

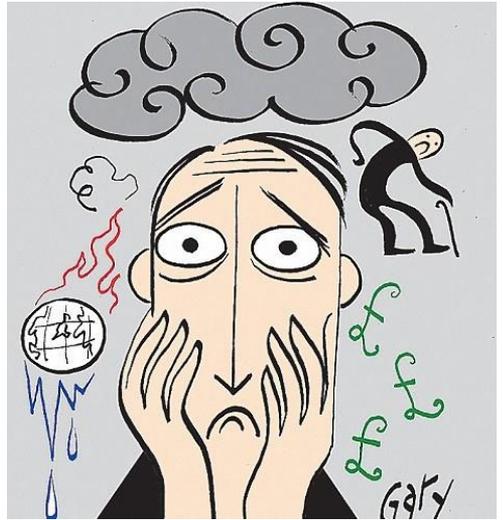
***The Covenant of Our
Congregation
Adopted in 1962***

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.



December 2, 2018

*First Reformed Church
8 North Church Street
Schenectady, New York 12305
(518)377-2201 www.1stReformed.com*

Welcome to First Reformed

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.

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.

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

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.



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 please fill out a white pew card.

Restroom

If you are looking for a first floor handicap accessible restroom the Mohawk House is open.

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.

Service Online

A live stream of the worship service as well as some of the past services can be found at 1stReformed.com.

First Sunday of Advent

December 2, 2018

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

Wayne Hawkins, piano

Melanie Chirignan and Grace Leininger, Flute

Andante and Rondo

Doppler

GREETING

Bill Levering

The grace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Daniel Carlson

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

The Muse Family

Capo 1

① Eb(D) Ab(G) Eb(D) ② Ab(G) Eb(D) ③

Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre-para the way of the Lord, and

Ab(G) Eb(D) ④ Ab(G) Eb(D)

all peo-ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God. Pre -

*HYMN

Here In This Place

Back of Bulletin

*OUR NEED FOR GOD

God of all time, we are stuck in empty patterns of our past and long to embrace new insights, hope, and joy. God of right now, move us beyond petty distractions, and focus us on your presence in our lives. Help us act to bring about your peace.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el
Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(From the *Brief Statement of Faith*)

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, 'Come, Lord Jesus.'

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

Dan Gleason, percussion
Melanie Chirignan and Grace Leininger; flute

The Staff of Faith

My faith it is an oaken staff,
The trav'lers well loved aid;
My faith it is a weapon stout,
The soldier's trusty blade.
I'll travel on and still be stirred
By prayerful thought or holy Word;
By all my peril undeterred,
A soldier pilgrim staid.

I have a guide and in His steps
When travelers have trod,
If there beneath was flinty rock
Or yielding grassy sod,
They cared not, but with force unspent,
Unmoved by pain they onward went,
Unstayed by pleasures still they bent
Their zealous course to God.

My faith it is an oaken staff,
O let me on it lean!
My faith it is a trusty sword,
May falsehood find it keen!
Thy spirit Lord to me impart,
O make me what Thou ever art,
O patient and courageous heart,
As all true saints have been.

How firm a foundation,
ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in
His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you
He hath said, To you who for refuge to
Jesus have fled!
My faith it is an oaken staff,
The trav'lers well loved aid;

FIRST LESSON *Jeremiah 33:14-16* pg (738)

Carol Troost

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

Luke 21:25-36 (pg 85)

SERMON *Choosing Response to Crisis* Bill Levering

*HYMN *Come, Thou Long-Expectant Jesus* #1

MINUTE FOR MISSION *Project Safe* Cathy Lewis

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Dan Gleason, John Norton Percussion
Melanie Chirignan, Flute Abby Norton-Levering, violin

Celtic Advent Carol

Angerman and Barrett

Be not afraid, I bring you good news.
The Savior is coming in glory to you.
He shall be called "God's Holy One."
Will you be ready for Him when he comes?

Light the candle, Jesus is coming,
Open your hearts, prepare ye the way.
Sleepers awake,
for soon is the dawning.

He will turn night into glorious day.
Be of good cheer and put away fear,
the light now is coming to dry ev'ry tear.
Love now with us, God's perfect Son.
Will you be ready for Him when he comes?

Veni, Emmanuel.
Come now and ransom Israel.
Veni, Emmanuel. Jesus is coming.
Could He be coming today?

*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

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts, Heav'n and earth are full of thy
Glo - ry! Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord, Most High!

