

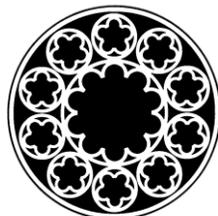
***The Covenant of Our  
Congregation  
Adopted in 1962***

*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.*



***January 7, 2018***

*First Reformed Church  
8 North Church Street  
Schenectady, New York 12305  
(518) 377-2201 [www.1stReformed.com](http://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 - Kinderwyk**

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 live stream of the worship service as well as some of the past services can be found at [1stReformed.com](http://1stReformed.com).

### **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.

# First Sunday After the Epiphany

January 7, 2018

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Helderberg Madrigal Singers

*Sweet was the song the Virgin sung*

Anon. ca 1550

Arranged by Jo-Ann Sheffer

*E la don don, Verges Maria*

Anon. 16th century

The text of this carol translates in part:

On pale feet the angels danced for us.

The angels, singing

'Gloria in excelsis Deo' at the tops of their voices,  
said they found him in Bethlehem....

Come, Perot, and you will see God and the Virgin,  
his mother.

Bring him a bag full of dates.

Then we will sing for our good friend, the Lord Jesus,  
Who this night will save us from all evil known to man.

*Verbum caro factum est*

Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612)

And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us,  
and we beheld his glory,  
the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,  
full of grace and truth.

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson

The grace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

INTROIT *I Was Glad*

Albin C. Whitworth (b. 1938)

\*HYMN #68

*What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright*

\*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**O God of heaven and earth, your light  
shines in the darkness. By your Spirit  
illumine those parts within us and those  
practices among us that need the clarity of**

**your truth and warmth of your grace.  
Through your Son forgive us and forge us  
into your radiant witnesses. Amen.**

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE *Gloria, Gloria* #576

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**Our only hope is Jesus Christ. After we  
refused to live in the image of God, He was  
born of the virgin Mary, sharing our genes  
and our instincts, entering our culture,  
speaking our language, fulfilling the law of  
our God. Being united to Christ's  
humanity, we know ourselves when we  
rest in Him.**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

*Videntes stellam magi*

Orlando di Lasso (1530-1594)

Matthew 2:10-11

Seeing the star, the magi rejoiced with great joy;  
and entering the house,  
they found the boy, with Mary, His mother,  
and fell down and worshiped Him.  
And having opened their treasures,  
they offered Him gifts:  
gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

FIRST LESSON Liz Mastrianni

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

**Amen.** *Matthew 2:1-12* (pg 2)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Isaiah 60:1-6* (pg 690)

SERMON *Living Light* Daniel Carlson

\*HYMN *Arise, Your Light Is Come!* #411

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*O Magnum Mysterium*

Tomas Luis de Victoria (1548-1611)

The Latin text translates in part:

"O great mystery, and wondrous sacrament

That animals should see the newborn  
Lord lying in a manger!  
O blessed Virgin, whose womb was worthy  
to carry the Lord Jesus Christ, alleluia!"

\*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, holy Lord God of Hosts,  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.**

**Glory be to Thee, O Lord most high.**

RECEPTION OF THE ELEMENTS

*Hold until all are served.*

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 *As with Gladness Men of Old* #63

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

*God Be With You Till We Meet Again*

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:

*Barbara Stroebel, Charlotte King, Albert Lawrence, Maude Dunlap, Frederick Arnds, Helen Gallagher, Walter Betka, Clarence Countermine, Dr. Ming Lee*

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.

## Music Notes

We are very thankful today to the Helderberg Madrigal Singers: Martha Bond, soprano, Sarah Johnsen Popiel, soprano; Dawn Dana, alto; Beth Gurzler, alto; Dick Dana, tenor; Dave Metz, bass; Tim Smith, bass.

## Youth Group News

Youth group will start up again this evening at 6pm. We look forward to seeing you all! If you are interested in going on the mission trip (Feb. 18-22), there is still time to sign up, but let Pastor Jonathan know ASAP! Please note, we still need a female adult chaperone to go in order for the trip to happen! *We have until January 18 to find a chaperone.*

## Pigs-in-a-Blanket Sale for Mission Trip

After being such a popular hit last year, the youth group will again be selling authentic Dutch Pigs-in-a-Blanket called *Saucijzebroodjes*. These homemade treats of sausage wrapped in flakey pastry will be on sale ONE DAY ONLY after church on **Sunday, January 21**. One tray for \$12, two trays for \$20. Also, due to intense demand last year, we'll have more vegetarian pigs available – made of black beans. No advanced pre-order, sales until they are gone.

