

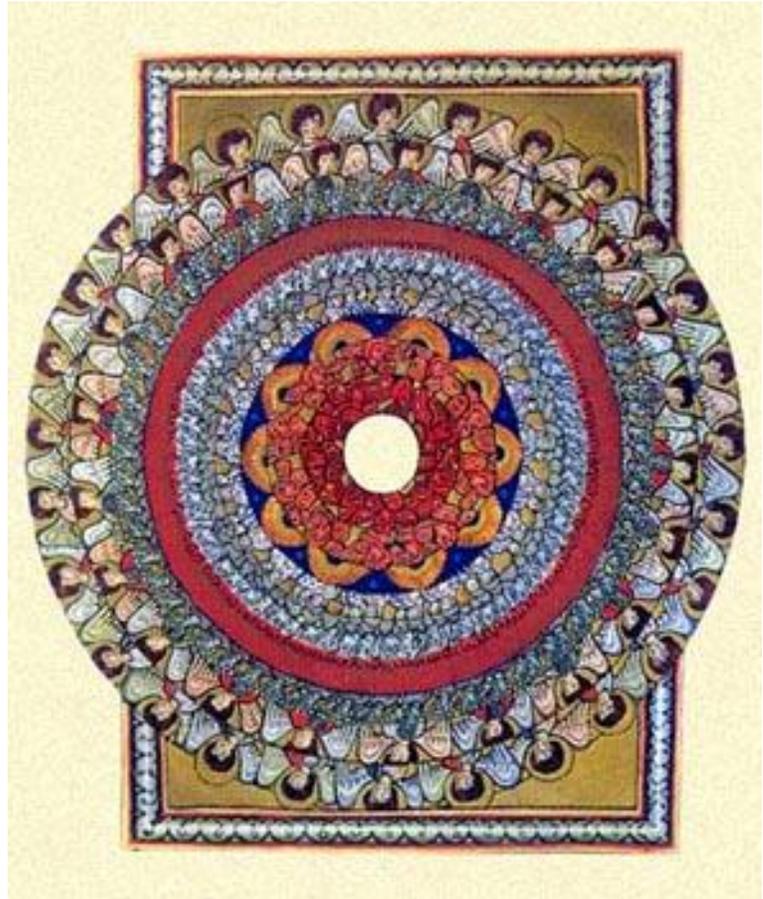
***The Covenant of Our
Congregation
Adopted in 1962***

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.



In beauty I walk.
With beauty before me, I walk.
With beauty behind me, I walk.
With beauty below me, I walk.
With beauty above me, I walk.
With beauty all around me, I walk.
It is finished in beauty.

April 21, 2013

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

Welcome to First Reformed Church

We are a welcoming and affirming congregation and 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 after the service for coffee and refreshments. The welcome tables at the entrance to the sanctuary and in Assembly Hall have some helpful church information.

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.

Non Emergency Number

Schenectady Police: 518-382-5200

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.

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.

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.

Church School On Communion Sundays

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.

Children's Worship Bulletins

Special bulletins for children, ages 3-6 and 7-12 are available each Sunday. If the ushers are not handing them out, just ask for one.

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.

Service Online

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

Lost and Found

We have a lost and found basket in the Narthex (at the front entrance of the church). If you have lost/misplaced an item at church, please check this basket.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2013

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Leah Kidwell-Fernandes, harpist
Ballade Susann McDonald
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring J.S. Bach
This Is My Father's World
arranged by Sunita Staneslow
Nanolu O Kohola Sharon Thormahlen

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Bill Levering
Alleluia! Christ is risen!
The Lord has risen indeed! Alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WORSHIP
ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Matthew Fox

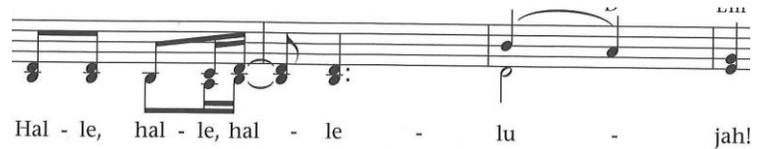
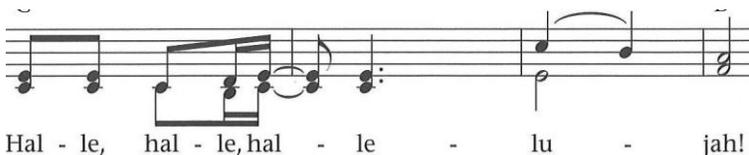
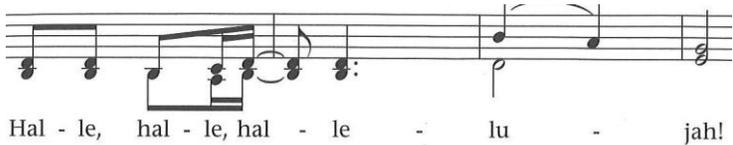
INTROIT *Alleluia*

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #386 *O for a World*

*PRAYER (*unison*)

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

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE



*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord has risen indeed! Alleluia!

