

***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 17, 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).



## Second Sunday In Lent

March 17, 2019

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

*Come, Holy Spirit, Come*

Johnny Willis his Mandolin

Sacred Harp

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The grace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Daniel Carlson

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill Levering

INTROIT

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

\*HYMN

*Immortal, Invincible, God Only Wise*

#263

\*OUR NEED FOR GOD

(silent prayer)

\*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!**

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

Amanda & Bill Potter, Renate Reeves-Elliwegton, Cynde Schwartz

PRESENTATION AND PROMISES

\*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.**

**\*BLESSING AND WELCOME**

We are ambassadors for Christ.

We are the salt of the earth;  
we are the light of the world.

Welcome our sisters and brothers in Christ.

**Joyfully we receive you. Join with us as we give witness in the world to the good news, for we are all one in Christ Jesus.**

**Alleluia!**

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

**ANTHEM**     *I Want Jesus To Walk With Me*     Howard Hel Vey

I want Jesus to walk with me;  
All day long my pilgrim journey  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Lord walk with me;  
And when the shades of life are falling,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my sorrows, Lord walk with me;  
When my heart within is aching,

**FIRST LESSON**     *Psalm 27* (pg 503)     Carol Troost  
Guide us, O God, by your Word and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**SECOND LESSON**     *Luke 13:31-35* (pg 77)

**SERMON**     *God, The Mother Hen*     Bill Levering

**\*HYMN**     *O God The Creator*     #273 (tune of *One in the Spirit*)

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**     *Community Crisis Network*     Elise Martin

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**     *O Sacred Head Now Wounded*     J.S. Bach

O sacred Head now wounded,  
With grief and shame weighed down,  
Now scornfully surrounded  
With thorns thine only crown;

O sacred head, what glory,  
What bliss till now was Thine!  
Yet though despised and gory,  
I joy to call thee mine.

What Thou, my Lord hast suffered  
Was all for sinners gain;  
Mine, mine was the transgression,  
But thorns Thine only pain.  
Lo, here I fall, my Savior!  
'Tis I deserve they place;  
Look on me with Thy favor,  
Vouch safe to me Thy grace.

What language shall I borrow  
To thank thee, dearest friend,  
For this Thy dying sorrow,  
Thy pity without end?  
O make me Thine forever;  
And should I fainting be,  
Lord, let me never,  
never Out live my love to thee.

\*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, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens* #268

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE *Threefold Amen* Traditional

POSTLUDE

+ + +

**In Memoriam**

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Leroy Jewett given by Mary Jewett.

**Post-Worship Hospitality**

Please consider hosting our post-worship fellowship by signing up for a couple of Sundays during the year. The sign-up sheet and instructions are in Covenant Hall.

**Let Us Know**

Whenever you are ill, hospitalized, homebound, needing a meal, transportation to a doctor, or grieving a loss, we would like to know...so we can do what our Committee is named for: support and care! Please help us to help you when you are in need by calling Support and Care Chair, Barb Walton 518-346-1943 or Daniel Carlson 518-346-6416.

## **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:

*Len Garver, John Hillers, Eleanor Jenkins, Carolyn "Carol" Welch, Ann P. Strobell, Phyllis Demont*

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**

Your family can contribute to remember 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.

## **Back To The Hills**

On Saturday, March 23 the FRC 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](mailto:jgonda12309@gmail.com).

## **Wednesdays in Lent**

**Lenten Meal – 6pm**

**Lenten Series Studies - 7pm**

**1. A Taste of the Good Earth Café with Liam Battjes – Covenant Hall**  
**March 20:** Judging Music or Not with Wayne Hawkins

**2. Future Visions: Schenectady and First Reformed – Poling Chapel**  
**March 20:** Dr. Jeff Corbin, Professor, Union Biology Department

**Closing Worship – 8pm**

## **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.

## **New second hour opportunity!**

A beginner ukulele class will be held from 11:15 – 12pm in the Roof Top Garden Room. Meeting on Sundays (No class 3/24). No previous experience is required nor is a ukulele. Call the church office if you're interested.

