

**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.



February 2, 2020

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.

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



Third Sunday after Epiphany

February 2, 2020

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

Max Caplan

Ombra mai fu "Largo from Xerxes"

George Frederic Handel 1685-1759

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Daniel Carlson

The grace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill Levering

*HYMN

God Has Shown You

God has shown you, (echo) O people (echo)

What is good and what the Lord requires of you

God has shown you, (echo) O people (echo)

What is good and what the Lord requires of you

But to do justice, (echo) and to love kindness (echo)

And to walk humbly with our God.

But to do justice, (echo) and to love kindness (echo)

And to walk humbly with our God.

*OUR NEED FOR GOD

Almighty God, who makes all things new, in this new year we need your help to heal our division, break bad patterns, and show us new ways of living that lead to a better life. Give us wisdom and courage, we pray.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (unison)

Gloria, Gloria

#576

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

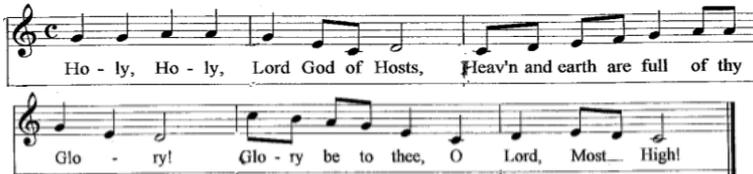
SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
INVITATION AND PRAYER

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

Bill Levering

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 *Lord, We Have Come At Your Own Invitation* #516

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Threefold Amen* Traditional

POSTLUDE

Entered Into Eternal Rest

Jerry Griggs – Jan 25, 2020
Service was on February 1.

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:

George Stroebel, Herbert Stare, Virginia Cleveland, Janet Schwem, Janice Flom, Raymond Fisher, Janet Gardner, Philip Mathews, David Perriman

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.

Interested in Joining? - Today, 3pm

Come to an informal time to learn more about First Reformed and possible membership. It starts at 3pm in the church office.

Souper Bowl - Today

Today is SOUPER BOWL Sunday. A collection will be taken at the doors following the service and 100 percent of the collection will support SiCM's Emergency Food Pantry for Schenectady County families in need. (If writing a check please include "Souper Bowl" on the memo line.) Thank you!

Heritage Sunday - Today

This year we honor our partnership with the Mohawk Nation. In 1680 over half our congregation were Mohawks. Mohawks have returned to the Mohawk Valley, to Kanatsiohareke, and we are rebuilding connections. In First Forum, Andy Chestnut will share the legacy of FRC members who traveled to England in 1710 in a diplomatic delegation. The "Four Kings of the New World" went to visit Queen Anne. Their visit helped shape the history of the Mohawk Valley.

Chili Cook-Off and Auction - Feb 8

February's not so cold and this year...we're having a Chili cook off on Feb 8 at 5pm, along with an auction to raise funds for our mission trip. Bring a batch of chili or corn bread. Donate an experience (preferable) or item (needs approval) for auctioning. If you would like to help please contact Christina Jones at 1streformedyouth@gmail.com.

Green Steps - Buying Healthy Rugs

Buying a rug? Natural fiber rugs and pads will cost more. Be sure to shop around to make sure that you have found the best-possible deal. It matters where you shop and what you buy.

Johnson Library

Look for a collection of *The Great Courses* CD's and DVDs, as well a group of books recently added to the library. They are on the display area as you enter the Johnson Library.

“Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a harder battle.” – Plato

“A great man is always willing to be little.” – Ralph Waldo Emerson

“Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.” – Mark Twain

“There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest.” – Elie Wiesel

“My religion is very simple. My religion is kindness.” – Dalai Lama XIV

“Truth never damages a cause that is just.” – Mahatma Gandhi

“In a series of kindnesses there is at last one which makes the heart run over.”
– Ray Bradbury, Fahrenheit 451

“The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice.” – Theodore Parker

“True humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less.”
– Rick Warren

“Never forget that justice is what love looks like in public.” – Cornel West

Sunday Volunteers	This Week	Next Week
Bookshop	Birdie Blackmer	Jane Wilkinson
Children & Worship	Liz Mastrianni	Elsa Hjelmar
Counting Deacons	David Bundy, Claire Hughes	Dave Hjelmar, Doug Todd
Dwell Kids Teacher	Bill Potter	Dave Pizzolo
Flower Delivery	Vickie McGowan-Horan, Connie Young	Marey Bailey, Claire Hughes
Forum	Heritage Sunday The Legacy of the Four SAChems by Andy Chestnut	2nd Sunday Potluck
Jazz Vespers	Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass	Mike Lamkin, piano
Kinderwyk	Lian Drisgula, Liz Gleason	Jaclyn Weber, Claire Hughes
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Karen Gonda, Laura Lee, Vickie McGowan-Horan, Del Pierce, Darwin Brudos, Eric Evans, Keith Muse, Jeanne Shoulder	Birdie Blackmer, Peggy King, Tom Lindsay, Walt Robb, Richard Rose, Maria Todd
Reader	Kristin Lion	George Trimarco
Refreshments	Amanda Potter	2nd Sunday Potluck
Ushers	Jim & Sharron McCullough, Amanda & Bill Potter	Art Shultes, Hendrick & Joanne Arnold, Joan Lindsay, Mary Jane Wilkinson

Coming Up

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

Sun, Feb 2	9am	Choir Rehearsal	Music Level
	9am	Ukuleles For All Ages	Rooftop Room
	9:45am	Kinderwyk Childcare	Forest Nursery
	10am	Heritage Sunday	Sanctuary
	10am	Worship/Communion	Sanctuary
	10:15am	Dwell Kids' Class	Mountain room
	10:15am	Young Children and Worship	River room
	11:15am	First Forum	Poling Chapel
	11:15am	Children's Music	Rooftop Room
	3pm	Introductions to the FRC	Church Office
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Covenant Hall
Mon, Feb 3	6pm	Community Yoga	Covenant Hall
	6:30pm	Creation Care Committee	Library
Tue, Feb 4	10:30am	Horizons Bible Study	Mohawk – Pres.
	11:30am	Support & Care Committee	Mohawk – Pres.
	7pm	Writers Critique Group	Mohawk – Lunn
Wed, Feb 5	7:30am	Retirement Roundtable	Mohawk – Lunn
	11:30am	Wednesday Lunch	Covenant Hall
	7:30am	Retirement Roundtable	Mohawk – Lunn
	7pm	Adult Ukulele	Poling Chapel
Thu, Feb 6	7:30am	Breakfast Bible Bunch	Mohawk – Lunn
	10am	Stitch Group	Walton Room
	7pm	Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
Sat, Feb 8	5pm	Chili Cook Off and Auction	Covenant Hall
Sun, Feb 9	9am	Choir Rehearsal	Music Level
	9am	Ukuleles For All Ages	Rooftop Room
	9:45am	Kinderwyk Childcare	Forest Nursery
	10am	Worship/Baptism	Sanctuary
	10:15am	Dwell Kids' Class	Mountain room
	10:15am	Young Children and Worship	River room
	11am	2nd Sunday Potluck Lunch	Covenant Hall
	11:15am	Children's Music	Rooftop Room
	5pm	Jazz Vespers	Covenant Hall
5pm	Youth Group	Trinity Presb.	