*PASSING THE PEACE

Anthem: *Creation Hymn* Craig Courtney

His praise appears in all I see,
The stars declare His hands to be;
Creation speaks in sky and sea and shore,
Proclaiming forth their sov'reign Maker,
"Lord".

High mountains rising to the sky,
Bow down before their Author's eye;
Sea depths now echoing the land's refrain,
Their vast expanse too small to hold His name;
He is Lord.

But though I see, my heart cries out,
"So great a God, cares He for me?"
Yes, He who rules the hosts above,
Surrendered, yet, His life in Love,
Embraced me on a mountain full of pain,
Released me from an ocean's debt of shame;
He is Lord.

Yes, now I see, my heart cries out,
"So great a God, He cares for me! He cares for me!"
And, thus, a new creation made,
I see Him more and more each day;
With all the wonders that His hands have laid,
I rise to glory in the Son, and say,
"He's my Lord!"

FIRST LESSON *Psalm 23* Chancel Choir
The King of Love My Shepherd Is

arr. John Rutter

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE
Grades K-8 are dismissed for Church School.

SECOND LESSON

SERMON Rev. Matthew Fox

*HYMN #218 *New Songs of Celebration*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Klokken Tower Ringers
Somebody's Knocking At Your Door
American Spiritual, arr. Sharon Rogers

While the actual source for *Somebody's Knocking At Your Door*' is obscure, this lively tune has the following text:

Somebody's knocking at your door,
Somebody's knocking at your door,
O sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knocking at your door.

Knocks like Jesus,
Somebody's knocking at your door.
Knocks like Jesus

*HYMN #592 *Praise God...* Doxology

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 #554 *Let All Things Now Living*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Twofold Amen*
Rob Landes

Please be seated for the Postlude.

POSTLUDE Leah Kidwell-Fernandes, harpist
Trumpet Tune Henry Purcell

+ + +

Music Note:

Nanolu O Kohola, composed by Sharon Thormahlen and played by harpist Leah Kidwell-Fernandes, means "Waves of the Whale" in Hawaiian. Leah plays this piece in memory of her late father-in-law Stanley A. Fernandes who spent his life on the Hawaiian islands of Kauai and Oahu.

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah! Text © 1990, GIA Publications Inc. and music. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-700700

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:

Lewis Carosella, Charlotte Hubbard, Margaret Powers and Marcia Todd

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 chancel 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.

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God in loving memory of Susan Shepherd by Carol Welch. 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.

Post Service Refreshments

We are always looking for volunteers to bring in food! It can be cookies, cheese and crackers, fruit, or anything you want. There is a sign-up sheet in Assembly Hall. Food should be brought around 9:30am, unless it is already set up on a platter. If any questions contact Heather Chestnut 346-7887.

First Forum

Today: Dr. Mathew Fox- Continuation of Faith Formation Weekend and sermon talk back.

April 28: JAC: Practicing Social Justice - Members will lead a brief orientation and then guide participants in writing a letter or two to policy makers and legislators. Bring a pen.

Faith Bookshop

Donated jewelry, ranging from whimsical to elegant, is now available for purchase in the Bookshop. Proceeds from these priced-to-sell pieces will go to a worthy community endeavor. We welcome more jewelry donations and, also, gently-read books to sell in the Shop. Books relating to Earth Day are specially priced.

Johnson Library

Today, on the table outside the library is the Pulitzer Prize winner *Gilead*. For those of you who believe in miracles (or aren't sure you do) there's Pete Hamill's *Snow In August*, a wonderful story of friendship set in Brooklyn in the 1940's between two unlikely people, and *Peace Like a River* by Leif Enger.

Some of our favorite children's books are on display as well, including a beautifully illustrated *Wizard of Oz*, and the charming story of *The Red*

Balloon. Dennis the Menace says the best thing about books is that there's no commercial, and he's right!

