

***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.*



***September 8, 2019***

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

***First:  
Dedicated to caring for creation,  
human diversity, the next generations,  
and each other.***

## 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.

### **Children's Church**

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

### **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 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.

### **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).

### **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.

### **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.



### **Hearing Assistance**

We have a hearing aid loop system that will make it easier to hear. Ask an usher.

### **Non-Emergency Number**

Schenectady Police: 518-630-0911



## Season of Creation: Ocean Sunday

September 8, 2019

\*The congregation may stand.

### PRELUDE

Stockade Strummers

*For the Beauty of the Earth  
This Is My Father's World  
Michael Row the Boat Ashore  
Wade In the Water*

### 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

Bill Levering

### INTROIT

*God Who Built This Wondrous Planet*

John Ferguson

### \*HYMN

*The Earth Is Yours*

*(See back)*

### \*OUR NEED FOR GOD

**O Lord of heaven and earth: we ask your forgiveness for degrading and destroying earth's bounty. Have mercy on us when we selfishly take it's beauty and majesty for granted. Give us a broader vision to see our connection to the creatures who share this planet. Renew us in the waters of baptism, revive us with the winds of your Spirit, and redeem us through Christ the firstborn of all creation. Amen.**

### \*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

### \*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)

**For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies.  
Lord of all, to you we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.**

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from our Creation Care Resolution)

**Scripture reveals that God, through Word and Spirit, creates, sustains, loves, and owns the world. We commit to make care of**

**creation a central priority in our congregation, for the blessing of the world, the strengthening of our lives, the transformation of our communities, and the glory of God.**

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

**ANTHEM**

*Creation Will Be at Peace*

Anna Laura Page

In the holy mountain of the Lord,  
all war and strife will cease;  
In the holy mountain of the Lord,  
creation will be at peace.

The wolf will lie down with the lamb,  
the cow and bear will feed,

their young will play together;  
a little child will lead.

The leopard and goat will graze,  
the lion will feed on straw.

They will war no more,  
a child will lead them all.

**FIRST LESSON**

*Job 38:1-18 (pg 484)*

Amy Brule

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

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE** Dedication of Teachers, Leaders, & Learners

**SECOND LESSON**

*Luke 5:1-11 (pg 62)*

**SERMON**

*Love Like An Ocean*

Bill Levering

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

*The Lone, Wild Bird*

Southern Folk tune

Gabby Pizzolo, soloist

arr. David Johnson

The lone, wild bird in lofty flight  
Is still with thee, nor leaves thy sight.  
And I am thine! I rest in thee.  
Great Spirit, come, and rest in me.

The ends of earth are in thy hand,  
The sea's dark deep and far-off land.  
And I am thine! I rest in thee.  
Great Spirit, come, and rest in me.

**\*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

*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:

*Richard Zentmire, Mary Jane Getty  
James Pontius, Allen John Wood  
Richard L. Shuey, Charlotte Ramsey*

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.

### **Season of Creation**

For September we'll join a growing number of congregations world-wide in attending to scriptures that emphasize various aspects of Divine Wisdom in Creation. Starting with this Sunday we'll be worshipping God with the Oceans, Animals, Storms, and the Cosmos.

### **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.

### **Green Steps**

When produce shopping, make your own homemade recycled produce bags, purchase cotton bags (Try the homemade bags for sale in the FRC library) or plastic mesh bags made from recycled PET plastic. For more details, look on the FRC website!

### **Youth Group Kickoff**

This year, the FRC youth will be joining forces with First Reformed Church of Scotia and Trinity Presbyterian. Our kickoff party will be Sunday, September 8, from 5-7pm at FRC-Scotia. Any questions contact Christina Jones at [1streformedyouth@gmail.com](mailto:1streformedyouth@gmail.com).

## Coming Up

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

<b>Sun, Sept 8</b>	9am	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
	9am	Chords of Love	Music Level
	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Education Level
	10am	Worship	Sanctuary
	10:15am	Children's Church	Education Level
	10:15am	Young Children and Worship	Education Level
	11am	Fall Picnic	Front Lawn
	11:15am	Children's Music	Music Level
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Covenant Hall
5pm	Youth Group Kick-off	First Scotia	
<b>Mon, Sept 9</b>	6:30pm	Creation Care Committee	Library
<b>Tue, Sept 10</b>	11:30am	Support & Care	Mohawk – Pres
	6:30pm	Standing Committees	Various
	7:30pm	Consistory	Covenant Hall
<b>Wed, Sept 11</b>	9:30am	Kerygma Conversations	Mohawk – Pres
	11:30am	Wednesday Lunch	Covenant Hall
	2pm	Staff Meeting	Office
	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Music Level
<b>Thu, Sept 12</b>	7pm	Chancel Choir	Music Level
<b>Sun, Sept 15</b>	9am	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
	9am	Chords of Love	Music Level
	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Education Level
	10am	Worship	Sanctuary
	10:15am	Children's Church	Education Level
	10:15am	Young Children and Worship	Education Level
	11:15am	Children's Music	Music Level
	11:15am	First Forum	Poling Chapel
	2pm	Muse Baptism Party	Covenant Hall
5pm	Jazz Vespers	Covenant Hall	

