

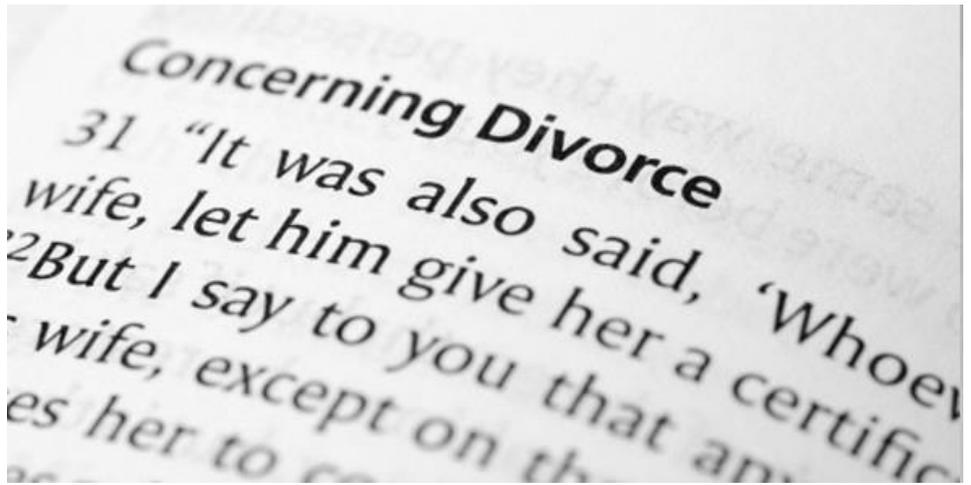
***The Covenant of Our
Congregation
Adopted in 1962***

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.



October 7, 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.

World Communion Sunday

October 7, 2018

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Wayne Hawkins

10:00 a.m.

GREETING

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 *Morning Has Broken* #469

*OUR NEED FOR GOD

God of all connections, defender of our promises, keeper of our lives, we confess that we have been lazy and shortsighted in our love for one another. Call us again to the depth and dignity of the joy you wish for all of us. Move through churches and families and laws to bring about your cherished kingdom.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)

Hallelujah Zimbabwe



*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(FRC Creation Care Resolution)

The Church's commission, upon which its freedom is founded, consists in delivering the message of the free grace of God to all people.

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

St. Francis Prayer

W.R. Olds

Lord make me an instrument of Thy peace
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.

Joy after sadness, light after darkness
Where there is hatred, love.
Make me an instrument of Thy peace.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much
seek to be consoled, as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we received;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

FIRST LESSON

Therese McCarthy

Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Psalms 26 (pg 503)

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

Mark 10:2-16 (pg 45)

SERMON

Divorced

Bill Levering

*HYMN

#505

Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Blest Are They Whose Spirits Long G.F. Handel

Blest are they whose spirits long;
Whose trust is in the Lord;
And on whose lips is praise unending.
They shall mount up like eagles, lofty on high.
They too, shall walk and not be weary.

*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.

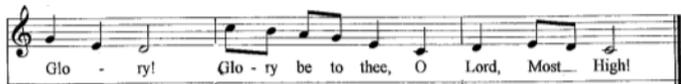
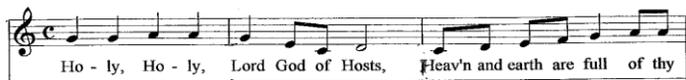
Lift up your hearts.

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



RECEPTION OF THE ELEMENTS

Come forward from the middle, take bread, dip it in the cup of juice, and eat, returning by the side aisle. Gluten free wafers are at the middle station. Tell an usher if you need to be served at your seat.

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 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* #276

*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:

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.

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.

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.

Prayers to Live By Submissions

The deadline has been extended to October 14 for our church collection of prayers to live by. Please share prayers for meal time, bed time or any other time that you think might benefit others and be pleasing to God. Please submit your contributions to Christina Jones at cmjones514@gmail.com.

Please Let Us Know

Whenever you are ill, hospitalized, homebound, needing a meal, transportation to a doctor, or grieving a loss, we would like to know...so we can do what our Committee is named for: support and care! Please help us to help you when you are in need by calling Support and Care Chair, Barb Walton 518-346-1943 or Daniel Carlson 518-346-6416.

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.

