

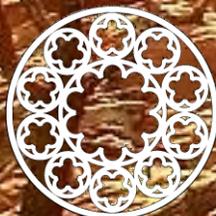
***The Covenant of Our
Congregation
Adopted in 1962***

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.



April 1, 2018

*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.

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.

Easter Sunday

April 1, 2018

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Brass Quartet
Canzona Per Sonare No. 4 Gabrieli

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson
Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT
Christ is Risen! Alleluia! Mark Sheppard

*HYMN *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* #123

*PRAYER (*unison*)
**God of new life, we thank you for the hope
you have given us through Jesus Christ.
Help us to celebrate your Easter triumph
with all of our life. Amen.**

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE
Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
(from Our Song of Hope)
**Jesus Christ is the hope of God's world. In
His death, the justice of God is established;
forgiveness of sin is proclaimed. On the
day of the resurrection, the tomb was
empty; His disciples saw Him; death was
defeated; new life had come. God's
purpose for the world was sealed.**

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

Christ is Risen! Alleluia! Mark Sheppard

Christ is Risen! Alleluia!
Risen our victorious head!
Sing his praises! Alleluia!
Christ is risen from the dead!
Gratefully our hearts adore him,
As his light once more appears;
Bowing down in joy before him,
Rising up from griefs and tears.

Death and hell before him bending,
See him rise, the victor now,
Angels on his steps attending,
Glory round this wounded brow.
Sing his praises! Alleluia!
Risen our victorious head!
Sing his praises! Alleluia!
Christ is risen from the dead!

FIRST LESSON Aline Stabler
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.
Amen. *Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24* (pg 565)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *John 20:1-18* (pg 114)

SERMON Bill Levering
The Many Easters

*HYMN #151
Crown Him with Many Crowns

OFFERING
OFFERTORY
Begin the Song of Glory Now
Alfred Fedak

Begin the song of glory now:
the Son has risen from his grave!
The night of mourning long is past;
life has a purpose, after all.
Our samson smashed the gates of hell,
and we are free at last!
Begin the song of glory now:
the Son has risen from his grave!

Prepare the song of glory now:
the Son has risen from his grave!
Composers, players, find new sounds
for ev'ry instrument and voice:
A note, a chord an aria, a Kyrie, a Gloria.
Prepare the song of glory now:
the Son has risen from his grave!

Repeat the song of glory now:
the Son has risen from his grave!
Complete the Easter overture,
and join the Alleluia choir.
"In Jesus' name" the song begins,
and end "All praise to God alone"
Repeat the song of glory now:
the Son has risen from his grave!

*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 *Christ Is Alive!* #108
We invite anyone wishing to sing the Halleluiah Chorus with us to come forward during the hymn.

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE
Hallelujah Chorus from The Messiah
G.F. Handel

POSTLUDE

+ + +

Entered into Eternal Rest
Laura Fitts – March 29, 2018

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:

Frida Kramer, Robert Matz, Margaret Reed, Roy Peters, Virginia Bard

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.

Easter Offering - One Great Hour of Sharing

This cause, beloved by Union folks, is directed to 3 important areas. The **Hunger Program** works to alleviate hunger throughout the world and supports ministries addressing homelessness and affordable housing. The **Disaster Assistance Program** provides disaster response locally, nationally, and throughout the world. **Self-development of People** collaborates with groups that assist those oppressed by poverty or social systems to help people take charge of their lives. Please share your resources to change lives with this offering on Today.

Flower Delivery - Help Share the Easter Joy

We need volunteers today to deliver flowers to recently bereaved and home-bound church members. The flowers, an addressed card for each recipient, and a bulletin will be available for pick up after the service. Members of the Support and Care Committee will assist. Thanks in advanced for participating in this ministry of delivering, a fragrant symbol of God's faithfulness and a warm greeting on behalf of our family of faith.

Faith Book Shop

Check the Book Shop for CDs that are available for free. More CD donations are appreciated.

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 Dr. , Niskayuna, NY 12309.

Music Notes

We welcome today's instrumentalists David Hosley and Robert Hosley trumpets; William Hoerich and Jonathan Kusche Trombones. Handel composed The Messiah for a fundraiser for people in debtor's prison and the commission also saved him financially. It was later performed to aid an orphanage. The text for "Hallelujah" comes from the book of Revelation 11:15 "And he shall reign for ever and ever."

Our Church's Mission to the Community with Our Building

In the last two months, our building has provided well over 400 hours of meeting and activity space for all kinds of programs:

A Different Way in Reading Dyslexia Tutoring, Community Band Practice, Music Lessons, Gamblers Anonymous, Gam Anon, Life Line Medical Screening, Room For All, Regional Synod, Creating Cultures of Generosity Regional Synod, SAFE Event, Schenectady Community College Organ Rehearsals, Musicians of Ma'alwyk, Electric City Food Co-op, Gardner's Workshop, Antique Group CHA, Stakeholders Meeting, Schenectady Art Society, Fostering Futures Foster Parent Support, Women League of Voters, Samaritan Counseling, Labor and Religion Coalition of New York

College Scholarships

Applications for the Rev. Al Smith Education Scholarship are available through the church office. Please submit your completed application to the church office by Tuesday, May 15. Questions can be directed to the church office.

