

*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.

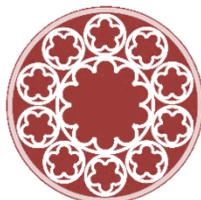
Our fellowship shall not be dependent upon identity of theological opinion, or of outward circumstance, or of denominational concern, but shall grow from a common loyalty to Jesus, a common commitment to serve the world we touch, and a common purpose to do justly, to love kindness, and to walk humbly 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 dove descending breaks the air
With flame of incandescent terror
Of which the tongues declare
The one discharge from sin and error.
The only hope, or else despair
Lies in the choice of pyre or pyre-
To be redeemed from fire by fire.

Who then devised the torment? Love.
Love is the unfamiliar Name
Behind the hands that wove
The intolerable shirt of flame
Which human power cannot remove.
We only live, only suspire
Consumed by either fire or fire.”
— T.S. Eliot, *Four Quartets*



May 20, 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.

Pentecost

May 20, 2018

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

Chords of Love

Air on Open Strings

Anne Ku

Garden Song

David Mallett

I Can See Clearly Now

Johnny Nash

A New Song

Tom Belt

10:00 a.m.

GREETING

Daniel Carlson

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you. **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill Levering

INTROIT

George McDonald

My Morning Song

*HYMN

Where the Spirit Is

Per Harling

Refrain:

Where the Spirit is, there's freedom.

Where the Spirit is, there is life!

**Not by this age can our freedom be nourished
not by our things, only by Spirit.**

**Practice my children to live by the Spirit,
drop all your masks, take freedom's clothing!**

(Refrain)

**Kingdom of God present among us,
gives to us all strength for the journey.
Practice my children to live by the Spirit,
tasting today hope for God's future!**

(Refrain)

**Wounds will be healed, eyes will be opened,
imaging God reflecting Jesus.
Practice my children to live by the Spirit;
heaven is here, time made eternal!**

Jonas Jonson

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**God of all, we come in humility, confessing
that we are often obstructive and afraid.
When your Spirit speaks, we distrust what
we hear, for we fear what you may be
calling us to do. When your Spirit lights a
fire, we extinguish the flame, afraid of the
light and heat you may be bringing. When
your Spirit blows, we close the windows of
our hearts, afraid of your disrupting our
lives. Forgive us, O Lord, and open us
anew to your Spirit.**

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)

Halle, halle, halle, lu-jah!

Halle, halle, halle, lu-jah!

Halle, halle, halle, lu-jah!

Hallelujah! Halle, lu-jah!

RECEPTION OF CONFESSING MEMBERS

Emily Grace Brazee, Ryan William Brazee,
Owen Charles Evans, Molly Alice Mason,
Laura Constance Mason, Gabriella Grace
Pizzolo, Joseph Michael Rivera Brown,
Tess Sheremeta

PRESENTATION AND PROMISES OF CONFESSING MEMBERS

*PROMISE OF THE CONGREGATION

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed - Ecumenical version

**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.

***BLESSING AND WELCOME**

We are ambassadors for Christ.
We are the salt of the earth;
we are the light of the world.
Welcome our sisters and brothers in Christ.
Joyfully we receive you. 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 Francis Patrick O'Brien

Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the living God,
born of passion and delight,
melting hearts of stone,
guiding lost ones home,
child of wind and flame and light.

Spirit moving in our days,
breaking through all that divides,
claiming what is just,
calling all to trust,
presence in which God resides.

Breathe in us your breath of life,
life from God which has no end.
Raise us from the grave,
ev'ry soul to save,
Spirit, God and gentle friend.

Be our home at journey's ending.
Spirit in a world that waits,
be the one for whom we long.
Hurry to our side;
be our heav'nly guide.
Place us in Creation's song.

Spirit, teach us now your way;
break the circle of our pain.
Open up our eyes;
come, renew our lives.
Stir in us your holy flame!

Breathe in us your perfect peace,
peace that conquers all our fear;
teach us to forgive;
in you love we live.
Spirit, God, be present here;
you, our joy from year to year.

Veni Sancte, Sancte Spiritus.

