

***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 24, 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.

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

February 24, 2019

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

*Kamana o'i'o
For the Beauty of the Earth
This Little Light of Mine
The Glory of Love*

The Stockade Strummers
John Bell
Pierpoint
Loes
B. Hill

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The grace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Daniel Carlson

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill Levering

INTROIT

We Are One In The Spirit

*HYMN

Down By The Riverside

(See back page)

*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 *The Apostles' Creed* (traditional version)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the

Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

ANTHEM

Come My Way

poet George Herbert
William A. Cross

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
Such a way as gives us breath,
Such a truth as ends all strife,
Such a life as killest death.

Come my light, my Feast, my Strength:
Such a light as shows a feast,

Such a feast as mends in length,
Such a strength as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love my Heart;
Such a joy as none can move,
Such a love as none can part,
Such a heart as joys in love,
Come, my Way, Come, my Way

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 37:1-11(pg 510)

Gene Rowland

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

Luke 6:27-38 (pg 64)

SERMON

Unreasonable Love

Bill Levering

***HYMN**

Help Us Accept Each Other

#358

MINUTE FOR MISSION

CASA

Cheryl Vallee

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Christ in The World

Bob Ridgway

Christ has no body on earth now, but ours.
No hands, no feet on earth now, just ours.
Ours are the eyes, through which Christ
looks compassion;
Christ in the world.

Ours are the feet, through which
Christ walks to do good;
Christ in the World
Ours are the hands, through which
Christ blesses the world;
Christ in the World

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
THE LORD’S PRAYER

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 *There’s a Wilderness In God’s Mercy* #298

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Threefold Amen* Danish

POSTLUDE

+ + +

Entered Into Eternal Rest
Constance Blair – 1/20/2019
David Perriman – 2/8/2019

In Memoriam
The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Eugene W. Zeltmann from his family.

Music Notes
"Christ in the World" ©2019 is a song written by Bob Ridgway based on a poem by Spanish mystic and Carmelite nun Saint Teresa of Avila (1515-1582). This song is dedicated to all the great people at First Reformed Church and the great things they do to help people in Schenectady and all over the world.

Celebratory or Memorial Flowers
Sign up for flowers in the church office to choose a date for donating flowers, to remember a loved one or to honor a special event. The cost of the flowers is \$30 for two bouquets. You may send your check payable to Chancel Guild c/o Marlene Risseeuw, 2140 Niskayuna Dr. , Niskayuna, NY 12309.

Johnson Library News
If you are interested in helping with the re-shelving of books in our new library space, a sign-up schedule can be found in the library. If you can't at this time, there will be more opportunities. Schedule for shelving books for Feb: 2/26: 1 – 3pm, 2/27: 12:30 – 2:30pm, 2/28: 10 – 12am, 1 -3pm.

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 Harter, Mary MacKinnon, Dr. Eugene Zeltmann, Marjorie Reid, Robert Traxler, Georgeina Kellam, Marjorie Todd, Dr. Joseph Burke, Mark Opdyke, James Scholtz, Carl Settle

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.

Union Presbyterian Mission Fund

The Union Presbyterian Mission Fund Committee has \$25,000 remaining available in 2019 to fund not-for-profit mission projects. It has already distributed \$6,000 to the Schenectady Community Ministries, Summer Lunch Program. The committee requests project proposals from the congregation. The project may be local, regional, national / international; and valued \$1,000 to \$5,000. Please submit the proposed project(s) no later than April 30 to Liz Mastrianni, lzmaestro@gmail.com or the FRC office. The UP Mission Fund Committee has adopted the FRC "Unified Mission Funding Request Form" for not-for-profit agencies to use for project proposals. The form can be found on the FRC website 1stReformed.com under Activities / Union Presbyterian Fund or in the church office.

Sunday Volunteers	This Week	Next Week
Bookshop	Martha Winchester	Committee Member
Church School	Natalie & Dave Pizzolo	Natalie Pizzolo
Counting Deacons	Joan Lindsay, Vickie McGowan-Horan	George Trimarco, Kristin Lion
Flower Delivery	Vickie McGowan-Horan, Sue Zeltmann	Kitty & George Trimarco
Greeters	Peggy King, Sue Zeltmann	Renate Reeves-Ellington
Jazz Vespers	Skip Parsons (Dixieland) Wayne Hawkins, Pete Toigo, Tim Coakley, Crick Diefendorf	Nat Phipps, piano; Mike Lawrence, bass
Kinderwyk	Dorothy Linder Mitchell, Alexis Wisniewski	Dorothy Linder Mitchell , Leah Kidwell-Fernandes
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Darwin Brudos, Mary Jewett, Peggy King, Tom Lindsay, Richard Rose, Maria Todd	Art Casey, Gay Doolittle, Eric Evans, Brad & Cathy Lewis,
Reader	Gene Rowland	Kristin Lion
Ushers	Tom Burgoyne, Joe Brown, Lian Drisgula, Christine Lund, Doug Todd, Tom Zych	Jim & Sharron McCullough, Alden Brown, Adam Kerwin
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.

Sun, Feb 24	9am	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
	9am	Chords of Love	Roof Top
	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Education Level
	10:15am	Church School	Education Level
	11:15am	First Forum	Sanctuary
	11am	Care & Prayer	Dykstra Chapel
	12pm	Resisting Structural Evil Book Group	Library
	11:30am	Growing Young	Sky room
	2:30pm	Four Chaplains Remembrance	Poling Chapel
		5pm	Jazz Vespers
	12pm	Growing Young	Sky room
Mon, Feb 25	6:30pm	Creation Care Committee	Hope Room
Tue, Feb 26	10am	Horizons Bible Study	Mohawk - Pres.
Wed, Feb 27	9:30am	Kerygma Conversations	Mohawk - Pres.
	11:30am	Wednesday Lunch	Covenant Hall
	6pm	Good Earth Band Rehearses	Covenant Hall
	7pm	Good Earth Café	Covenant Hall
	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Roof Top
	7pm	Evening Circle	Mohawk - Lunn
Thur, Feb 28	10am	Stitch Group	Mezzanine
	7:30pm	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
Fri, Mar 1	7pm	Wayne Hawkins First Fridays	Covenant Hall

“The Bible tells us to love our neighbors, and also to love our enemies; probably because generally they are the same people.” — G.K. Chesterton

“Now there is a final reason I think that Jesus says, “Love your enemies.” It is this: that love has within it a redemptive power. And there is a power there that eventually transforms individuals.”
— Martin Luther King Jr

“A wise man gets more use from his enemies than a fool from his friends.”
— Baltasar Gracian, The Art of Worldly Wisdom

Let your indulgence set me free.”
— William Shakespeare, The Tempest

“To be successful you need friends and to be very successful you need enemies.” — Sidney Sheldon, The Other Side of Midnight

