

***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.

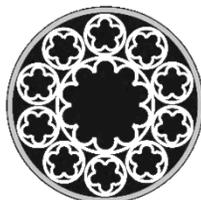


Godly Prepositions

God arrives

At our location
Into our situations
Including us all
Throughout our lives
Despite our selfishness

But mostly, simply
With us.



April 29, 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.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 29, 2018

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Avery Tunningley

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT *Friends in Faith* W. Walker

*HYMN *All Things Bright and Beautiful* #267

OPENING PRAYER

Good and loving God, gather us together to walk with you and with each other on this earth. Open our eyes to new possibilities, our hearts to new caring, and our hands to new tasks.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION OF PARENTS AND CHILD

Peter & Kristin Lion; Micah Jonathan Lion

RENOUNCIATION, PROFESSION, AND

PROMISE OF PARENTS

*PROMISE OF CONGREGATION

Do you promise to love, encourage and support this sister 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.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BAPTISMAL COVENANT Rev. Jerry Lion

SONG *Borning Cry* Kate Rose

*DECLARATION, BLESSING, WELCOME

Welcome our new sister 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 spiritual arr by Benjamin Harlan

Give Me Jesus

In the morning when I rise,
In the morning when I rise,
In the morning when I rise, Give me Jesus.
You can have all this world, Give me Jesus
Just before the break of day,
Just before the break of day,
Just before the break of day, Give me Jesus
And when I come to die, And when I come to die,
And when I come to die, Give me Jesus.

FIRST LESSON Ellie Rowland
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.
Amen. Acts 8:26-40 (pg 127)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON Acts 10:44-48 (pg 130)

SERMON Bill Levering
Ride Along

*HYMN *Let All Things Now Living* #554

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Most Holy Lamb Benjamin Harlan

You left Your Father's side,
Most Holy Lamb of God.
To be bruised and crucified,
Most Holy Lamb of God.
How we, How we love You, Holy, Holy One,
And now with us abide, Most Holy Lamb of God.

In innocence alone, Most Holy Lamb of God.
Transgressions to atone, Most Holy Lamb of God.
How we, How we love You, Holy, Holy One,
And now with us abide, Most Holy Lamb of God.

In humbleness we sing,
Most Holy Lamb of God.
True thankfulness we bring,
Most Holy Lamb of God.
Alleluia; We bow before our King,
Most Holy Lamb of God.

*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 #538
Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Twofold Amen*

POSTLUDE

+ + +

Entered into Eternal Rest

Marjorie McSwain – April 19, 2018

Rev. Margaret (Peg) Miller – April 20, 2018

A service was held on April 26.

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Glenn Winchester by his family and Rev. Margaret (Peg) Miller by her family.

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:

*Dae Gillespie, Leonard Grupe, James Tillma,
Garrett Veeder, Dorothy Greenwood, Harold
Cassidy, Katherine Studer, Leroy Moody,
Clarence H. Linder Sr., Erin Falconer Cullen,
Elizabeth Paine*

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.

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.

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.

Kinderwyk

We are looking for a new staff member to play and work with our youngest members. Our great Kinderwyk Assistant, Alexis Wisniewski, will be leaving us to continue her education at SUNY Oneonta! Alexis' last Sunday with us will be August 19.

In addition to finding a new staff for Kinderwyk, we are compiling a list of volunteers for Kinderwyk for the summer and school year. We need an extra adult (over 18) in Kinderwyk each Sunday to keep FRC's child protection policies valid. Please find at least one Sunday this year to devote to this important childcare. It is from 9:45am – 12pm, at the latest.

Johnson Library

We have placed the following books on our shelf. 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.

Consistory Nominations Requested

The Nominating Committee of First Reformed Church seeks recommendations from the congregation for Elder and Deacon Candidates from members of FRC. Candidates for Consistory should have a vision, leadership skills, and be active participants in the worship and activities of this church. Elders and Deacons will be elected at the annual meeting of the congregation on June 3. There are **yellow nomination forms** located at the various entrances of the church or you may write your suggestions on a white pew card **by May 6**. Recommendations may be submitted to the church office or any member of the Committee: Ann Gotwals, Vernetta Thuener, Bill Rochelle, Caroline Welch, James Gonda, Jeanne Shoulder, Fred Daniels, Bill Levering, and Daniel Carlson.

