

***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.



September 30, 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 infants 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. Children participating in communion on the first Sunday of the month will return to service.

Beaver Bits Children's Bulletins

The Beaver Bulletin Bits includes key Bible verses, thoughts, coloring activity, announcements and a prayer for the coming week. Pick one up from an usher.

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.

Bible Sunday

September 30, 2018

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Melanie Chirigan, flute
I. Fantasia in A Major Georg Telemann
II. Fantasia in A Minor
III. Fantasia in B Minor

10:00 a.m.

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

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT *I Lift My Eyes Up* Brian Doerksen

*HYMN *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* #288

*OUR NEED FOR GOD

Creator of all, we confess that we have polluted and overpopulated your beloved world, our common home. Through what we have done and what we have left undone, we have increased the distress of creation. We ask your forgiveness. Teach and transform us, we pray, to care for all you have made.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies. Lord our God to Thee we raise our hymn of thanks and grateful praise.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(FRC Creation Care Resolution)

Scripture reveals that God, through Word and Spirit, creates, sustains, loves, and owns the World. We therefore commit ourselves to make the care of creation a central priority, for the blessing of the world, the strengthening of our lives, and

the transformation of our communities, to the glory of God.

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

Creation Will Be at Peace Anna Laura Page

In the holy mountain of the Lord,
all war and strife will cease;
In the holy mountain of the Lord,
creation will be at peace.

The wolf will lie down with the lamb,
the cow and bear will feed,
their young will play together;
a little child will lead.

The leopard and goat will graze,
the lion will feed on straw,
They will war no more,
they will war no more,
a child will lead them all.

FIRST LESSON

Mary Jewett

Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.
Amen. *Isaiah 65:17-25* (pg 696)

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES AND
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

El Shaddai (God of the Hills) is with you.

And also with you.

So lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to El Shaddai.

SECOND LESSON *Romans 8:18-25* (pg 158)

SERMON *The New Holy* Bill Levering

*HYMN *I to the Hills Lift My Eyes* #234

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Psalm Melanie Chirigan, flute

I will lift up my eyes,
Lift my eyes to the hills,
To the mountains whence cometh my help,
To the mountains and hill far away.

I will lift up my heart,
Lift my heart to the Lord,
To the Lord who made heaven and earth,
I will lift up my heart day by day.

For the Lord is my keeper,
 Never more shall I fear;
 Though the darkness surround me,
 I will be of good cheer;
 I will lift up my voice,
 Singing praises always,
 Joyful praises to God evermore,
 For the Lord is my strength and my stay

I will lift up mine eyes,
 Lift mine eyes to the hills
 To the mountains whence cometh my help
 To the mountains and hill far away.

***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 *The Earth Is The Lords

1. The earth is the Lord's and e - v'ry-thing in it -
 2. Can you feel the ach - ing heart of cre - a - tion?
 3. On this ho - ly ground, de - fense - less be - fore you,

From sea - bed to sky, and from o - cean to earth,
 A pla - net in pe - ril, a world in de - spair,
 Your spi - rit, O God, is the air that we breathe,

The beau - ty from here to the far - thest ho - ri - zon,
 A ha - bi - tat drained of strength and re - si - lience
 Oh, teach us to live your ho - ly vo - ca - tion:

A gift to us all from the mo - ment of birth.
 Can ne - ver sus - tain all the life in her care.
 To care for the ground that is un - der our feet.

Chorus
 There is no way back to the gar - den of E - den,
 But the vi - sion you pro - mise is a ci - ty and home.
 Re - deem us, O Lord, and the earth we be - long to:

Fine *D.C. al Fine*
 Cre - a - tion still groans for a new world to come.

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

Threefold Amen

#585

POSTLUDE

+ + +

Entered into Eternal Rest
 Elizabeth Veeder – Sept 22, 2018

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:

*Ethel Kiess Betka, Claribel Wescott Linder
 Bernard Cain, Tom Norton, David Collins,
 Charles S. Moose, Marion Lentz, Virginia
 Laumeister, Gertrude Young, Eldon Springsted,
 Lauralee Moore, Jack Kampf, Frederick White*

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.

Volunteers Needed

The Chancel Guild is looking for volunteers to prepare Sunday Flowers for home delivery after Worship and vesting for the upcoming Christmas season. Please call Marlene Risseeuw at 518-372-1710 to learn more or sign up. If you would like to help deliver flowers please sign up on the church website 1stReformed.com.

Caramel Apples Sale - Today

Caramel Apples are available for a \$5 donation to the youth group mission trip in 2019. The apples were freshly picked Saturday at Riverview Orchards and caramelized here yesterday. You couldn't bite into a fresher, sweeter and more loving piece of fruit. Treat your household, friends or workmates. Find us in the Dirck Romeyn room after worship.

Can Collection

Bring in donations of can goods to help the youth create a Can-Can sculpture for SICM. We would most appreciate cans with brown labels (Bush's baked beans or something similar). You may drop off cans on Sunday in the Dirck Romeyn room or at the office during week through Oct 21. Contact Liam Battjes for questions at liambattjes@gmail.com.

Just a reminder: Do not walk through the construction zone.

Emergency Contact Info

It has been very helpful to have the emergency contact information for members, especially--but not limited--to those who live alone. If you would like us to keep track of this for you, fill out a white card in worship or call or visit the church office.

Music Notes

The Earth is the Lord's, Words and music Maggi Dawn, copyright 2018 Maggi Dawn.

