

Elder Del Pierce has initiated a small effort to supply water filters to people still without drinking water in Puerto Rico. Del has connected with Lou Haveman, who many of you know, to purchase and send filters to a reliable recipient on the island, who will distribute them. To date he has funding and orders to send 44 filters. That will supply enough water for drinking, cooking, and washing dishes for 44 families. All this is possible through the generosity of people in FRC and the community. If you can help send more filters, please contact Del.

Justice Action Council Food Drive

We are collecting **peanut butter & canned tuna** throughout November. JAC 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. There is a box in the Dirck Romeyn room or you can bring them to Pastor Jonathan's office.

Memorial Flowers for Christmas

Each year the church is decorated with plants and greens during the holiday season. Your loved ones will be remembered in the bulletin on December 17. The donation is \$20. Even if you have donated in previous years, you must place a new order for Christmas 2017. Please call (518)377-2201 or 1streformedpub@gmail.com the church office no later than Thursday, December 14, to make arrangements. Send payment to Chancel Guild, c/o Marlene Risseuw, 2140 Niskayuna Drive, 12309.

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.

The mystery of the poor is this: That they are Jesus and what you do for them you do for Him. It is the only way we have of knowing and believing in our love. The mystery of poverty is that by sharing in it, making ourselves poor in giving to others, we increase our knowledge of and belief in love. –Dorothy Day

This community of disciples of Jesus is marked by its commitment to him and by an alternative set of practices and lifestyles that challenge practices and values of the imperial world
– Warren Carter

To redeem the past...that alone do I call redemption. –Fredrick Nietzsche

No fulfillment is possible if the past remains unredeemed; an unredeemed past will deep every present (and future) unredeemed. The eschatological transition cannot therefore be about giving a fresh beginning, but also about having all ones failed beginnings, middles, and ends redeemed. --Miroslav Volf

Perhaps we do well to say aside notions of judgement that would bifurcate judgement and redemption, but it will not do simply to cease to speak about the judgement. As many have insisted, if there is no judgement, there is no justice. Judgement is finally about setting things right: establishing justice. The coming of a just judge is something to be received with gladness--especially by those who have been oppressed or excluded by injustices. --Anna Case Winters

Evil in human history must be finally and unmistakably exposed and judged. Evildoers themselves must be transformed by God's grace so that they can be freed from evil and reconciled to one another. Such a vision requires both judgement and redemption --'a coming to terms with the reality of our lives and a purgation of what we are in order to become what God wills us to be' --John Polkinghorne, Michael Welker, and Anna Case Winters

