

# 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 and join us in the room to the left of the front of the sanctuary after the service 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.

## **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.

## **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**

All children in grades K-8 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.

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 are welcome to go upstairs after the Children's Message for music and crafts.

## **After Worship**

Typically after worship, people stop for a chat and a cookie in Assembly Hall before going to a learning opportunity that lasts until noon. Visitors are welcome to join in and are particularly encouraged to visit the Dirck Romeyn Room to the left of the sanctuary for five or ten minutes.

## **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.

# Christ the King Sunday

November 25, 2012

*Is your cell phone on?*

9:40 a.m.

PRELUDE

Paul Mastriani

10:00 a.m.

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

GREETING

Daniel Carlson

The grace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WORSHIP ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill Levering

INTROIT

*Our King Draweth Nigh*

Claude Means

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

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

\*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

**O God, our home and help, we confess that our arms have not always been as open as yours. Fear has made us hide our hearts and close our fists. Our thoughts have not always been directed at inviting others to your love. Forgive us and help us, we pray.**

\*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*South African traditional melody*)

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

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(adapted from the Belhar Confession)*

**We believe in the triune God, who gathers, protects, and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. God has done this since the beginning of the world and will do it to the end. We believe that God wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people. God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry, frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind, supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows. God calls the church to follow in this: to stand by people in any form of suffering and need, and to strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.**

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

**ANTHEM**

*Christus Paradox*

Alfred Fedak

You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd. You, Lord, are both prince and slave.  
You, peacemaker and sword bringer of the way you took and gave.  
You the everlasting instant; You, whom we both scorn and crave.

Clothed in light upon the mountain, stripped of might upon the cross,  
shining in eternal glory, beggared by a soldier's toss,  
You the everlasting instant; You, who are both gift and cost.

You, who walk each day beside us, sit in power at God's side.  
You, who preach a way that's narrow, have a love that reaches wide.  
You, the everlasting instant; You, who are our pilgrim guide.

Worthy is our earthly Jesus! Worthy is our cosmic Christ!  
Worthy your defeat and vict'r'y. Worthy still your peace and strife.  
You, the everlasting instant; You, who are our death and life.

Alleluia, alleluia, You, who are our death and our life.

Sylvia Dunstan

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

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Nancy Wainwright

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

**FIRST LESSON**

*Psalm 132:1-12 (page 574)*

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**SECOND LESSON**

*John 18:33-37 (page 113)*

**SERMON**

*When Worlds Collide*

Bill Levering

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

\*HYMN # 333

*Seek Ye First*

Lafferty

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Ariosio*

J.S. Bach  
Naphtali Rothrock

\*HYMN #592

*Praise God, from Whom All...*

Doxology

\*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.**

\*RECESSIONAL HYMN #450

*O Day of Peace*

Jerusalem

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

*O Day of Peace*

Jerusalem

POSTLUDE

Paul Mastriani

\*The congregation may stand.

**Music Note**

The music for the anthem consists of choral variations on the hymn tune Picardy (Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence). As the title, *Christus Paradox*, implies, Sylvia Dunstan's text contains about a dozen paradoxical aspects of Jesus Christ. "You the everlasting instant," a phrase which appears in every stanza, gives us the universality and particularity of Christ, his place in the human world and his transcendence as the divine. Al Fedak has set the text beautifully using the

chant-like tune, underscoring the various aspects of Christ musically.

**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:

*Leroy Brandt, Virginia Cain, Elsie Anderson Emory, Donald Lemon, Edgar Pitzer, and Maurice B. Tracy.*

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.

### **Celebratory or Memorial Flowers**

A flower calendar is posted on the right side of the Poling House entrance to the sanctuary wherein you can choose a date for donating flowers to remember a loved one or to honor a special event. Please inform the office of your wishes. 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.

### **First Forum**

**Dec. 2:** Alternate Gift Fair

**Dec. 9:** Perspectives from our Youth – A conversation on society, church, school, and purpose - Rev. Stacey Midge & SHYG

**Dec. 16:** M&B Update - Results of the Sticker Survey and Directions for 2013 – Dan Ipsen, Chair

**Dec. 23:** TBA

### **Faith Bookshop**

The Bookshop has a new supply of notable books for young children. There are also items that would make nice gifts for the Holiday hostess: note cards, CDs, fair trade coffee, tea and chocolate bars, and, of course, books to read when the dishes are washed and the day is done.

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

**Today:** Mike Lamkin, piano

**Dec. 2:** Carol Sing & Vespers

**Dec. 9:** 'Azzaam Hameed, piano

**Dec. 16:** Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

**Dec. 23:** Dave Gleason, piano

**Dec. 30:** Peg Delaney, piano

### **Junior High Youth Group**

The JHYG is for grades 6-8, meets at 5pm in the Mezzanine for dinner, discussion, and games, unless otherwise noted below.

