

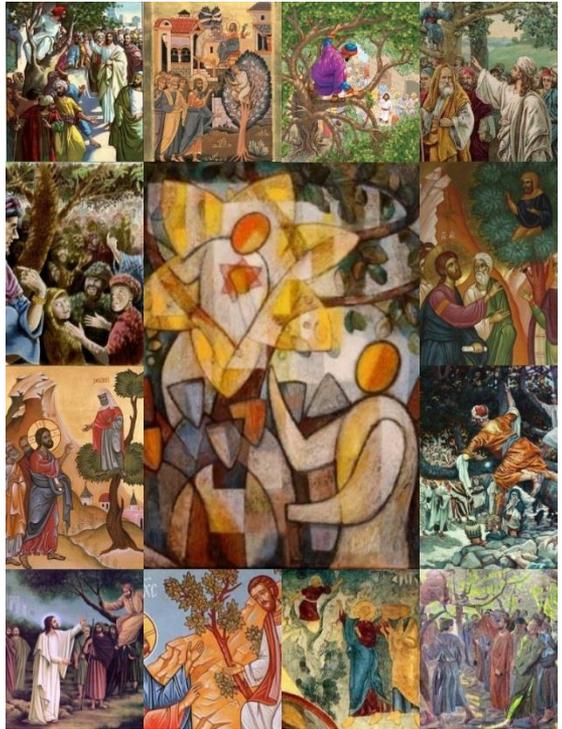
**The Covenant of Our
Congregation
Adopted in 1962**

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.



November 3, 2019

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

*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.

Childcare on Sunday

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

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



Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost

November 3, 2019

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

La Cathédrale Engloutie

Max Caplan

Claude Debussy (1862-1918)

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

I Will Arise and Go to Jesus

*HYMN

Here I Am, Lord

#525

*OUR NEED FOR GOD

Gracious God, our mistakes are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. 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 *The Apostles' Creed* (traditional version)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; 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

ANTHEM

I Will Arise and Go To Jesus

Austin C Lovelace

I will arise and go to Jesus.
He will embrace me with his arms
In the arms of my dear Savior.
Oh! There are ten thousand charms.

Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;

Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of Thy redeeming love.

FIRST LESSON

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 (pg 871)

Liz Mastrianni

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

Luke 19:1-10 (pg 82)

SERMON

Stuck in the Tree

Bill Levering

*HYMN

As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought

#414

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Together!

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Give Me Jesus

spiritual arr by Benjamin Harlan

In the morning when I rise,
In the morning when I rise,
In the morning when I rise,
Give me Jesus.
You can have all this world,
Give me Jesus
Just before the break of day,

Just before the break of day,
Just before the break of day,
Give me Jesus
And when I come to die,
And when I come to die,
And when I come to die,
Give me Jesus.

*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.

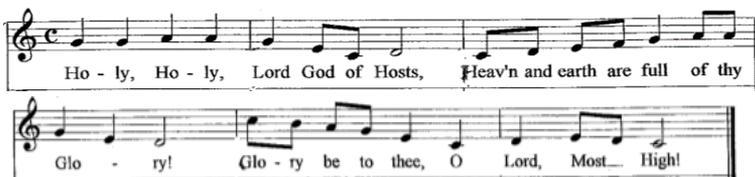
We lift them up to the Lord.

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.

*HYMN

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

#422

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

Threefold Amen

Traditional

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:

*Jean Heilman, Ada Huybregtse
Melissa Greskovich*

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.

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of my beloved wife, Jean C. Collins and our son David N. Collins.

Johnson Library

There is free books in the Johnson Library for the next two weeks.

Green Steps: Join a group

Thoughtful Travel: When planning a vacation, avoid crowds by researching off the beaten path destinations in Europe and beyond for a lighter footprint and deeper enjoyment. For more info, check out the FRC website.

2nd Sunday Potluck - All Are Welcome

Please join us the second Sunday of each month at 11am for a Potluck lunch in Covenant Hall beginning November 10. A time to enjoy delicious food and joyful conversation! Bring your favorite dish or dessert to pass. As always, everyone is welcome with or without bringing something to share. Mark your calendar and bring your appetite.

Fellowship Breakfast

Conversations with Chris Leonard, Schenectady Historian, Nov 9 at 8:30am, Covenant Hall. Please RSVP to Gene Rowland rowland.gene2@gmail.com, or Joe Doolittle aldenjoe@nycap.rr.com if you plan to attend.

