

**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.

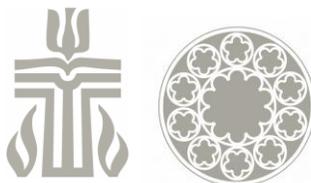
Our fellowship shall not be dependent upon identity of theological opinion, or of outward circumstance, or of denominational concern, but shall grow from a common loyalty to Jesus, a common commitment to serve the world we touch, and a common purpose to do justly, to love kindness, and to walk humbly 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.



Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

November 10, 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.

Non Emergency Number

Schenectady Police: 518-382-5200

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; a baby changing station is in the women's bathroom.

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 after worship 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 refreshments 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 Union St. entrance of the church. If you have lost/misplaced an item at church, please check there.

Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

November 10 2013

PRELUDE Naphthali Rothrock
Prelude and Fugue in G minor
Dietrich Buxtehude
Aria "Bist Du Bei Mir" J. S. Bach
Toccata in D minor (Dorian) J. S. Bach

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Bill Levering
The grace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT *Lord Jesus Christ Be Present Now*

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #434
Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)
Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed. We have failed to care for the people and the world you created. God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you come to us in mercy, we may turn to you, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our redeemer. Amen.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)
God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)
We reject the false doctrine that beyond its special commission the State should and could

become the sole and total order of human life and so fulfill the vocation of the Church as well. We reject the false doctrine that beyond its special commission the Church should and could take on the nature, tasks and dignity which belong to the State and thus become itself an organ of the State.

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM *Children of the Heavenly Father*
Paul Sjolund

FIRST LESSON Carol Troost
Guide us, O Lord, by your Word and Holy Spirit. **Amen.** *Romans 13:1-7 (page 162)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Matthew 22:15-22 (page 24)*

SERMON *The Things that are Caesar's*

*HYMN *This is My Song* Finlandia
This is my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine; this is my home, the country where my heart is; here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine: but other hearts in other lands are beating with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean, and sunlight beams on clover leaf and pine; but other lands have sunlight too, and clover, and skies are everywhere as blue as mine: O hear my song, thou God of all the nations, a song of peace for their land and for mine.

This is my prayer, O lord of all earth's kingdoms, they kingdom come, on earth thy will be done; let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him, and hearts united learn to live as one: O hear my prayer, thou God of all the nations. Myself I give thee – let thy will be done.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*
Trad. Spiritual; arr. Helvey
Susan Hale and Peg Miller, piano

*THANKSGIVING #591

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God whom we adore.
Amen.

*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.

*RECESSIONAL HYMN #420 *God of Grace...*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Twofold Amen* Greek

POSTLUDE Sicilian Mariners
Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

+ + +

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:

Alan D. Attanasio, Albert Holland, Alan F. Kuhn, Richard McCary, Josephine Van Nest, and Marilyn Wemple

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Robert Bruce Crandell from Janet Crandell. 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.

Pie Sale Begins Today

The youth group will begin taking orders for its annual Pie Sale today. Homemade apple and pumpkin pies will be available for pickup on Sunday, Nov. 24 for \$15 each. Proceeds from the sale support the youth mission trip.

Forum

Held after worship most Sundays at 11:15am in Poling Chapel. Suggestions for programs are welcome from any committee or member; simply contact Joe Doolittle, 384-1700.

Today: Poetry Corner -Members share favorite poems, facilitated by Linda Witkowski. Come, listen and share passages and poems that touch your heart.

Nov. 17: Sharing Keys with Naphtali - Naphtali Rothrock shares some of her favorite works of music.

Nov. 24: Worship & Sermon talk-back & conversation with Rev. Bill Levering:
So, how's it going?

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday, 5pm

Today: 'Azzaam Hameed, piano; Ronald Mayfield, guitar; Carl West, bass, Tom D'Andrea, drums

Nov. 17: Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

Nov. 24: Thanksgiving Jazz Fest

Annual Jazz Festival from 4-6pm in the Sanctuary on Nov. 24 will feature David Gleason and Scott Bassinson on piano; Mike Lawrence and Pete

Toigo on bass; Jim Corigliano, sax; Dylan Canterbury, trumpet; Tom D'Andrea, drums. Tickets are \$12 at the door, \$10 in advance, students \$5. Call or pick up ticket(s) in the Church Office.