**Dec. 2:** Regular meeting

**Dec. 9:** We will serve donuts and hot beverages after the Living Nativity

**Dec. 16:** Christmas Party at 5pm

**Dec. 23:** Final rehearsal for Christmas Eve service, meet at 5pm

**Dec. 24:** Participate in the Christmas Eve Family Service at 5pm.

Participants should arrive by 4pm if in costume, 4:30pm if reading.

**Dec. 30 and Jan. 1:** No Youth Group Enjoy your Christmas break!

### **Senior High Youth Group**

The SHYG is for grades 9-12, meets at 7pm in the Mezzanine for snacks, service projects, discussion, and games, unless otherwise noted below.

**Dec. 2:** We will have a booth at the Alternative Gift Fair and should plan to be there from 11am-3pm

**Dec. 9:** The Living Nativity at 6pm.

Please plan to be at church by 5pm to prepare

**Dec. 16:** Christmas Party at 5pm

**Dec. 23:** Final rehearsal for Christmas Eve service, meet at 5pm

**Dec. 24:** Participate in the Christmas Eve Family Service at 5pm.

Participants should arrive by 4pm if in costume, 4:30pm if reading.

**Dec. 30 and Jan. 1:** No Youth Group Enjoy your Christmas break!

### **Midweek Evening Prayer**

Amidst the deepening darkness of Dec. here's an opportunity for all who long to rekindle awareness of God's loving presence within, among, and beyond us. Held each Wednesday, 7-7:30pm in Poling Chapel, led by Mary and Daniel Carlson and Cheryl and David Olsen. Midweek Evening Prayer includes gentle singing, guided reflection, engaging Scripture, shared prayers, and the Lord's supper. Come share the peace and promise of God's love and light!

### **Archives and Historical Concerns**

Archives tour and training on Thursday, Nov. 29 at 1pm. Anyone who is interested in volunteering in the archives is welcome to attend.

### **88<sup>th</sup> Annual Carol Sing & Vespers**

Sunday, Dec. 2 at 5pm.

The Thursday Belles, under the direction of Judy Brackett Moore, will present a Christmas Vespers including English Handbell Music, Carol Singing and Holiday Reflections. This is a family and community event that is sure to start your holiday season with joy! Elinore Farnum, noted Capital Region organist and Joan Nikolski, pianist, will join Thursday Belles for the traditional singing of carols.

### **Group V**

Our meeting will be a luncheon at the home of Barb Landon on Monday, Dec. 3. Come share some Christmas Joy. Call Maria Greskovich with questions. 372-9522.

### **Daily Devotional Books**

Group V has their Devotional books available again this year. These make great holiday gifts, hostess gifts and just thoughtful gifts for friends and

family. There are a few copies available in the book shop. We will have them at the Alternative Gift Fair also. Or call Maria Greskovich at 372-9522 or Sandy Moynihan at 372-0604. Cost \$7 each or 3 for \$20.

### **Thursday Musical Club Christmas Concert Friday, Dec. 7**

English, French, Basque and Catalan carols will be highlighted at a Christmas Concert of the Thursday Musical Club on Friday, Dec. 7 at 7:30pm in our church sanctuary. Karlinda Caldicott, harpist will accompany the 40-voice women's chorus directed by Julie Panke and accompanied by Elinore Farnum. The Thursday Belles, directed by Judy Moore, will offer seasonal. A reception will follow the concert. Complimentary tickets are available from Julie Panke or the church office.

### **Living Nativity – Dec. 9**

The annual Living Nativity performance will be held on the church lawn on Dec. 9 at 6pm. Our very own Senior High Youth Group will act out the story of Jesus' birth, and then we will gather inside for donuts and hot cocoa to celebrate this Christmas season.

### **Group VII**

We will have a Christmas luncheon on Friday, Dec. 14 at 11:30am at the Eddy on Consaul Road. Reservations must be made. The callers will be calling the members for their menu choices. If any questions, please contact Ronnie Bartholic at 393-7679.

### **Christmas Flower Delivery**

Volunteers are needed on Dec. 16 to deliver Christmas poinsettia plants to homebound church families. The plants, along with addressed cards for each recipient, will be available after the service.

Volunteers simply need to pick up a plant to be delivered. Members of the Support and Care Committee will be present to assist. This is a nice opportunity to extend our care and concern to church family members - please join us.

### **Christmas Flowers**

As we prepare for the Holiday season, remember a loved one by participating in the Christmas Memorial Flowers. Each year the church is decorated with plants and greens during the holiday season. Your loved ones will be remembered in the bulletin on Dec. 24 and 25. The donation is \$20.

