

***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.



Because we put God first, we are dedicated to caring for creation, for human diversity, for the next generations, and for each other.

October 6, 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 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.

Parking

You may park right out in front of the church in the 'no parking' area' (only) if you have trouble getting around. There is an inclination to worship through the office entrance as well.

Child Care on Sunday

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

Youth Ed & Nurture

Following the Children's Message all children are invited downstairs to the Youth Ed & Nurture Level to participate in Dwell Kids Class (3rd-8th grade) or Young Children and Worship (K-2nd grade); parents pick up their children there at 11:15am.

Children's Music After Worship

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

Elders in Worship

Past and current leaders called 'elders' walk in together and sit in the front pew. This is to identify them as servants of the church and make it easy to see who you might talk to about the life of our congregation.

Helping Others Focus

It will be easier for God to get through if we silence our cell phones. God can always call you later.

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. All are welcome.

Open 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



World Communion Sunday

October 6, 2019

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

Folk Band: Abby Norton Levering, Max Caplan,
John Norton, Barb Mancuso, Bob Lemmerman, Andy Chestnut

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

O For A World

*HYMN

Come Holy Ghost

**Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest,
And in our hearts take up Thy rest;
Come with thy grace and heav'nly aid
To fill our hearts which thou hast made. (2x)**

Chorus: Be not afraid! Where you go, there I am with you! (2x)

**O Comforter, to thee we cry,
Thou heav'nly gift of God most high;
Thou fount of life, and fire of love,
And sweet anointing from above. (2x)**

Chorus

**O Holy Ghost, through thee alone,
Know we the Father and the Son;
Be this our firm unchanging creed,
That thou dost from them both proceed. (2x)**

Chorus

**Praise we the Lord, Father and Son,
And Holy Spirit with them one;
And may the Son on us bestow
All gifts that from the Spirit flow. (2x)**

Chorus

*OUR NEED FOR GOD

Gracious God, our mistakes are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire. Set us free from a past that we cannot change and open to us a future in which we can be changed, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)

**God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends!**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*from Our Song of Hope*)

**We sing to our Lord a new song;
We sing in our world a sure Hope:
Our God loves this world, God called it into being,
God renews it through Jesus Christ,
God governs it by the Spirit.
God is the world's true Hope.**

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM *The Lord Never Closes His Eyes* David Angerman

The Lord watches over me day and night
Never a moment when I'm out of his sight
Shining forever,
his love burning bright,
He keeps me safe
and surrounds me with light.

The good shepherd never loses his lambs;
There is no fear of danger
when I'm in his hands.

He's my keeper, protector,
he is gentle and wise.
The Lord never closes his eyes

He watches the gate,
making sure that it's closed
To keep out the wolves that
are dressed in sheep's clothes.
He cannot be fooled by a clever disguise.
The Lord never closes his eyes.

FIRST LESSON *2 Timothy 1:1-14 (pg 211)* Therese McCarty
Guide us, O God, by your Word and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Luke 17:5-10 (pg 80)*

SERMON *Doing Our Part in Faith* Bill Levering

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Never Grow Old

from the Quilter

I have heard of a land
 on a faraway strand,
 It's a beautiful home of the soul.
 Build by Jesus on high
 where we never will die,
 In a land where we'll never grow Old.

Never grow old,
 where we'll never grow old,
 In a land where we'll never grow old.

Never grow old,
 where we'll never grow old,
 In a land where we'll never grow old.

In that beautiful home where we'll never
 more roan
 We shall be in that sweet by and by.
 Happy praise the King!
 To eternity sing;
 Tis a land where we never shall die

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

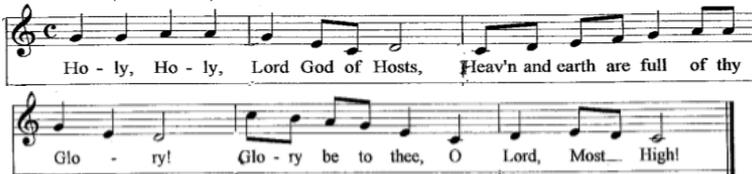
INVITATION AND PRAYER

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
 Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise!

SANCTUS (*unison*)

Carl Steubing



DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

Gluten-free bread is available from the roving minister

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.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

Threefold Amen

#585

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:

David Collins, Charles S. Moose, Marion Lentz, Virginia Laumeister, Gertrude Young, Eldon Springsted, Lauralee Moore, Jack Kampf

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.

World Communion Sunday Offering

Today's offering is dedicated to Hurricane Dorian relief, focusing on the most seriously damaged parts of the Bahamas. Your financial gifts will be matched dollar-for-dollar by Mission and Benevolences disaster relief funds, and forwarded to Presbyterian World Service and Development. Please mark your donation "Hurricane Dorian."

Blessing of the Animals

Today at 2pm outside the sanctuary, bring your furry, finned, or feathered friends to the front lawn where Daniel will administer God's blessing.

Church Musician

Composer and pianist Max Caplan is a graduate of Union College, where he majored in Music and Classics. He also holds a master's degree in Composition from the Hartt School of Music in Connecticut. A frequent collaborator with the Musicians of Ma'alwyck. As a vocal accompanist, Caplan has worked with choral groups at Union College, Siena College, and Niskayuna High School, as well as with solo artists.

