

***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.

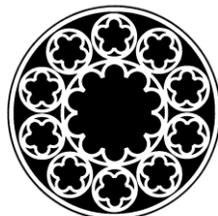
Our fellowship shall not be dependent upon identity of theological opinion, or of outward circumstance, or of denominational concern, but shall grow from a common loyalty to Jesus, a common commitment to serve the world we touch, and a common purpose to do justly, to love kindness, and to walk humbly 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.



The Glowy Parts

the glowy parts of life,
the strange, wonderful, unexpected
can't be explained
away
with normal words
use
lightning and leaven and
noble non-sense



*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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Restroom

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



Hearing Assistance

We have a hearing aid loop system that will make it easier to hear. Ask an usher.



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.

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.

Service Online

A live stream of the worship service as well as some of the past services can be found at 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.

Transfiguration Sunday

February 11, 2018

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Avery Tunningley

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson
The grace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT
O Come Let Us Worship and Bow Down
Michael D. Tebbano

*HYMN *Shine, Jesus, Shine*

Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us
Set us free by the truth you now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me

(Refrain)

Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there be light

Lord, I come to your awesome presence
From the shadows into your radiance
By the blood I may enter your brightness
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me *(refrain)*

As we gaze on your kingly brightness
So our faces display your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story
Shine on me, shine on me *(refrain)*

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**God of all people and nations, we confess
that we are often shortsighted and selfish.
We need your help to understand who is
our neighbor and how we can live together
in peace. Broaden our vision and deepen
our compassion, we pray.**

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE *Gloria, Gloria*

Latin Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!
Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - la, al - le - lu - ia!

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
(from the Belhar Confession)

**Unity must become visible so that the
world may believe that separation, enmity
and hatred between people and groups is
sin which Christ has already conquered,
and accordingly that anything which
threatens this unity may have no place in
the church and must be resisted.**

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM *Sing Praises Unto His Holy Name*
J.S. Bach

Unto His holy name sing praises.
Praise Him with songs of great joy.
For His is the glory, and His is the honor.
For His is the glory, the honor and thanks.

FIRST LESSON Brad Lewis
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.
Amen. *Exodus 3:1-6 (pg 50)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Mark 9:2-9 (pg 44)*

SERMON Bill Levering
Transcendent Moments

*HYMN *Spirit* #319

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Adoramus te Christe Theodore Dubois

Adoramus te Christe et benedicimus tibi,
Quia per sanctam crucem tuam, redemisti munde

*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 *O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair* #75

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Twofold Amen* Dresden

POSTLUDE Sicilian Mariners

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

+ + +

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:

Myrtle Wilson, Bernice Stratton, Mary Reimherr Gladys Toung, Margaret Sager

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 Jean Kemp Bundy and George Bashor given by David & Donna Bundy.

Confirmation Mentors Sought

Returning to an earlier model, we are seeking a few mentors to meet with a confirmation class participant over a meal, at an event, and in some kind of service. Contact Dr. Levering if you are interested.

History Potluck Dinner – Today

The Youth Ed and Nurture Committee will be hosting a History potluck today from 5-7pm. This will be the first in a series of 4 Pot-lucks with a presentation of the history of our church. Come enjoy great company, food and the history of our church. Everyone is welcome! RSVP to Dorothy Linder-Mitchell at 518-281-5673 with number of family members attending and the dish you will bring. We ask that you bring a dish that is a part of your family's history or heritage, it can be an appetizer, main dish or dessert. Series dates: March 4, April 15 & May 20.

Ash Wednesday Service – Feb 14

On Ash Wednesday, join with others seeking to grow in faith and faithfulness hearing of the Word and marking our mortality and God's mercy in the sign of an ashen cross. Our service will be held on February 14 at 7pm. With advanced notice, childcare can be offered. Children are also welcome to participate.

Mission Shares

You can be a part of the Youth Group mission trip to Philadelphia by helping with the costs. For \$25 you can purchase a mission share which helps youth serve people in need, broaden their cultural perspectives, and become better equipped to see and address similar needs in their own communities.

Music Notes

Gloria, Gloria - Jacques Berthier, Words and Music - ©1979 Taize, Les Presses de Taize. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-700700.

Bottles & Cans Collection

Turn in your redeemable recyclables at Creating Change Redemption Center at 309 Saratoga Rd. in Glenville. Tell them to donate the deposit to the First Reformed Church of Schenectady Youth Mission Trip. They will collect donations until the mission trip February 18.

Camp Fowler Registration is Open!

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. Let the church office know if you are attending. Scholarships from the FRC Tercentenary Fund are available.