Healthy Women, Healthy Families

Mother's Day Project

The church has Mother's Day Cards available. Proceeds from your free-will purchase go to the Healthy Women Healthy Families project and they will inform the recipient of the gift in her honor. Please contact Lauren Cleworth at coachLT@nycap.rr.com.

Faith Book Shop

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

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 for: 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.

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

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
April 29	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
	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 discussion of Growing Young: how to help youth/young adults discover and love your church.	Mohawk House Lunn
	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 1	10am	Horizons Bible Study	Guides are available from the church office for \$7.	Mohawk House Pres
	7pm	Short Short Writing	Writing group for 1000 words or less.	Mohawk House Lunn
May 2	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
May 3	7:30pm	Chancel Choir	Rehearsal open to all.	Sanctuary
May 4	7pm	Avery Presents	Johnny Willis will present vocal and guitar music. It will include solos from Johnny Cash to George Gershwin, with blues, folk, and Cat Stevens.	Sanctuary
May 5	8am	Saturday Breakfast	Bill Clock speaking on Glenn Curtiss, motorcycling & aviation pioneer, founder of U.S. aircraft industry.	Dirck Romeyn
	2pm	Memorial Service	Laura Fitts Memorial Service. A reception will follow in the Dirck Romeyn room.	Sanctuary
	6pm	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

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
May 6	11:15am	First Forum	Master Bike Plan by Peter Knutson	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	Confirmation Class		Bill's Office
	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 and a time for us to get to know you and find out what you are looking for in a church family.	Church Office
	4pm	Synod Day of Mission and Ministry Celebration	Join us in showcasing your ministry and be inspired by the mission success of our Regional Synod family are on sale for \$10/person. Reserve your tickets at: https://tinyurl.com/smbcelebration.	Delmar Reformed Church
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Bass duo — Pete Toigo, Mike Lawrence with special guest Tom D'Andrea on drums	Sanctuary
	6pm	Youth Group	Regular Youth Group – Snacks, games and quality conversation.	Mohawk House Lunn
May 7	11am	Group V	Questions contact Maria Todd at (518)882-6555.	Dirck Romeyn
May 8	6:30pm	Standing Committees	Individual Committees meet on their own.	Dirck Romeyn
	7:30pm	Consistory	Officers meeting	Various
May 9	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
May 13	11:15am	First Forum	From Our Poetry/Prose Collection by James Gonda	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

“Judge a man by his questions rather than by his answers.” — Voltaire

“He who has a why to live for can bear almost any how.” — Friedrich Nietzsche

“If they can get you asking the wrong questions, they don't have to worry about answers.”
— Thomas Pynchon, *Gravity's Rainbow*

“Most misunderstandings in the world could be avoided if people would simply take the time to ask, “What else could this mean?”
— Shannon L. Alder

“The scientist is not a person who gives the right answers, he's one who asks the right questions.”
— Claude Lévi-Strauss

"The Church has often answered questions no one has ever asked, in language no one can understand." — Paul Tillich



Sunday Volunteers	This Week	Next Week
Bookshop	Martha Winchester	Bill Clock
Counting Deacons	Sarah Bachorik, Dick Gardner	Fred Daniels, Therese McCarty
Flower Delivery	Marilyn & Don Leach, Connie Young	Gay & Joe Doolittle, Del Pierce
Greeters	Viki Brooks, John Lawton	Art & Millie Casey
Jazz Vespers	Azzaam Hameed, piano; Keith Pray, sax; Mike Lawrence, bass; Quinton Cain, drums	Bass duo — Pete Toigo, Mike Lawrence with special guest Tom D’Andrea on drums
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Del Pierce, Norma Brown, Art Casey, Jeanette Davidson, Susan Houpt, Keith Muse	Joanne Arnold, Liz Mastrianni, Jeanne Shoulder, Barbara Walton, Birdie Blackmer, Gay Doolittle, Carolyn Jones-Assini, Maria Todd
Reader	Ellie Rowland	Liz Mastrianni
Ushers	Bill Clock, Julia Etkin, Lisa Etkin, Christina Jones, Matt Jones, Aline Stabler	Del Pierce, Joe Brown, Lian Drisgula, Christine Lund, Doug Todd, Tom Zych