

***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.



August 5, 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.

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 5, 2018

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Olivia Cox, cello
Prelude to Suite No. 1 J.S. Bach

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson
The grace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

*HYMN *For the Beauty of the Earth* #473

*OUR NEED FOR GOD

Merciful God, we confess that we have fallen short of your vision for us in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done and what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart, mind, soul, or strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We ask that you forgive what we have been and help us amend what we are, so that we may lead the full life you desire for us. 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 Olivia Cox cello
Johnny Willis, guitar
Spiegel im Spiegel Arvo Pärt

FIRST LESSON Liz Mastrianni
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.
Amen. *Matthew 13:33-35* (pg 15)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Matthew 14:22-33* (pg 16)

SERMON Bill Levering
Tales from the Lake

*HYMN #357
O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Johnny Willis
Precious Lord, Take My Hand Dorsey

Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, help me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night,
Lead me on to the light,
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

I am a Pilgrim Traditional

I am a pilgrim and a stranger
Travelling through this wearisome land.
I've got a home in that yonder city,
And it's not, not made by hand.

I've got a mother, sister and a brother
Who have gone this way before.
I am determined to go and see them,
For they're on that other shore.

I'm going down to the river of Jordan
Just to bathe my wearisome soul.
If I can just touch the hem of his garment,
Then I know he'd make me whole.

*DOXOLOGY #592
Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
INVITATION and PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise!

SANCTUS (unison) Carl Steubing

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Hosts,
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.**

Glory be to Thee, O Lord most high.

RECEPTION OF THE ELEMENTS

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 *Go Walk With God* Carolyn Gillette
Tune. *O Waly Waly*

Go walk with God in all you do,
And may God's love bring joy to you.
May gifts of peace fill all your days,
And may God's truth guide you always.

O may the grace of Christ our Lord,
The wondrous love that comes from God,
The Spirit's fellowship now be
God's gifts to you eternally.

We thank you, Lord, for life to share
Through learning, serving, praise and prayer.
And when we say good-bye to friends,
We thank you, Lord: Love never ends.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

+ + +

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mark McDermott by his wife & sons.

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:

*Bill Piper, Alice Niedrach, Peter Ten Eyck,
Drew Mills, Thomas S. Getty, Miriam Carreker,
John Senn, James A. Ramsey, Mark McDermott*

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.

Avery Tunningley

Today is Avery Tunningley's last Sunday with us as Organist. We want to thank him for his time here and his amazing talent. We thank him for Sunday morning services, for weddings and funerals, for the Word service, and for the monthly concert series he hosted that gathered us around beauty every month. Thank you Avery. Godspeed.

Flower Delivery

Volunteers are needed on Sundays to deliver flowers to homebound church members. Please sign up on the church website 1stReformed.com. This is a meaningful opportunity to extend our care and support to church members not able to join us for worship.

The Faith Bookshop, Prayers To Live By

“Now I lay me down to sleep...” The Faith Bookshop committee will publish a collection of our church family’s prayers to live by—prayers used at mealtime, bedtime or any other time. With your submission, please share author attribution if you know it or a brief message about who introduced you to the prayer. Please send any prayers to Christina Jones cmjones514@gmail.com by September 30. The collection will be available before Thanksgiving.

Johnson Library

The library added three books to its shelf. The first, *The Fabulous Flemings of Kathmandu*, by Grace Nies Fletcher is about two medical missionaries who travel to Nepal in the 1950s to provide much needed medical care. The second, *The Chinese Ginger Jars*, by Myra Scovel is an autobiography of her missionary family’s time in China during the Japanese occupation in WWII and later the Communist regime. The final book by Stanley Hauerwas, *The Character of Virtue* is a compilation of letters written to his godson on each birthday which discusses a virtue and its importance in living a Christian life.

Kinderwyk & Sunday School Volunteers

Sign up with Dorothy and reserve your time to nurture our growing youth. If you are interested in Teaching Sunday School Classes, but can’t commit to a full 3 month block, let Dorothy know as we are working to create an alternating schedule to fit our volunteers availability!

