

***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 12, 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 Basket

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.

Youth Service

May 12, 2013

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Olivia Mancuso
Intermezzo #6 in E Major from Fantasies op. 116
by Johannes Brahms
Reverie by Peter I. Tchaikovsky

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Stacey Midge
Alleluia! Christ is risen!
The Lord has risen indeed! Alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WORSHIP
ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Stacey Midge

INTROIT

*HYMN *Gather Us In*

Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away; see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery, we are the old who yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of history, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away-here in this place the new light is shining, now is the kingdom, and now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your

own; gather us in, all peoples together, fire-of love in our flesh and our bone.

*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

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!
Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!
Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!
Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
The Lord has risen indeed! Alleluia!

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM *Bound for Glory* Tammy Waldrop
Kirk Ringers

FIRST LESSON Elena Grande
Guide us, O Lord, by your Word and Holy Spirit. **Amen.** *Colossians 3:12-17 (page 201)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Jamie Ipsen

TEACHER RECOGNITION Jamie Ipsen
Lorraine Cox, Lisa Etkin, Elsa & Katie Hjelm, Tom Mancuso, Shannon Kerwin, Becky Mason, Claire Hughes, and Jennifer & Sarah Evans

*HYMN *Step by Step*

O God you are my God, and I will ever praise you. O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you. I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in your ways, And step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.

SECOND LESSON *Matthew 25:31-44 (page 29)*

SERMON Elizabeth Gallagher

*HYMN *Micah 6:8*

God has shown you (*echo*)
O people (*echo*)
What is good and what the Lord
requires of you.
(Repeat)
But to do justice (*echo*)
and to love kindness (*echo*)
And to walk humbly with thy God.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Your Friend Shall Be the Tall Wind
by Victor Johnson
High School Choir

Your friend shall be the tall wind,
the river and the tree;
The sun that laughs and marches,
the swallows and the sea.
Your prayer shall be the murmur of
grasses in the rain;
The song of wildwood thrushes that
makes God glad again.
And you shall run and wander,
and you shall dream and sing
of brave things and bright things
beyond the swallow's wings.
And you shall envy no man,
nor hurt your heart with sighs
For I will keep you simple that
God may make you wise.

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENIOR RECOGNITION

MUSICAL REFLECTION *A Simple Song*
by Leonard Bernstein
Nicholas Blinckmann

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 #525 *Here I Am, Lord*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Irish Blessing*
by Linda Spevacek
High School Choir

POSTLUDE *The Eternal Blue Sky*
by Olivia Mancuso

+ + +

Music Note

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah! Text © 1990, GIA Publications Inc. and music. *Gather Us In*, Text © 1982 and *Step by Step*, Text 1991, BMG Songs, Inc. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-700700

Thank you Teachers

Today we give sincere thanks and appreciation to our hard working church school teachers who generously gave their time and talents to help educate our young people in Bible study and God's ways. Thank you!!

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:

Sybil Liebhafsky, Henry Nagamatsu, Margaret (Peg) Schultes, Harrison Todd, Charles Young

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God in loving memory of their mothers, Caroline Taylor and Marguerite Melber by Martha and Glenn Winchester. 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

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 Risseuw, 2140 Niskayuna Dr., Niskayuna, NY 12309.

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 15**. Questions can be directed to Sara Erickson 374-4161 or ericksonhs@aol.com.

Grades K-8

Today: Everyone stays in church for the service.
May 19: Last regular church school K-8. Church Picnic at 11am!
May 26: NO Church School.

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. Beginning June 9, whenever possible, our post service refreshments will be served in the Huntley Garden. Please consider signing up for set-up, refreshments, and clean-up by yourself or with a friend. If any questions contact Heather Chestnut 346-7887.

First Forum

Today: No Forum (Mother's Day)

May 19: Church Picnic!

May 26: Rev. Carlson's Extended Study Leave

Faith Bookshop

Rabbi Jesus, the book highly recommended by Rev. Matthew Fox during his visit here, is available in the Bookshop, as well as several books he authored. Bookshop book prices reflect a 30% discount.

Donated jewelry ranging from whimsical to elegant is also for purchase, and its priced-to-sell. We welcome more jewelry donations. Proceeds will go to a worthy community endeavor.

Jazz Appreciation Month Every Sunday, 5pm

Today: 'Azzaam Hameed, piano

May 19: Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

May 26: David Gleason, piano

June 2: 'Azzaam Hameed

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: Final Meeting: Both youth groups will meet at 6pm at Jumpin' Jacks.

Normal youth group programming will be on hiatus for the summer, but stay tuned for special events in the warm weather!

Midweek Evening Prayer

Join us any Wednesday of 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.

Great Stephen Minister Group Picnic

All Stephen Ministers-active and inactive-are invited to our annual almost summer pot-luck! We'll gather on Thursday, May 16, 6pm at the home of Maria G. Todd (1229 Viewmont Dr. Niskayuna), enjoying one another's company as we feast together on appetizers, salads, and desserts. We'll review of the past year and the preview what's to come. Please contact Ann Gotwals (372-5089) to indicate what you'll bring (in addition to a favorite beverage to share). Spouses/significant others are most welcome.

Group VII

On Friday, May 17 at 11am we will have a tour at Congregation Gates of Heaven Temple. If any questions, contact Ronnie Bartholic at 393-7679.

UPC Men's Breakfast Group

We will meet on Saturday, May 18 at 8am. This is our final meeting of the spring season and we will spend our time, after breakfast, cleaning up the church property. Please bring your lawn tools: rakes, clippers, etc. and be prepared to work for two or three hours after breakfast.

Church Picnic, May 19

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!

Union Presbyterian Pentecost Orientation

On Pentecost, there will be a special orientation and tour of FRC's building for folks from Union Presbyterian Church. If you would like to join in the briefing, anyone is welcome. 3pm, May 19 starting in the church office area.