Junior & Senior High Youth Groups

ALL youth in grades 6-12, will meet from 5-7pm on Sunday nights unless otherwise noted, all will meet for dinner, fellowship, service, and learning activities.

Today: SHY will be taking pie orders to raise money for the mission trip. Regular meeting.

Nov. 17: SHY will be taking pie orders to raise money for the mission trip; regular meeting at 5pm with an exciting and mysterious video project.

Nov. 24: SHY distributes pies after the worship service. Regular meeting at 5pm; we will travel to the Glendale Home for carol singing and games with the residents.

Stephen Ministry Training Continues

This coming week our Stephen Ministry training will continue developing their capacity of *Assertiveness: Relating Gently and Firmly*. They will be practicing skills that will help both in relating with others and in affirming their own worth. We thank God for the continuing enthusiasm of our *Stephen Ministry trainees*, and ask your continued prayers for them and for God's blessings upon their ministries.

Chancel Guild Meeting

Chancel Guild will hold their Fall Business Meeting on Nov. 17 after worship in the Dirck Romeyn room.

Operation Christmas Child

OCC brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God's love. People of all ages can be involved in this mission project. *All boxes are due at church by Sunday Nov. 17.* Brochures with packing instructions and labels can be found in Assembly Hall. Boxes are

available. **Please only take a box if you plan on returning it**, as we now have to pay for these - regular shoe boxes or similar sized containers are still acceptable! Please be sure to include the \$7 shipping fee per box.

Completed boxes and items for the boxes can be dropped off at our blue bin in the church lobby by the main office.

All cash donations are tax deductible. Checks can be made payable to FRC of Schenectady indicating OCC on the memo line. For more information visit: www.samaritanspurse.org

Questions? Contact Shannon Kerwin 374-2542 or shan2112@yahoo.com

Horizon Bible Study

On Tuesday mornings from 10 ~ 11 am, in Polling Conference Room. For 4 weeks in Advent, beginning Nov. 19, Rev. Ruth Kuo will lead a study on Advent and Christmas Hymns - "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel," "People, Look East," "Silent Night, Holy Night," "O Little Town of Bethlehem," and others. We will learn their historical, theological, and cultural contexts.

Lights. Camera. Jesus!

Beginning Nov. 19, on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7pm, we invite you to join us in Dirck Romeyn room for a new group: Lights. Camera. Jesus! We will gather together to watch a documentary, a short film, or a movie followed by reflective conversation. The films will cover a variety of topics. This group is intended for adults and older teens who are willing to ask deeper questions, curious to talk about the things we don't often talk about, and eager to seek Jesus in new ways. Contact Covenanter Jeremy Bork (jeremybork19@gmail.com; or call 605-254-2645) if you are interested.

Commissioning Service

All are invited to attend the joint commissioning service of Abby Norton-Levering and Bob Hoffman on Saturday Nov. 23 at the Herkimer Reformed Church. Abby will be commissioned to

her new position as the Regional Synod of Albany's Ministries Coordinator, and Bob to his position as Synod Administrator. A joyful worship service will be at 2pm, and a celebrative meal will follow. Childcare will be provided. All interested in joining the synod-wide pick-up choir and orchestra are invited to come at 12 for practice. No RSVP needed, but you should email Abby at nortonlevering@gmail.com if you need childcare, or if you want to be part of the choir or orchestra.

Alternative Gift Extravaganza

Sunday, Dec. 8; 11am – 3pm

Skip the crowds and do your Christmas shopping here at FRC where your **gift gives twice**. Enjoy a cup of coffee and bowl of soup made by our own youth group. Your lunch purchase will support their mission trip. We hope that many of our favorite vendors will be returning, including Mayan Hands, Mango Tree Imports, and Roots & Wisdom. There will be a variety of Fair Trade products offered as well; what could be better than coffee and chocolate! Mission shares for a variety of excellent causes are also being arranged such as

Reformed Church World Service. A new vendor will be Carol Troost's scarves, profit monies to go to Patty's Place. If you have another idea or an appropriate cause to support, please contact Peggy Ridgway via email at peggyridgway@gmail.com or phone (280-4269); Carol Troost via email at troostcarol@gmail.com or phone (372-7502) **no later than Nov. 30**. We hope you tell your friends and come to the fair!

