

***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.*



***April 21, 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).



## Easter

April 21, 2019

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Brass Quartet  
*Canzona Per Sonare No. 4* Gabrieli

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson  
Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT  
*Christ is Risen! Alleluia!* Mark Sheppard

\*HYMN *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* #123

\*PRAYER (*unison*)  
**God of new life, we thank you for the hope you have given us through Jesus Christ. Help us to celebrate your Easter triumph with all of our life. Amen.**

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE  
Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH  
*(from Our Song of Hope)*  
**Jesus Christ is the hope of God's world. In His death, the justice of God is established; forgiveness of sin is proclaimed. On the day of the resurrection, the tomb was empty; His disciples saw Him; death was defeated; new life had come. God's purpose for the world was sealed.**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

## ANTHEM

*Now, O Death, Where Is Thy Sting?*

Russell E. Nagy, Brass & Timpani

Now, O Death, where is thy sting?  
Where, O Death, thy victory?  
The Son is risen and Death is driven away.  
Death is swallowed up today,  
Swallowed up in victory!

This is our God. In Him we trusted,  
And in love He saved us; Give glory to his name.  
From this day praise Him forever:  
Jesus Christ is risen! Today!

Now, O Death, where is thy plague?  
Your destruction now, O Grave?  
For God who ransoms, redeemed His captive today.  
Every tear he wipes away:  
All disgrace He takes away. From this day!

This is our Lord, God's faithful witness.  
He is firstborn from the dead  
Who rules the kings of earth.  
He who loves, He who has freed us!  
Jesus Christ is risen! Today!  
Alleluia! Christ is our victory!

FIRST LESSON Abby Norton Levering  
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.** *Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24* (pg 565)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *John 20:1-18* (pg 114)

SERMON Bill Levering  
*An Easter for Every Age*

\*HYMN *Crown Him with Many Crowns* #151

OFFERING

OFFERTORY  
*Christ is Risen! Alleluia!* Mark Sheppard

Christ is Risen! Alleluia!  
Risen our victorious head!  
Sing his praises! Alleluia!  
Christ is risen from the dead!  
Gratefully our hearts adore him,  
As his light once more appears;  
Bowing down in joy before him,  
rising up from griefs and tears.



Death and hell before him bending,  
See him rise, the victor now,  
Angels on his steps attending,  
Glory round this wounded brow.  
Sing his praises! Alleluia!  
Risen our victorious head!  
Sing his praises! Alleluia!  
Christ is risen from the dead!

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

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE  
THE LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

**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 *Christ Is Alive!* #108  
*We invite anyone wishing to sing the Halleluiahs Chorus with us to come forward during the hymn.*

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE  
*Hallelujah Chorus from The Messiah*  
G.F. Handel

POSTLUDE

+ + +

**Entered Into Eternal Rest**  
Rachel Hewitt – 4/5/2019

**Celebratory or Memorial Flowers**

Sign up for flowers in the church office where you can 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 Risseuw, 2140 Niskayuna Dr. , Niskayuna, NY 12309.

**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:

*Marcia Todd, Reynold Downing, Margaret Powers*

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.

**Easter Sunday - Today**

**10am - Worship**

We invite all singers to join us for any or all of this festive music to celebrate Easter.

**10:15am - Easter Egg Hunt**

Children will be invited to the Education Level after the children's message to hear the Easter Story and prepare for the Egg Hunt. If the weather is bad, we will use the entire Education Level.

**5pm - Easter Jazz Vespers**

The Peg Delaney Quartet will feature joyous music of Easter and upbeat celebrations in this mostly music service of joy.

**Easter Offering - SICM Food Pantry**

The volunteers, staff and residents visiting the food pantry at SICM (Schenectady Community Ministries), know that for many in Schenectady, poverty is an everyday reality. Demand for food continues to grow while funding struggles to keep pace. This year the Mission & Benevolence committee has chosen SICM's food pantry to be the recipient of 2019's Easter Offering. Please give generously to help your neighbors living in a world of food insecurity and financial instability.

### **Flower Delivery - Help Share the Easter Joy**

Volunteers are needed to deliver flowers to recently bereaved and home-bound church members. The flowers, an addressed card for each recipient, and a bulletin will be available for pick up after the service. Members of the Support & Care Committee will assist. Please participate in this ministry of delivering to those in need, a fragrant symbol of God's faithfulness and a warm greeting on behalf their family of faith.

### **Music Notes**

Today's Brass Quartet includes Bill Hoperich, Trombone; David Hosley, Trumpet; Bob Hosley, Trumpet; Dan Gleason, Timpani; Jon Kusche, Trombone. Guest singers are Johanna Peterson, Carol Cristiana, Ariel Lin, Tom Johnson, Nate Gillespie.