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.

Prayer Shawl Knitting Group Date Change

Meetings are every fourth Thursday at 9:30am. Our next meeting is May 23 at the home of Sue Zeltmann's. We welcome anyone. Please contact Sue 383-1969 with any questions.

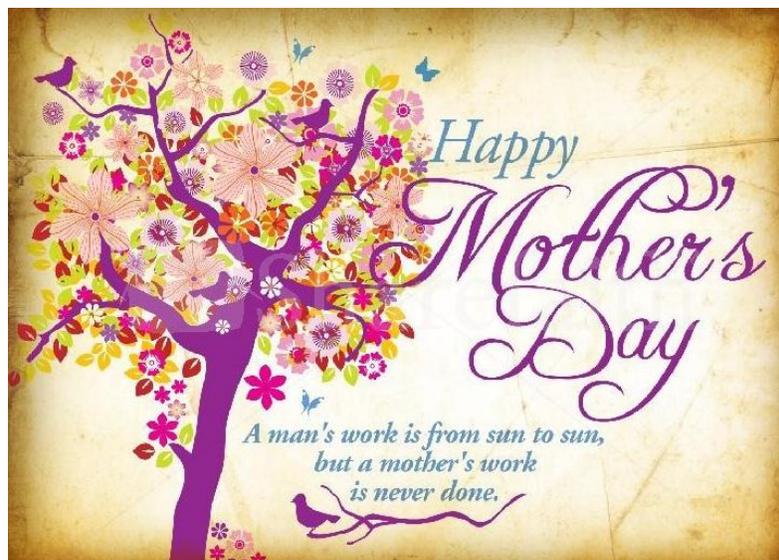
Yoga at FRC

Douglas Goodbee certified in Kripalu/Hatha E-RYT and athletic yoga teaches every Thursday at 6:45pm in Assembly Hall. These classes are free for FRC members, \$10 a class for non-members. Learn yoga postures and breathing and have fun doing it. Drop in when you can. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a mat. This class is for everyone at any level; singles, families, and seniors. (Children must be with a parent or guardian.) Questions: contact Douglas 229-7291 or dagoods1@gmail.com.

Kinderwyk

Kinderwyk is shy of volunteers (18 & over per FRC's child protection policies.) Please find one Sunday this year to devote to this important child care from 9:45am - noon. No experience is required. You can find signups, outside room 20 and Kinderwyk. Or fill out a white pew card letting us know you would like to be on the list of volunteers.

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Fred Daniels, Bill Martin	Claire Hughes, Douglas Todd
Faith Bookshop	William Clock	Linda Witkowski
Flower Delivery	Pat & Fred Mett, Inge-Lise & Charles Pangburn	Kim & Tom Burgoyne, Sandy & Craig Kominoski
Greeters	Christine & Fred Daniels	Linda & William Ward
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik, Linda Stanhope	Sarah Bachorik, Shannon Kerwin
Liturgist	Youth	Stacey Midge
Preacher	Elizabeth Gallagher	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Robert Beadle, Darwin Brudos, Peggy King, Catherine Lewis, Margaret Schadler, Linda Witkowski	Veronica Bartholic, Keith Muse, William Ward, Maria G. Todd, Carolyn Jones-Assini, Delbert Pierce
Reader	Elena Grande	Therese McCarty
Refreshments	Alida Rice, Deborah Troost	Church Picnic
Ushers	Glenn Blinckmann (head usher), Steve Breitenbach, Griffin Laycock, Gerry Myers, Susan Read	Tom Burgoyne (head usher), David Bundy, Chris Langdon, Joe Gotwals, Linda Stanhope, Alida Rice



Sunday, May 12 ~ Mother's Day

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
9:15 am High School Choir
10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Coffee & Refreshments
11:15 am Kirk Ringers
4:00 pm Youth Orchestra
5:00 pm Jazz Vespers

"When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one that has been opened for us." ~ Helen Keller

"What you get by achieving your goals is not as important as what you become by achieving your goals." ~ Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Monday, May 13

9:00 am Men's News Group
7:00 pm Samaritan Mindfulness
7:00 pm Klokken Tower Ringers

"Really Great People Make You Feel That You, Too, Can Become Great." ~ Mark Twain

Tuesday, May 14

10:00 am Morning Prayer
6:00 pm Archives
6:30 pm Standing Committees
7:30 pm Consistory

*"Don't just learn something from every experience; learn something positive."
~Al Neuharth*

"Whether one has natural talent or not, any learning period requires the willingness to suffer uncertainty and embarrassment." ~ Gail Sheehy

Wednesday, May 15

9:30 am Kerygma Class
7:00 pm Midweek Evening Prayer

"Let us rise up and be thankful, for if we didn't learn a lot today, at least we learned a little, and if we didn't learn a little, at least we didn't get sick, and if we got sick, at least we didn't die; so let us all be thankful." ~ Buddha

"Expecting something for nothing is the most popular form of hope." ~Arnold Glasow

Thursday, May 16

7:30 am Breakfast Bible Bunch
10:00 am Stitch Group
6:45 pm Yoga
7:00 pm Boy Scouts, FRC Troop 1
7:00 pm Stephen Ministry

"Don't be discouraged by failure. It can be a positive experience. Failure is, in a sense, the highway to success, inasmuch as every discovery of what is false leads us to seek earnestly after what is true, and every fresh experience points out some form of error, which we shall afterwards carefully avoid." ~ John Keats

Friday, May 17

10:00 am Group VII

Sunday, May 19 ~ Pentecost

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Church Picnic, Outside
11:15 am Church School
3:00 pm UPC Orientation
5:00 pm Jazz Vespers