Even if you have donated in previous years, you must place a new order for Christmas 2012. Please call the church office **no later than Tuesday, Dec. 18**, to make arrangements. Send payment to Chancel Guild, c/o Marlene Risseuw, 2140 Niskayuna Drive, Niskayuna, NY 12309.

### **Holiday Events**

**Dec. 2:** Carol Sing & Vespers, 5 pm

**Dec. 16:** Living Nativity, 6pm

**Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Services**

Family Service, 5pm

Music of the Season, 8:30pm

Traditional Service, 9pm

Communion Service, 11pm

### **Christmas Eve Cookies**

Celebrate the season by meeting up with friends and family after the 9pm service on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24. Refreshments and refreshing good cheer will greet you all in Friendship Hall. If you are interested in volunteering to bring cookies, please call Heather Chestnut at 346-7887.

### **Christmas Offer 2012**

This year's Christmas Offering is designated for Advocating for Youth at Risk ~CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates). This program provides trained volunteers who are appointed by the court to advocate for the best interest of children in cases of abuse and neglect. Members of this congregation currently volunteer as CASA advocates, and your support will help in the training and supervision of volunteers for this important program that acts for the benefit of children in the court system. Please make checks payable to Center for Community Justice (or CCJ) with CASA in the memo line. GE matching funds do apply to a CCJ donation; please don't forget to include CASA in the memo line.

### **Concerned for the Hungry**

Please remember Concerned for the Hungry food drive during this holiday season. Monetary donation bags are available at the entrances of the church. Directions are stapled to the bags; you can mail donations to the church or place in the offering plate. Thank you for helping make this holiday season joyful for all.

### **Schoharie Public Library**

The Church School decided to work together to bring/buy books for the Schoharie Public Library, especially the Children's Section that got ruined last summer. We're going to try to make a stack that reaches from the floor to the ceiling in Room 20. Feel free to help with our goal and leave books marked "church school" in Room 20 at the top of the stairs or in the church office.

### **Hamilton Hill Art Center**

Below is our supplies *wish list* which is going to be used for the Hamilton Hill Art Center's after school program. Most of the children that we service don't have basic school supplies. We are so very thankful that First Reformed is willing to give so that these children can benefit, learn and grow.

### **Wish List**

construction paper, crayons, markers, pencils, rulers, erasers, copy paper, clay, tape, scissors, glue, calculators, chalk, notebooks, lanyard, wax.

### **Support & Care Committee**

If lack of transportation is keeping you from attending Sunday services, help is on the way. You can call Veronica Bartholic, 393-7679, Connie Young 393-7061, or Ginny Laumeister 381-4201. A ride will be arranged for you.

In order to do this, drivers will be needed. Those willing and able to drive once a month can call the people listed above to be placed on the drivers list. In this way it is hoped we will again see faces we have been missing!

### **Kinderwyck**

We are looking for helping hands and arms to play with toddlers and rock babies from 9:50-noon.

Please call the church office if you are willing and able. Thank you!

### **Story Circle at Proctors**

([www.storycircleatproctors.org](http://www.storycircleatproctors.org)) will donate \$2 from each individual ticket (\$16 or discounted at \$12) or group ticket( \$8/8+persons) to the Schenectady Inner City Ministry (SICM) summer lunch program. Shows start at 2pm in the Gallery at Proctors. To purchase tickets, go to Proctors web site, or visit the Box Office at Proctors, or call them at (518) 346-6204. See website or call for dates.

### **Found Set of Keys**

There is a set of keys that were found. If they are yours, please pick them up in the office.

## Hurricane Sandy Relief

First Reformed Church is acting as a donation hub for the Capital Region during recovery efforts following Hurricane Sandy. The needs in the affected areas change daily, so the most effective way to help is to donate money. Checks can be made out to First Reformed Church, with "hurricane relief" in the memo line. Some items are consistently needed, including: hygiene supplies, NEW socks, underwear, and sweatsuits, bleach, antibacterial wipes, sponges, work gloves, and N95-rated face masks. Please, no more used clothing is needed at this time. Stacey Midge will be making deliveries to affected areas approximately once a week and donations can be dropped off in her office.