### **Helping Youth Mission Trip**

You can support the Youth Mission Trip to Kanatsiohareke (Mohawk Village) by selecting a bark shingle from the Longhouse display that is in the atrium. Gifts may be food, tools, transportation or funds. Join us in connecting to this Mohawk Community, while honoring the Mohawk Members of the Reformed Church who helped to rebuild Schenectady.

### **Youth Group Mission Trip, April 25-27**

Meet at church at 8:30am for a 9am departure time. Thursday will include orientation in the morning and work in the afternoon. Friday will be a packed workday. Saturday will be touch up, clean up and then explore Canajoharie Gorge, the St. Kateri Shrine or Howe's Caves. We should be back about 6pm.

### **Evening with Artist/Historian Len Tantillo**

Save the date for an Evening with Artist/Historian Len Tantillo, Friday, May 3 in Covenant Hall. Gathering at 6:30pm with sweet treats and program will begin at 7pm.

### **Creation Care Advocacy:**

#### **Write your NY State Reps!**

Stop by the Creation Care Action table in Covenant Hall on April 28 to write a quick letter in support of current beneficial legislation: the Climate and Community Protection Act. Sample letters and word-smith help available.

### **Johnson Library News**

Stop in and learn how to search the catalogue for books on the library's computer. The art book display of Christ's last days from his entry into Jerusalem to his crucifixion is still on the table. Easter books can be found on the low bookcase.

### **Community Yoga at FRC**

Weekly Community Yoga class is every Monday from 6-7pm in the Covenant Hall. Led by certified instructor Doug Goodbee, 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.

### **Crop Walk**

Rain or Shine, Sunday May 5, starting at 1pm at Emanuel Friedens Church, 218 Nott Terrace. You may bring any donation of nonperishable food items to the event even if you are not walking, all are invited to drop by to fill the SiCM food van. The van will be parked in the Emmanuel Friedens Church's parking lot the day of the CROP Walk. See Cathy Lewis or Richard Rose to sponsor a walker and/or join the walk!

### **Faith Book Shop**

The Faith Book Shop is seeking a leader for its faithful committee members who cashier at the desk on Sundays and help make decisions regarding the Shop's inventory and programs. Anyone interested in joining the committee and acting as chair, or learning more about what's involved, please contact Birdie Blackmer (current chair), committee member Bill Clock, Nancy Wainwright, Martha Winchester, Sarah Howes or Rev. Daniel Carlson.

“Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song.”

— Pope John Paul II (Karol Wojtyła)

“Easter was when Hope in person surprised the whole world by coming forward from the future into the present.” — N.T. Wright

“Easter is...

Joining in a birdsong,  
Eying an early sunrise,  
Smelling yellow daffodils,  
Unbolting windows and doors,  
Skipping through meadows,  
Cuddling newborns,  
Hoping, believing,  
Reviving spent life,  
Inhaling fresh air,  
Sprinkling seeds along furrows,  
Tracking in the mud.

Easter is the soul’s first taste of spring.”

— Richelle E. Goodrich, Making Wishes

“If anyone or anything tries to curse or kill the Goodness at the Center of all things, it will just keep coming back to life. Forever Easter.” — David Housholder, The Blackberry Bush

“God is not interested in your art but, your heart.”

— Ifeanyi Enoch Onuoha

“In the oddity or maybe the miracle of life, the roots of something new frequently lie in the decaying husks of something old.” — Craig D. Lounsbrough

“New Rule: Someone must x-ray my stomach to see if the Peeps I ate on Easter are still in there, intact and completely undigested. And I’m not talking about this past Easter. I’m talking about the last time I celebrated Easter, in 1962.” — Bill Maher

“Jesus’s resurrection is the beginning of God’s new project not to snatch people away from earth to heaven but to colonize earth with the life of heaven. That, after all, is what the Lord’s Prayer is about.” — N.T. Wright

“If I can’t find something worthwhile in my own reflection, how am I ever going to see anything worthwhile in the face of another? Maybe I can solve all of this by seeing the face of Jesus in everyone, starting with myself.” — Craig D. Lounsbrough

“If it wasn’t for chocolate, there would be a lot of unhappy people in the world.” — Anthony T. Hincks