### **Restroom**

If you are looking for a first floor handicap accessible restroom the Mohawk House is open.

### **Mission Shares**

You can be a part of the Youth Group mission trip to Philadelphia! For \$25 you can purchase a share in this great opportunity for our youth to serve those in need, broaden their cultural perspectives, and become better equipped to see and address the needs of their own communities.

### **Camp Fowler Registration is Open!**

Yes, it is already that time, so be sure to reserve your spot for a week or more at Camp Fowler this summer. Senior high campers are especially encouraged to sign up early, as those weeks fill up quickly. Schedules, rates, registration, and other information are available online at [campfowler.org](http://campfowler.org). Let the church office know if you are attending. Scholarships from the FRC Tercentenary Fund are available.

### **Fellowship Committee Hike – Jan 13**

The Fellowship Committee is sponsoring an easy excursion to Bennett Hill near Feura Bush, NY, (Albany County) on Saturday, January 13. This trek is a 2.6 mile loop with a gentle ascent to 662 feet. Pack a lunch and dress for cold, perhaps snowy conditions; meet in the church parking lot at 9 AM. RSVP to James Gonda at 607-765-5349 or [jgonda12309@gmail.com](mailto:jgonda12309@gmail.com).

### **Group VII – Jan 19**

Group VII will be having lunch at the Edison club Jan 19 all those wishing to come should call Connie Young at (518)393-7061.

### **FRC / UPC Unity Celebration – Jan 21**

January 21, we are honoring the coming together of Union Presbyterian Church and First Reformed just a few years ago. Everyone is invited to Dirck Romeyn room immediately following worship for refreshments to celebrate this annual event. If you would like to lend a hand, please contact Barbara Walton, Gay Doolittle, or Amy Brule.

### **Interfaith Soup Shabbat/MLK Discussion**

Join our pastors and the JAC at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Interfaith Soup Shabbat and MLK Lecture being held on **Friday, January 19**, at 6pm at Congregation Gates of Heaven. Sponsored by the *Schenectady Clergy Against Hate*, we'll enjoy soup with members of several other faith communities and hear a program with Dr. Steven Ainlay, outgoing president of Union College and other clergy around issues of diversity in Schenectady. Rev. Jonathan Vanderbeck will be a part of the panel. Suggested donation for dinner is what you would pay to go out to eat, with all proceeds benefitting SICM. Also, each person is asked to bring a school supply donation for area schools in need.

### **Undergarment Collection**

The Youth Ed and Nurture Committee is continuing the collection of undergarments to send to hurricane victims in Puerto Rico. We will be collecting underwear and bras through the end of January. There will be a collection basket in the *Sanctuary*.

### **Justice Action Council Collections for School**

The students at Pleasant Valley Elementary School are in need of FRC support. The fall school-year-kick-off gets all the attention but the winter semester brings identical needs without the fanfare. The teachers at PVE need supplies to support nearly 375 students during this winter semester: Glue sticks, expo dry erase markers (the lower cost brands do not last), pencils, pencil top erasers, crayons, composition notebooks, construction paper, small-unlined dry erase boards, folders, craft supplies and hand wipes. Please provide what you can in the designated corner of the *Dirck Romeyn room*.

### **Collection for Pantry**

We are continuing to help support a new food pantry at Trinity Reformed with canned tuna, peanut butter and complete pancake mix. Please provide what you can in the designated corner of the *Dirck Romeyn room*.