Jazz Appreciation Month Every Sunday, 5pm

Today: 'Azzaam Hameed, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Eric Walentowicz, sax; Tom D'Andrea
April 28: Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Jim Corigliano, sax; Tom D'Andrea, drums

Junior & Senior High Youth Groups

Unless otherwise noted (see below), the Youth Groups meet every Sunday, Junior High (grades 6-8) at 5pm and Senior High (grades 9-12) at 7pm. Friends are always welcome.

Today: Junior High will meet as usual. Senior High will have a game night at the Heim's house 393-5410.

April 28: Senior High group will have a college night.

Midweek Evening Prayer

Join us any Wednesday of April and May, 7-7:45pm, for an Eastertide service in Poling Chapel that includes gentle singing accompanied by guitar, guided reflection on the resurrection; joyful sharing of the Lord's Supper (homemade bread; wine or juice,) praying aloud or in silence, and extending a sign or word of Christ's peace. All who wish to rekindle their awareness of God's loving presence within, among, and beyond us are welcome.

Bible, Gender, Sexuality, and the Church

The Rev. Dr. James Brownson, Professor of Theology within the RCA, will lead a classis wide presentation and discussion this Friday, 7-9pm and Sat., 9-12pm on key concepts of the ancient world (e.g. patriarchy, purity, honor, and shame) that illumine our understanding of biblical texts and how the current debate within our denomination on same-gender relationships might be reframed. The event will be held at First Reformed Church of Scotia; an optional lunch will be available. All are welcome; to register call 370-4751.

Understanding the Teenage Brain

Samaritan counselors Oona Edmands, LCSW, and Katina Saxton, LMSW, will present a free hour long workshop for parents here on Wednesday, April 24 at 7pm. They will highlight recent research on the development of the brain, which can assist parents in more realistic expectations of their teenagers and help in addressing common issues experienced within families.

Prayer Shawl Knitting Group Date Change

Meetings are every fourth Thursday at 9:30am. Our next meeting is April **25 not the 18** at the home of Ronnie Bartholic. We welcome anyone. Please contact Ronnie 393-7679 with any questions.

Movie Night ~ Save the Date

It's the movie event we've all been waiting for! This Saturday, April 27, join in the fun for a night out at the Bowtie Cinema in Schenectady to see the crime drama *The Place Beyond the Pines*. The home of our own Andy and Heather Chestnut appears in the movie, and word has it that Heather herself makes an appearance as well. For those who wish, there will be opportunities to gather at local Schenectady eateries before and after the film. Detailed information for this event will be available on the church website beginning Tuesday, April 23.

CROP Walk

On Sunday, May 5, the annual Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty (CROP) walk will take place at 12:30pm, beginning at Emmanuel Friedens Church and winding 5k through Schenectady. The proceeds support hunger-fighting efforts around the world, with 25% going to local food pantries, Community Crisis Network, and Senior Meals. Want to walk? Get a donation form from Stacey Midge. Non-walkers can drop off their donations at the church office. Checks should be made out to "CWS/CROP."

Group V

We will have our end of the year picnic on Monday, May 6 at the home of Maria G. Todd, 1229 Viewmont Dr. Niskayuna. Bring a Salad picnic. For more information please contact Maria 882-6555.

Tuesday Ladies

Meetings are every third Tuesday at 7:30pm. Our next meeting on May 21 is at Connie Young's home. Come and make new or renew old connections. Contact Connie 393-7061 for more information.

College Bound?

Applications for the Rev. Al Smith Education Scholarship are available through the Church Office. Please submit your completed application to the Church Office by Wednesday, May 15th. Questions can be directed to Sara Erickson at 374-4161 or ericksonhs@aol.com.

Name Tags

If you do not have a name tag and would like one, please fill out a white pew card and place it in the offering basket.

New Sexton

Some of you may have noticed a familiar face on Sundays filling in as our Sexton. Starting May 1, Tom Mahan will officially be our church Sexton. Tom can be found Sunday mornings performing various tasks to get the church set-up for worship and coffee hour. Stop by and say HI.

Wrong Leather Jacket?

If the jacket you wore home from worship last week is not the one you wore to worship, please contact Paul Houpt (698-6539), for whom this is also the case (and would like his back; no questions asked.)

Help Decipher FRC Marriage Records

You can look over a copy of the records after service in Assembly Hall the first three Sundays in April.

Consistory Nominations

The Nominating Committee of First Reformed Church is charged to nominate Elders and Deacons to serve two-year Consistory terms. The Committee begins its work soliciting recommendations from the congregation for Elder and Deacon Candidates. Those being recommended and those making recommendations must be members of First Reformed Church. Candidates for Consistory should be representative of the congregation, have vision, leadership skills, and be active participants in the worship and activities of this church.