“There's nothing wrong with enjoying looking at the surface of the ocean itself, except that when you finally see what goes on underwater, you realize that you've been missing the whole point of the ocean. Staying on the surface all the time is like going to the circus and staring at the outside of the tent.” — Dave Barry

“For most of history, man has had to fight nature to survive; in this century he is beginning to realize that, in order to survive, he must protect it.”  
— Jacques-Yves Cousteau

“Those who live by the sea can hardly form a single thought of which the sea would not be part.” — Hermann Broch

“You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is like an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty.”

— Mahatma Gandhi

“She loves the serene brutality of the ocean, loves the electric power she felt with each breath of wet, briny air.”

— Holly Black, Tithe

“Because there's nothing more beautiful than the way the ocean refuses to stop kissing the shoreline, no matter how many times it's sent away.” — Sarah Kay

“I am the shore and the ocean, awaiting myself on both sides.”

— Dejan Stojanovic, The Shape

“There is an ocean of silence between us... and I am drowning in it.”

— Ranata Suzuki

“We know only too well that what we are doing is nothing more than a drop in the ocean. But if the drop were not there, the ocean would be missing something.” — Mother Teresa

“There was a magic about the sea. People were drawn to it. People wanted to love by it, swim in it, play in it, look at it. It was a living thing that as as unpredictable as a great stage actor: it could be calm and welcoming, opening its arms to embrace it's audience one moment, but then could explode with its stormy tempers, flinging people around, wanting them out, attacking coastlines, breaking down islands. It had a playful side too, as it enjoyed the crowd, tossed the children about, knocked lilos over, tipped over windsurfers, occasionally gave sailors helping hands; all done with a secret little chuckle”

— Cecelia Ahern, The Gift

<b>Sunday Volunteers</b>	<b>This Week</b>	<b>Next Week</b>
<b>Bookshop</b>	Sarah Howes	Birdie Blackmer
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Andy Chestnut, Joan Lindsay	Dave Hjelm, Richard Gardner
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Claire Hughes, Vickie McGowan-Horan	Kip & Joanne Arnold, Carol Troost
<b>Forum</b>	Church Picnic	His 9/11 Stories by Dave Pizzolo
<b>Jazz Vespers</b>	Wayne Hawkins, piano; Mike Lawrence, bass; Cliff Brucker, drums	Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass
<b>Kinderwyk</b>	Kristin Lion, Elizabeth Gleason	Dave Pizzolo, Alexis Wisniewski
<b>Liturgist</b>	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
<b>Preacher</b>	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Vickie McGowan-Horan, Del Pierce, Tom Lindsay, Bill Rochelle, Jeanne Shoulder, Barbara Walton	Joanne Arnold, Karen Gonda, Brad & Cathy Lewis, Peggy King
<b>Reader</b>	Amy Brule	
<b>Refreshments</b>	Church Picnic	Volunteer Needed
<b>Ushers</b>	Tom Burgoyne, David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Karen Gonda, Julia Etkin	Christina Jones, Matt Jones, Aline Stabler, Nancy Wainwright

# The Earth is Yours

Michael Gungor

**G Verse** D/F#

Your voice it thunders      The oaks start twist - ing  
Your voice it thunders      The ground is shak - ing

5 **Em7** C

The forest sounds with cedars are break - ing  
The mighty mountains now are trem - bling

9 **G** D/F#

The waters see You and start their writ - ing  
Cre - a - tion sees You and starts com - pos - ing

13 **Em7** C

From the depths a song is ris - ing.  
The fields and trees they start re - joic - ing

17 **D Pre-chorus** C

Now it's ris - ing from the ground

21 **G CHORUS** D/F#

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord.

25 **Em7** C

The earth is Yours and sing - ing

29 **G** D/F#

"Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord."

33 **Em7** C

The earth is yours      The earth is yours

37 **G**