### **Caring for Creation Initiative – Jan 28**

Join Caring for Creation Initiative, Schenectady Classis/Camp Fowler for fellowship, stories and encouragement on our goal to improve and be more aware of Caring for Creation. Our region's most whimsical storytellers, Rev. Kent Busman, Joe Doolittle & Rev. Harlan Ratmeyer, along with host Rev. Daniel Carlson and guest Gay Doolittle will spin tales of "green" and wonder. The evening will build upon our new caring for creation covenant, the success of our implementation efforts, and the momentum of our learning experience this fall at Camp Fowler. The event is to gather congregational members to learn and share the whys and how of creation's Stewardship. We will have pie a la mode! It will be 6pm at First Reformed Church, Scotia, NY, 245 Ballston Avenue, Reservations requested, (518) 588-2801 or [aldenjoe@nycap.rr.com](mailto:aldenjoe@nycap.rr.com)

### **Mental Health First Aid Training**

Your Support and Care committee is aware that while many know CPR or the Heimlich maneuver, few of us are equipped to administer first aid in a mental health crisis. That is why we are hosting a Mental Health First Aid course March 10. This 8-hour training, taught by a certified Mental Health First Aid instructor, lays out the basics of how to help someone experiencing a mental health crisis. Members and friends of First Reformed have a registration privilege **until Feb 1**, when open registration begins. To register go to [1streformed.com](http://1streformed.com) or contact Rev. Carlson or Laura Marx 518-791-1544 Area Director, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

### **History Potluck Dinner – Feb 4**

February 4, from 5-7pm Youth Ed and Nurture Committee will be hosting a History potluck dinner. Come and enjoy great company, good food, and learn some of the history of our church. Everyone is welcome to attend! RSVP to Dorothy at 518-281-5673.

### **Heritage Sunday – Feb 4**

Each year the Archives and Historical Concerns Committee sponsors a First Forum covering historical topics of interest to the membership of the First Reformed Church. Heritage Sunday is February 4 and for this day we have a real treat. Two members of FRC will talk about their experiences in World War II. Bill Rochelle will speak about his training and deployment as a flyer; and Ralph Rosenthal will speak about his experiences growing up in Nazi occupied Holland and his role as a child in the underground. Please join us for this fascinating chance to hear their experiences.

### **Offering Envelopes**

2018 offering envelopes are at the back of sanctuary. There are plenty of extras available for those who did not sign up for them by contacting the church office.

### **Support and Care**

Whenever you are ill, hospitalized, homebound, needing a meal, transportation to a doctor, or grieving a loss, we'd like to know...so we can do what our Committee is named: support and care! Please help us to help you when you are in need by calling Support and Care Chair, Barb Walton (518) 346-1943) or Rev. Daniel Carlson (518) 366-6416) so we can minister faithfully.

### **What to Do With Those Bottles & Cans?**

Turn in your redeemable recyclables at Creating Change Redemption Center at 309 Saratoga Rd. in Glenville, and tell them to donate the deposit to the First Reformed Church of Schenectady Youth Mission Trip. The youth group has an account there and will collect donations until the mission trip in February. The Youth Group is heading to Philadelphia this year!

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Place</b>
Jan 7	8:30am	<b>Boundaries Adult Class</b>	A study group on the book <i>Boundaries</i> .	Mohawk House Pres
Jan 7	9am	<b>Chords of Love</b>	We meet every Sunday. Any kids ages 8-18 are welcome. No experience needed.	Mezzanine
Jan 7	9am	<b>Chancel Choir</b>	Like to sing? or Enjoy singing? Then please consider joining our chancel choir. Rehearsals are Thursdays at 7pm. Good music, good fellowship, good results.	Sanctuary
Jan 7	9:45am	<b>Kinderwyk</b>	Childcare for children through Pre-k, until noon downstairs in Friendship Hall.	Friendship Hall
Jan 7	11am	<b>JAC January Collection Begins</b>	Collections for Pleasant Valley Elementary and Trinity Reformed Pantry begin.	Dirck Romeyn
Jan 7	11:15am	<b>First Forum</b>	Poetry, stories, Word Service readings by Rudy & Kathy Petersen and James Gonda	Sanctuary
Jan 7	5pm	<b>Jazz Vespers</b>	Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass	Sanctuary
Jan 7	6pm	<b>Youth Group</b>	Regular meeting, this semester we will be unpacking “troubling texts” of the Bible.	Mohawk House
Jan 9	10am	<b>Horizons Bible Study</b>	Nine-week study of the book of James, using a study guide by N.T.Wright.	Mohawk House Pres.
Jan 9	6:30pm	<b>Standing Committees</b>	Individual Committees meet on their own.	Dirck Romeyn
Jan 9	7:30pm	<b>Consistory</b>	Officers meeting	Various
Jan 10	9:30am	<b>Kerygma Conversations</b>	Discussion of chapter 23 & 24 in <i>The Story of Christianity</i> .	Dirck Romeyn
Jan 10	2pm	<b>Staff Meeting</b>	All Staff	Office
Jan 10	6pm	<b>Fellowship Meal</b>	Complimentary dinner & informal conversations shared before Contemplative Worship.	Dirck Romeyn
Jan 10	7pm	<b>Contemplative Worship</b>	Reflective service of song, Scripture, communion, prayers, and Christ's peace.	Sanctuary
Jan 10	7pm	<b>Adult Ukulele</b>	Ukuleles play during Contemplative Worship.	Sanctuary
Jan 11	10am	<b>Stitch Group</b>	Meets every Thursday. Contact Joan Lindsay (518)399-3153.	Mezzanine
Jan 11	7pm	<b>Chancel Choir</b>	Can't make it? Come to Sunday 9am rehearsals Contact Corine Salon csalon@nycap.rr.com.	Sanctuary
Jan 13	9am	<b>Fellowship Hike</b>	Going to Bennett Hill. pack a lunch and dress for cold, perhaps snowy conditions; RSVP to James Gonda at 607-765-5349 jgonda12309@gmail.com.	Church parking lot