“New Life” Stewardship

Precious treasure and oil are in the dwelling of a wise person, but a foolish man consumes them. – Proverbs 21:20

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

| Sunday Volunteers | This Week | Next Week |
|--|--|--|
| Bookshop | Nancy Wainwright | Bill Clock |
| Church School | | Mary Carlson / Dave Pizzolo |
| Counting Deacons | Fred Daniels, Christina Jones | Peter Ontkush, Christina Jones |
| Flower Delivery | Tom & Joan Lindsay, Sharron McCullough | Lauren Cleworth, Connie Young |
| Greeters | Barbara, Tom and Alex Mancuso | Joanne and Hendrick Arnold |
| Jazz Vespers | Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass | Tim Olsen, piano |
| Kinderwyk | | Dorothy Linder Mitchell & Vickie McGowan-Horan |
| Liturgist | | Daniel Carlson |
| Preacher | Bill Levering | Bill Levering |
| Processing Elders | Jeanne Shoulder, Barbara Mancuso, Christine Daniels, Joanne Arnold, Maria Todd, Norma Brown, | Bill Rochelle, Margaret Schadler, Birdie Blackmer, Vickie McGowan-Horan, Peggy King, Del Pierce, Jeanette Davis Ellie Rowland |
| Reader | Therese McCarthy | Ellie Rowland |
| Ushers | Tom Burgoyne, David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Karen Gonda, Berta & Nat Phipps | Bill Clock, Christina & Matt Jones, Aline Stabler, Nancy Wainwright |
| 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 |
|-------------|-------------|------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| Oct 7 | | 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 |
| | 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 | *most families will be at Fowler* All children stay in worship | Friendship Hall |
| | 10:15am | Church School | All students stay in worship | 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 |
| | 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 8 | | Office Closed – Columbus Day | | |
| 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 | 9:30am | Kerygma Conversations | Fully subscribed Bible study and discussion of God's command to speak out. | Mohawk House Pres |
| | 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 |
| | 7:30pm | Chancel Choir | Rehearsal open to all. | Sanctuary |

| Date | Time | Event | Description | Place |
|--------|---------|---|---|------------------------------|
| Oct 14 | 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 16 | 7pm | Short Short Writing | Writing group for 1000 words or less. | Mohawk House Lunn |
| Oct 17 | 11:30am | First Things Volunteers | Help send off our Newsletter. Pizza will be provided. Anyone is welcome. | Mohawk House Lunn |
| Oct 18 | 6:30pm | Stephen Ministry | Stephen Ministers meet for Continuing Education and Small Group Peer Supervision. | Mohawk House |
| 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 | 8am | Fellowship Breakfast | Learning about Muslims; Cost \$10 RSVP to Gene Rowland rowland.gene2@gmail.com, or Joe Doolittle aldenjoe@nycap.rr.com if you plan to attend. | Arthur's Market |
| | 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; | 37 Van Voast Ln. Scotia |
| Oct 21 | 11:15am | First Forum Church Committee Fair | This will be an opportunity for everyone to see firsthand the activities and programs of the committee of Consistory. Committee members will be available for questions. | Sanctuary |
| | 11:15am | Sharing Sacred Stories | Let us grow together in faith and fellowship, sharing stories of God at work in our lives. Sundays 11:15-12pm from 10/21-11/18. Contact Aline Stabler for more information at 518-369-9275 or agianfagna@gmail.com. | Mohawk House Pres |
| | 11:15am | Open Hearts | Join us for a brief time of sharing concerns and praying in a confidential group every third Sunday. Please contact Karen Gonda with questions. | Mohawk House Lunn |
| | 5pm | Jazz Vespers | Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass | Sanctuary |
| | 5pm | Family Potluck Dinner | A Harvest of Justice. Bring some autumn harvest food to share. | Mohawk House Lunn |
| Oct 24 | 6pm | Evening Circle | We will meet for dinner at the Casa Real Mexican restaurant at 1400 Altamont Ave. RSVP to contacting Ellie Rowland at erowland@nycap.rr.com or 518-250-4302. | Casa Real Mexican Restaurant |

Notes

“If you spend your time hoping someone will suffer the consequences for what they did to your heart, then you're allowing them to hurt you a second time in your mind.”

— Shannon L. Alder

“I'll tell you something, Harpy," he said, his voice almost a whisper now. "It never even occurred to me that we wouldn't make it. And it never occurred to you that we would. You were just waiting for us to go down in flames. I thought we could get through anything.”

— Kristan Higgins, *My One and Only*

“You don't know when you're twenty-three. You don't know what it really means to crawl into someone else's life and stay there. You can't see all the ways you're going to get tangled, how you're going to bond skin to skin. How the idea of separating will feel in five years, in ten - in fifteen. When Georgie thought about divorce now, she imagined lying side by side with Neal on two operating tables while a team of doctors tried to unthread their vascular systems. She didn't know at twenty-three.”

— Rainbow Rowell, *Landline*

“My dad had limitations. That's what my good-hearted mom always told us. He had limitations, but he meant no harm. It was kind of her to say, but he did do harm.” — Gillian Flynn, *Gone Girl*

“Taking a thing apart is always faster than putting something together. This is true of everything except marriage.” — Joe Hill

“In college, I had a course in Latin, and one day the word "divorce" came up. I always figured it came from some root that meant "divide." In truth, it comes from "divertere," which means "to divert." I believe that. All divorce does is divert you, taking you away from everything you thought you knew and everything you thought you wanted and steering you into all kinds of other stuff, like discussions about your mother's girdle and whether she should marry someone else.” — Mitch Albom, *For One More Day*