

Welcome to First Reformed Church

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 fill out a little white pew card and place it in the offering plate. After service join us for coffee and refreshments.

Parking

You may park in **any** of the lots around the church or the Stockade Inn on Sunday mornings.

Need Help?

Large print bulletins and audio receivers are available to assist you. Please ask an usher. Special bulletins for children are also available. Restrooms are located out the front right doorway of the sanctuary.

Church School

On Communion Sundays (the first Sunday of the month) youth in grades 3-8 remain in the service to participate in Communion while those in grades K-2 gather in the library immediately following the Children's Message for a story. There will be time to check out books and then they will return to room 20 to meet parents after the service.

Other Sundays all children are welcome to join in our Church School activities by leaving immediately after the Children's Message. Parents can pick up their children at 11:15am on the 2nd floor at the top of the stairs.

Child Care on Sunday

Childcare for babies through age four is available from 10am and noon in Kinderwyk, which is located in the building near the church office entry.

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.

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.

After Worship

Typically after worship, people stop for a chat and refreshments in Assembly Hall. Visitors are welcomed and are particularly encouraged to visit.

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 in the next orientation please fill out a white pew card.

Service Online

A recording of each of our worship services is at 1stReformed.com one or two days following the service.

Fifth Sunday in Easter

May 6, 2012

9:40 a.m.

VOLUNTARY

Dutch Easter Carol (1967)

Easter Meditation No. II (1944)

Berceuse

Alec Wyton

Robin Milford

H. Reber; Youth Orchestra

10:00 a.m.

+ + + The Approach to God + + +

GREETING

Daniel Carlson

Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

Christ is risen indeed, alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WORSHIP ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill Levering

INTROIT

Worship the Lord

John Porter

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #455 (vss 1,2,5,6) *All Creatures*

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**God of new life, we lift our hearts in thanksgiving for the hope
you have brought us in Jesus Christ. Deepen our shallowness
with the message of your love. Amen.**

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah! (x3)

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Text © 1990, GIA Publ., Inc.; music © 1990, WGRG. All rights reserved. One License A 700-700.

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

**God's life-giving Word and Spirit conquer the powers of sin and
death, bitterness and hatred. God will enable us to live in a new
way and open new possibilities of life for all people.**

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM *O How Amiable Are Thy Dwellings*

John Rutter

O how amiable are thy dwellings, thou Lord of hosts!

My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord.

My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house,
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:
even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be always praising thee.

Blessed is the one whose strength is in thee: in whose heart are thy ways.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer: hearken, O God of Jacob.

Behold, O God our defender: and look upon the face of thine Anointed.

For one day in thy courts is better than a thousand.

I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God:
than to dwell in the tents of ungodliness.

For the Lord God is a light and defense:
the Lord will give grace and worship,
and no good thing shall he withhold from them that live a godly life.

O Lord God of hosts, blessed is the one that putteth his trust in thee.

Psalm 84

+ + + **The Word of God** + + +

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Julie Panke

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

FIRST LESSON Hymn #217

Psalm 96 (Choir and Congregation)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

Revelation 15:2-3 (page255)

SERMON

God Sings

Bill Levering

*HYMN

Christ Is Risen

Christ is risen! Shout hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!

Christ is risen! Hush in wonder; all creation is amazed.

In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.

Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.

Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.

Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.

Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.

Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same.

Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.

Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"

God the First and Last is with us. Sing hosanna everyone!

Text © 1986, Hope Publishing Co.; arr. © 1987, CRC Publications. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-700700

CHOIR RECOGNITION

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Cantique de Jean Racine* Gabriel Fauré
Leah Kidwell -Fernandes, harp

O divine Word above, our hope and consolation,
Eternal light of the heav'ns and the earth:
The peaceful night is past; our voices greet the morning;
Look down, O Lord, and hear the people's prayer!

Inspire us, lord, we pray with the pow'r of thy Spirit,
That hell may flee, that hell may flee before thy mighty word.
From slumber waken us, our weary souls reviving,
That we may never forget all thy laws!

Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on thy congregation
Now gathered here in the sight of thy throne;
Receive the hymns they offer to thy eternal glory;
Renewed by thy gifts may they go forth in peace!

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

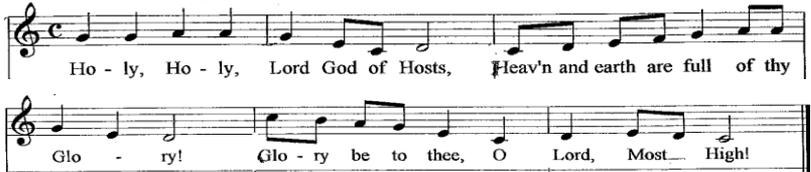
SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION Daniel Carlson

COMMUNION PRAYER

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
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 (*sung in unison*) Carl Steubing



COMMUNION

COMMUNION ANTHEM *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*
arr. John Rutter; Leah Kidwell-Fernandes, harp

+ + + **The Response to the Word** + + +

PRAYERS AND 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 #264 *When in Our Music God Is Glorified* Engelberg

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE: *Threefold Amen* Danish

*POSTLUDE *Alleluias (2006)* Robert Lau

*The congregation may stand

Music Notes

Today is a Celebration of Song to include readings from the Psalms, Communion, special choir anthems, and recognition of the Chancel Choir. Two anthems will be accompanied by harpist Leah Kidwell-Fernandes and Organist Charles Moose will accompany congregational song with special arrangements on the organ.

Prayers of the People

As part of our prayers this morning, we remember with thanksgiving:
Lloyd Johnston, Rev. Cornelius Van Leeuwen, and Albert Zink.

