

***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.*

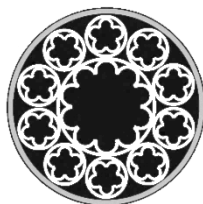
*Our fellowship shall not be dependent upon identity of theological opinion, or of outward circumstance, or of denominational concern, but shall grow from a common loyalty to Jesus, a common commitment to serve the world we touch, and a common purpose to do justly, to love kindness, and to walk humbly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



"Choose Something Like a Star"  
- Robert Frost

O Star (the fairest one in sight),  
We grant your loftiness the right  
To some obscurity of cloud  
It will not do to say of night,  
Since dark is what brings out your light.  
Some mystery becomes the proud.  
But to be wholly taciturn  
In your reserve is not allowed.  
Say something to us we can learn  
By heart and when alone repeat.  
Say something! And it says "I burn."  
But say with what degree of heat.  
Talk Fahrenheit, talk Centigrade.  
Use language we can comprehend.  
Tell us what elements you blend.  
It gives us strangely little aid,  
But does tell something in the end.  
And steadfast as Keats' Eremit,  
Not even stooping from its sphere,  
It asks a little of us here.  
It asks of us a certain height,  
So when at times the mob is swayed  
To carry praise or blame too far,  
We may choose something like a star  
To stay our minds on and be staid.



**June 24, 2018**

*First Reformed Church  
8 North Church Street  
Schenectady, New York 12305  
(518) 377-2201 [www.1stReformed.com](http://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](http://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 after Pentecost**

June 24, 2018

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Eric Marczak, flute  
John Norton, piano  
Abby Norton Levering, violin

*The Honor Song* Traditional Navajo Tune  
*The Gael* Dougie MacLean  
*Distant Voices* Richard Soaring Owl

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Bill Levering  
The grace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

\*HYMN *Earth and All Stars* #458

\*OUR NEED FOR GOD

**Gracious God, our mistakes are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what we fear to name, what we cannot bear, and what feels like eternal punishment. Set us free from a past we cannot change and open to us a future in which we can be changed into whole and holy reflections of your Christ. Amen.**

\*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!**

\*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.**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

MUSICAL OFFERING

Abby Norton Levering, violin  
*Down* Sally Gardens

FIRST LESSON George Trimarco  
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.** *Genesis 1* (pg 1)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Psalm 121* (pg 571)

SERMON *A Scientist's Sermon* Walt Robb

\*HYMN *All Things Bright and Beautiful* #267

OFFERING

OFFERTORY  
*A Rain Song* Eric Marczak

\*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 #539  
*Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise*

### \*BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

+ + +

#### **Entered into Eternal Rest**

Shirley Manning Barnes – June 3, 2018  
A service was held on June 11.

### **In Memoriam**

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Bruce Crandell on his Birthday by his daughters, Linda, Sandy and Donna Fentiman.

### **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:

*Robert B. Gilbert, Richard McLane, Robert Marshall, Glenn Roe*

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 Risseeuw, 2140 Niskayuna Dr., Niskayuna, NY 12309.

### **Music Notes**

*The Honor Song*, based on a traditional Navajo tune. Flute; Eric Marczak. Piano: John Norton. Arrangement: Peg Delaney. *The Gael*, written in 1990 by Scottish composer, Dougie MacLean. This is the theme song for the movie, "The Last of the Mohicans" 1992. *Distant Voices*, composed by Richard Soaring Owl (Mohawk). Eric is using a replica of a 1,200- 1,500 year old Anasazi flute found in Arizona in 1931. The Praise for today is *Down by the Sally Gardens*. It is a poem by W.B. Yeats published in 1889. The poem was set to music in 1909 by Herbert Hughs to the traditional air "The Moorlough Shore". Today's Offertory *A Rain Song*, composed by Eric Marczak based on an Adirondack thunderstorm which was called in by the singing of the Loons. Piano performance, via technology, Our first Lady of jazz, Peg Delaney.

*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. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-700700.

### **SICM Summer Lunches**

New date & place for 1st Reformed's volunteers to serve SICM Summer Lunches. We will serve at Quackenbush Park, between Mt. Pleasant & Pleasant Valley schools. The volunteer time is from 11:30am-1pm starting from June 25 to July 9. Three volunteers are needed for each day, except July 4. Sign up in the Dirck Romeyn room or call Ellie Rowland, 518-250-4302.

## Faith Book Shop

A year-long, spiral Daily Devotional collection was put together by Group V and wrapped with a beautiful bow ready to give as a meaningful gift to someone else or to keep for nurturing your own spiritual journey

## 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).

## Johnson Library

Three books have been added to the library's shelf. In *The Secrets of Wildflowers*, Jack Sanders shares wonderful superstitions as well descriptions of habitats and the essential roles of wildflowers in our environment. Dirk Hayhurst's book, *Out of My League*, tells the story of his life as minor & major league baseball pitcher in a very real & humorous way. *The Brothers Vonnegut* is in part a Schenectady & GE story since both Kurt, a great literary talent, and Bernard, a weather scientist, both worked at GE. The book is a cultural history of the 1950's seen through the lives of the two brothers.

