

# 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.

## **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.

## **Church School**

Church school has ended and will resume on September 9. Children will remain in the service to worship with the congregation. Don't forget Vacation Bible School August 6-10. RSVP to the church office.

## **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 the Huntley Garden. 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](http://1stReformed.com) one or two days following the service.

**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

**July 8, 2012**

*Is your cell phone on?*

9:40 a.m.

VOLUNTARY	<i>Two Idylls (1935)</i>	Clifford Harker
	<i>I. Andante semplice</i>	
	<i>II. Lento espressivo</i>	
	<i>Menuetto – Impromptu (1944)</i>	John Ireland
	<i>Sursum Corda (1911)</i>	John Ireland

10:00 a.m.

+ + + **The Approach to God** + + +

GREETING	Daniel Carlson
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.	
<b>And also with you.</b>	

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WORSHIP ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP	Stacey Midge
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*HYMN #411	<i>Arise, Your Light Is Come!</i>	Festal Song
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\*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**Giver of all good gifts, help us to remember that you are the source of all we have and all we are. Forgive the ways we have forgotten your grace and strayed from the best of your creation. Give us clarity of vision that we might see your leading and recognize your work in those around us. Amen.**

\*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE #579	<i>Glory Be to the Father</i>	Gloria Patri
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**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(from the United Church of Canada)*

**We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

*This Land*

Andy Chestnut

God bless this land on which we stand.  
And God bless the ones who passed it on.  
How can we be sure it will endure  
For our kids and their kids after we're gone.  
    Can we hear their voice as we make each choice?  
When we build too fast it just don't last –  
So let's choose another way.  
As we use more care and say more prayers  
We can make tomorrow better than today.  
Lord help us understand that our fellow man  
Is a part of ourselves and deserves our help  
So that all can see helping him helps me.  
Some say "let'em whine – 's long as I've got mine."  
But can it really be  
That one end of our boat can stay afloat  
While the other end sinks beneath the sea?  
Will the future say what we did today  
Left a hideous trace that they can't erase?  
Will they speak with shame when they say our name?  
If we go into a store and we pay a little more  
What if that's OK?  
'Cause we know that extra cost isn't really lost  
When it pays our neighbor's way  
    Can we hear their voice as we make each choice?  
Building connections in all directions  
Helps us all to feel  
That when someone takes a blow someone else will know  
And we can all reach out to heal

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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Mary Jewett

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

FIRST LESSON

*2 Corinthians 12:2-10 (page 185)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON

*Mark 6:1-13 (page 40)*

SERMON

*Hometown Hangups*

Stacey Midge

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

\*HYMN #343

*Called as Partners in Christ's Service*

Beecher

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Be Who You Am*

Andy Chestnut

Since our younger days we seek compliments and praise.

Desperately tryin' to fit in - willing to shed our own skin.

Bur after we learn to get by it's too painful even to try.

To get past the hurt and the guilt bound to this image we built.

We want to know why, why we live and why we die.

We search far and wide for answers we carry inside.

Be who you am, You're an integral part of the plan

Nobody else can ever be yourself

Better than you can.

Be who you am. You're accountable for how you play this hand

Don't find yourself hating what God's been creating

Cause you think that He'll understand.

There's a flame inside that we try to hide.

Pretending it just isn't there, we act like we don't care

But the flame flickers on it's never completely gone

'Till one day you pull up a chair and find yourself still there.

We want to know why, why we live and why we die.

We search far and wide for answers we carry inside.

Be who you am. Anything else is a scam

As long as you're jiving you'll never be thriving

You just think you can.

Be who you am

Even when you don't think you can

As long as you're conversin' with your inner person

You'll never get in a jam.

We want to know why, why we live and why we die.

We search far and wide for answers we carry inside.

Be who you am

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

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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 #386

*O For a World*

Azmon

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

*Alla Marcia (1911)*

John Ireland

\*The congregation may stand.

### **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 this congregation who entered eternal rest in previous years about this time:

*Elmer Baldwin, Roy Hershey, John Metcalf III, Jim Shapland, Susan Staffa, and Anne Shepherd Wemple.*

If you are aware of a departed member, whose name has not been noted near the anniversary of their death, please speak with one of our ministers or 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 Chuck Greskovich by his loving family Maria, Ann, and Chad. We are grateful that these flowers, which represent our prayers and praise, will be taken to church family members to recognize a special need or celebration.

### **Celebratory or Memorial Flowers**

There is a flower calendar on the right side of the Poling House entrance to the sanctuary. Choose a date for donating flowers to remember a loved one or to honor a special event. Please inform the office of your wishes so records can be kept correctly. The cost of the flowers is \$30 for the two bouquets. You may send your check payable to Chancel Guild, c/o Marlene Risseeuw, 2140 Niskayuna Dr., Niskayuna, NY 12309-4126.

