

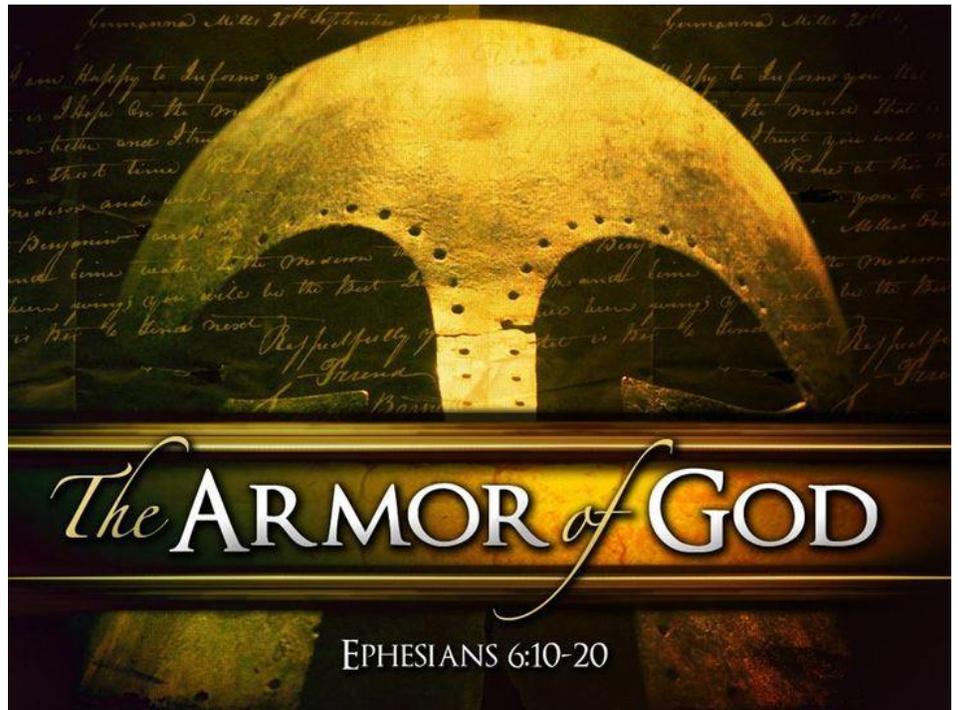
***The Covenant of Our
Congregation
Adopted in 1962***

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 26, 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.

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 26, 2018

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Andy & Heather Chestnut

Wondering by Andy Chestnut
Choices by Andy Chestnut
Be Who You Am by Andy Chestnut

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson

The grace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

*HYMN *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*
Bart Millard

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
Ye soldiers of the cross;
Lift high his royal banner,
It must not suffer loss.
From victory unto victory
His army shall he lead,
Till every foe is vanquished,
And Christ is Lord indeed.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
Stand in his strength alone;
The arm of flesh will fail you,
Ye dare not trust your own.
Put on the gospel armor,
Each piece put on with prayer;
Where duty calls or danger,
Be never wanting there.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
The strife will not be long;
This day the noise of battle,
The next the victor's song.
To those who vanquish evil
A crown of life shall be;
They with the King of Glory
Shall reign eternally.

*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 Andy Chestnut
Johnny Willis

This Land by Andy Chestnut

God bless this land on which we stand.
God bless the ones who passed it on.

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 #403
What a Friend We Have in Jesus

*BENEDICTION

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:

Robert Moore, Norma Peterson, Jane & Clifford Bryant, Eleanor Mae Hart, Mary Grupe

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.

Entered into Eternal Rest
Ursula (Sue) Settle– August 18
A service detail TBD

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in memory of Norma Knapp Peterson by her Daughter.

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.

Flower Delivery

Volunteers are needed on Sundays to deliver flowers to those who are homebound, hospitalized, ill or celebrating. Please sign up on the church website 1stReformed.com.

Faith Book Shop

On the blue cart in the Book Shop/Heritage Room, you'll find free, recently donated books focusing on religious subjects. Come in, and also check on other items available.

