

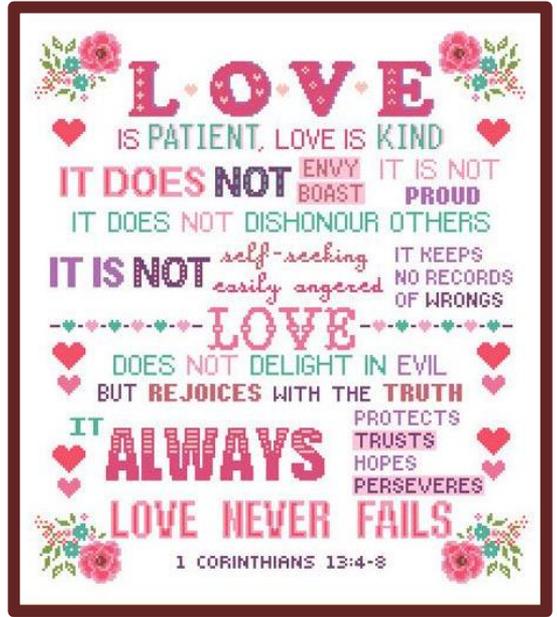
***The Covenant of Our
Congregation
Adopted in 1962***

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.



February 3, 2019



*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.

Heritage Sunday

February 3, 2019

*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

We come from different places.

Yet we are one.

We do not look the same.

Yet we are one.

We hold different ideas.

Yet we are one.

We are full of different feelings.

Yet we are one.

INTROIT

We Are One In The Spirit

*HYMN

I've Got Peace Like a River

#368

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*from the French Reformed Church*)

O God, forgive our pride and our lack of faith, which are the causes of our divisions. Deliver us from narrow-mindedness, from our bitterness, from our prejudices. Save us from considering as normal that which is a scandal to the world and an offence to your love. Teach us to recognize the gifts of grace among all.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*) *Amen, Amen*

Black Spiritual

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*from The Belhar Confession*)

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family. We believe that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain. We believe that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered.

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Elaine Hagenberg

O Love, that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thy ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O Joy, that seeks me through the pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be.

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 84 (pg 543)

Liz Mastrianni

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Liam Battjes

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (pg 175)

SERMON

Love In Particular

Bill Levering

*HYMN

Though I May Speak

#335

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Bethesda House

Louise O'Leary

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Call Me Yours

Bock/Curry

In the stillness of this hour, Come Lord Jesus.
Robed in majesty and power, Come Lord Jesus.
Cleanse the sinfulness in me,
Break these chains and set me free.
Come, Lord Jesus, come and call me Yours

Sent from heaven to redeem, Come Lord Jesus.
Grace and love Your constant theme, Come, Lord Jesus,
I bow down before Your throne,
Offer up my heart, Your home.
Come Lord Jesus com and call me Yours.

*DOXOLOGY *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* #592

*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!

RECEPTION OF THE ELEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Ecumenical) (*unison*)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin

against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

*HYMN

The Church of Christ in Every Age

#421

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Threefold Amen

Danish

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:

Herbert Stare, Virginia Cleveland, Janet Schwem, Janice Flom, Raymond Fisher, Janet Gardner, Philip Mathews, Lois Joyce Berner Mix

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.

Lenten Devotional Submissions

The deadline for submissions has been extended to February 10. Make a contribution to the Lenten Devotional booklet: a poem, drawing, response to a Bible verse or Lenten reflection. Contact Bill 518-641-2585, or Karen karengonda6@gmail.com.

Heritage Sunday

Each year the Archives and Historical Concerns Committee sponsors a First Forum covering historical topics. The topic will be "How We Got Here?" – a timeline summary of the past 300 years. We will present the video of members put together 10 years ago when we were searching for Bill Levering and a look at what we have done in the past 10 years and what we can do in the next 10 years.

Johnson Library Update

We are currently attaching the library's bookcases to the walls in the new Johnson Library space. This will probably take about two weeks to complete. During that time, the books on the shelves in the Heritage room will be moved into the library. You will find them on a bookshelf located to your right as you enter the new library/bookstore space. Once all the bookcases are all in place, we will be ready to begin the process of returning our books to their new home. It is a job that we are looking forward to doing with anyone who is willing to help.

