

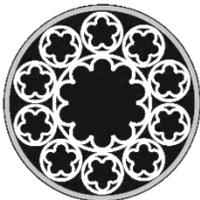
***The Covenant of Our
Congregation
Adopted in 1962***

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 22, 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.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 22, 2018

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Ann Marie Barker Schwartz, violin
Sten Isachsen, guitar

Potpourri, op. 53 for Violin and Guitar
Mauro Giuliani

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Bill Levering
Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP Daniel Carlson

INTROIT
Friends in Faith W. Walker

*HYMN *The Earth Is Yours* Michael Gungor

**Your voice it thunders,
The oaks start twisting
The forest sounds with cedars breaking
The waters see You
and start their writhing
From the depths a song is rising.
Now it's rising from the ground**

*Holy, holy, holy, holy Lord
the earth is yours and singing
Holy, holy, holy, holy Lord
The earth is yours.
The earth is Yours*

**Your voice it thunders
The ground is shaking
The mighty mountains now are trembling
Creation sees you
And starts composing
The fields and trees they start rejoicing.
Now it's rising from the ground (*Chorus*)**

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)
**O God beyond our wildest expectations,
you have given us and all creation new life**

**through Jesus Christ. We often fail to trust
the foundation of this miracle and instead
are deadened by anxiety and apathy,
distraction and despair. Forgive us again
and empower us to live this resurrection
fully. Amen.**

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)

**Halle, halle, halle, lu-jah!
Halle, halle, halle, lu-jah!
Halle, halle, halle, lu-jah!
Hallelujah! Halle, lu-jah!**

*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

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring JS Bach

Jesu, joy of man's desiring,
Holy wisdom Love most bright,
Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring,
Soar to uncreated light.

Word of God our flesh that fashion'd,
With the fire of life impassion'd
Striving still to Truth unknown,
Soaring, dying, round Thy thrown.

FIRST LESSON Amy Brule
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.
Amen. *Psalm 23* (pg 501)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *1 John 3:16-24* (pg 240)

SERMON Daniel Carlson
Laying Down Our Lives in the Anthropocene

***HYMN**

We've Got the Whole World in Our Hands

We've got the whole world in our hands. We've got the whole wide world in our hands. We've got the whole world in our hands. We've got the whole world in our hands.

We've got the youngsters and the elders in our hands. (x3) We've got the whole world in our hands.

We've got the plants and the soils in our hands. (x3) We've got the whole world in our hands.

We've got the animals and atmosphere in our hands. (x3) We've got the whole world in our hands.

We've got the rivers and the oceans in our hands. (x3) We've got the whole world in our hands.

We've got the present and the future in our hands. (x3) We've got the whole world in our hands.

MINUTE FOR MISSION *About The Bins...*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Sten Isachsen, guitar*
Ann Marie Barker Schwartz, violin

Dance of the Blessed Spirits
Christoph Willibald von Gluck

***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** *Touch The Earth Lightly*

Unison

1 Touch the earth light - ly, use the earth gent - ly,
2 We who en - dan - ger, who cre - ate hun - ger,
3 Let there be green - ing, birth from the burn - ing,
4 God of all liv - ing, God of all lov - ing,

nour - ish the life of the world in our care:
a - gents of death for all crea - tures that live,
wa - ter that bless - es and air that is sweet,
God of the seed - ling, the snow and the sun,

gift of great won - der, ours to sur - ren - der,
we who would fos - ter clouds of dis - as - ter -
health in God's gar - den, hope in God's chil - dren,
teach us, de - flect us, Christ re - con - nect us,

trust for the chil - dren to - mor - row will bear.
God of our plan - et, fore - stall and for - give!
re - gen - er - a - tion that peace will com - plete.
us - ing us gent - ly, and mak - ing us one.

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE**
Twofold Amen

POSTLUDE

+ + +

Music Notes

We welcome violinist Ann-Marie Barker Schwartz and guitarist Sten Isachsen.