Sunday Volunteers	This Week	Next Week
Bookshop	Birdie Blackmer	Bill Clock
Counting Deacons	Christina Jones, Joan Lindsay	David Bundy, Vickie McGowan-Horan
Flower Delivery	Sally & Jack Bestgen, Christina & Matt Jones	Joanne Arnold, Inge-Lise Pangburn
Greeters	Laura Lee, Matthew Mitchell and Jeanette Mitchell	
Jazz Vespers	Tim Olsen, piano	Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass
Liturgist	Bill Levering	
Preacher	Walt Robb	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Joanne Arnold, Jeanne Shoulder, Phil Falconer, Peggy King, Cathy Lewis, Maria Todd	Joanne Arnold, Amy Brule, Wayne Brule, Richard Rose
Reader	George Trimarco	Amy Brule
Ushers	Jim McCullough, Sharron McCullough, Alden Brown, Adam Kerwin	Art Shultes, Hendrick Arnold, Joanne Arnold, Jeanette Davidson, Don Davidson, Joan Lindsay

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Place</b>
June 24	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	<b>FRC Orff Group</b>	<b>We will play throughout the summer. Children ages 4 and older and adults are welcome to join. No experience is necessary!</b>	<b>Sanctuary Balcony</b>
	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	Tim Olsen, piano	Sanctuary
June 25	6pm	NAMI Course	The local chapter of the National Alliance for Mental Illness offers this free course in caring for a loved one with mental illness. Email <a href="mailto:namisohenectady@gmail.com">namisohenectady@gmail.com</a>	Mohawk House Lunn
<b>June 26</b>	<b>6pm</b>	<b>Youth Group</b>	<b>YG will be serving at City Mission. Clothing sorting at their distribution center. 11 Cheltingham Ave Rotterdam NY 12306.</b>	<b>City Mission Distribution Center</b>
June 27	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Wednesdays, no experience is needed, call the church office to borrow a ukulele.	Dirck Romeyn
July 1	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Childcare for children through Pre-k, until noon downstairs in Friendship Hall.	Friendship Hall
	11:15am	<b>FRC Orff Group</b>	<b>We will play throughout the summer. Children ages 4 and older and adults are welcome to join. No experience is necessary!</b>	<b>Sanctuary Balcony</b>
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass	Sanctuary
July 2	6pm	NAMI Course	The local chapter of the National Alliance for Mental Illness offers this free course in caring for a loved one with mental illness. Email <a href="mailto:namisohenectady@gmail.com">namisohenectady@gmail.com</a>	Mohawk House Lunn
July 3	7pm	Short Short Writing	Writing group for 1000 words or less.	Mohawk House Lunn
<b>July 4 – Independence Day, Office Closed</b>				
July 7	9am	The FRC Sole Searchers	We will hike in a remote section of Thatcher Park in Voorheesville. Pack a lunch. RSVP to James at <a href="mailto:jgonda12309@gmail.com">jgonda12309@gmail.com</a> .	Church Parking Lot

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Place</b>
July 8	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Childcare for children through Pre-k, until noon downstairs in Friendship Hall.	Friendship Hall
	11:15am	FRC Orff Group	Children ages 4+ older and adults are welcome to join. No experience is necessary!	Sanctuary Balcony
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Tim Olsen, piano	Sanctuary
July 9	6pm	NAMI Course	The local chapter of the National Alliance for Mental Illness offers this free course in caring for a loved one with mental illness. Email <a href="mailto:namisohenectady@gmail.com">namisohenectady@gmail.com</a>	Mohawk House Lunn
July 11	11:30am	First Things Volunteers	Help send off our Newsletter. Pizza will be provided. Anyone is welcome.	Mohawk House Lunn
	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
July 15	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Childcare for children through Pre-k, until noon downstairs in Friendship Hall.	Friendship Hall
	11:15am	FRC Orff Group	We will play throughout the summer. Children ages 4 and older and adults are welcome to join. No experience is necessary!	Sanctuary Balcony
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Tim Olsen, piano	Sanctuary
July 16	6pm	NAMI Course	The local chapter of the National Alliance for Mental Illness offers this free course in caring for a loved one with mental illness. Email <a href="mailto:namisohenectady@gmail.com">namisohenectady@gmail.com</a>	Mohawk House Lunn
July 17	7pm	Short Short Writing	Writing group for 1000 words or less.	Mohawk House Lunn
July 18	7pm	Kerygma Summer Adventure	Reflections on and discussion of the experience of serving lunch to children who are hungry as part of SICMs summer lunch ministry.	Mohawk House Lunn
July 22	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Childcare for children through Pre-k, until noon downstairs in Friendship Hall.	Friendship Hall
	11:15am	FRC Orff Group	We will play throughout the summer. Children ages 4 and older and adults are welcome to join. No experience is necessary!	Sanctuary Balcony
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Tim Olsen, piano	Sanctuary
July 23	6pm	NAMI Course	The local chapter of the National Alliance for Mental Illness offers this free course in caring for a loved one with mental illness. Email <a href="mailto:namisohenectady@gmail.com">namisohenectady@gmail.com</a>	Mohawk House Lunn

## Notes

“Instead of worrying about what you cannot control, shift your energy to what you can create.” — Roy T. Bennett, *The Light in the Heart*

“A blank piece of paper is God's way of telling us how hard it is to be God.”  
— Sidney Sheldon

“Another flaw in the human character is that everybody wants to build and nobody wants to do maintenance.” — Kurt Vonnegut, *Hocus Pocus*

“There is not one blade of grass, there is no color in this world that is not intended to make us rejoice.” — John Calvin

“The intention that man should be happy is not in the plan of Creation.” — Sigmund Freud

“This curious world we inhabit is more wonderful than convenient; more beautiful than it is useful; it is more to be admired and enjoyed than used.” — Henry David Thoreau

“In the view of such harmony in the cosmos which I, with my limited human mind, am able to recognize, there are yet people who says there is no God. But what makes me really angry is that they quote me for support of such views. (The Expanded Quotable Einstein, Princeton University, page 214)” — Albert Einstein