### **Jazz Vespers Every Sunday, 5pm**

For most of July, the musicians themselves will be leading the worship services. Come hear them talk about faith and music.

**Today:** 'Azzaam Hameed and friends

**July 15:** Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

**July 22:** Mike Lamkin, piano

**July 29:** Peg Delaney, piano

### **Faith Bookshop**

Today, and for the rest of the summer, the Bookshop will be open briefly after the Sunday service. The Shop will resume taking personal book orders in September. Mystery lovers: check our bookcase of donated books with paper backs selling for only one dollar.

### **Summer Refreshments**

Whenever possible, our post service refreshments will be served in the Huntley Garden. Please consider signing up for preparation, cleanup, and refreshments by yourself or with a friend. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in Assembly Hall.

A sheet with "how to" suggestions is also posted since the summer procedure is slightly different. Any questions, please contact Heather Chestnut at 346-7887.

### **First Forum**

The aim of First Forum is to provide stimulus to the congregation on current events or issues important to the community and world at large, through informative presentations and conversation. We work with Adult Education and Nurture, M&B, Justice Action Council and other committees; suggestions for programs are welcome from any church member. Kindly contact Daniel Carlson or Joe Doolittle.

### **SICM's Summer Lunch Program**

**When:** July 16-20

**Where:** Steinmetz Park

**Time:** 11:50-1:50pm

**When:** August 20-24

**Where:** Jerry Burrell Park

**Time:** 11:20-1:30pm

We will need 4-6 volunteers each day. Please sign up by finding our Covenanter, Dan Kosten on Sunday mornings, or by emailing or calling the church office. For further information on articles please be sure you have a copy of the First Things Newsletter.

### **BBQ and Pool Party July 28**

**Where:** Heather and Andy Chestnuts

**Time:** 12-4pm

**Bring:** Besides a swimsuit and towel (if you wish to get wet,) an appetizer, side dish, or dessert, and a beverage of your choice to share. Grilled food will be provided.

**RSVP:** Sign up on the sheet in Assembly Hall or call the church office. For further information on articles please be sure you have a copy of the First Things Newsletter.

### **Vacation Bible School**

Our Summer VBS will involve our feet!

**When:** August 6 -10

**Time:** 3-5pm

**Who:** Children ages 5-95, bring your friends, neighbors and relatives!

**RSVP:** Call the church office to register or if any questions, contact Jamie Ipsen at 399-6848. Helpers are also needed. For further information on articles please be sure you have a copy of the First Things Newsletter.

	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Caroline Welch, Therese McCarty	Christine Daniels, Catherine Lewis
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Linda Witkowski	Committee Member
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Virginia Laumeister, Clair Hughes	Cathy & Bradley Lewis, Karlyne & Nelson Drimalas
<b>Kinderwyck</b>	Sarah Bachorik, Linda Stanhope	Sarah Bachorik
<b>Liturgist</b>	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
<b>Preacher</b>	Stacey Midge	Stacey Midge
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Joyce Griggs, Rob Dickson, Jerry Griggs, Peggy King, Del Pierce, William Rochelle	Mary Jewett, Keith Muse, Christine Daniels, Carolyn Jones-Assini, Catherine Lewis, Linda Witkowski
<b>Reader</b>	Mary Jewett	Bradley Lewis
<b>Refreshments</b>	Heather Chestnut	Wisniewski Family
<b>Ushers</b>	Bill Clock (head usher), Cathy Allen, Robert Allen, Louis Acquasanta, Joe Gallagher, Maurice Robbins, William Faulkner	Del Pierce (head usher), Carol Troost, Karen Dickson, Rob Dickson, Doug Todd, Karen Norton

### Calendar for the Week of July 8, 2012

<b>Sunday</b>	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
July 8	11:00 a.m.	Post Service, Huntley Garden or Assembly Hall
	12:00 p.m.	Membership Committee, Walton Conference Room
	5:00 p.m.	Jazz Vespers, Poling Chapel
<b>Monday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Mens News Group, Poling Conference Room
July 9	6:00 p.m.	African Drumming, Poling Chapel
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
July 10		
<b>Wednesday</b>	10:00 a.m.	Summer Conversations, Dirck Romeyn Room
July 11	1:00 p.m.	Archives Group, Archives Room
	2:00 p.m.	Staff Meeting, Walton Conference Room
<b>Sunday</b>	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
July 15	11:00 a.m.	Post Service, Huntley Garden or Assembly Hall
	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.*



July 8, 2012

***Struggles and pain surround.***

***Tools and help abound.***

***First Reformed Church***

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