The image shows a musical score for the Sanctus. It consists of two staves of music in a common time signature (C). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics: "Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts, Heav'n and earth are full of thy". The second staff contains the lyrics: "Glo - ry! Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord, Most High!". The music is written in a simple, clear style suitable for a unison performance.

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

Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

#15

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Threefold Amen

#583

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:

Mary Frances Case, Robert S. Crandall, Robert Bruce Crandell, Katherine Rozendaal, Arthur E. Peterson

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.

Give Christmas Memorial Flowers

Each year the church is decorated with plants and greens during the holiday season. Your loved ones will be remembered in the bulletin on Dec 16. The donation is \$20. Even if you have donated in previous years, you must place a new order for Christmas 2018. Please call 518-377-2201 or email, 1streformedpub@gmail.com no later than Thursday, Dec 13, to make arrangements. Send payment to Chancel Guild, c/o Marlene Risseeuw, 2140 Niskayuna Drive, 12309.

Poinsettia Flower Delivery

Volunteers are needed on Dec 16 to deliver poinsettia plants to homebound church members. The plants, along with addressed cards, will be available after the service. This is a meaningful opportunity to extend our care and support to church members not able to join us for worship.

All FRC/UPC Choral Alumni

Our 5pm Christmas Eve service we are looking to have as many First Reformed and UPC alumni who grew up in our choirs to stand and sing together. In past years, we have had a choir consisting of our recent alumni and we would like to expand our possibilities! This year we would like to include ALL of our past youth members in singing a song together. Please call Jamie Ipsen 518-399-6848 or let the church office know if you will be attending the 5pm service so she can get music to you and notify you of rehearsals.

Narthex Display Cases

The Narthex display cases during Advent and Christmas will feature two beautiful displays of nativity scenes. One, will contain the Van Voast family crèche which has been displayed during past advent seasons. The other display case will contain a display designed by Kathy Petersen. Kathy has a vast collection of miniatures depicting the holy land that tell the whole story of the nativity. She has a family tradition of turning a room in her house over to the display of the nativity during advent and Christmas. The Narthex display case will feature a smaller version of her collection. Please take the time to view both beautiful displays during advent and Christmas.

Post-Worship Hospitality Needs

Please consider hosting our post-worship fellowship a couple of Sundays during the year. The sign-up sheet and instructions are in Dirck Romeyn room.

Christmas gifts for the Men of City Mission

Suggestion cards can be taken from the small Christmas tree in the Dirck Romeyn room. Buy new gifts and bring them back unwrapped and place them by the tree Dec 2-16. Warm clothing and coats are suggested. Contact Amy Brule with any questions.

The Perfect Gift

The Day By Day Devotional Calendar is reusable year after year. It comes wrapped with a ribbon. The original flip booklet was organized by Group V in 1981. Find the perfect gift in the bookstore or call Maria Todd to order.

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.

Support and Care

We are looking for those interested in grocery shopping for the homebound in our midst. We invite you to consider helping with this supportive ministry. Give Daniel Carlson, 518-346-6416 or Barbara Walton, 518-346-1943 a call if you feel moved to care in this way.

Sunday Volunteers	This Week	Next Week
Bookshop	Bill Clock	Nancy Wainwright
Church School	Sarah Bachorik/ Return to Worship	Sarah Bachorik, Tom Mancuso
Counting Deacons	Christina Jones, Dick Gardner	Dick Gardner, Claire Hughes
Flower Delivery	Vickie McGowan-Horan, Claire Hughes	Gay Doolittle, Karen & James Gonda
Jazz Vespers	Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass	Dave Gleason, piano; Mike Lawrence bass; Brian Patneau, sax; Ben O'Shea, trombone
Kinderwyk	Dorothy Linder Mitchell, Vickie McGowan-Horan	Dorothy Linder Mitchell
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Joanne Arnolds, Birdie Blackmer, Jeanette Davidson, Eric Evans, Mary Jewett, Liz Mastrianni, Barbara Walton	Vickie McGowan-Horan, Peggy King, Walt Robb, Bill Rochelle, Jeanne Shoulder, Maria Todd
Reader	Carol Troost	Amy Brule
Ushers	Jim & Sharron McCullough, Joe Brown, Lian Drisgula, Christine Lund, Doug Todd, Tom Zych	Bill Clock, Nancy Wainwright, Alden Brown, Adam Kerwin
Sign up for any of these important jobs at 1streformed.com		

“It’s not time to worry yet”
— Harper Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird*

“Sorrow looks back, Worry looks
around, Faith looks up” — Ralph Waldo
Emerson

“It’s OKAY to be scared. Being scared
means you’re about to do something
really, really brave.” — Mandy Hale,
*The Single Woman: Life, Love, and a
Dash of Sass*