Sunday Volunteers	This Week	Next Week
Bookshop	Sarah Howes	Birdie Blackmer
Counting Deacons	Kim Burgoyne, George Trimarco	Dave Hjelm, Cynthia Gallagher
Flower Delivery	Kim & Tom Burgoyne, Kitty & George Trimarco	Bill Clock Ellie & Gene Rowland
Jazz Vespers	Tim Olsen, piano	Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Brad Lewis, Barbara Mancuso, Cathy Lewis, Walt Robb, Adam Mason, Kitty Trimarco	Joanne Arnold, Barbara Walton, Amy Brule, Wayne Brule
Reader	George Trimarco	Carol Troost
Ushers	Tom Burgoyne, David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Karen Gonda, Berta Phipps, Nat Phipps	Bill Clock, Christina & Matt Jones, Aline Stabler, Nancy Wainwright

Coming Up

See the newsletter or call the church office for more information

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
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	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
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Tim Olsen, piano	Mohawk House Lunn
Aug 29	5:30pm	All Youth Families BBQ	BBQ potluck with grilled burgers & hotdogs. Bring your favorite board game or card games!	Mohawk House
	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Wednesdays, no experience is needed, call the church office to borrow a ukulele.	Mohawk House Pres
Sept 2	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Childcare for children through Pre-k, until noon downstairs in Friendship Hall.	Friendship Hall
	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	Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass	Mohawk House Lunn
Sept 3 Labor Day – Office Closed				
Sept 4	7pm	Short Short Writing	Writing group for 1000 words or less.	Mohawk House Lunn
Sept 5	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Wednesdays, no experience is needed, call the church office to borrow a ukulele.	Mohawk House Pres
Sept 6	7:30pm	Chancel Choir	Rehearsal open to all.	Sanctuary
Sept 9	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Childcare for children through Pre-k, until noon downstairs in Friendship Hall.	Friendship Hall
	11:15am	Fall Church Picnic	Bring a friend to share in the fun! Families with last names ending in A-Q are asked to bring a side dish or salad and families with last names ending in R-Z are asked to bring a dessert.	Outside of Church
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Scott Bassinson, piano	Mohawk House Lunn

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
Sept 11	6:30pm	Committee Meetings	Individual Committees meet on their own.	Various
	7:30pm	Consistory	Officers meeting	Dirck Romeyn
Sept 12	9:30am	Kerygma Conversations	New members are welcome. The study guide we will use, <i>Interrupting Silence</i> , by Walter Brueggemann, is available in the Faith Bookshop. See Daniel Carlson for answers to all questions.	Mohawk House Pres
	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
Sept 13	10am	Stitch Group	Meets every Thursday. Come finish a project or start a new one.	Mezzanine
	7:30pm	Chancel Choir	Rehearsal open to all.	Sanctuary
Sept 16	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	Making Room: Fred Daniels and Bill Levering	Sanctuary
	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
	6pm	Youth Families Meeting	Attendance at this meeting is Highly Recommended as there are forms parents need to complete and it will be a great opportunity to meet your leaders.	Mohawk House Pres
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Scott Bassinson, piano	Mohawk House Lunn
Sept 17	10:30am	Stephen Ministry Glen Eddy Group	An informal get together to share our life experiences and enjoy Friends from FRC.	Fireside room at the Eddy
Sept 18	10am	Horizons Bible Study	Our study guide will be " <i>God's Promise: I am with you,</i> " the cost of the study guide is \$10. Contact Barbara Walton, (518) 894-5021 if you have questions.	Mohawk House Pres

Notes

“The only defense against the world is a thorough knowledge of it.” — John Locke

“And let's just be honest, there is no such place called 'justice,' if by that we envision a finish line, or a point at which the battle is won and the need to continue the struggle over with. After all, even when you succeed in obtaining a measure of justice, you're always forced to mobilize to defend that which you've won. There is no looming vacation. But there is redemption in struggle.” — Tim Wise

“Constitutional democracy, you see, is no romantic notion. It's our defense against ourselves, the one foe who might defeat us.”
— Bill Moyers

“On the other hand, I can't not defend her, since I can't help feeling it is wrong to stand idly by when I hear justice coming under attack, and not come to her defence for as long as I have breath in my body and a tongue in my head. So the best thing is to make what defence I can.” — Plato

“There are no creatures that walk the earth, not even those animals we have labelled cowards, which will not show courage when required to defend themselves.” — Alexandre Dumas, *The Vicomte de Bragelonne*

“Pretty armour doesn't make a warrior.”
— Mark Lawrence, *Emperor of Thorns*

“But the fact is, dreams catch us with our armor off.” — Victoria Schwab

“Confidence is armor you cannot buy.”
— Jeffrey Fry

“Never forget what you are. The rest of the world will not. Wear it like armor and it can never be used to hurt you.” — George R.R. Martin

“In selfish men caution is as secure an armour for their foes as for themselves.” — Bram Stoker, *Dracula*