Faith Bookshop

Correction: The Bookshop is accepting donations of gently read books for current sale in the Shop, not for the next church book sale as implied in the May issue of First Things. (That collection will be next year.) Please mark donations "For the Bookshop."

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday, 5pm

Today: Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums
May 13: 'Azzaam Hameed, piano

Group V

We will have our end of the year picnic on Monday, May 7 at the home of Maria Greskovich, 1229 Viewmont Dr. Niskayuna. Bring a Salad picnic. For more information please contact Maria (372-9522).

Justice Action Council Events, 7pm

Wednesday, May 9: Richard Kirsch, long-time activist and author of *Fighting For Our Health*, speaks about leading a coalition fighting for health reform legislation.

Junior & Senior High Youth Groups

May 13: No Meetings

May 20: Youth Service, those participating be at church at 9:30am. PLUS, end of the year party at 5pm.

CROP Walk, Today

The 5k walk starts at 12:30pm, beginning at Emmanuel Friedens Church. The proceeds support hunger-fighting efforts locally and globally.

Wed. am Discipleship Discussion

A new session of the Wednesday morning (aka Kerygma) group, which

alternates by season between Bible study and book will meet May 9, 16, 23 at 9:30am in the Poling Conference Room to discuss prayer. The concise classic, *Dimensions of Prayer*, (available today in the Faith Bookshop) will be our guide book. Contact Daniel with any questions.

Wednesday Dialogue Change

On May 16 Katherine Wolfram presents plans for the new co-op near the Stockade featuring local, wholesome foods.

Group VII

On Friday, May 18 at 11:30am we will have small group lunches in the homes of Ronnie Bartholic, Mary Jane Fisher, Mary Jewett, and Connie Young. If any questions, contact Ronnie at 393-7679.

Youth Take Over

On May 20, the youth of the church are taking over! The youth will be doing the readings, prayers, and music that morning and our graduating seniors Briana Bogatka, Camila Grande, and Heather Ipsen will all be speaking at the service. Please plan to attend and support our youth.

Church Picnic, May 20

After worship come and join the fun at the annual spring picnic sponsored by the Youth Education and Nurture Committee. We will provide burgers, veggie burgers, hotdogs, and beverages for all. Please bring a side dish, dessert, or snack to share. In addition to food and conversation, games will be available for the children. Bring a friend to share in the fun! See you there!

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Bill Martin	Rachael Cox, Rebecca Grande
Faith Bookshop	Committee Member	Committee Member
First Forum	332 nd Congregational Meeting	Faith working through Music, with Leah Kidwell-Fernandes and Johnny Willis
Flower Delivery	Charlotte & Roger Greenwood, Laura Linder	Karen & Rob Dickson, Janet & Richard Gardner
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik, Gay Doolittle	Sarah Bachorik, Inge-Lise Pangburn
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Procession Elders	Mary Jewett, Bill & Carrie Brooks, Gene Zeltmann, Eric Evans, Christine Daniels, Del Pierce, Darwin Brudos	Bob Beadle, Roberta Blackmer, Darwin Brudos, Rob Dickson, Gay Doolittle, Phil Falconer, Peggy King, William Rochelle
Reader	Choir & Congregation	Carol Troost
Refreshments	Gay Doolittle, Joyce Griggs	Alida Rice, Deborah Troost
Offertory Deacons Ushers	Earl Wainwright, Richard Davis, Lisa Ettkin, Claire Hughes, Bill Martin, Caroline Welch, Kimberly Burgoyne, David Bundy	Bill Clock (head usher), Cathy Allen, Robert Allen, Louis Acquasanta, Joe Gallagher, Maurice Robbins, William Faulkner

Calendar for the Week of May 6, 2012

Sunday May 6	9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room
	9:15 a.m.	High School Choir, Room 20
	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Communion, Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Post Service, Assembly Hall
	11:15 a.m.	Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary
	11:15 a.m.	Kirk Ringers, Room 20
	12:00 p.m.	Justice Action Council, Walton Conference Room
	4:00 p.m.	Youth Orchestra, Sanctuary
	5:00 p.m.	Jazz Vespers, Poling Chapel
	7:00 p.m.	SHYG, Friendship Hall
Monday May 7	9:00 a.m.	Mens Newsgroup, Poling Conference Room
Tuesday May 8	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
	6:30 p.m.	Standing Committees, Various Locations
	7:30 p.m.	Consistory, Poling Chapel/Assembly Hall
Wednesday May 9	9:30 a.m.	Discipleship Discussion, Poling Conference Room
	1:00 p.m.	Archives Group, Archives Room
	2:00 p.m.	Staff Meeting, Walton Conference Room
	6:30 p.m.	Justice Action Council, Poling Chapel
	7:00 p.m.	Seeking Spirituality, Dirck Romeyn Room
Thursday May 10	7:30 a.m.	Breakfast Bible Bunch, Walton Conference Room
	10:00 a.m.	Stitch Group, Poling Conference Room
	6:00 p.m.	Purls of Wisdom, Mezzanine
	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts, Assembly Hall
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room
Sunday Mother's Day May 13	9:00 a.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room
	9:15 a.m.	High School Choir, Room 20
	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Communion, Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Post Service, Assembly Hall
	11:15 a.m.	Kirk Ringers, Room 20
	12:00 p.m.	Membership Committee, Walton Conference Room
	5:00 p.m.	Jazz Vespers, Poling Chapel

***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.



May 6, 2012

The bird, the heart,
the silent stars
all sing
with God

First Reformed Church

8 North Church Street – Schenectady, New York 12305
(518) 377-2201 www.1stReformed.com

Ministers: Daniel Carlson, Bill Levering, Stacey Midge