Offering of Letters

Through Bread for the World, church members & friends are asked to participate in an Offering of Letters to Congress urging them to protect Federal Programs that now help to alleviate hunger in the United States. Materials and sample letters will be available on April 8 during Coffee Hour. Ellie Rowland 518-250-4302.

Johnson Library

Check the library shelf in the Heritage Room for Lent and Easter books.

See the land, her Easter keeping,
Rises as her Maker rose.
Seeds, so long in darkness sleeping,
Burst at last from winter snows.
Earth with heaven above rejoices...
— Charles Kingsley

Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We
are the Easter people and hallelujah is our
song.
— John Paul II

Jesus's resurrection is the beginning of
God's new project not to snatch people
away from earth to heaven but to colonize
earth with the life of heaven. That, after
all, is what the Lord's Prayer is about.
— N.T. Wright

Starting over is an acceptance of a past we
can't change, an unrelenting conviction
that the future can be different, and the
stubborn wisdom to use the past to make
the future what the past was not.
— Craig D. Lounsbrough

It is difficult to say what is impossible, for
the dream of yesterday is the hope of
today and the reality of tomorrow.
— Robert H. Schuller

Coming Up

See the newsletter or call the church office for more information

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
April 1	9am	Chancel Choir	Rehearsal open to all.	Sanctuary
	9am	Chords of Love	We meet every Sunday. Any kids ages 8-18 are welcome. No experience needed.	Mezzanine
	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Childcare for children through Pre-k, until noon downstairs in Friendship Hall.	Friendship Hall
	10am	Easter Sunday	Music for Easter Sunday will be featuring a brass quartet and the Halleluiah Chorus in which we will invite people to join in and sing with the choir.	Sanctuary
	11:15am	First Forum	Easter Reception: Coffee & Conversation	Sanctuary
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Nat Phipps Trio with Pete Toigo and Tom D'Andrea	Sanctuary
April 3	10am	Horizons Bible Study	We resume meeting on Tuesdays. Guides are available from the church office, and the \$7 payment can be made to Peg Miller when class resumes.	Mohawk House Pres
	7pm	Short Short Writing	Writing group for 1000 words or less.	Mohawk House Lunn
April 4	9:30am	Kerygma Conversations	Discussion of chapter 32 in <i>The Story of Christianity</i> .	Mohawk House
	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Wednesdays, no experience is needed, call the church office to borrow a ukulele.	Dirck Romeyn
April 5	10am	Stitch Group	Meets every Thursday. Come finish a project or start a new one.	Mezzanine
	7:30pm	Chancel Choir	Rehearsal open to all.	Sanctuary
April 6	7pm	Avery Presents	Soprano Jean Leonard presents "Spring Serenade," a program with vocal selections for the season. Accompanied by Avery Tunningley.	Sanctuary
April 8	11:15am	First Forum	Update Activities at Camp Fowler by Kent Bushman	Sanctuary
	11:15am	Growing Young Study	New study and discussion group on strategies to help young people discover and love our church.	Mohawk House Pres
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Dave Gleason, piano; Jim Corigliano, sax (courtesy union); Mike Lawrence, bass; Tim Coakley, drums.	Sanctuary
	6pm	Youth Group	Where is God in current events?	Mohawk House Lunn