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

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
Today	9am	Chords of Love	We meet every Sunday. Any kids ages 8-18 are welcome. No experience needed.	Mezzanine
Today	7:30pm	Chancel Choir	For singers who can't make Thursday rehearsals	Sanctuary
Nov 26	11am	Care & Prayer	Trained Stephen Ministers will be available to sit with, listen to, and pray for & with you.	Dykstra Chapel
Nov 29	9:30am	Kerygma Conversations	Discussion of chapter 13 & 14 in <i>The Story of Christianity</i> .	Dirck Romeyn
Nov 30	10am	Prayer Shawl Knitting	Meeting in the home of Gini McDermott; 21 Carrie Ct, Niskayuna. Not meeting in Dec.	Gini McDermott
Nov 30	10am	Stitch Group	Meets every Thursday. Contact Joan Lindsay.	Mezzanine
Nov 30	7:30pm	Chancel Choir	Can't make it? Come to Sunday 9am rehearsals Contact Corine Salon csalon@nycap.rr.com.	Sanctuary
Nov 29	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Wednesday evenings. No experience is needed. Call the church office to borrow a ukulele.	Dirck Romeyn
Dec 1	12pm	Out to Lunch Bunch	Jasmine Thai at 2717 Broadway, for our next 12pm luncheon. Come join in.	2717 Broadway
Dec 1	7pm	Avery Presents	"Friendship Singers" will present a program of Christmas music. Located in Delmar, this is an all-woman chorus directed by Marie Liddle.	Sanctuary
Dec 2	8am	Saturday Breakfast	The Universe: A Tour of Numbers Small and Large based on book chapter by Neil Degrasse Tyson. Presented by Bill Ward.	Dirck Romeyn
Dec 3	8:30am	Boundaries Adult Class	A study group on <i>Boundaries – When to Say Yes, How to Say No, to Take Control of Your Life</i> .	Mohawk House Pres
Dec 3	11:15am	First Forum	Staffing Discussions with Congregation Staffing Planning Committee & Rev. Bill Levering	Sanctuary
Dec 3	12pm	JAC Book Club	"A Light in the Window: The City Mission Of Schenectady." By Chris Graf's book.	Mohawk House Lunn
Dec 3	12pm	Victorian Stroll	Meet in the parking lot at 12pm. RSVP to James Gonda, jgonda12309@gmail.com 607-765-5349.	Offsite
Dec 3	3pm	New Members Class	Interested folks are invited to a membership orientation that includes a tour of the church.	Church Office
Dec 3	5pm	Advent Festival	Inter-generational gathering featuring a covered dish dinner and seasonal activities.	Mohawk House
Dec 3	5pm	Youth Group	Attending at Advent Festival	Mohawk House
Dec 4	11am	Group V	Contact Maria Todd with any questions (518)882-6555.	Dirck Romeyn
Dec 5	7pm	Short Short Writing	Writer's Group of 1,000 words or less.	Mohawk House Lunn

Sunday, November 26

8:00am..... Organ Practice
 9:00am..... Choir Rehearsal
 9:00am..... Chords of Love
 9:45am..... Kinderwyk
 10:00am..... Worship
 10:15am..... Church School K-5
 11:00am..... Care & Prayer
 11:00am..... Bookshop/Library
 11:15am..... Kirk Ringers
 5:00pm..... Jazz Vespers

Monday, November 27

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

Tuesday, November 28

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

Wednesday, November 29

9:30am..... Kerygma
 1:00pm..... Pastoral Team Meeting
 7:00pm..... Adult Ukulele

Thursday, November 30

7:30am..... Breakfast Bible Bunch
 10:00am..... Prayer Shawl Knitting
 10:00am..... Stitch Group
 1:30pm..... Hymn Picking
 7:30pm..... Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 1

7:00pm..... Avery's First Friday

Saturday, December 2

8:00am..... Saturday Breakfast

Sunday, December 3

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..... Bookshop/Library
 11:15am..... Forum
 11:15am..... Kirk Ringers
 12:00pm..... JAC Book Club
 12:00pm..... Troy Victorian Stroll
 3:00pm..... New Members Class
 5:00pm..... Advent Festival
 5:00pm..... Jazz Vespers

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Jazz Vespers	Wayne Hawkins, piano	Nat Phipps Trio
Bookshop	Birdie Blackmer	Nancy Wainwright
Counting Deacons	Ellie Brudos, Cynthia Gallagher	Lyn Gordon, Vickie McGowan-Horan
Greeters	Don & Jeanette Davidson, Laura Lee	
Flower Delivery	Dorothy Linder-Mitchell, Lynn Wilkanowski	Dick & Natalie Davis, David & Elsa Hjelmar
Preacher	Daniel Carlson	Bill Levering
Liturgist	Bill Levering	Daniel Carlson
Processing Elders	Darwin Brudos, Jerry Griggs, Joyce Griggs, Del Pierce, Ellie Rowland, Barbara Walton	Joanne Arnold, Art Casey, Liz Mastrianni, Jeanne Shoulder, Christine Daniels, Gay Doolittle, Walt Robb, Barbara Walton
Reader	Mary Jewett	George Trimarco
Ushers	Art Shultes (head usher), Jeanette Davidson, Don Davidson, Joan Lindsay, Jim McCullough, Sharron McCullough	Michael Horan, Gerry Myers, Crystal Mongillo, Justine Ochal, Ralph Rosenthal