"New Life" Stewardship

"His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave! You were faithful over a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Share your master's joy!' – *Matthew 25:21*

Sunday Volunteers	This Week	Next Week
Bookshop	Sarah Howes	Nancy Wainwright
Church School	David Pizzolo and Natalie Pizzolo	*most families will be at Fowler*
Counting Deacons	Andy Chestnut, Richard Rose	Fred Daniels, Christina Jones
Flower Delivery	Sally & Bob Clark, Chris & Norm Kuchar	Tom & Joan Lindsay, Sharron McCullough
Greeters	Christine Daniels, James Gonda	
Jazz Vespers	Mike Lamkin, piano	Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass
Kinderwyk	Dorothy Linder Mitchell, Kristin Lion	*most families will be at Fowler*
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Joanne Arnold, Barbara Mancuso, Vickie McGowan-Horan, Susan Houpt, Keith Muse, Richard Rose	Jeanne Shoulder, Barbara Mancuso, Christine Daniels, Joanne Arnold, Maria Todd, Norma Brown,
Reader	Mary Jewett	Therese McCarthy
Ushers	Mike Horan, Hannah Bachorik, Sarah Bachorik, Crystal Mongillo, Justine Ochal, Ralph Rosenthal	Tom Burgoyne, David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Karen Gonda, Berta & Nat Phipps
Sign up for any of these important jobs at 1streformed.com		

Coming Up

See the newsletter or call the church office for more information

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
Sept 30	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
	10:15am	Church School	Children in grades K-5 are invited to go upstairs for church school after the Children's Message.	Schermerhorn & Walton
	11am	Care & Prayer	Trained Stephen Ministers are available to sit with, listen to, and pray for you.	Dykstra Chapel
	11:15am	First Forum	Meet Wayne Hawkins New FRC Musician.	Sanctuary
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Mike Lamkin, piano	Sanctuary
Oct 1	11am	Group V	Questions contact Maria Todd at (518)882-6555.	Dirck Romeyn
Oct 2	10am	Horizons Bible Study	Contact Barbara Walton, (518) 894-5021 or waltonbl@aol.com if you have questions.	Mohawk House Pres
	7pm	Short Short Writing	Writing group for 1000 words or less.	Mohawk House Lunn
Oct 3	9:30am	Kerygma Conversations	Fully subscribed Bible study and discussion of God's command to speak out.	Mohawk House Pres
	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Wednesdays, no experience is needed, call the church office to borrow a ukulele.	Mohawk House Pres
Oct 4	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
Oct 5	12pm	Youth Ed Meeting	Youth Education Meeting	Camp Fowler
Oct 7	10am	World Communion Sunday	We collect an offering for One Great Hour of Sharing, who support projects that break the cycles of poverty, hunger, and thirst, as well as providing aid in times of crisis.	Sanctuary
	11:15am	First Forum	Sermon Talkback by Rev. Bill Levering	Sanctuary
	2pm	Blessing of the Animals	Think about what other friend from God's creation you would like to bring to have blessed. All are welcome to bring their pet to be blessed on the church lawn.	Church Lawn

Date	Time	Event	Description	Place
Oct 7	3pm	What's What @ FRC	This is a relaxed time to learn more about First Reformed and possible membership.	Church Office
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass	Sanctuary
Oct 9	10am	Horizons Bible Study	Contact Barbara Walton, (518) 894-5021 or waltonbl@aol.com if you have questions.	Mohawk House Pres
	6:30pm	Committee Meetings	Individual Committees meet on their own.	Various
	7:30pm	Consistory	Officers meeting	Dirck Romeyn
Oct 10	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
Oct 11	10am	Stitch Group	Meets every Thursday. Come finish a project or start a new one.	Mezzanine
	11:15am	First Forum	Working Group on Girls Thank you by Gwyne Delong	Sanctuary
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Tim Olsen, piano	Sanctuary
	6pm	Youth Group	Meeting with a Rich & Poor Scavenger Hunt. If you had to scavenge our neighborhood for basic needs, where would you do your laundry? Find a friend and join in the fun.	Mohawk House Lunn
Oct 15	10:30am	Stephen Ministry Glen Eddy Group	An informal get together to share our life experiences and enjoy Friends from FRC. We meet every 3rd Monday.	Fireside room at the Eddy
Oct 17	11:30am	First Things Volunteers	Help send off our Newsletter. Pizza will be provided. Anyone is welcome.	Mohawk House Lunn
Oct 19	6pm	Youth Group Pizza and a Movie Night	Bring a friend or salad, or a friend who looks like a salad, and join us for Pursuit of Happiness. The Youth and their families are exploring income disparity this month.	Mohawk House Lunn
Oct 20	11am	Celebration of Life for Ursula Settle.	All are invited to gather and give thanks for the life of this dear steadfast saint in Christ Jesus. A reception will follow, provided by the family.	37 Van Voast Ln. Scotia
Oct 21	11:15am	First Forum	"All Church Committee Fair" This will be an opportunity for everyone to see firsthand the activities and programs of the committee of Consistory. Committee's members will be available for comments and questions.	Sanctuary

“You never change things by fighting the existing reality. To change something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete.” — Buckminster Fuller

“Remember, remember always, that all of us, and you and I especially, are descended from immigrants and revolutionists.”
— Franklin D. Roosevelt

“Societies in decline have no use for visionaries.” — Anais Nin

“Even the strongest blizzards start with a single snowflake.” — Sara Raasch, Snow Like Ashes

“Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!” — Patrick Henry

“We are now in the mountains and they are in us, kindling enthusiasm, making every nerve quiver, filling every pore and cell of us.”
— John Muir, My First Summer in the Sierra

“Every mountain top is within reach if you just keep climbing.” — Barry Finlay, Kilimanjaro and Beyond

“I like the mountains because they make me feel small,' Jeff says. 'They help me sort out what's important in life.” — Mark Obmascik

Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the promised land!
— Dr. Martin Luther King