

***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 10, 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 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.

First Sunday In Lent

March 10, 2019

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

Wayne Hawkins

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bill Levering

The grace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Daniel Carlson

INTROIT

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

*HYMN

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

#457

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

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you.

We humbly confess we have neither loved you unreservedly nor loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God.

Forgive us through Christ our Lord, guide us by your Word, and strengthen us in your Spirit, so that we may discern and do what you call us to: sharing your love for the world. Amen.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*adapted from Isaiah 58*)

This is the fast to which we are called:

to free those who are wrongly imprisoned and lighten the burden of those who work, to let the oppressed go free and remove the chains that bind people, to share our food with the hungry and give shelter to the homeless, to give clothes to those who need them, and not hide from those who need our help.

Then our salvation will come like the dawn,

**and our wounds will quickly heal.
Then our light will shine out from the darkness,
and the darkness around us will be as bright as noon.**

***PASSING THE PEACE**

ANTHEM

On Eagle's Wings

Michael Joncas

Choral Setting by Douglas E. Wagner

And He will raise you up
on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of His hand.

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in his shadow for life,
say to the Lord:
"My refuge, my rock, in whom I trust!"

The snare of the fowler will never
capture you,

and famine will bring you no fear:
under His wings your refuge,
His faithfulness your shield.

You need not fear the terror of the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day;
though thousands fall about you,
near you it shall not come.

For to His angels He's given a command
to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 91:1-2 (pg 548)

Cathy Lewis

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

Luke 10:1-13 (pg 71)

SERMON

Resisting Evil

Daniel Carlson

***HYMN**

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

#260

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Bethesda House

Louise O'Leary

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

By Faith and Not by Sight

Lloyd Larson

We walk by faith and not by sight; no
gracious words we hear
From Him who spoke as none e'er
spoke; but we believe him near.
We may not touch His hands, his side,
nor follow where He trod;
But in His promise we rejoice,

and cry,"My Lord and God!"

We walk by faith and not by sight,
empow'ed by resurrection might;
Touched by the Christ, our given Lord,
cleansed by the water and the Word.
Help us to walk by faith and not by sight!

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and
may our faith abound,
To call on You when You are near, and
seek where You are found;
That when our life of faith is done.
In realms of clearer light
We may behold You as You are,

with full and endless sight.

We walk by faith and not by sight,
empow'ed by resurrection might;
Touched by the Christ, our given Lord,
cleansed by the water and the Word.
Help us to walk by faith and not by sight!

***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** *God of Grace and God of Glory* #420

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE** *Threefold Amen* Danish

POSTLUDE

+ + +

Entered Into Eternal Rest

Wales Brown - 3/5/2019
Service will on March 16 at 1pm.

Back To The Hills

On Saturday, March 23 the Sole Searchers will head back to the Catskills to experience the Palenville Outlook. This six to seven mile round trip excursion with no elevation gain will offer SPECTACULAR views. Pack a lunch and meet in the church parking lot at 9am. RSVP to James at jgonda12309@gmail.com.

New second hour opportunity!

A beginner ukulele class will be held from 11:15 – 12pm in the Roof Top Garden Room. Meeting dates are 3/17, 3/31, 4/7, and 4/14 (No class 3/24). No previous experience is required nor is a ukulele - we have some you can borrow. Call the church office to let us know you are interested.

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.

Johnson Library News

A red library cart is available to receive any books you need to return. If you are borrowing a book, the sign up box for circulating cards can be found on the top of the same bookcase.

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.

Community Yoga

Weekly Community Yoga class will meet on Mondays starting March 25 from 6-7pm in the Covenant Hall. Led by instructor Douglas Goodbee Certified Yoga. It is from gentle to moderate yoga. Bring a yoga mat and any other props you wish to use. Cost is free, heartfelt donations appreciated.

Sunday Volunteers	This Week	Next Week
Bookshop	Martha Winchester	Bill Clock
Church School	Mary Carlson, Dave Pizzolo	Liam Battjes, Dave Pizzolo
Counting Deacons	Christina Jones, Therese McCarty	Joanne Lindsay, Gay Doolittle
Flower Delivery	Sally & Jack Bestgen, Jeanette & Don Davidson	Carol Troost, Jeanne Shoulder
Greeters	Christina Jones, Gay Doolittle	
Jazz Vespers	Wayne Hawkins, piano	Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass
Kinderwyk	Vickie McGowan, Alexis Wisniewski	Dorothy Linder Mitchell, Peter Lion
Liturgist	Bill Levering	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Daniel Carlson	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Joanne Arnold, Marilyn & Don Leach, Vickie McGowan-Horan, Del Pierce, Maria Todd	Gay Doolittle, Cathy & Brad Lewis, Tom Lindsay, Bill Rochelle, Jeanne Shoulder
Reader	Cathy Lewis	Carol Troost
Ushers	Art Shultes, Hendrick & Joanne Arnold, Jeanette & Don Davidson, Joan Lindsay	Michael Horan, Hannah Bachorik, Sarah Bachorik, Crystal Mongillo, Justine Ochal, Ralph Rosenthal
Sign up for any of these important jobs at 1streformed.com		



Wednesdays in Lent

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

Facing structural evil in which one is implicated is dangerous and defeating unless one also explores ways to resist and dismantle it. – Cynthia Moe-Lobeda

That nothing in this world or beyond it can separate us individually or collectively from this Love, and that we have it as pure gift, is known theologically as grace. Trust in the steadfastness of this Love enables me to face the horror of my own participation in systemic evil, and thus to repent. – Cynthia Moe-Lobeda

Do you renounce sin, and the power of evil in your life and in the world?

I renounce them!

– Our Profession of Faith

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

The chains that bind us into systemic exploitation of others and of the Earth are intricate and cleverly hidden. There chains can be broken and transformed. The world is fully of people doing just that. – Cynthia Moe-Lobeda

If we don't do the impossible, we shall be faced with the unthinkable.
– Petra Kelly

We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history there is such a thing as being too late...Now let us begin. Now let us rededicate ourselves to the long and bitter--but beautiful--struggle for a new world. – Martin Luther King Jr.

Coming Up

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

Sun, Mar 10	8:30am	Devotional Conversations	Mohawk - Pres.
	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	Poling Chapel
	12pm	Resisting Structural Evil	Mohawk – Pres.
	3pm	Confirmation Class	
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Covenant Hall
Tue, Mar 12	6:30pm	Standing Committees	Various
	7:30pm	Consistory	Covenant Hall
Wed, Mar 13	9:30am	Kerygma	Mohawk - Pres.
	11:30am	Wednesday Lunch	Covenant Hall
	1pm	Archives	Archives Room
	2pm	Staff Meeting	Church Office
	6pm	Finance Meeting	Mohawk – Pres.
	6pm	Lenten Meal	Covenant Hall
	7pm	Lenten Series	Various
	8pm	Closing Worship	Sanctuary
Thu, Mar 14	10am	Stitch Group	Mezzanine
	7:30pm	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
Fri, Mar 15	12pm	Group VII	Glen Eddy
	7:30pm	Laurentian Singers Concert	Covenant Hall
Sat, Mar 16	10am	Mural Painting	Friendship Hall
	1pm	Brown Memorial Service	Sanctuary
Sun, Mar 17	8:30am	Devotional Conversations	Mohawk - Pres.
	9am	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
	9am	Chords of Love	Roof Top
	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Education Level
	11:15am	First Forum	Poling Chapel
	11:15am	Beginner Ukulele Class	Roof Top
	11:15am	Open Hearts	Mohawk - Lunn