Johnson Library

There are new books on the library's shelf. A *Boy In Winter* by Rachel Seiffert is about a small Ukrainian town overrun by the SS shortly after the start of WWII. *The Checklist Manifesto* by Atul Gawande is about the challenge of safe patient care given the complexity of medical knowledge. Paul Hawken's book, *Blessed Unrest* is about the growth of a movement of millions of small & larger organizations combating climate change. Belinda Recio's *Inside Animal Hearts and Minds* showcases heartwarming /fascinating examples of animal cognition & emotion. Finally, *The Water Will Come* by Jeff Goodell is about the rising sea levels & higher tides.

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.

Special Collection

Benefiting the victims of the Nott Terrace mudslide in Schenectady. Please make checks payable to SCAP/CCN. Donations can be mailed to SCAP at 913 Albany St, Schenectady, NY 12307. For more information contact Naomi Wood at 518-374-9181 ext 226.

The Home Furnishings Program

Needs of the month – small dressers, kitchen table sets, small sofas, love-seats, living room chairs, saucepans, cutlery, baking & cake pans, cookie sheets, casserole dishes, drinking glasses (no stemware), cereal & dessert bowls, can openers, spatulas, small appliance: toasters /ovens, coffee makers, crock-pots, mixers, irons. To donate, call Jamie Doriguzzi, at 518-346-2444 or at homefurninc@aol.com to arrange for pick-up or warehouse drop-off.

Find us at our February Antique sale!

Upstairs at Habitat for Humanity's ReStore 115 North Broadway, Schenectady. February 7-10 and 14-17, 11am-2pm each day.

February Hike – Feb 17

The Fellowship committee is sponsoring a hike to Berlin Mountain on the NY/MA border on February 17. This excursion is 5.4 miles, round trip, and offers a 360 degree view from the top. Wear footwear suitable for snowy and/or icy conditions. Pack a lunch and meet in the church parking lot at 9am. RSVP to James Gonda at 607-765-5349 or jgonda12309@gmail.com.

Support and Care

Do you know what the Support and Care Committee does? Stop by our table after worship and we would love to tell you.

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.

Parking Reminder

Our handicap parking lot is designated for contractors Monday-Friday. Please park in our other two available lots. Also, please leave the spaces in front of the church open on Sundays for drop off.

Lenten Evening Program

Feb 21 – Mar 21

This year's mid-week education and worship options will take place on five consecutive Wednesdays during Lent. While the customary dinners will not be possible because of construction, light refreshments will be provided for each class shortly before 7pm.

Childcare & Activities for Younger Children

Childcare will be provided upon request. To make arrangements, please call the Church Office 518-377-2201 or email Dorothy Linden-Mitchell at 1streformededucation@gmail.com

After Class Glow

A brief contemplative service with Communion will be held at 8pm in the sanctuary.

This Year's Lenten Classes...

You are invited to join the class of your choice in its particular location at 7pm (come earlier for refreshments). Here's a brief preview:

Lower Carbon Lent

Led by: Rev. Dr. Daniel Carlson

Location: Mohawk House Pres Room

In response to our Creation Care Resolution, we have taken steps as a congregation to decrease our greenhouse gas emissions. This class offers an informative and supportive opportunity for individual members to discover the size and shape of their respective household carbon footprint. We will use National Grid statements, best-guess travel, food, entertainment estimates, and an on-line carbon calculator, among other insight-generating tools. We will brainstorm various options for shrinking the size of our respective footprints and be invited to prayerfully discern those changes each of us feels moved to make in our own lives in order to better serve the world we touch. This discernment will lead us to devising a doable plans and specific practices to live more faithfully with God's creation so that others may fully live!

Conversations on Being Mortal and Care at the End-of-Life

Led by: Dr. Carolyn Jones-Assini /Joe Doolittle

Location: Dirck-Romeyn Room

A discussion of the best-selling book *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End* by Atwal Gwande, MD, using a discussion guide developed by *The Conversations Project*. The discussions focus on aspects of aging and dying, including:

- What is important to us as we age
- Understanding our choices (medical and otherwise)
- Facing our mortality

Carolyn brings perspectives from working with the Palliative Care Service at Ellis Medicine and Joe has had much experience with families facing health challenges as a volunteer Chaplain at Albany Medical Center. Our Series hopes to have several representatives from these groups join our discussion. Our Faith Bookshop has the book available for purchase.

Ukulele for Lent

Led by: Local Ukulele Instigator, Jamie Ipsen

Location: Sanctuary

Everyone ages 8-98 is invited to learn how to play songs on the ukulele that will keep us mindful of the season of Lent, the time we 'get ready' for Easter. This little instrument will bring joy to your day, every day. No prior experience is needed! If you have a ukulele please bring it. If you do not yet own one, we have some for you to use. Please register with the church office so we can prepare enough materials. Contact Jamie Ipsen with questions.

