

***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.



*Love God
Love Others*



November 4, 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.

Stewardship Sunday

November 4, 2018

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Wayne Hawkins

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

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT *Jubilate Deo*

*HYMN

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

We are one in the Spirit,
we are one in the Lord;
We are one in the Spirit,
we are one in the Lord;
And we pray that all unity
will one day be restored.

Chorus:

And they'll know we are
Christians by our love, by our love, yes,
they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other,
we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other,
we will walk hand in hand;
And together we'll spread
the news that God is in our land. (chorus)

We Will work with each other,
we will work side by side;
We will work with each other,
we will work side by side;
And we'll guard each one's
dignity and save each one's pride. (chorus)

All praise to the Father,
from whom all things come;
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son.
And all praise to the Spirit
who makes us one. (chorus)

*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

(The Barmen Declaration)

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 *I Want Jesus To Walk With Me*
Arr Howard Helvey

I want Jesus to walk with me;
All day long my pilgrim journey
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my sorrows, Lord walk with me;
When my heart within is aching,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Lord walk with me;
And when the shades of life are falling,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

FIRST LESSON

Gene Rowland

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

Amen.

Ruth 1-18 (pg 241)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Mark 12:28-34* (pg 48)

SERMON Bill Levering
The Humble Search for Common Ground

*HYMN *Though I May Speak* #335

MINUTE FOR MISSION Stewardship

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Set Me as a Seal*
Rene Clausen

Set me as a seal upon your heart,
As a seal upon your arm,
For love is strong as death.
Many waters cannot quench love;
Neither can the floods drown it.

*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.

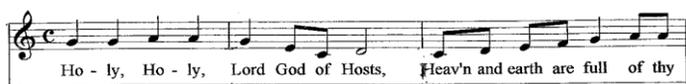
Lift up your hearts.

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 #419
How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE
Threefold Amen Traditional

POSTLUDE

+ + +

In Celebration

Today's Chancel Flowers are placed in the Sanctuary to the glory of God, in celebration of Matthew Mitchell and Ryan Muses' first communion.

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:

*Jean Heilman, Ada Huybregtse,
Melissa Greskovich, Alan F. Kuhn*

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.

Lost & Found

Lost or misplaced items can be found in the Narthex.

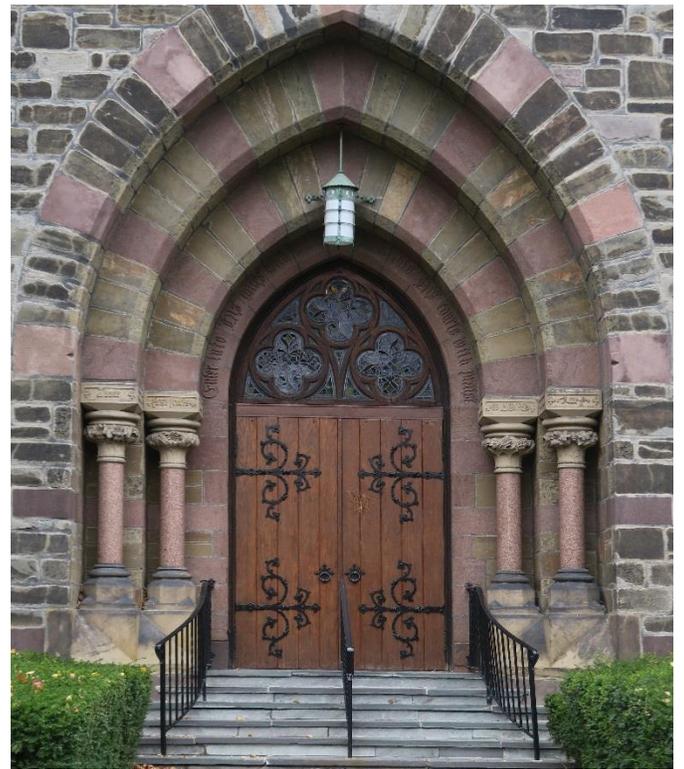
Johnson Library

Character Is Destiny, is a book by the late John McCain and co-authored by Mark Slater. It is a collection of inspiring stories about people Senator McCain felt we should all remember. Another book you might try if you have fond memories of *Out of Africa* is by the same author. In *Shadows in the Grass*, Isak Dinesen continues to tell stories of her time in Kenya with her same wonderful gift for storytelling. Finally, you will find a new biography by Walter Isaacson. It is *Leonardo Di Vinci* and is filled with pictures of his art as well as many samples of his notebook sketches which detail his scientific inquiries.

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.

Just a reminder: Do not walk through the construction zone. If you do need to see something in the new space please contact Gary Nelson ahead of time.