Touch the Earth Gently words and music copyright 1992 Hope Pub. Co. Halle, Halle, Hallelujah text Marty Haugen, copyright GIA Pub. Inc.; music Caribbean; arr. John Bell and Graham Maule copyright 1990, WGRG the Iona Community; GIA Pub. The Earth is Yours, Michael Gungor. (c) worshiptogether.com songs. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-700700.

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Eugene W. Zeltmann from Susie, Laura, John, Rebecca, Mary, Grant, Ben and Abby.

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:

*Margaret Powers, Rachel Rowe,
Babara Cockerham, Rev. Dr. J. Dean Dykstra,
Patricia Dykstra*

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.

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 Dr. , Niskayuna, NY 12309.

Johnson Library

The Johnson Library has placed the following books on its shelf in the Heritage Room. The first is Atul Gawande book, *Being Mortal* which was the basis for one of the Lenten programs. He discusses how our needs can be met at the end of life. *Dear White Christians* by Jennifer Harvey shows a way forward toward racial reconciliation. *A Ministry of Reconciliation* is a collection of essays in honor of Rev. Dr. Gregg Mast and his ministry of social justice and reconciliation.

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.

Faith Book Shop

A blue cart is currently a free CD station! Take any you want or bring in any you no longer want.

Union Presbyterian Mission Fund

The Union Presbyterian Mission Fund of the First Reformed Church was established to the glory of God and to give shape to a continuing memory and activity in mission from the former Union Presbyterian Church. The purpose of the Fund is to provide for mission causes.

- Distributions will be for no less than \$1,000.
- Distributions may be one-time or multi-year.
- Distributions will attempt to generally honor the mission directions of the former Union Presbyterian Church.
- Distributions will not normally fund the internal activities of the First Reformed Church, but may underwrite mission efforts funded in the budget.

The application form is available on our website 1stReformed.com and are due by April 27.

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, 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.

Coming Up

See the newsletter or call the church office for more information

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
April 22	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
	11:15am	First Forum	Exploring Your Ecological Footprint with Daniel Carlson & Lower Carbon Lent Class.	Sanctuary
	11:15am	Growing Young	Join a new discussion of Growing Young: how to help youth and young adults discover and love your church.	Mohawk House Pres
	12pm	Earth Day Hike	A walk through the Stockade to Vale Cemetery's Green Burial section and FRC's plot - picking up recyclables, compostables, and rubbish en route.	Vale Cemetery
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Mike Lamkin, piano; Steve Lambert, trumpet (courtesy union); Pete Toigo, bass; Tim Coakley, drums	Sanctuary
	6pm	Youth Group	Earth Day and the next generation.	Mohawk House Lunn
April 24	10am	Horizons Bible Study	Guides are available from the church office, and the \$7 payment can be made to Peg Miller.	Mohawk House Pres
April 25	9:30am	Kerygma Conversations	Discussion of chapter 36 in <i>The Story of Christianity</i> .	Mohawk House Pres
	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Wednesdays, no experience is needed, call the church office to borrow a ukulele.	Dirck Romeyn
April 26	10am	Prayer Shawl Knitting	4th Thursday of every month in the home of Gini McDermott.	21 Carrie Ct, Niskayuna
	10am	Stitch Group	Our last meeting for the spring. See you in September, stay tuned for the date, time and place.	Mezzanine
	7:30pm	Chancel Choir	Rehearsal open to all.	Sanctuary
April 27	12pm	Out to Lunch Bunch	Lake Ridge Restaurant in Round Lake is one of the finest restaurants in Saratoga County. Let Gay (518-399-0499) know if you are planning on coming.	Round Lake
April 28	9am	Bird-Watching Excursion	A "bird hike" to Vischer Ferry Nature and Historic Preserve, led by bird expert Jamie Taft. RSVP to James at jgonda12309@gmail.com or 607-765-5349.	Church Parking Lot