God in the News

Led by: Rev. Dr. Bill Levering

Location: Mohawk House Lunn Room

This drop-in class will look at the headlines of the last week and try to discern our considered response. No Homework is necessary.

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

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
Feb 11	9am	Chancel Choir	Rehearsals start at 9am.	Sanctuary
Feb 11	9am	Chords of Love	We meet every Sunday. Any kids ages 8-18 are welcome. No experience needed.	Mezzanine
Feb 11	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Childcare for children through Pre-k, until noon downstairs in Friendship Hall.	Friendship Hall
Feb 11	11:15am	First Forum	City Mission, "The Light in the Window" by Mike Saccocio	Sanctuary
Feb 11	5pm	History Potluck Dinner	Come and enjoy great company, good food, and learn some of the history of our church! RSVP to Dorothy 518-281-5673.	Mohawk House
Feb 11	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Mike Lamkin, piano	Sanctuary
Feb 12	5pm	RCA Creation Care Initiative	A dinner gathering due to our commitment to work towards ecological sustainability through specific actions such as composting and reusing construction materials in our building project.	Dirck Romeyn
Feb 13	10am	Horizons Bible Study	Nine-week study of the book of James, using a study guide by N.T. Wright.	Mohawk House Pres.
Feb 13	6:30pm	Standing Committees	Individual Committees meet on their own.	Dirck Romeyn
Feb 13	7:30pm	Consistory	Officers meeting	Various
Feb 14	9:30am	Kerygma Conversations	Discussion of chapter 28 in <i>The Story of Christianity</i> .	Dirck Romeyn
Feb 14	2pm	Staff Meeting	All Staff	Office
Feb 14	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Wednesdays, no experience is needed, call the church office to borrow a ukulele.	Dirck Romeyn
Feb 14	7pm	Ash Wednesday	You are invited to begin your Lenten journey with a special worship service. With notice, we offer childcare during this service and all Lenten activities.	Sanctuary
Feb 15	10am	Stitch Group	Meets every Thursday. Come finish a project or start a new one.	Mezzanine
Feb 15	6:30pm	Stephen Ministry	Stephen Ministers meet for continuing education & small group peer supervision	Mohawk House
Feb 15	7:30pm	Chancel Choir	Like to sing? Please consider joining our chancel choir. Rehearsals are Thursdays at 7:30pm, good music & good fellowship	Sanctuary

Sunday, February 11

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.....Bookshop/Library
 11:15am.....Forum
 11:15am.....Kirk Ringers
 11:15am.....UPC Mission Fund Meeting
 5:00pm.....Jazz Vespers
 5:00pm.....Family History Potluck

Monday, February 12

9:00am.....Mens New Group
 5:00pm.....RCA Creation and Care

Tuesday, February 13

10:00am.....Morning Prayer
 10:00am.....Horizons Bible Study
 11:00am.....Admin Meeting
 6:30pm.....Standing Committees
 7:30pm..... Consistory

Wednesday, February 14

9:30am Kerygma Conversations
 1:00pm Pastoral Team Meeting
 1:00pm Archives
 2:00pm Staff Meeting
 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service

Thursday, February 15

7:30am Breakfast Bible Bunch
 11:00am Stitch Group
 6:30pm Stephen Ministry
 7:00pm Chancel Choir

Sunday, February 18

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 Bookshop/Library
 11:15am Forum
 11:15am Kirk Ringers
 5:00pm Jazz Vespers

Sunday Volunteers	This Week	Next Week
Bookshop	Birdie Blackmer	Sarah Howes
Counting Deacons	Joan Lindsay, Doug Todd	Dave Hjelm, Matt Jones
Flower Delivery	Vickie McGowan-Horan, Maria Todd	Peggy King, Birdie Blackmer
Greeters	Mike & Vickie Horan	Don & Marilyn Leach
Jazz Vespers	Mike Lamkin, piano	Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	
Preacher	Bill Levering	Daniel Carlson
Processing Elders	Marilyn Leach, Brad Lewis, Phil Falconer, Don Leach, Tom Lindsay, Maria Todd	Birdie Blackmer, Darwin Brudos, Art Casey, Mary Jewett, Peggy King, Richard Rose
Reader	Brad Lewis	Therese McCarty
Ushers	Del Pierce, Joe Brown, Lian Drisgula, Christina Lund, Doug Todd, Tom Zych	Jim McCullough, Sharron McCullough, Alden Brown, Adam Kerwin