

***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.



August 11, 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 pick up and fill out a Welcome Card and place it in the offering plate. After the service please join us for refreshments.

Child Care on Sunday - Kinderwyk

Childcare for infants through Pre-k is available from 9:45am until noon downstairs in the Education Level.

Summer Church School

On the first Sunday of July, August, and September children in grades K-2 share in a faith activity. After the Children's Message, they follow the leader to the Education Level; parents meet them there after worship.

Children's Music

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

Elders in Worship

Past and current leaders we call 'Elders' walk in together at the beginning of worship and sit in the front seats. 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.

Non-Emergency Number

Schenectady Police: 518-630-0911

Worshiping In Covenant Hall

For July and August we'll avoid the heat of the sanctuary and praise God in our new air-conditioned space.

After Worship

Typically, after worship, people stay for chat and a cookie in Covenant Hall. Visitors are warmly welcomed to join in.

Communion

Our congregation celebrates the Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of the month. All who seek to follow Christ are invited to share this meal.

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 Welcome Card.

Service Online

A live stream of the worship service as well as some of the past services can be found at 1stReformed.com.



Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

August 11, 2019

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

Dan Gleason, Marimba

Terezinha de Jesus
Katamiya
The Offering

Brazilian Folk Song, arr. Ney Rosauro
Emmanuel Sejourne
Michael Burritt

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Daniel Carlson

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Reilly

*HYMN

All Things Bright & Beautiful

#267

*OUR NEED FOR GOD

O Blessed Trinity, we settle for so much less than the fullness of life you intend. Be Thou our vision, O Lord, that we may see and delight in your glory. Deepen us down, Christ Jesus, that we may be transformed by your grace. Revive and reconnect us, Spirit of life, that we may love you above all, one another as ourselves, and serve the world we touch. Amen.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)

Halle, halle, halle, lu-jah!
Halle, halle, halle, lu-jah!
Halle, halle, halle, lu-jah!
Hallelujah! Halle, lu-jah!

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed - Ecumenical version

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord; who was
conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered**

under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, 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

MUSICAL OFFERING

FRC Orff-estra

Thank You for Loving Me

Michael R. Nichols

Jesus Loves Me

William Batchelder Bradbury, arr. Gleason

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 91 (pg 548)

Norm Kuchar

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

Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

Acts 8:26-40 (pg 127)

SERMON

The Extraordinary, Ordinary Love of God

Reilly

*HYMN

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

#466

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

FRC Orff-estra

This Little Light of Mine

Harry Dixon Loes, arr. Gleason

*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

Love Divine, All Love Excelling

#376

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

+ + +

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in memory of Helen P. Lindsay.

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:

John Senn, James A. Ramsey, Mark McDermott, Marjorie Burke, Helen Huff Lord, Lorraine Ebeling, Linda Richards, Dorothy Davidson, Elyne Schulte

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.

Celebratory or Memorial Flowers

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

Kinderwyk Volunteers Needed

Child Care needed in Kinderwyk on Sundays for infants through Pre-K from 9:45am until noon in the education level. If you are interested in volunteering contact Natalie Pizzolo, 1streformededucation@gmail.com or 518-867-6502.

Music Notes

Today we have John Norton on the piano for the hymns.

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah text Marty Haugen, copyright GIA Pub. Inc.; music Caribbean; arr. John Bell and Graham Maule copyright 1990, WGRG the Iona Community; GIA Pub. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-700700.

Wednesday Lunch

Every Wednesday 11:30 – 12:30pm in Covenant Hall. All are welcome to join, open to members and the public. Suggested donation is \$2 per person. Meal cards are available for \$20.

Aug 14: Greek salad, falafel, pita

Aug 21: Spaghetti and meatballs, salad, garlic rolls

Aug 28: tuna salad & chickpea salad sandwiches, pasta salad

Adult Ukulele - Stockade Strummers

Adult Ukulele meets Wednesday evenings from 7-8:15pm. No experience needed and we have ukuleles that can be borrowed. Contact Jamie Ipsen at 518-399-6848.

Johnson Library News

During August, the library will be displaying a unique copy of the Jerusalem Bible with illustrations by Salvador Dali. The bible has been donated by the Rimany Family in memory of Dede Cummings Andersen. There were three new books added to our collection. The first is *Falter* by Bill McKibben. In it, he surveys our world and finds the stakes have risen as climate change shrinks the space in which we can exist. In the second, *Conversions With Myself*, Nelson Mandela shares his private thoughts during his long imprisonment with the reader. Finally in *Call It Grace*. Serene Jones, President of Union Theological Seminary, talks about finding meaning in a fractured world.