Youth Group 5pm – FRC Schenectady

Our theme is "Let's Save the Planet!" Enjoy eating local foods, playing green-themed games, and talking about ways to sustain and maintain the earth. We'll share FRC-Schdy's Creation Care Resolution and discuss their Green Steps initiative, and recent climate march. Any questions about Youth Group contact Christina 1streformedyouth@gmail.com

Concert of Thanksgiving

The music Company Orchestra presents an afternoon concert of light classical music to support SICM on Oct. 20 at 3pm. Canned/nonperishable items will be accepted to benefit the SiCM food program.

Green Steps

Be a Creation advocate: Have a conversation with your family and friends.

“I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.”
— C.S. Lewis

“Faithless is he that says farewell when the road darkens.” — J.R.R. Tolkien, The Fellowship of the Ring

“I think if I've learned anything about friendship, it's to hang in, stay connected, fight for them, and let them fight for you. Don't walk away, don't be distracted, don't be too busy or tired, don't take them for granted. Friends are part of the glue that holds life and faith together. Powerful stuff.” — Jon Katz

“And still, after all this time,
The sun never says to the earth,
"You owe Me." — Hafiz

“The function of prayer is not to influence God, but rather to change the nature of the one who prays.” — Soren Kierkegaard

“I have come to accept the feeling of not knowing where I am going. And I have trained myself to love it. Because it is only when we are suspended in mid-air with no landing in sight, that we force our wings to unravel and alas begin our flight. And as we fly, we still may not know where we are going to. But the miracle is in the unfolding of the wings. You may not know where you're going, but you know that so long as you spread your wings, the winds will carry you.” — C. JoyBell C.

“Faith is not the belief that God will do what you want. It is the belief that God will do what is right.” — Max Lucado, He Still Moves Stones:

Sunday Volunteers	This Week	Next Week
Bookshop	Committee Member	Committee Member
Children & Worship	Mary Carlson	Jeanette Davidson
Counting Deacons	Lian Drisgula, Richard Gardener	Christine Jones, Bill Rochelle
Dwell Kids Teacher	Dave Pizzolo	James Gonda
Flower Delivery	Jeanette Davidson, Vernetta Thuener	Jeanette Davidson, Carol Troost
Forum	Atrium Artist Talk by Luke Carlson	Coffee and Conversation
Jazz Vespers	Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass	Terry Gordon, trumpet; Dan Dobek, piano; Mike Lawrence, bass; Bob Halek, drums
Kinderwyk	Vickie McGowan-Horan, Liz Gleason	Alexis Wisniewski, Dave Pizzolo
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Joanne Arnold, Laura Lee, Brad & Cathy Lewis, Liz Mastrianni, Vickie McGowan-Horan, Del Pierce, Gay Doolittle	Karen Gonda, Birdie Blackmer, Darwin Brudos, Peggy King, Don & Marilyn Leach,
Reader	Therese McCarty	Anne Putnam
Refreshments	Membership & Fellowship	Volunteer Needed
Ushers	Art Shultes, Hendrick Arnold, Joanne Arnold, Jeanette Davidson, Joan Lindsay	Mike Horan, Hannah Bachorik, Sarah Bachorik, Crystal Mongillo, Justine Ochal, Ralph Rosenthal

Coming Up

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

Sun, Oct 6	9am	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
	9am	Chords of Love	Music Level
	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Forest Nursery
	10am	Worship / Communion	Sanctuary
	10am	Worship	Sanctuary
	10:15am	Dwell Kids' Class	Mountain room
	10:15am	Young Children and Worship	River room
	11:15am	Children's Music	Music Level
	11:15am	First Forum	Poling Chapel
	12pm	Youth Ed & Nurture Meeting	Education Level
	2pm	Blessing of the Animals	Front Lawn
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Sanctuary
	5pm	Youth Group	Covenant Hall
Mon, Oct 7	6pm	Community Yoga	Covenant Hall
	6:30pm	Creation Care Committee	Library
Tue, Oct 8	10am	Horizon's Bible Study	Mohawk – Pres
	6pm	M & B	Mohawk – Lunn
	6:30pm	Standing Committees	Various
	7:30pm	Consistory	Covenant Hall
	7pm	Book Study on Racism	Mohawk – Lunn
Wed, Oct 9	9:30am	Kerygma Conversations	Mohawk – Pres
	11:30am	Wednesday Lunch	Covenant Hall
	2pm	Staff Meeting	Office
	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Music Level
Thu, Oct 10	7:30am	Breakfast Bible Bunch	Mohawk – Lunn
	10am	Stitch Group	Walton Room
	7pm	Chancel Choir	Choir room
Fri, Oct 11	5pm	Creation Celebration Retreat	Fowler
Sun, Oct 13	9am	Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
	9am	Chords of Love	Music Level
	9:45am	Kinderwyk	Forest Nursery
	10am	Worship	Sanctuary
	10:15am	Dwell Kids' Class	Mountain room
	10:15am	Young Children and Worship	River room
	11:15am	Children's Music	Music Level
5pm	Jazz Vespers	Covenant Hall	