

***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 30, 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 Covenant Hall 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.

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 after Christmas Day

December 30, 2018

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

Wayne Hawkins

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liam Battjes

The grace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill Levering

*HYMN

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

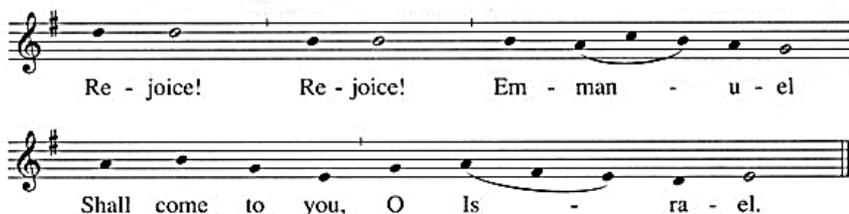
#22 (verse 1,2)

*OUR NEED FOR GOD

Almighty God, who sent a star to show the way to Jesus, we confess that we have not followed the light of your word. We have not searched to signs of your love or trusted good news to be good. We have expected little and hoped for less. Forgive our doubt and renew in us all fine desires so that we might find what is holy once again.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)



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

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*from Our Song of Hope*)

Our only hope is Jesus Christ. After we refused to live in the image of God, He was born of the virgin Mary, sharing our genes and our instincts, entering our culture, speaking our language, fulfilling the law of our God. Being united to Christ's humanity, we know ourselves when we rest in Him.

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

Ave Maria

Rachel Rose
Robert Schubert

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 148 (pg 582)

Christine Daniels

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

*HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

#31

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Liam Battjes

SECOND LESSON

Luke 2:1-14 (pg 58)

*HYMN

The First Nowell

#56 (Verse 1)

SERMON

Angels Without Wings

Bill Levering

*HYMN

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

#38 (verse 1,3)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Rachel Rose

How Great Thou Art

Stuart Hine

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made.
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

When through the woods
and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;

When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin:

When Christ shall come
with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim, my God,
how great Thou art!

*DOXOLOGY

#592

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks* #59 (verses 1, 2, 5,6)

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

Go Tell It on The Mountain

#29

*CHARGE AND 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:

*Jean Bowman, Almy Coggeshall,
Burton Dearing, Esther Eveleth*

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.

Faith Bookshop

Our collection of Prayers, Words to Live By, has been replenished in case you missed out on the first run and there are also prayer cubes for sale at a nominal price.

Christmas Offering:

The MoonCatcher Project

Education is the most effective means of improving the lives of girls in the world's poorest communities. However, these girls often drop out of school when they reach puberty because they have no access to hygiene products. This leads to early marriage and a lack of financial independence. The MoonCatcher Project was established to provide free reusable, washable hygiene products that provide a way for girls to stay in school, giving them a chance to complete their education.

New Beverwyck Book

The Seventh and newest edition of The Beverwyck Anthology is out! Your complimentary copy can be found in the bookstore.

Offering Envelopes

2019 Offering Envelopes are available in the church office.

Support and Care

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

Daily Check-in Calls

Hearing a warm "Good morning!" is a wonderful way to start the day. Your Care and Support committee is aware that some in our family of faith, especially those who may live alone, would enjoy such a daily call. Knowing that each day or so a friendly caller would ask, "How are you, today?" would be a comfort for such folks. If you would be interested in being such a caller--or the recipient of such calls--please contact the church office or Rev. Daniel Carlson.

FRC Sole Searchers

On Tuesday, January 1. We will embark on a two-mile guided tour of Saratoga Spa State Park, hosted by the parks department. This hike will commence 10am sharp. Afterwards, hot chocolate will be served. Pack a lunch and meet in the church parking lot at 8:30am. Dogs are permitted and must be on a leash no more than six feet. Please RSVP to James at jgonda12309@gmail.com.

Lenten Devotional Submissions

You are invited to make a contribution to the 2019 Lenten Devotional booklet: a poem, drawing, response to a Bible verse or Lenten reflection. Sign-up will begin in early January. The deadline is February 3. Please contact Bill Clock, 518-641-2585, or Karen Gonda, karengonda6@gmail.com, with questions.

Sunday Volunteers	This Week	Next Week
Bookshop	Birdie Blackmer	Bill Clock
Church School		Liam Battjes, Natalie Pizzolo
Counting Deacons	Fred Daniels, Carol Troost	Gay Doolittle, Joan Lindsay
Flower Delivery	No Flower Delivery	Lynn Wilkanowski, Diane & G. Preston Lewis
Jazz Vespers	Peg Delaney Trio	Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass
Kinderwyk	Lian Drisgula	Dorothy Linder-Mitchell & Kristin Lion
Liturgist	Liam Battjes	Liam Battjes
Preacher	Bill Levering	Daniel Carlson
Processing Elders	Joanne Arnold, Birdie Blackmer, Christine Daniels, Gay Doolittle, Walt Robb, Barbara Walton	Eric Evans, Phil Falconer, Gay Doolittle,
Reader	Christine Daniels	George Trimarco
Ushers	Tom Burgoyne, David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Karen Gonda, Berta & Nat Phipps	Bill Clock, Christina & Matt Jones, Aline Stable, Nancy Wainwright
Sign up for any of these important jobs at 1streformed.com		

