

***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.*



**March 3, 2019**

*First Reformed Church  
8 North Church Street  
Schenectady, New York 12305  
(518)377-2201 [www.1stReformed.com](http://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 the Forest Nursery room.

### **Church School**

All children in grades K-8 are welcome to join in our Church School program in the education level by leaving the sanctuary after the children's message. Parents can pick up their children at 11:15am.

### **Children's Music**

Music for kids is offered in the upstairs music level between 11:15-12pm.

### **Service Online**

A live stream of the worship service as well as some of the past services can be found at [1stReformed.com](http://1stReformed.com).

## Transfiguration Sunday

March 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

INTROIT

*O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High*

\*HYMN

*All Beautiful the March of Days*

#292

\*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

*Loving Shepherd of Thy Sheep*

John Rutter

Loving shepherd of thy sheep,  
keep thy lamb in safety keep;  
Nothing can the power withstand,  
None can pluck me from thy hand.  
I would praise thee ev'ry day,  
Gladly all thy will obey,  
Like thy blessed ones above,  
Happy in thy perfect love.

Loving shepherd ever near,  
Teach thy lamb thy voice to hear;  
Suffer not my steps to stray,  
From the straight and narrow way.  
Where thou leadest I would go,  
Walking in thy steps below,  
Till before my Father's throne,  
I shall know as I am known.

FIRST LESSON

*Psalm 92:1-4* (pg 548)

Kristin Lion

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

*Luke 9:37-43* (pg 70)

SERMON

*Healing Our Children*

Bill Levering

\*HYMN

*Jesus Loves Me!*

#304

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Austin Lovelace

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *I Will Arise and Go To Jesus* Austin C Lovelace

I will arise and go to Jesus.  
He will embrace me with his arms  
In the arms of my dear Savior.  
Oh! There are ten thousand charms.  
Come, Thou Fount of every blessing,  
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;

Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
Call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
Sung by flaming tongues above;  
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it,  
Mount of Thy redeeming love.

\*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

*Gluten free wafers are available. Indicate your interest to the roving Minister.*

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

*Let All Things Now Living*

#554

\*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:

*Sally Murray, Sallie Wemple,  
Peter Ipsen, Linda Witkowski,  
Daniel Thuener, Roy Stratton*

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 Easter Memorial Flowers

Each Easter, members of Chancel Guild adorn our church with beautiful Easter flowers. Your family can contribute to remember a loved one or honor a loved one. Please send your suggested donation of \$20 to Chancel Guild c/o Marlene Risseeuw, 2140 Niskayuna Dr., Niskayuna, NY 12309 and contact the church office with the name of the person the flowers are in honor or memory of. Even if you have donated in previous years, please place an order by April 17.

## Support and Care

Whenever you are ill, hospitalized, homebound, needing a meal, transportation to a doctor, or grieving a loss, we would like to know. Please help us to help you by calling Barb Walton 518-346-1943 or Daniel Carlson 518-346-6416.

<b>Sunday Volunteers</b>	<b>This Week</b>	<b>Next Week</b>
<b>Bookshop</b>	Committee Member	Committee Member
<b>Church School</b>	Natalie Pizzolo	Liam Battjes, Dave Pizzolo
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	George Trimarco, Kristin Lion	Christina Jones, Therese McCarty
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Kitty & George Trimarco	Sally & Jack Bestgen, Jeanette & Don Davidson
<b>Greeters</b>	Renate Reeves-Ellington	Christina Jones, Peggy King
<b>Jazz Vespers</b>	Nat Phipps, piano; Mike Lawrence, bass	Wayne Hawkins, piano
<b>Kinderwyk</b>	Dorothy Linder Mitchell , Leah Kidwell-Fernandes	Vickie McGowan, Alexis Wisniewski
<b>Liturgist</b>	Liam Battjes	Bill Levering
<b>Preacher</b>	Bill Levering	Daniel Carlson
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Joanne Arnold, Art Casey, Gay Doolittle, Eric Evans, Brad & Cathy Lewis, Barbara Mancuso, Liz Mastrianni	Joanne Arnold, Marilyn & Don Leach, Vickie McGowan-Horan, Del Pierce, Maria Todd
<b>Reader</b>	Kristin Lion	Cathy Lewis
<b>Refreshments</b>	Joanne Arnold, Sally Bestgen	
<b>Ushers</b>	Jim & Sharon McCullough, Alden Brown, Adam Kerwin	Art Shultes, Hendrick & Joanne Arnold, Jeanette & Don Davidson, Joan Lindsay
<b>Sign up for any of these important jobs at <a href="http://1streformed.com">1streformed.com</a></b>		