FIRST LESSON Barbara Walton
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.
Amen. Acts 2:1-21 (pg 119)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15 (pg 110)

SERMON Bill Levering
Other Languages

***HYMN** *Spirit* #319

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Melanie Chirignan, Flute
Be Still My Soul Rhonda Larson

***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** #324
Open My Eyes That I May See

***BENEDICTION**

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Threefold Amen

Traditional

POSTLUDE

+ + +

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:

Edward Lustenader, Jr., Katherine W. Williams, Arthur Lord, Judith Bresler, William George, Hazel A. Feiker, Martha Wallender, Ricard Lawton, Edmund Sanderson

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.

Music Notes

Melanie Chirignan, a native of Hauppauge, NY, is a flautist known for her musicality and versatility of repertoire. She earned her Bachelor's in Music Performance and Music Education graduating magna cum laude from SUNY Fredonia, and her Master's Degree in Flute Performance at the Hartt School. She is currently freelancing and teaching in Schenectady. Halle, Halle, Hallelujah text Mary Haugen, Copyright GIA Pub. Inc.; arr. John Bell and Graham Maule, copyright 1990, WGRG Iona Community; GIA.

Who's Graduating?

To celebrate those graduating we compile a list of them in the newsletter. Please let us know.

Kinderwyk

We are looking for a new staff member to work with our youngest members. Our Kinderwyk Assistant, Alexis Wisniewski, will be going away to college to continue her education at SUNY Oneonta! Her last Sunday with us will be August 19. In addition, 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 child care. It's from 9:45am – noon.

Sunday School

We are compiling a list of volunteers to teach Sunday School classes in September. We would like individuals to commit to a three-month period (Sept – Nov, Dec – Feb, March – May).

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. Let the church office know if you are attending. Scholarships are available.

Pill Bottle Donations

Matthew 25: Ministries is looking for pill bottle donations. Bottles are collected then sent to places where medical supplies are needed. Many of the bottles will be sent to developing nations. Look for donation boxes in Dirck Romeyn room, Lobby of Mohawk House, and outside church office by information desk. For questions contact Scott Ebeling at 1-518-424-2813 or email sebeling8954@gmail.com. Web page for Matthew 25 ministries is M25M.org. Click on how to help tab then click on product donations. (then you find Pill Bottles).

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

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
May 20		Pentecost	Wear Red to Worship	
	9am	Confirmation Class Meeting	We will greet and get to know these winsome youth who will be joining the church just a few minutes later. They have worked hard and are ready for this next step.	Mohawk House
	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	Masters Degree Project "Virtual World Designed for Teaching" by Wales Brown	Sanctuary
	11:15am	Growing Young	Ongoing discussion of Growing Young: how to help youth and young adults discover and love your church.	Mohawk House Pres
	12pm	Bike Ride	A leisurely group ride from our church facility on the bike path about 5 miles west to Kiwani's Park. We will embark after First Forum and enjoy our packed lunches upon arrival. Everyone is welcome!	Parking Lot
	5pm	History Potluck	Come enjoy great company, food, and the beginning history of our church. Everyone is welcome! RSVP to Dorothy Linder-Mitchell at 518-281-5673.	Mohawk House
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass	Sanctuary
May 22	10am	Horizons Bible Study	Guides are available from the church office for \$7.	Mohawk House Pres
May 23	11am	First Things Volunteers	Help send off our Newsletter. Pizza will be provided. Anyone is welcome.	Mohawk House Lunn
	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Wednesdays, no experience is needed, call the church office to borrow a ukulele.	Dirck Romeyn
May 24	10am	Prayer Shawl Knitting	4th Thursday of every month in the home of Gini McDermott.	21 Carrie Ct, Niskayuna
	7:30pm	Chancel Choir	Rehearsal open to all.	Sanctuary
May 25	12pm	Out to Lunch Bunch	Cafe, gourmet market, seasonal cider mill & garden center. Located at 336 Schaubert Rd, Ballston Lake. Clue Gay 518-399-0499 or just show up.	Lakeside Farms