Dedicated 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 December 24. The donation is \$20. Even if you have donated in previous years, you must place a new order for Christmas 2013. Please call the church office **no later than Thursday, December 19**, to make arrangements. Send payment to Chancel Guild, c/o Marlene Risseeuw, 2140 Niskayuna Drive, 12309.

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Richard Davis, Gay Doolittle	Claire Hughes, Doug Todd
Faith Bookshop	Virginia Laumeister	Nancy Wainwright
Flower Delivery	Karlyne & Nelson Drimalas, Catherine & Brad Lewis	Joanne Bedell, Sarah & Michael Collins
Greeters	Jean & Ronald Lindsay	Ann & Emile Walraven
Kinderwyk	Sarah Bachorik	Sarah Bachorik
Liturgist	Bill Levering	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Veronica Bartholic, Peggy King, Christine Daniels, Tom Lindsay, Del Pierce, Margaret Schadler	Mary Jewett, Gene Zeltmann, Art Casey, Bill Rochelle, Margaret Schadler, Maria G. Todd
Reader	Carol Troost	Barbara Walton
Refreshments	Ann Hicks, Ann Bish	Nancy Martin, Amy Brule
Usher	Bill Clock (head usher), Cathy Allen, Robert Allen, Joe Gallagher, Maurice Robbins	Del Pierce (head usher), Karen Dickson, Rob Dickson, Doug Todd, Michael Horan, Victoria McGowan-Horan

First Reformed Church Veterans

World War I

George Albert Abbe
Roger O. Ackerman
Albert V.V. Ball
Ronald P. Boardman
J. Scott Button
Charles G. Briggs
George A. Brown
Albert Edward Carmichael
Harold Bright Chrisler
Vere Ward Cleminshire
Garrett Marcellus Clowe
Harold Lee Clowe
S. Vedder Clute
William P. Faust
William J. Foster, Jr.
Deforest Van Slyck Garnsey
Lewis H. Gibbs
Stillman S. Ham
John W. Hoag
Pierre Hoag
Garrett V. Johnson
Leslie W. Jones
R. Faust Krueger
Frank E. Kruesi
John Kruesi
Walter E. Kruesi
Judson Stuart Landon
Edward P. Lawsing
Charles G. McMullen
William McMullen
Donald W. Moore
William T.B. Mynderse
Frank Edmund Robinson
Richard Ravenel Spring
Karl M. Stoller
Harman D. Swits
Jack D. Underhill
Lance Underhill
Oliver C. Underhill
Robert Johnson Van Epps
Harold Garrett Veeder
Edward Clifton Vrooman
Harold V.V. Vrooman
Alonzo P. Walton, Jr.
John Wendell
Howorth Young

World War II

Sanford L Archer
Robert A. Aussicker
Frank D. Barclay, Jr.
W. Garner Bee II
William B Biggs
C. William Bowman
Suvier Bralley
Walter Briggs
Thomas B Case
Charles F. Clowe
F. Howard Croninger
Mary R. Croninger
Richard Davis
William H. Dotter
Dolph Ebeling
John W Eddy
John H. Faber
Donald Flom
John A. Friday
John E. Glen
Romer Good
Richard Gordon
Wayne H. Harvey
Douglas B. Hatmaker
John Howell
James N. Howie, Jr.
O.H. Junggren
Robert Kingsbury
H. Stetson Kinkaid
Ralph F. Krueger, Jr.
R.N. Landon
James F. Lawsing, Jr.
C. Beecher Lockwood
John N. Marcellus, Jr.
Peter Paul Miller, Jr.
Richard Moore
Edward P. Mure
Henry B. Parker, Jr.
Jesse Perkins
Noel F. Phillips
William W. Piper
Clark V. Poling
Charles Rasher
William Rochelle, Jr.
Hans M. Rozendaal
Walter C. Ryon
Harrison S. Sayre

John L. Schoolcraft, Jr.
David G. Schwenker
Grant Smith
Roy Stratton
Robert Templeton
Mills Ten Eyck, Jr.
Peter Van A Ten Eyck
Horace S Van Voast, Jr.
Horace S Van Voast, III
Kenneth T. Vedder
Garrett A. Veeder
David V. Vrooman
John J. Vrooman, Jr.
George C. Von Borstel
Stewart C. Wagoner
Clark Wemple
Arthur W. Wheeler
Arthur W. Wheeler, Jr.
William McKim White
Malcolm Wilson, Jr.
Glenn H. Winchester
William T Winne
Allen J. Wood
Frederick A. Wyatt
John McM. Yates

Korean War

A. William Clock
William R. Collins
Jerry Griggs
R.N. Landon
Thomas Lindsay
Mark McDermott
Daniel J. Thuener
Charles VanWie

Vietnam War

Clarence H Linder, Jr.