	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Leah Kidwell-Fernandes, Caroline Welch	Rachael Cox, Nancy Wainwright
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Linda Witkowski	Roberta Blackmer
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Jane & Phil Falconer, Joanne Bedell	Sandy Moynihan, Gwen Mitsche
<b>Kinderwyck</b>	Sarah Bachorik, Shannon Kerwin	Sarah Bachorik, Shannon Kerwin
<b>Liturgist</b>	Daniel Carlson	
<b>Preacher</b>	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Caroline Brooks, Bill Brooks, Joyce Griggs, Jerry Griggs, Art Casey, Phil Falconer,	Caroline Brooks, Keith Muse, Gene Zeltmann, Bill Brooks, Gay Doolittle, Eric Evans, Carolyn Jones-Assini, Catherine Lewis
<b>Reader</b>	Nancy Wainwright	Therese McCarty
<b>Refreshments</b>	Ann Hicks & Ann Bish	Betty Bumgarner
<b>Usher/ Offertory Deacon</b>	Glenn Blinckmann (head usher), Griffin Laycock, Steve Breitenbach	Rachael Cox, Claire Hughes, Nancy Wainwright, Kimberly Burgoyne, Tom Burgoyne, Joe Gallagher, Rebecca Grande, Douglas Todd

## Calendar for the Week of November 25, 2012

<b>Sunday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
Nov. 25	9:15 a.m.	High School Choir, Upstairs, Room 20
	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Coffee & Refreshments, Assembly Hall
	11:15 a.m.	Kirk Ringers, Upstairs, Room 20
	4:00 p.m.	Youth Orchestra, Sanctuary
	5:00 p.m.	Jazz Vespers, Poling Chapel
<b>Monday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Mens News Group, Poling Conference Room
Nov. 26	5:30 p.m.	African Drumming, Dirck Romeyn Room
	7:00 p.m.	Creation Care Committee, Walton Conference Room
	7:00 p.m.	Klokken Tower Ringers, Poling Conference Room
	7:00 p.m.	Samaritan Mindfulness, Assembly Hall
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
Nov. 27		
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:30 a.m.	Kerygma Bible Study, Poling Conference Room
Nov. 28	1:00 p.m.	Thursday Belles, Poling Conference Room
	7:00 p.m.	Midweek Evening Prayer, Poling Chapel
<b>Thursday</b>	7:30 a.m.	Breakfast Bible Bunch
Nov. 29	10:00 a.m.	Stitch Group, Poling Conference Room
	6:30 p.m.	Purls of Wisdom, Walton Conference Room
	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts, Assembly Hall
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room/Sanctuary
<b>Sunday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
Dec. 2	9:15 a.m.	High School Choir, Upstairs, Room 20
	10:00 a.m.	Worship with Communion, Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Alternative Gift Fair, Assembly Hall/Poling Chapel
	11:15 a.m.	Kirk Ringers, Upstairs, Room 20
	12:00 p.m.	Justice Action Council, Walton Conference Room
	4:00 p.m.	Youth Orchestra, Sanctuary
	5:00 p.m.	Carol Sing & Vespers, Sanctuary
	5:00 p.m.	JHYG, Mezzanine
	7:00 p.m.	SHYG, Mezzanine

# First Reformed Church

Schenectady, New York

## THE CONSISTORY

Bill Levering, Senior Minister  
Daniel Carlson, Associate Minister  
Stacey Midge, Minister of Mission, Outreach, and Youth  
Caroline Brooks, Keith Muse, Senior Elders  
Fred H. Daniels, Treasurer  
Linnea D'Andrea, Clerk

## ELDERS

Veronica Bartholic  
Caroline Brooks  
Joyce Griggs  
Daniel Ipsen  
Mary Jewett  
Keith Muse  
Katherine Trimarco  
William Ward  
Johnny Willis  
Eugene Zeltmann

## DEACONS

Darwin Brudos  
Rachael Cox  
Richard Davis  
Linnea D'Andrea  
Lisa Etkin  
Claire Hughes  
Leah Kidwell-Fernandes  
Bill Martin  
Nancy Wainwright  
Caroline Welch

## MISSIONERS

Penny Holmes  
Daniel Stone  
John Terry

## COVENANTERS

Isaiah Buchanan  
Daniel Kosten  
Annie Reilly  
Courtney Van Norden

## CHURCH STAFF

Jamie Ipsen, Director of Children's Ministry  
Julie Panke, Director of Music  
Jamie Ipsen, Director of Children's Music  
Judy Moore, Director of Klokken Tower Ringers  
Sarah Bachorik, Director of Kinderwyk  
Naphtali Rothrock, Interim Organist  
Heather Chestnut, Hospitality Coordinator  
Heather Scribner, Office Administrator  
Linda Malgieri, Assistant Bookkeeper  
Tani Breitenbach, Office Assistant  
Lyn Gordon, Sunday Receptionist  
Gary Nelson, Facility Supervisor  
Diana Wahid, Housekeeper  
John Phillips, Sexton

***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.*



Breaking  
in to  
our crowns and claims  
God  
crowns and claims us  
with a magnificent gesture

November 25, 2012

***First Reformed Church***

8 North Church Street  
Schenectady, New York 12305  
(518) 377-2201 [www.1stReformed.com](http://www.1stReformed.com)  
Schenectady Police: 518-382-5200