**Sunday, January 7**

8:00am.....Organ Practice  
 8:30am.....Adult Boundaries Class  
 9:00am.....Choir Rehearsal  
 9:00am.....Chords of Love  
 9:45am.....Kinderwyk  
 10:00am.....Worship  
 10:00am.....Communion  
 10:15am.....Church School  
 11:00am.....Bookshop/Library  
 11:15am.....Forum  
 11:15am.....Kirk Ringers  
 5:00pm.....Jazz Vespers  
 6:00pm.....Youth Group

**Monday, January 8**

9:00am.....Mens News Group

**Tuesday, January 9**

10:00am.....Morning Prayer  
 10:00am.....Horizons Bible Study  
 11:00am.....Admin Meeting  
 11:30am.....Support and Care  
 6:00pm.....Adult Ed. & Nurture  
 6:00pm.....Archives/Historical Concerns  
 6:30pm.....Standing Committees  
 7:30pm.....Consistory

**Wednesday, January 10**

9:30am .....Kerygma  
 1:00pm .....Pastoral Team Meeting  
 1:00pm .....Archives  
 2:00pm .....Staff Meeting  
 3:00pm .....Fellowship Meal  
 7:00pm .....Adult Ukulele  
 7:00pm .....Contemplative Worship

**Thursday, January 11**

11:00am .....Stitch Group  
 7:00pm .....Chancel Choir

**Sunday, January 14**

8:00am ..... Organ Practice  
 8:30am ..... Adult Boundaries 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  
 5:00pm ..... Jazz Vespers

<b>Sunday Volunteers</b>	<b>This Week</b>	<b>Next Week</b>
<b>Jazz Vespers</b>	Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass	Scott Bassinson, solo piano
<b>Bookshop</b>	Nancy Wainwright	Bill Clock
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Gay Doolittle, Richard Gardner	Bill Rochelle, Peter Ontkush
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Bill Clock, Carol DeLaMarter	Doug Todd, Keith Muse
<b>Greeters</b>	Matt & Christina Jones, Sarah Howes	Ralph Rosenthal, Peggy King
<b>Preacher</b>	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Birdie Blackmer, Jeanette Davidson, Eric Evans, Gay Doolittle, Keith Muse, Liz Mastrianni, Del Pierce, Susan Houpt	Christine Daniels, Peggy King, Bill Rochelle, Richard Rose, Margaret Schadler, Maria Todd,
<b>Reader</b>	Liz Mastrianni	Christine Daniels
<b>Refreshments</b>	Gay Doolittle, Sally Bestgen	Sarah Bachorik
<b>Ushers</b>	Alden Brown, Hendrick Arnold, Joanne Arnold, Adam Kerwin	Art Shultes (head usher), Jeanette Davidson, Don Davidson, Joan Arnold, Jim McCullough, Sharron McCullough