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
May 25	5pm	Youth Group	Youth Serving a Meal at City Mission - Sign-Up Required. 425 Hamilton St, Schenectady, NY 12305	City Mission
May 26	10am	Spring Open House at Camp Fowler	Meet the staff, play games, explore, and share a meal. Arrival at 10am, lunch at 11:45am, Departures at 4pm. RSVP so we can put a burger on for you!	152 Pelcher Rd, Lake Pleasant, NY 12108
May 27	11am	Care & Prayer	Trained Stephen Ministers are available to sit with, listen to & pray for & with you.	Dykstra Chapel
	11:15am	First Forum	Coffee & Conversation	Sanctuary
	11:15am	Growing Young	Ongoing 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	Wayne Hawkins, piano	Sanctuary
May 28 – Memorial Day, Office Closed				
June 3	10am	Youth Service	Our children and youth will again be leading worship. Please contact Jamie Ipsen, Dorothy Mitchell Linder, or Daniel Carlson with any questions regarding this lively liturgy.	Sanctuary
	11am	Annual Meeting	We will receive Annual reports, elect officers & the nominating committee.	Sanctuary
	11am	All Church Picnic	Our Annual spring picnic. Please bring a side dish, dessert, or snack to share.	Church Front Lawn
June 10	9am	Ushers Breakfast	Looking for help on Sunday. If interested please attend.	Mohawk House Lunn
	11:15am	First Forum	A Tercentenary Funded Educational Adventure: Certificate in Theology and Ministry by Lisa Etkin	Sanctuary
	12pm	Gay Pride Parade	Please contact Jeanne Shoulder for if interested in attending, 781-724-5030 / jmshoulder@hotmail.com.	Washington Square Park
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Dave Gleason, piano	Sanctuary
June 17	11:15am	FRC Orff Group	The FRC Orff Group will have its first meeting following church service. We will play throughout the summer. Children ages 4+ and adults are welcome to join. No experience is necessary!	Sanctuary Balcony

“When you strip it of everything else, Pentecost stands for power and life. That's what came into the church when the Holy Spirit came down on the day of Pentecost.” — David Wilkerson

“Surprisingly, the Christian faith today is perceived as disconnected from the supernatural world – a dimension that the vast majority of outsiders believe can be accessed and influenced.” — David Kinnaman

“The wizard [of Oz] says look inside yourself and find self. God says look inside yourself and find [the Holy Spirit]. The first will get you to Kansas. The latter will get you to heaven. Take your pick.” — Max Lucado

Earthly wisdom is doing what comes naturally. Godly wisdom is doing what the Holy Spirit compels us to do. — Charles Stanley

Bethlehem was God with us, Calvary was God for us, and Pentecost is God in us. — Robert Baer

O Holy Spirit, descend plentifully into my heart. Enlighten the dark corners of this neglected dwelling and scatter there Thy cheerful beams. — Saint Augustine

“Wisdom is knowing the right thing to do and doing it at the right time to get the desired result. It is also the correct application of knowledge.” — Patience Johnson

“I was all the time tugging and carrying water. But now I have a river that carries me.” — Dwight Lyman Moody

Without Pentecost the Christ-event - the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus - remains imprisoned in history as something to remember, think about and reflect on. The Spirit of Jesus comes to dwell within us, so that we can become living Christs here and now. — Henri Nouwen

We do not need to wait for the Holy Spirit to come: he came on the day of Pentecost. He has never left the church. — John Stott

Christians have no business thinking that the good life consists mainly in not doing bad things. We have no business thinking that to do evil in this world you have to be a Bengal tiger, when, in fact, it is enough to be a tame tabby—a nice person but not a good one. In short, Pentecost makes it clear that nothing is so fatal to Christianity as indifference. — William Sloane Coffin

Sunday Volunteers	This Week	Next Week
Bookshop	Christina Jones	Closed
Counting Deacons	Sarah Bachorik, Richard Rose	Andy Chestnut, David Bundy
Flower Delivery	Jeanette & Don Davidson, Sarah Howes	Berta & Nat Phipps, Wales Brown
Greeters	Christina & Matt Jones	Ruth & Jeff Cox
Jazz Vespers	Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass	Wayne Hawkins, piano
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	
Preacher	Bill Levering	Daniel Carlson
Processing Elders	Barbara Walton, Roberta Blackmer, Christine Daniels, Eric Evans, Richard Rose, Margaret Schadler	Del Pierce, Caroline Welch, Phil Falconer, Mary Jewett, Peggy King, Bill Rochelle
Reader	Barbara Walton	Kristin Lion
Refreshments	Ann Bish & Ann Hicks	
Ushers	Art Shultes, Hendrick Arnold, Joanne Arnold, Jeanette Davidson, Don Davidson, Karen Gonda	Michael Horan, Hannah Bachorik, Sarah Bachorik, Crystal Mongillo, Justine Ochal, Ralph Rosenthal