Coming Up

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

Dec 30	9am	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
	9am	Chords of Love	Mezzanine
	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Friendship Hall
	10:15am	Church School	Walton House
	11am	Care & Prayer	Dykstra Chapel
	11:15am	First Forum - Sermon Talk Back	Mohawk - Lunn
	5pm	Pastor's Party	Covenant Hall
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Sanctuary
	5pm	All Families Christmas Party	YMCA
Jan 1		Office Closed – New Year's Day	
	7pm	Short Short Writing	Mohawk - Lunn
Jan 2	9:30am	Kerygma Conversations	Mohawk - Pres.
	11:30am	Elder Diner Lunches	Covenant Hall
	6pm	Good Earth Band Rehearses	Covenant Hall
	7pm	Good Earth Café	Covenant Hall
	8pm	EPIC Conversation	Covenant Hall
	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Mohawk - Pres.
Jan 3	10am	Stitch Group	Mezzanine
	7:30pm	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
Jan 5	4:30pm	Epiphany Party	119 Park Pl, Schdy
Jan 6	9am	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
	9am	Chords of Love	Mezzanine
	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Friendship Hall
	10:15am	Church School	Walton House
	11:15am	First Forum - Schoharie After the	Mohawk - Lunn
	11:15am	FRC Orff Group	Balcony
	12pm	J-Walkers Youth Group	Mohawk - Lunn
	3pm	Introductions to FRC First	Church Office
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Sanctuary
Jan 7	11am	Group V	Dirck Romeyn
Jan 9	9:30am	Kerygma Conversations	Mohawk - Pres.
	11:30am	Elder Diner Lunches	Covenant Hall
	3pm	Kitchen Training and Pow Wow	Kitchen
	6pm	Good Earth Band Rehearses	Covenant Hall
	7pm	Good Earth Café	Covenant Hall
	8pm	EPIC Conversation	Covenant Hall

The sanctuary and chapel is adorned to the glory of God and in loving memory of:

- Margaret (Peg) Shultes by her family
- David Bain by Audrey Bain and family
- Dick Blackmer, provided by his family
- Julie Lawton with love by Vicki Brooks and John Lawton
- Our parents from Wayne & Amy Brule
- Jean Kemp Bundy, love the Bundy family
- Mr. & Mrs. Richard E. Burgoyne from their family
- Timothy Burgoyne from his family
- Parents and siblings by Gay & Joe Doolittle
- Bill Dotter by his wife, Elsie & children
- Carlton W. Dyer by his wife, Janice B. Dyer
- Warren D. & Ethel F. Barrett by their children, grandchildren, and great grandson
- Rudolph & Therese Mahlberg, and Paul Erickson by the Erickson family
- William & Louise Stange and Sam Croce by Marlene Risseeuw & the Erickson family
- Erin Falconer and our parents by the Falconer family
- Janet R. Crandell & Bruce Crandell by their daughters Donna, Sandy and Linda Fentiman
- Janet Gardner and Gardner families by Richard
- Merry Christmas by Marjorie Geiger
- Loved ones by Ann & Joe Gotwals
- White-Hamilton families by Cynthia Hamilton
- Loved ones by the Hjelmar family
- Leroy Jewett by his family
- Scott Jewett by his family
- John T. Stuart from Sean Kent
- Ruth & Harry Kent from Sean Kent
- Tom & Viola Ruckman, Tom Ruckman Jr. and Ross & Hazel Marrs by the Kiesow & Tobin families
- R. Ned Landon by his wife, Barbara
- Harold Lapham by his family
- Mark McDermott by his wife, Gini
- Richard & Beverly McLane, by their children, grandchildren & great-grandchildren
- Margaret "Peg" Miller by Jim Miller
- Neil W. Moynihan by Sandy Moynihan and family
- Dorothy & Edmund Sanderson by Sandy Moynihan & family
- Our parents Dr. Henry & Emily Nagamatsu, from Nancy, Brian, & their families
- Loved ones by Anne Peterson
- The Cottrell family from Anne Putnam
- The Bolz-Putnam families from Anne Putnam
- Our parents from Richard and Kate Rose
- Eldon Springsted by his wife, Elaine
- Daniel J. Thuener by his wife, Vernetta and family
- Parents and Donald Troost from Carol and Deborah Troost
- Earl Wainwright by Nancy, Jeff, Tim, Dori, Leanne, Jon, Nick, Tom and Katie
- Ann Walraven by the Walraven family
- Anne Shepherd Wemple, Robert V. Shepherd and Susan Shepherd by the Welch family
- Carolyn Shepherd Welch by the Welch family
- Palmer V. Welch, Marian A. Welch, Mary C. Welch by the Welch family
- Glenn Winchester by his family and loved ones
- Eugene Zeltmann by Mary Zeltmann
- Donald E. Craig, Elizabeth Craig, Corinne Craig; Eugene C. Zeltmann and Ruth Zeltmann by their family
- Eugene W. Zeltmann from his family
- Hank Drisgula from Lian & Tom