“When one has once fully entered the realm of love, the world — no matter how imperfect — becomes rich and beautiful, it consists solely of opportunities for love.” — Søren Kierkegaard, Works of Love

“We instinctively tend to limit for whom we exert ourselves. We do it for people like us, and for people whom we like. Jesus will have none of that. By depicting a Samaritan helping a Jew, Jesus could not have found a more forceful way to say that anyone at all in need - regardless of race, politics, class, and religion - is your neighbour. Not everyone is your brother or sister in faith, but everyone is your neighbour, and you must love your neighbour.”
— Timothy Keller, Generous Justice: How God’s Grace Makes Us Just

“First we must understand that all of the world’s deceptions flow from the belief that love is primarily for the fulfillment and comfort of the self. The world poisons love by focusing first and foremost on meeting one’s own needs. Christ taught that love is not for the fulfillment of the self but for the Glory of God and the good of others. True love is selfless. It gives; it sacrifices; it dies to its own needs.” — Joshua Harris

“Look for every opportunity to encourage someone. You don’t know who is wrestling with demons that could end his or her life that day. A kind word comes from God. Be brave enough to act on it.” — Aaron Behr

“When we show love to others, God’s presence is with us.” — Linda Evans Shepherd

Sunday Volunteers	This Week	Next Week
Bookshop	Sarah Howes	Nancy Wainwright
Church School	Sarah Bachorik / Return to Worship	Sarah Bachorik, Dave Pizzolo
Counting Deacons	George Trimarco, Vickie McGowan-Horan	Fred Daniels, Carol Troost
Flower Delivery	Berta & Nat Phipps, Karen & John Norton	Roberta Blackmer, Karen & John Norton
Greeters	Renate Reeve-Ellington, Gay Doolittle	Donna & David Bundy
Jazz Vespers	Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass	Wayne Hawkins, piano
Kinderwyk	Alexis Wisniewski, Lian Drisgula	Dorothy Linder Mitchell, Christina Jones
Liturgist	Liam Battjes	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Eric Evans, Gay Doolittle, Cathy & Brad Lewis, Liz Mastrianni, Vickie McGowan Horan, Margaret Schadler, Barbara Walton	Birdie Blackmer, Christine Daniels, Jeanette Davidson, Peggy King, Tom Lindsay, Bill Rochelle Jr
Reader	Liz Mastrianni	Cynde Schwartz
Ushers	Mike Horan, Hannah Bachorik, Sarah Bachorik, Crystal Mongillo, Justine Ochal, Ralph Rosenthal	Tom Burgoyne, David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Ralph Rosenthal, Berta & Nat Phipps
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.

Sunday	9am	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
Feb 3	9am	Chords of Love	Mezzanine
	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Friendship Hall
	10:15am	Church School	Walton House
	11:15am	First Forum – Heritage Sunday	Mohawk - Lunn
	11:15am	UPC Fund Meeting	Hope Room
	12pm	J-Walkers Youth Group	Mohawk - Lunn
	3pm	Introductions to the FRC	Church Office
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Covenant Hall
Monday	11am	Group V	Dirck Romeyn
Feb 4			
Tuesday	10am	Horizons Bible Study	Mohawk - Pres.
Feb 5	11:30am	Support and Care Meeting	Mohawk - Pres.
	7pm	Short Short Writing	Mohawk - Lunn
Wednesday	9:30am	Kerygma Conversations	Mohawk - Pres.
Feb 6	11:30am	Wednesday Lunch	Covenant Hall
	6pm	Good Earth Band Rehearses	Covenant Hall
	7pm	Good Earth Café	Covenant Hall
	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Mohawk - Pres.
	8pm	EPIC Conversation	Covenant Hall
Thursday	10am	Stitch Group	Mezzanine
Feb 7	6pm	Recycle and Refurbish	Friendship Hall
	7:30pm	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
Friday	6pm	Pizza & Movie Night	Mohawk - Lunn
Feb 8			
Saturday	8:30am	Saturday Breakfast	Mohawk - Lunn
Feb 9			