## **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.

“Being a mother is an attitude, not a biological relation.” — Robert A. Heinlein, *Have Space Suit—Will Travel*

“Mother was anchor. Mother was comfort. Mother was home. A girl who lost her mother was suddenly a tiny boat on an angry ocean. Some boats eventually floated ashore. And some boats, like me, seemed to float farther and farther from land.” — Ruta Sepetys, *Salt to the Sea*

“I have seen him climbing a tree while she stood beneath him in unutterable anguish; she had to let him climb, for boys must be brave, but I am sure that, as she watched him, she fell from every branch.” — J.M. Barrie, *The Little White Bird*

“There is always the fantasy of maternal love, but it does not accommodate a mother's fear of her children.” — Stephanie Bishop

“Sweater, n. Garment worn by child when its mother is feeling chilly.” — Ambrose Bierce

“Even in the cartoon world, Wonder Woman in all her glory never raised children, stabilized a husband, or cleaned and managed a house. Wonder Woman faced only criminals, not housework horrors.” — Don Aslett

“It also seems honorable that another woman would value motherhood over all my priorities. But I do not believe that I am selfish and she is not. There are women who chose motherhood for selfish reasons. There are mothers who act selfishly even if they chose motherhood in a burst of altruistic love. Selfishness and generosity are not relegated to particular life choices and if generosity is a worthy life goal--and I believe it is--perhaps our task is to choose the path that for us creates its best opportunity.” — Pam Houston

<b>Sunday Volunteers</b>	<b>This Week</b>	<b>Next Week</b>
<b>Bookshop</b>	Bill Clock	Birdie Blackmer
<b>Church School</b>	Liam Battjes, Dave Pizzolo	Liam Battjes, Dave Pizzolo
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Joanne Lindsay, Gay Doolittle	Fred Daniels, Claire Hughes
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Carol Troost, Jeanne Shoulder	Sharon Gazin, Carol DeLaMarter
<b>Greeters</b>	Bill & Carrie Brooks	
<b>Jazz Vespers</b>	Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass	Tim Olsen, piano; Pete Toigo, bass
<b>Kinderwyk</b>	Dorothy Linder Mitchell, Peter Lion	Alexis Wisniewski, Dorothy Linder Mitchell
<b>Liturgist</b>	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
<b>Preacher</b>	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Gay Doolittle, Cathy & Brad Lewis, Tom Lindsay, Bill Rochelle, Jeanne Shoulder	Christine Daniels, Peggy King, Tom Lindsay, Barbara Mancuso, Del Pierce, Richard Rose
<b>Reader</b>	Carol Troost	Christine Daniels
<b>Ushers</b>	Michael Horan, Hannah Bachorik, Sarah Bachorik, Crystal Mongillo, Justine Ochal, Ralph Rosenthal	Tom Burgoyne, David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Karen Gonda, Berta & Nat Phipps
<b>Sign up for any of these important jobs at <a href="http://1streformed.com">1streformed.com</a></b>		

## Coming Up

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

<b>Sun, Mar 17</b>	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
	11:15am	Beginner Ukulele Class	Roof Top
	11:15am	Open Hearts	Mohawk - Lunn
	12pm	Resisting Structural Evil Book	Mohawk – Pres.
	12pm	Youth Ministry Hearing	Youth Lounge
	5pm	J-Walkers Youth Group	Sky Room
5pm	Jazz Vespers	Covenant Hall	
<b>Mon, Mar 18</b>	10:30am	The Glen Eddy Group	Glen Eddy
<b>Tue, Mar 19</b>	7pm	Short Short Writing	Mohawk - Lunn
<b>Wed, Mar 20</b>	9:30am	Kerygma	Mohawk - Pres.
	11:30am	Wednesday Lunch	Covenant Hall
	6pm	Lenten Meal	Covenant Hall
	7pm	Lenten Series	Various
	8pm	Closing Worship	Sanctuary
<b>Thu, Mar 21</b>	10am	Stitch Group	Mezzanine
	6:30	Stephen Ministry	Mohawk House
	7:30pm	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
<b>Sat, Mar 23</b>	9am	FRC Sole Searchers	Church Parking Lot
<b>Sun, Mar 24</b>	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 Book	Mohawk – Pres.
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Covenant Hall
<b>Wed, Mar 27</b>	9:30am	Kerygma	Mohawk - Pres.