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. - 2 Corinthians 9:7

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. - Luke 6:38

A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed. - Proverbs 11:25

Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act. - Proverbs 3:27

You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. - 2 Corinthians 9:11

For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have. - 2 Corinthians 8:12

| Sunday Volunteers | This Week | Next Week |
|--------------------|---|---|
| Bookshop | Committee Member | Jane Wilkinson |
| Children & Worship | Mary Carlson | Natalie Pizzolo |
| Counting Deacons | Ralph Rosenthal, Richard Rose | Matt Jones, Joan Lindsay |
| Dwell Kids Teacher | James Gonda | Dave Pizzolo |
| Flower Delivery | Vernetta Thuener, Gay & Joe Doolittle | Gay & Joe Doolittle, Ellie & Gen Rowland |
| Forum | Stewardship | 2 nd Sunday Potluck |
| Jazz Vespers | Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass | Mike Lamkin, piano |
| Kinderwyk | Liz Gleason, Claire Hughes | Alexis Wisniewski, Vickie McGowan |
| Liturgist | Daniel Carlson | |
| Preacher | Bill Levering | Bill Levering |
| Processing Elders | Karen Gonda, Liz Mastrianni, Vickie McGowan-Horan, Birdie Blackmer, Art Casey, Gay Doolittle, Eric Evans, Jeanne Shoulder | Brad Lewis, Phil Falconer, Cathy Lewis, Tom Lindsay, Bill Rochelle, Ellie Rowland |
| Reader | Liz Mastrianni | Ellie Rowland |
| Refreshments | Marilyn Leach, Barbara Walton | Everyone bring a dish to share |
| Ushers | Del Pierce, Lian Drisgula, Christine Lund, Doug Todd, Tom Zych | Jim & Sharron McCullough, Renate Reeves-Ellington, Amanda & Bill Potter |



Together for Good



Churchy Words about Giving

Some churches call it tithing or pledging. Some use the word ‘stewardship.’ Some ask every week. At First Reformed, we have an appeal every fall to help us plan a responsible budget for the following year.

This Year’s Emphasis: **Every Member Planned Giving**

This year, we are not asking for any percentage increase from those who are accustomed to pledging. **We are asking everyone to consider an intentional goal for their gifts for next year.** We hope this gift would go beyond what we might contribute when we attend worship, but even an estimate of that would be helpful. No one will berate you if your life changes. Simply help us develop a responsible plan for the church budget. Together.

**Get started with even a small
estimated contribution for 2020.**

**ALL THINGS WORK
TOGETHER for Good**
ROMANES 8:28

Coming Up

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

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Sun, Nov 3 | 9am | Chancel Choir | Sanctuary |
| | 9am | Chords of Love | Music Level |
| | 9:45am | Kinderwyk Childcare | Forest Nursery |
| | 10am | Worship / Communion | Sanctuary |
| | 10:15am | Dwell Kids' Class | Mountain room |
| | 10:15am | Young Children and Worship | River room |
| | 11:15am | Children's Music | Roof Top room |
| | 11:15am | First Forum | Poling Chapel |
| | 11:15am | Children's Music | Roof Top room |
| | 5pm | Jazz Vespers | Covenant Hall |
| | 5pm | Youth Group | Trinity Pres. |
| Mon, Nov 4 | 6pm | Community Yoga | Covenant Hall |
| | 6:30pm | Creation Care Committee | Library |
| Tue, Nov 5 | 10am | Horizon's Bible Study | Mohawk – Pres. |
| | 11:30am | Support & Care | Mohawk – Pres. |
| | 7pm | Writers Critique Group | Mohawk - Lunn |
| Wed, Nov 6 | 7:30am | Retirement Roundtable | Mohawk House |
| | 9:30am | Kerygma Conversations | Mohawk – Pres. |
| | 11:30am | Wednesday Lunch | Covenant Hall |
| | 1pm | Retirement Roundtable | Mohawk House |
| | 7pm | Adult Ukulele | Poling Chapel |
| | 7pm | Membership & Fellowship | Mohawk – Pres. |
| Thu, Nov 7 | 7:30am | Breakfast Bible Bunch | Mohawk – Lunn |
| | 10am | Stitch Group | Walton Room |
| | 7pm | Chancel Choir | Choir room |
| Sat, Nov 9 | 8:30am | Saturday Breakfast | Covenant Hall |
| Sun, Nov 10 | 9am | Chancel Choir | Sanctuary |
| | 9am | Chords of Love | Music Level |
| | 9:45am | Kinderwyk Childcare | Forest Nursery |
| | 10am | Worship | Sanctuary |
| | 10:15am | Dwell Kids' Class | Mountain room |
| | 10:15am | Young Children and Worship | River room |
| | 11am | 2 nd Sunday Potluck | Covenant Hall |
| | 11:15am | Children's Music | Roof Top room |
| | 5pm | Jazz Vespers | Covenant Hall |