<b>Sunday Volunteers</b>	<b>This Week</b>	<b>Next Week</b>
Bookshop	Closed For Easter	Birdie Blackmer
Church School	Natalie & Dave Pizzolo	Mary Carlson, Dave Pizzolo
Counting Deacons	Gay Doolittle, Brad Lewis	Sarah Bachorik, Joan Lindsay
Flower Delivery	Easter Sunday – Lilies Delivery	Nancy Wainwright, Barbara Walton
Greeters	Abby Norton Levering, Gay Doolittle	
Jazz Vespers	Easter Vespers – Peg Delaney, piano; Dylan Canterbury, trumpet; Bill Delaney, bass; Gene Garone, drums	Mike Lamkin, piano; Jim Corigliano, saxophone; Mike Lawrence, bass; Bill Jensen, drums
Kinderwyk	Alexis Wisniewski, Christina Jones	Dorothy Linder-Mitchell, Alexis Wisniewski
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	
Preacher	Bill Levering	Sarah Howes
Processing Elders	Brad & Cathy Lewis, Del Pierce, Bill Rochelle, Margaret Schadler, Jeanne Shoulder	Barbara Walton, Birdie Blackmer, Art Casey, Norm Kuchar, Tom Lindsay, Margaret Schadler
Reader	Abby Norton Levering	Norm Kuchar
Ushers	Art Shultes, Hedrick Arnold, Joan Lindsay, Jeanette Davidson,	Mike Horan, Hannah Bachorik, Sarah Bachorik, Crystal Mongillo, Justine Ochal, Ralph Rosenthal
<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, April 21</b>	5:15am	Early Easter Excursion	FRC Parking Lot
	9am	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
	9am	Chords of Love	Roof Top
	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Education Level
	10:15am	Church School	Education Level
	10:15am	Easter Egg Hunt	Outside
	11:15am	Easter Sunday Reception	Covenant Hall
	5pm	Easter Jazz Vespers	Covenant Hall
<b>Tues, April 23</b>	10am	Horizons Bible Study	Mohawk - Pres.
<b>Wed, April 24</b>	9:30am	Kerygma	Mohawk - Pres.
	11:30am	Wednesday Lunch	Covenant Hall
	6:30pm	Good Earth Café	Mohawk - Lunn
	7pm	Evening Circle	Poling Chapel
	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Roof Top
<b>Thu, April 25</b>	10am	Stitch Group	Mezzanine
	7pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
<b>Sun, April 28</b>	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	Orff-estra	Choir Room
	12pm	Resisting Structural Evil Book Group	Mohawk - Pres.
5pm	Jazz Vespers	Covenant Hall	
<b>Tues, Apr 30</b>	10am	Horizons Bible Study	Mohawk - Pres.
<b>Wed, May 1</b>	9:30am	Kerygma	Mohawk - Pres.
	11:30am	Wednesday Lunch	Covenant Hall
	6:30pm	Good Earth Café	Covenant Hall
	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Roof Top
<b>Thu, May 2</b>	7pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
<b>Fri, May 3</b>	7pm	Wayne Hawkins Presents: First Fridays	Covenant Hall
<b>Sun, May 5</b>	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 Group	Mohawk - Pres.
	3pm	Introductions to the FRC	Church Office
5pm	Jazz Vespers	Covenant Hall	

***The sanctuary and the chapels are adorned to the glory of God  
and in loving memory or in honor of:***

- Margaret (Peg) Shultes from her family
- Alice and Russell Jones and Dr. Charles Assini, Parents of John and Carolyn Assini.
- David by Audrey Bain and Family
- Dick Blackmer, provided by the Blackmer family
- My mother, Ethel Slabaugh from Mary Carlson
- Mary Cleworth from Lauren Cleworth
- Joan Cleworth from Lauren Cleworth
- Barbara & John Eshbach from Adelaide & Paul Donnelly
- Parents and siblings by Gay & Joe Doolittle
- Bill Dotter by his wife, Elsie & children
- Carlton W. Dyer by his wife, Janice B. Dyer
- Warren D. and Ethel F. Barrett by their children and grandchildren & great grandson
- Rudolph and Therese Mahlberg, and Paul Erickson, by the Erickson family
- William and Louise Stange and Sam Croce by Marlene Risseuw and the Erickson family
- Happy Easter from Marjorie Geiger
- Roy Hjelmar, Sidney White, and Elsie White by the Hjelmar Family
- Carl Jr. and Ursula Settle from their daughters Sandra, Carol and Robin
- Scott Jewett by his family
- LeRoy Jewett by his family
- Our Dads George Kidwell and Stanley Albert Fernandes by Leah & Chris Fernandes
- Harold Lapham from his family
- Bill & Catherine Johnson from Kristin Lion
- Mark McDermott by his wife, Gini
- Lembke and Horan Families by Victoria & Michael Horan
- Richard & Beverly McLane by thier children, grandchildren, & great-grandchildren
- Margaret "Peg" Miller from her family
- My Parents, Frederic & Florence Reimer from Florence Reed
- My Husband, Dr. Robert E. Reed from Florence Reed
- Loved Ones from James Reid
- Our parents given by Richard & Kate Rose
- Our Parents by Ellie & Gene Rowland
- Daniel J. Thuener by his wife, Vernetta and family
- Husband/father Donald and parents/grandparents Earle and Dena Van Heyningen by Carol, Deborah and Matthew Troost
- Earl Wainwright from his family
- Anne Shepherd Wemple, Robert V. Shepherd and Susan Shepherd by the Welch family
- Carolyn Shepherd Welch by the Welch family
- Glenn Winchester by his family and loved ones.
- Eugene Zeltmann by Mary Zeltmann
- Gene Zeltmann from Susie Laura, John, and Mary