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
April 9	11am	Group V	Questions contact Maria Todd at (518)882-6555.	Dirck Romeyn
April 10	10am	Horizons Bible Study	Guides are available from the church office, and the \$7 payment can be made to Peg Miller.	Mohawk House Pres
	6:30pm	Standing Committees	Individual Committees meet on their own.	Dirck Romeyn
	7:30pm	Consistory	Officers meeting	Various
April 11	9:30am	Kerygma Conversations	Discussion of chapter 34 in <i>The Story of Christianity</i> .	Mohawk House
	2pm	Staff Meeting	All staff meeting.	Office
	6pm	Fellowship Meal	Complimentary dinner & informal conversations shared before Contemplative Worship.	Dirck Romeyn
	7pm	Contemplative Worship	Reflective service of song, Scripture, communion, prayers, and Christ's peace.	Sanctuary
	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Ukuleles play during Contemplative Worship.	Dirck Romeyn
April 14	8am	Saturday Breakfast	"Poetry Shared: Words from the Heart of Memory" with David Walsh. There will be an opportunity for discussion, and for to share a favorite poem.	Dirck Romeyn
April 15	11:15am	First Forum	Masters Degree Project "Virtual World Designed for Teaching" by Wales Brown.	Sanctuary
	11:15am	New Prayer Group	Join us for a brief time of sharing concerns and praying in a confidential group on the third Sunday of each month. Contact Karen Gonda with questions.	Mohawk House
	11:15am	Growing Young Study	New study and discussion group on strategies to help young people discover and love our church.	Mohawk House Pres
	5pm	History Potluck Dinner	Come and enjoy great company, good food, and learn some of the history of our church!	Mohawk House
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Peg Delaney, piano; Brian Patneaude, sax (courtesy union); Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums	Sanctuary
April 16	10:30am	Stephen Ministry offers Eddy group	Maria Todd is leading a new informal get together to share our life experiences and enjoy Friends from FRC. The meeting takes place the 3rd Monday.	Fireside room at the Eddy
April 18	11am	First Things Volunteers	Help send off our Newsletter. Pizza will be provided. Anyone is welcome.	Mohawk House Lunn
	7:30pm	Evening Circle	Discuss the book, <i>The Light In the Window</i> about the city Mission and its founder, Mike Saccocio.	Mohawk House

**The sanctuary and the chapels are adorned to the glory of God
and in loving memory or in honor of:**

- Peg Norton, Dixie Jeffries, and our parents by Dick & Judy Arthur
- David by Audrey Bain and family
- Mr. & Mrs. Richard E. Burgoyne from their family
- Timothy Burgoyne from his family
- Parents and siblings by Gay & Joe Doolittle
- Bill Dotter by his wife, Elsie & children
- Carlton W. Dyer by his wife, Janice B. Dyer
- Warren D. and Ethel F. Barrett by their children and grandchildren & great grandson
- Rudolph & Therese Mahlberg, and Paul Erickson, by the Erickson family
- William and Louise Stange and Sam Croce by Marlene Risseeuw and the Erickson family
- Janet R. Crandell and Bruce Crandell by their Daughters Donna, Sandy and Linda Fentiman
- Loved Ones by Cynthia Hamilton
- Roy J. Hjelmar, Sidney & Elfie White by their families
- Scott Jewett by his family
- LeRoy Jewett by his family
- Our Dads George Kidwell and Stanley Albert Fernandes by Leah Fernandes
- R. Ned Landon by his wife, Barbara
- Harold Lapham from his family
- Linda Ralbovsky from Liz & Frank Ralbovsky
- Our father Harold Lapham from his children Cindy, Sharron & Jim, Hal & Barb
- In honor of Ursula Settle by a friend
- Mark McDermott by his wife, Gini
- Lembke and Horan Families by Victoria McGowan-Horan & Michael Horan
- Neil W. Moynihan by Sandy Moynihan and family
- Dorothy & Edmund Sanderson by Sandy Moynihan and family
- Our parents Dr. Henry & Emily Nagamatsu, from Nancy, Brian, & their families
- Loved Ones, by Anne Peterson
- Our parents given by Richard & Kate Rose
- Our Parents by Ellie & Gene Rowland
- Margaret (Peg) Shultes by her family
- Daniel J. Thuener by his wife, Vernetta and family
- Husband & father Donald and parents & grandparents Earle & Dena Van Heyningen by Carol, Deborah and Matthew Troost
- Earl Wainwright from his family
- Anne Shepherd Wemple, Robert V. Shepherd and Susan Shepherd by the Welch family
- Carolyn Shepherd Welch by the Welch family
- Palmer V. Welch, Marian A. Welch, Mary C. Welch by the Welch family
- Glenn Winchester & loved ones by his family.
- Eugene W. Zeltmann, Donald E. Craig, Elizabeth Craig, Corinne Craig; Eugene C. Zeltmann & Ruth Zeltmann by Susan Zeltmann
- Eugene Zeltmann by his sister Mary Zeltmann

Sunday Volunteers	This Week	Next Week
Counting Deacons	Carol Troost, Kim Burgoyne	Fred Daniels, Peter Ontkush
Flower Delivery	Easter Flower Delivery	Joanne & Kip Arnold Anne Gotwals
Greeters	Gay Doolittle, Mary Jewett	Birdie Blackmer
Jazz Vespers	Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums	Dave Gleason, piano; Tim Coakley, drums; Jim Corigliano, sax; Mike Lawrence, bass
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders		Joanne Arnold, Barbara Walton, Norma Brown, Art Casey, Phil Falconer, Tom Lindsay
Reader	Aline Stabler	Norma Brown
Ushers	Jim & Sharron McCullough, Alden Brown, Bill Clock, Art Shultes, Ralph Rosenthal, Joan Lindsay	Art Shultes, Hendrick & Joanne Arnold, Jeanette & Don Davidson, Joan Lindsay