Elders and Deacons together with the Ministers form the Consistory, which is the governing body of this congregation. Elders exercise particular concern for the interior life and programs of the

church (Worship, Fellowship, Education, and Congregational Care). Deacons exercise particular concern for the outreach of the church (Mission and Benevolence, Finance, Justice Advocacy, and Historical Concerns). Elders and Deacons will be elected at the annual meeting of the congregation on **June 2, 2013**.

The names of recommended candidates for Elder and Deacon may be submitted on a **white pew card or a yellow nomination form** and delivered to the church office or given to any member of the Committee: Joe Gallagher, Lyn Gordon, Rebecca Grande, Hans Erickson, Jennifer Evans; Senior Elders, Caroline Brooks, Keith Muse; Ministers, Bill Levering, Daniel Carlson, or Stacey Midge. The Nominating Committee would appreciate your response as soon as possible.

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Claire Hughes, David Bundy	Bill Martin, Nancy Wainwright
Faith Bookshop	Roberta Blackmer	Linda Witkowski
Flower Delivery	Carolyn & Calvin Welch, Veronica Bartholic	Katherine & George Trimarco, Chris & Leah Kidwell-Fernandes
Greeters	Catherine & Bradley Lewis	Connie Young, Joanne Bedell
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik	Sarah Bachorik, Inge-Lise Pangburn
Liturgist	Bill Levering	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Rev. Matthew Fox	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Mary Jewett, Keith Muse, William Ward, Roberta Blackmer, Phillip Falconer, Peggy King	Caroline Brooks, William Brooks, Eugene Zeltmann, Delbert Pierce, William Rochelle, Linda Witkowski
Reader	Choir	Robert Dickson
Refreshments	Rebecca Mason, Virginia Laumeister	
Ushers	Earl Wainwright (head usher), Hendrick Arnold, Joanne Arnold, Philip Yourno, Louis Acquasanta, Richard Davis, Daniel Stone	Art Shultes (head usher), Jeff Cox Linda Stanhope, Louis Acquasanta

Calendar for the Week of April 21, 2013

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
April 21	9:15 a.m.	High School Choir, Upstairs, Room 20
	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	10:15 a.m.	Church School, Upstairs Room 20
	11:00 a.m.	Coffee & Refreshments, Assembly Hall
	11:15 a.m.	First Forum, Poling Chapel
	11:15 a.m.	Kirk Ringers, Upstairs, Room 20
	12:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class, Pastor's Office
	4:00 p.m.	Youth Orchestra, Sanctuary
	5:00 p.m.	Jazz Vespers, Poling Chapel
	5:00 p.m.	JHYG, Mezzanine
	6:00 p.m.	SHYG, Heim's Home
Monday	9:00 a.m.	Mens News Group, Poling Conference Room
Earth Day	6:00 p.m.	African Drumming Instruction, Library
April 22	7:00 p.m.	Samaritan Mindfulness, Assembly Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Creation Care Committee, Walton Conf. Room
	7:00 p.m.	Klokken Tower Ringers, Poling Conference Room
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer, Dykstra Chapel
April 23	6:30 p.m.	M&B Meeting, Walton Conference Room
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Kerygma Class, Poling Conference Room
April 24	7:00 p.m.	The Teen Brain, Assembly Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Midweek Evening Prayer, Poling Chapel
Thursday	7:30 a.m.	Breakfast Bible Bunch, Walton Conf. Room
April 25	10:00 a.m.	Stitch Group, Poling Conference Room
	6:45 p.m.	Yoga, Assembly Hall
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir, Choir Room/Sanctuary
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
April 28	9:15 a.m.	High School Choir, Upstairs, Room 20
	10:00 a.m.	Worship, Sanctuary
	10:15 a.m.	Church School, Upstairs Room 20
	11:00 a.m.	Coffee & Refreshments, Assembly Hall
	11:00 a.m.	Membership Committee, Office
	11:15 a.m.	First Forum, Poling Chapel
	11:15 a.m.	Kirk Ringers, Upstairs, Room 20
	12:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class, Pastor's Office
	4:00 p.m.	Youth Orchestra, Sanctuary
	5:00 p.m.	Jazz Vespers, Poling Chapel
	5:00 p.m.	JHYG, Mezzanine
	7:00 p.m.	SHYG, Mezzanine