“Do not anticipate trouble, or worry
about what may never happen. Keep in
the sunlight.” — Benjamin Franklin

“Worry is a misuse of the imagination.”
— Dan Zadra

If you do not change direction, you may
end up where you are heading.
— Lao Tzu

What we call the beginning is often the
end. And to make an end is to make a
beginning. The end is where we start
from. — T. S. Eliot

If the world comes to an end, I want to
be in Cincinnati. Everything comes
there ten years later. — Mark Twain

If you look for truth, you may find
comfort in the end; if you look for
comfort you will not get either comfort
or truth only soft soap and wishful
thinking to begin, and in the end,
despair. — C. S. Lewis

Notes

Coming Up

More information is in the newsletter at the back of the sanctuary

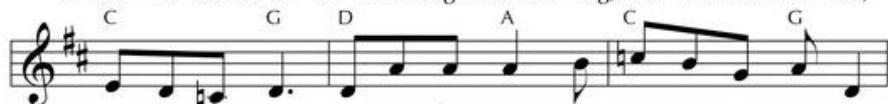
Today	9 am	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
	9 am	Chords of Love	Mezzanine
	9:45 am	Kinderwyk	Friendship Hall
	10:15 am	Church School	Walton House
	11:15 am	First Forum - MoonCatcher Project	Mohawk - Lunn
	11:15 am	FRC Orff Group	Balcony
	3 pm	What's What @ FRC	Church Office
5 pm	Jazz Vespers	Sanctuary	
	5 pm	Advent Festival	Mohawk House
Dec 3	11 am	Group V	Dirck Romeyn
Dec 4	10 am	Horizons Bible Study	Mohawk - Pres.
	11:30 am	Support & Care Committee Meeting	Mohawk - Pres.
	7 pm	Short Short Writing	Mohawk - Lunn
Dec 5	9:30 am	Kerygma Conversations	Mohawk - Pres.
	7 pm	Adult Ukulele	Mohawk - Pres.
Dec 7	6 pm	J-Walkers Pizza Movie Night	Mohawk - Lunn
Dec 8	8:30 am	Saturday Breakfast - Wayne Hawkins	Mohawk - Lunn
Dec 9	8:30 am	St. Nicholas Breakfast	Dirck Romeyn
	11:15 am	First Forum – Poor Peoples' Campaign	Mohawk - Lunn
	11:15 am	FRC Orff Group	Balcony
	12 pm	Youth Ed Meeting	Mohawk - Lunn
	5 pm	Jazz Vespers	Sanctuary
	Dec 11	10 am	Horizons Bible Study
Dec 12	9:30 am	Kerygma Conversations	Mohawk - Pres.
	2 pm	Staff Meeting	Office
	6 pm	Fellowship Meal	Dirck Romeyn
	7 pm	Contemplative Worship	Sanctuary
	7 pm	Adult Ukulele	Dirck Romeyn
Dec 16	11:15 am	Church Poinsettia Delivery	Mohawk - Lunn
	11:15 am	Open Hearts	Mohawk – Lunn



Here In This Place



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ish'd a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

THE CONSISTORY

MINISTERS

Bill Levering, Senior Minister
Daniel Carlson, Associate Minister
Liam Battjes, Director of Christian Development

OFFICERS

Amy Brule, Del Pierce, Senior Elders
Catherine Lewis, Treasurer
Joanne Bedell, Clerk

ELDERS

Joanne Arnold
Amy Brule
Marilyn Leach
Brad Lewis
Barbara Mancuso
Liz Mastrianni
Vickie McGowan-Horan
Del Pierce
Kitty Trimarco
Barbara Walton

DEACONS

Sarah Bachorik
Andy Chestnut
Bill Clock
Dave Hjelmar
Christina Jones
Matt Jones
Kristin Lion
Justine Ochal
Peter Ontkush
Ralph Rosenthal

CHURCH STAFF

Corine Salon, Director of Music
Wayne Hawkins, Church Musician
Jamie Ipsen, Director of Children's Music
Dan Gleason, Orff Director
Heather Scribner, Office Administrator
Jani Pittman, Office Assistant
Nancy Marie Mohammadi, Mission Host
Mary Collins, Accounts Payable Clerk
Gary Nelson, Facility Supervisor
Diana Wahid, Housekeeper
Hope Lavery, Housekeeper
Tom Mahan, Sexton
Andrew Wiltz, Maintenance
Daniel Shoulder, Maintenance