Music Notes

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Sunday Volunteers	This Week	Next Week
Bookshop	Bill Clock	Nancy Wainwright
Counting Deacons	Justine Ochal, Therese McCarty	Sarah Bachorik, Vickie McGowan-Horan
Flower Delivery	Joanne and Kip Arnold, Mike & Vickie McGowan-Horan	Jeanette & Don Davidson, Kay Opdyke
Jazz Vespers	Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass	Wayne Hawkins, piano
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Vickie McGowan-Horan, Liz Mastrianni, Marilyn Leach, Don Leach	Amy Brule, Wayne Brule, Del Pierce, Bill Rochelle, Kitty Trimarco, Barbara Walton
Reader	Liz Mastrianni	Ellie Rowland
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

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
Aug 5	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Childcare for children through Pre-k, until noon downstairs in Friendship Hall.	Friendship Hall
	11am	Consistory Retreat	Getting to know one another and strengthening relationships in a variety of ways.	Mohawk House
	11:15am	FRC Orff Group	Children ages 4 and older and adults are welcome to join. No experience is necessary!	Sanctuary Balcony
	11:15am	Open Hearts	Join us for a brief time of sharing concerns and praying in a confidential group every other Sunday. Please contact Karen Gonda with questions.	Dykstra Chapel
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass	Mohawk House Lunn
Aug 6	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 namischenectady@gmail.com	Mohawk House Lunn
Aug 7	7pm	Short Short Writing	Writing group for 1000 words or less.	Mohawk House Lunn
Aug 8	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.	Mohawk House Pres
Aug 10	10am	BBQ Potluck for Youth Families	Hosted by the Pizzolo Family,. RSVP to Natalie Pizzolo 518-867-6502 by 8/7 and let her know what side dish, salad or dessert you will be bringing!	Pizzolo's 1682 Providence, Niskayuna
Aug 12	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 and older and adults are welcome to join. No experience is necessary!	Sanctuary Balcony
	11:30am	Youth Ed Committee	We will be having a mid-summer meeting to discuss the upcoming school year and work on planning. This will be a Potluck lunch meeting!	Mohawk House Lunn
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Wayne Hawkins, piano	Mohawk House Lunn

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
Aug 13	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 namischenectady@gmail.com	Mohawk House Lunn
Aug 15	9:30am	Kerygma Summer Adventure	Road Trip to grave of Pierre Teilhard de Chardin and lunch at Culinary Institute. Contact Daniel Carlson to join this journey!	Mohawk House Pres
	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Wednesdays, no experience is needed, call the church office to borrow a ukulele.	Mohawk House Pres
Aug 16	2pm	Planning Meeting	Dear Staff: This meeting is important as we plan event dates for the church calendar year.	Mohawk House Pres
Aug 17	11:30am	All Youth Families Picnic in the Park	Everyone welcome! Enjoy the playground and new splash pad! Bring your frisbee, soccer ball, kite, or any other outdoor activity!	Schonowee Ave, Scotia, NY 12302
Aug 19	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 and older and adults are welcome to join. No experience is necessary!	Sanctuary Balcony
	11:15am	Open Hearts	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	Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass	Mohawk House Lunn
Aug 20	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 namischenectady@gmail.com	Mohawk House Lunn
Aug 21	7pm	Short Short Writing	Writing group for 1000 words or less.	Mohawk House Lunn
Aug 22	11:30am	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.	Mohawk House Pres
Aug 25	9am	FRC Sole Searchers	We will head to the Taconic Crest Trail near the New York/Massachusetts border. Make sure to pack a lunch. RSVP to James at jgonda12309@gmail.com	Church Parking Lot
Aug 26	11am	Care & Prayer	Trained Stephen Ministers are available to sit with, listen to & pray for & with you.	Dykstra Chapel
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Tim Olsen, piano	Mohawk House Lunn

Notes

“The lake of my mind, unbroken by oars, heaves placidly and soon sinks into an oily somnolence. ’ That will be useful.” — Virginia Woolf

“Mist to mist, drops to drops. For water thou art, and unto water shalt thou return.” — Kamand Kojouri

“When the mind is silent like a lake the lotus blossoms.” — Amit Ray

“A little tranquil lake is more significant to my life than any big city in the world” — Munia Khan

“Mindfulness arises when you allow your attention to fall effortlessly on the breathing point like an autumn leaf falling on a lake of still water” — Amit Ray

“If I had to describe the scent of Michigan in spring and summer, it wouldn't be a particular smell – blooming wildflowers or boat exhaust off the lake – it would be a color: Green.” — Viola Shipman

“The water. The lake. It flows through our veins, and there's nothing we can do about it... It's like venom.” — Karen Katchur

“It was one of those places where mist lingers well into the day and the dawn chorus starts early.” — Fennel Hudson

“Find a calm lake and wait for the twilight in silence! There, existence will visit you with all its magnificence! The existence of the Existence can best be felt in the presence of dimness and in the absence of crowds and noises!” — Mehmet Murat ildan

“The little lake you love is the biggest ocean for you!” — Mehmet Murat ildan

“Looking out over the lake, I felt enveloped in the most peaceful, loving utopia.” — Laurie Kahn, Harriet Tubman