## Lenten Devotional

The biennial Lenten Devotional publication presented by our Adult Education and Nurture Committee is available today.

Sunday mornings, March 10 – April 14 at 8:30am in the Mohawk House, there will be an opportunity to gather and share how devotions from the 2019 Devotional Booklet have spoken to our hearts and to our minds. Join us for these meaningful conversations about how God is present in our lives. Led by Norma Brown.

## Ash Wednesday – March 6

We will usher in the season of Lent on March 6 with a simple fellowship meal in Covenant Hall at 6pm. Then we will move to a family-friendly service in Poling Chapel beginning at 7pm. Rev. Dr. Daniel Carlson will lead the service, which will include opportunity for the traditional imposition of ashes.

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## Wednesday in Lent

March 13 – April 10

Drop in for any or all of these.

### Lenten Meal – 6pm

Join us in Covenant Hall for a simple meal which includes soup, salad, and bread. Help to make soup by calling the church office.

### Lenten Series Studies - 7pm

#### 1. A Taste of the Good Earth Café with Liam Battjes – Poling Chapel

**March 13:** Our Mountain Top Life. The high expectations of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount

**March 20:** Judging Music or Not with Wayne Hawkins

**March 27:** Choosing a Path. Guest Betty Pieper and landscape paintings.

**April 3:** Non-violent Communication Review of NVC

**April 10:** Being a Comforting Presence

#### 2. Future Visions: Schenectady and First Reformed - Sanctuary

**March 13:** Mike Saccocio, Schenectady City Mission

**March 20:** Dr. Jeff Corbin, Professor, Union Biology Department

**March 27:** Sharon Jordan, past Schenectady City Chief of Staff, and Carmel Patrick, County Library Board Chair

**April 3:** Philip Morris, CEO of Proctor's Theatre

**April 10:** People of First Reformed review and respond

### Closing Worship – 8pm

## Coming Up

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

Sun, Mar 3	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
	12pm	Resisting Structural Evil Book Group	Mohawk – Pres.
	12:30pm	Family Shared Lunch	Covenant Hall
	3pm	Introductions to the FRC	Church Office
	5pm	J-Walkers Youth Group	Education Level
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Covenant Hall
Mon, Mar 4	11am	Group V	Dirck Romeyn
Tue, Mar 5	10am	Horizons Bible Study	Mohawk - Pres.
	11:30am	Support and Care Meeting	Mohawk - Pres.
	7pm	Short Short Writing	Mohawk - Lunn
Wed, Mar 6	9:30am	Kerygma Conversations	Mohawk - Pres.
	11:30am	Wednesday Lunch	Covenant Hall
	6pm	Ash Wednesday Meal	Covenant Hall
	7pm	Ash Wednesday Service	Poling Chapel
Thu, Mar 7	10am	Stitch Group	Mezzanine
	7:30pm	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary

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“If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales.” — Albert Einstein

“Children must be taught how to think, not what to think.” — Margaret Mead

“It’s the children the world almost breaks who grow up to save it.”  
— Frank Warren

“Children begin by loving their parents; as they grow older they judge them; sometimes they forgive them.”  
— Oscar Wilde, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*

“The soul is healed by being with children.” — Fyodor Dostoevsky

“A baby is God’s opinion that the world should go on.” — Carl Sandburg