Doors to New Life

Jesus said, Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends.” (Rev. 3:20)

Sunday Volunteers	This Week	Next Week
Bookshop	Bill Clock	Nancy Wainwright
Church School	Natalie Pizzolo	Liam Battjes, Dave Pizzolo
Counting Deacons	Carol Troost, Joan Lindsay	Sarah Bachorik, Christina Jones
Flower Delivery	Jeanne Shoulder, Kate Rose	Ginny McDermott, Ann Gotwals
Greeters	Fred & Christine Daniels	Darwin & Ellie Brudos
Jazz Vespers	Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass	Scott Bassinson, piano
Kinderwyk	Dorothy Linder Mitchell, Lian Drisgula	Vickie McGowan-Horan
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Joanne Arnold, Birdie Blackmer, Eric Evans, Mary Jewett, Del Pierce, Walt Robb, Jeanne Shoulder	Vickie McGowan-Horan, Norma Brown, Peggy King, Don & Marilyn Leach, Tom Lindsay, Del Pierce, Ellie Rowland
Reader	Gene Rowland	Amy Brule
Ushers	Del Pierce, Hendrick & Joanne Arnold, Jeanette & Don Davidson	Mike Horan, Hannah Bachorik, Sarah Bachorik, Crystal Mongillo, Justine Ochal, Ralph Rosenthal
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	Group	Description	Place
Nov 4	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
	10am	Stewardship Sunday	Our stewardship campaign for 2019 will highlight the new doors in our building that lead us to new places. You will be hearing more about this program and we hope you will be able to give generously.	Sanctuary
	10:15am	Church School	Children in grades K-5 are invited to go upstairs for church school after the Children's Message.	Schermerhorn & Walton
	11:15am	First Forum	Stewardship Sunday, James and Karen Gonda	Sanctuary
	11:15am	Sharing Sacred Stories	Let us grow together in faith and fellowship, sharing stories of God at work in our lives. Contact Aline Stabler for more info at 518-369-9275 or agianfagna@gmail.com.	Mohawk House Pres.
	3pm	What's What @ FRC	This is a relaxed time to learn more about First Reformed and possible membership.	Church Office
	3pm	SICM Benefit Concert	The Music Company Orchestra presents a benefit concert to support Schenectady Community Ministries (SiCM). Please bring a canned/nonperishable item for Thanksgiving Dinner for the SiCM Food Program	Sanctuary
5pm	Jazz Vespers	Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass	Sanctuary	
Nov 5	11am	Group V	Questions contact Maria Todd at (518)882-6555.	Dirck Romeyn
Nov 6	10am	Horizons Bible Study	Contact Barbara Walton, (518) 894-5021 or waltonbl@aol.com if you have questions.	Mohawk House Pres.
	11:30am	Support & Care Committee	We meet the first Tuesday of each month.	Mohawk House Pres.
	7pm	Short Short Writing	Writing group for 1000 words or less.	Mohawk House Lunn
Nov 7	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.

Date	Time	Group	Description	Place
Nov 8	10am	Stitch Group	Come finish a project or start a new one.	Mezzanine
	7:30pm	Chancel Choir	Rehearsal open to all.	Sanctuary
Nov 9	6pm	J-Walkers & JAC	Pizza and Movie. Children over 13 and adults watch The New World to discuss Native American history.	Mohawk House
Nov 10	8am	Saturday Breakfast	Our speaker will be Rev. Liam Battjes, our new Director of Christian Development. This is a wonderful opportunity to get acquainted with Liam and learn more about him.	Dirck Romeyn room
Nov 11	12pm	Youth Education Meeting	Youth Ed committee meeting	Mohawk House Lunn
	11:15am	First Forum	Celebrate Our Veterans with Richard Rose	Sanctuary
	11:15am	Sharing Sacred Stories	Let us grow together in faith and fellowship, sharing stories of God at work in our lives. Contact Aline Stabler for more info at 518-369-9275 or agianfagna@gmail.com.	Mohawk House Pres.
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Scott Bassinson, piano	Sanctuary
	6pm	The Great Thanksgiving	Youth see Thanksgiving from different points of view and artistically give-thanks.	Mohawk House
Nov 13	6:30pm	Committee Meetings	Individual Committees meet on their own.	Various
	7:30pm	Consistory	Officers meeting	Dirck Romeyn
Nov 14	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
Nov 18	11:15am	Sharing Sacred Stories	Let us grow together in faith and fellowship, sharing stories of God at work in our lives. Contact Aline Stabler for more info 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	Thanksgiving Vespers- Wayne Hawkins Trio, Nat Phipps Group, Peg Delaney, Bill Delaney. Honoring Tom D'Andrea.	Sanctuary

Notes

“Different roads sometimes lead to the same castle.” — George R.R. Martin

“Love is wise; hatred is foolish. In this world, which is getting more and more closely interconnected, we have to learn to tolerate each other, we have to learn to put up with the fact that some people say things that we don't like. We can only live together in that way. But if we are to live together, and not die together, we must learn a kind of charity and a kind of tolerance, which is absolutely vital to the continuation of human life on this planet.”
— Bertrand Russell

“I will never compromise Truth for the sake of getting along with people who can only get along when we agree.” — D.R. Silva

“We confuse disagreeing with someone's beliefs with disrespecting the person. In fact, we've confused the difference between people and ideas altogether. Where we once used to be able to challenge a person's beliefs without necessarily denigrating that person, we now think that challenging certain beliefs is the same thing as denigrating the person who holds them.”
— Abdu Murray

“We sometimes agree with a statement until we get to the name of the person to whom it is attributed.” — Mokokoma Mokhonoana

“Disagreement is one thing; disrespect is quite another.” — Richard V. Reeves

“The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why.” — Mark Twain

“The four things that matter in life: 1) love 2) honesty 3) faith 4) courage. ”
— Bill Butterworth

“I have everything I thought was important and nothing that really is.
— Lily Francone”