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
April 29	11am	Care & Prayer	Trained Stephen Ministers are available to sit with, listen to & pray for & with you.	Dykstra Chapel
	11:15am	First Forum	Union College Protestant Ministry Celebration of Rev. Viki Brooks retirement	Sanctuary
	11:15am	Growing Young	Join a new discussion of Growing Young: how to help youth and young adults discover and love your church.	Mohawk House Pres
	11:15am	Prayer and Support	Join us for a brief time of sharing concerns and praying in a confidential group every other Sunday. Please contact Karen Gonda with questions.	Mohawk House Lunn
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Azzaam Hameed, piano; Keith Pray, sax (courtesy union); Mike Lawrence, bass; Quinton Cain, drums	Sanctuary
May 4	7pm	Avery Presents	Johnny Willis will present a program of vocal and guitar music. His program will include solos from Johnny Cash to George Gershwin, with blues, folk, and Cat Stevens.	Sanctuary
May 5	8am	Saturday Breakfast	Our presenter will be Bill Clock speaking about Glenn Curtiss, an American aviation & motorcycling pioneer, and a founder of the U.S. aircraft industry.	Dirck Romeyn
		Memorial Service	Laura Fitts Memorial Service. A reception will follow in the Dirck Romeyn room.	
		Guess who is coming to dinner	A dinner at members' homes where all of the participants are a mystery to one another. James Gonda at 607-765-5349 or jgonda12309@gmail.com	Various Homes
May 6	11:15am	First Forum	Master Bike Plan by Peter Knutson	Sanctuary
	1pm	Crop Walk	5k beginning at Emmanuel Friedens Church.	218 Nott Terrace
	3pm	What's What @ FRC	A relaxed, noncommittal, and interactive session for folks to learn more about First Reformed. It is also a time for us to get to know you and find out what you are looking for in a church family.	Church Office
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	TBD	Sanctuary
	6pm	Youth Group	Regular Youth Group – Snacks, games and quality conversation.	Mohawk House Lunn
May 9	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

Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves and strength that will endure as long as life lasts. — Rachel Carson

“The ultimate test of man's conscience may be his willingness to sacrifice something today for future generations whose words of thanks will not be heard.”— Gaylord Nelson

"God loves us pure and simple, flaws and all, and it is this gracious love that frees us to love others. This knowledge of God's love and grace, if we allow it, can so fill us that we are able to pour out ourselves for others without worrying that there won't be enough love (or anything else, for that matter) left over for us."
— Sharron R. Blezard

If we don't do the impossible, we shall be faced with the unthinkable. — Petra Kelly

“We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history, there "is" such a thing as being too late. This is no time for apathy or complacency. This is a time for vigorous and positive action... — Martin Luther King Jr.

Surely it is worthwhile to lay ourselves out with all our might in promoting the kingdom of Christ. — William Carey

...Having known the grace that for so long has kept this world, haggard as it is , as we have made it, we cannot be rest, we must be stirring to keep that gift dwelling among us, eternally alive in time. This is the great work, no other, none harder, none nearer rest or more beautiful.
— Wendell Berry

Sunday Volunteers	This Week	Next Week
Bookshop	Birdie Blackmer	Martha Winchester
Counting Deacons	Vickie McGowan-Horan, Joan Lindsay	Sarah Bachorik, Dick Gardner
Flower Delivery	Ruth & Ken Roinos Rick & Cheryl Zahner	Marilyn & Don Leach Connie Young
Greeters	David & Donna Bundy	Viki Brooks, John Lawton
Jazz Vespers	Mike Lamkin, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Steve Lambert, trumpet; Tim Coakley, drums	Azzaam Hameed, piano; Keith Pray, sax; Mike Lawrence, bass; Quinton Cain, drums
Liturgist	Bill Levering	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Daniel Carlson	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Gay Doolittle, Peggy King, Bill Rochelle, Richard Rose, Ellie Rowland, Margaret Schadler	Del Pierce, Norma Brown, Art Casey, Jeanette Davidson, Susan Houpt, Keith Muse
Reader	Amy Brule	Ellie Rowland
Ushers	Tom Burgoyne, David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Karen Gonda, Berta Phipps, Nat Phipps	Bill Clock, Julia Etkin, Lisa Etkin, Christina Jones, Matt Jones, Aline Stabler, Nancy Wainwright