Afghanistan War

Max Della Pia

Iraq War

Alex Lindsay
Ronald P. Attanasio

Military Service List

If you know of someone who should be added to the list please let us know either on a white pew card or by calling the church office 377-2201.

Sunday, November 10

- 10:00 am..... Worship
- 10:15 am..... Church School for K-8
- 11:00 am..... Coffee & Conversation
- 11:15 am..... Forum
- 5:00 pm..... JH & SH Youth Group
- 5:00 pm..... Jazz Vespers

It is impossible to rightly govern a nation without God and the Bible. ~George Washington

The government of the United States is not, in any sense, founded on the Christian religion. ~George Washington

Monday, November 11

- 9:00 am..... Mens News Group
- 6:30 pm..... Stephen Ministry Training
- 7:00 pm..... Klokken Tower Ringers

Religious institutions that use government power in support of themselves and force their views on persons of other faiths, or of no faith, undermine all our civil rights. Moreover, state support of an established religion tends to make the clergy unresponsive to their own people, and leads to corruption within religion itself. Erecting the 'wall of separation between church and state,' therefore, is absolutely essential in a free society. ~ Thomas Jefferson

Tuesday, November 12

- 10:00 am..... Horizons Bible Study
- 10:00 am..... Morning Prayer
- 6:00 pm..... Archives
- 6:00 pm..... CRTC
- 6:30 pm..... Standing Committees
- 7:30 pm..... Consistory

Almost any sect, cult, or religion will legislate its creed into law if it acquires the political power to do so. ~Robert A. Heinlein

Wednesday, November 13

- 9:30 am..... Kerygma Conversations
- 1:00 pm..... Archives
- 1:00 pm..... Thursday Belles
- 2:00 pm..... Staff Meeting
- 6:00 pm..... Dinner & Faith Discussion
- 7:00 pm..... Midweek Evening Worship

The purpose of separation of church and state is to keep forever from these shores the ceaseless strife that has soaked the soil of Europe in blood for centuries. ~James Madison

Thursday, November 14

- 7:30 am..... Breakfast Bible Bunch
- 10:00 am..... Stitch Group
- 6:45 pm..... Yoga
- 7:30 pm..... Chancel Choir

When the government puts its imprimatur on a particular religion it conveys a message of exclusion to all those who do not adhere to the favored beliefs. A government cannot be premised on the belief that all persons are created equal when it asserts that God prefers some. ~Harry A. Blackmun

Friday, November 15

- 10:00 am..... Group VII

From this we conclude, that, to live in harmony and peace...we must trace a line of distinction between those (assertions) that are capable of verification, and those that are not; (we must) separate by an inviolable barrier the world of fantastical beings from the world of realities. ~Constantin François De Volney, The Ruins, Or, Meditation On The Revolutions Of Empires And The Law Of Nature

Sunday, November 17

- 9:00 am..... Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 9:15 am..... High School Choir
- 10:00 am..... Worship
- 10:15 am..... Church School for K-8
- 11:00 am..... Coffee & Conversation
- 11:00 am..... Chancel Guild
- 11:15 am..... Forum
- 11:15 am..... Orff Rehearsal
- 11:20 am..... Kirk Ringers
- 4:00 pm..... Youth Orchestra
- 5:00 pm..... JH & SH Youth Group
- 5:00 pm..... Jazz Vespers

Government in our democracy, state and national, must be neutral in matters of religious theory, doctrine, and practice. It may not be hostile to any religion or to the advocacy of no-religion; and it may not aid, foster, or promote one religion or religious theory against another or even against the militant opposite. The First Amendment mandates governmental neutrality between religion and religion, and between religion and nonreligion. [Epperson v. Arkansas, 393 U.S. 97, 1968.] ~Abe Fortas