Summer Kerygma Adventure Aug 14

On Wednesday, Kerygma adventure will start at church atrium, 9:30am. We will walk through the Stockade to the multi-use path that leads to the Mohawk Harbor. There kayaks, life-vests, paddles may be rented (\$20/2hr) and the paddling commences in and beyond Harbor to the Mohawk River. We will be back on land about noon; lunch at Druthers is optional. All are welcome on this local outing; contact Daniel Carlson (518-346-6416) by 8/12 to assure kayak rental (financial assistance is readily available).

Square Dancing

A third square dancing lesson has is scheduled for August 14 and 28, from 6:30 to 8:30pm in Covenant Hall. Four experienced square dance couples and two expert callers will "show how it's done." FYI: Square dancing is fun, easy, and a great form of exercise. The young, not-so-young, married, and single folks are welcome. RSVP to Scott Ebeling at 518-424-2813 or sebeling8954@gmail.com.

Fowler Camper Mail

Send a letter to our campers during the week they are at Camp Fowler:

Kayla Kerwin (week #90) Aug 11

Layout for sending a letter

Camp Fowler

Camper Name (week#)

PO Box 207

Lake Pleasant, NY 12108

Green Steps

Thoughtful eating means eating seasonally. Freeze or can today's fresh produce and in the winter, open a jar of summer. Find out more in the FRC Green Steps.

Host Summer Refreshments

Please consider hosting our post-worship fellowship by signing up for a Sunday. The sign-up sheet and instructions are in Covenant Hall.

Google Training Class

Interested in learning how to use Google? There are several classes available. Spots are limited, so you must RSVP to 1streformed@gmail.com. Bring your laptop.

The following dates are scheduled:

Monday, August 15, 6:30pm: If you haven't been to a class before.

Creation Celebration - Oct 11-13

Early accommodation reservations for this annual favorite retreat at Fowler are now open for a very limited time to FRC individuals, couples, and families of all ages: <https://campfowler.wufoo.com/forms/z1x4ue60067ypvx/>
To learn more about the event, visit the Fowler Camp & Retreat Center website <https://www.campfowler.org/creationcelebration> Don't delay, register today!

Fall Book Study

Additional recommended resources for those participating in this fall book study: Books: *The New Jim Crow*, *Between the World and Me*; Films: 13th - available on Netflix; America after the Civil War - PBS

In addition, Johnson Library has a number of books on racism. Call the church office to sign up for this study. Begins September 17, 7- 8:30pm

Sunday Volunteers	This Week	Next Week
Bookshop	Roberta Blackmer	Martha Winchester
Counting Deacons	Bill Rochelle, Claire Hughes	Ralph Rosenthal, George Trimarco
Flower Delivery	Committee Member	Committee Member
Jazz Vespers	Tim Reyes, guitar; Keith Pray, sax; Mike Lawrence, bass; Bob Halek, drums	Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass
Kinderwyk	Elizabeth Gleason, Natalie Pizzolo	Lian Drisgula, Natalie Pizzolo
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Reilly	Gregg Mast
Processing Elders	Joanne Arnold, Norm Kuchar, Tom Lindsay, Adam Mason	Vickie McGowan-Horan, Jeanette Davidson, Peggy King, Margaret Schadler
Reader	Norm Kuchar	Hannah Bachorik
Refreshments	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Ushers	Del Pierce, Lian Drisgula, Carol Troost, Tom Zych	Jim & Sharron McCullough, Renate Reeves-Ellington, Bill & Amanda Potter

Coming Up

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

Sun, Aug 11	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Education Level
	10am	Worship	Covenant Hall
	11:15am	Orff-estra	Music Level
	11:30am	Growing Young Coalition	Mohawk – Pres.
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Covenant Hall
Tue, Aug 13	6:30pm	Committee Chair Meeting	Mohawk – Lunn
Wed, Aug 14	9:30am	Summer Kerygma Adventure	Atrium
	11:30am	Wednesday Lunch	Covenant Hall
		Staff Meeting	Office
	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Music Level
Thu, Aug 15	1:15pm	Personnel Committee	Library
Sun, Aug 18	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Education Level
	10am	Worship	Covenant Hall
	11:15am	Orff-estra	Music Level
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Covenant Hall

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF SCHENECTADY

We are a welcoming and affirming congregation and absolutely everyone is invited to our worship, activities, and service.

THE CURRENT CONSISTORY

Elders

Del Pierce, Senior Elder
Joanne Arnold, Senior Elder
Karen Gonda
Laura Lee
Brad Lewis
Barbara Mancuso
Liz Mastrianni
Vickie McGowan-Horan
Kate Rose
Kitty Trimarco

Deacons

Sarah Bachorik
Caroline Brooks
Andy Chestnut
Lian Drisgula
Dave Hjelmar
Christina Jones
Kristin Lion
Bill Rochelle
Ralph Rosenthal
Brandon Stabler

Ministers

Bill Levering, Senior Minister
Daniel Carlson, Associate Minister

Other Officers

Catherine Lewis, Treasurer
Joanne Bedell, Clerk