

**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.*

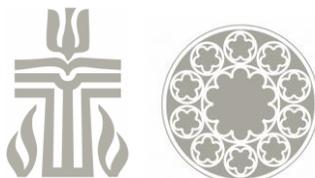
*Our ideal is a church of the open mind, the warm heart, the hopeful spirit, and the social vision which ever seeks to express, in all walks of life, the mind of Jesus.*



Which salt can you be?

	<i>salt as cleansing</i>	<i>salt as preserving</i>	<i>salt as flavoring</i>
<i>world as society</i>	<b>prophet, challenger</b>	<b>archiver, teacher</b>	<b>stimulator, provocateur</b>
<i>world as nature</i>	<b>custodian</b>	<b>environmentalist</b>	<b>scientist</b>
<i>world as spirit</i>	<b>humble</b>	<b>committed</b>	<b>seeking</b>

February 9, 2014



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

## Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 9, 2014

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE  
*Meditation from Thais* Naphtali Rothrock  
*Nimrod from Enigma Variations* Jules Massenet  
*Prelude in B Minor* Edward Elgar  
César Franck

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson  
The grace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT *Let Your Light Shine* Tom Benjamin

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #411

*Arise, Your Light Is Come*

\*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

God of fire and ice, we confess that the coldness of the world often drives us into the safety of our private homes. We need your help to venture out, to engage the world, to risk love.

\*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE HYMN #576

*Gloria, Gloria*

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

*(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

ANTHEM *Bring Forth the Kingdom*

Marty Haugen

Kirk Ringers/High School Singers/ Orff Consort

You are salt for the earth, O people:  
Salt for the Kingdom of God!  
Share the flavor of life, O people:  
Life in the Kingdom of God!

Bring forth the Kingdom of mercy,  
Bring forth the Kingdom of peace;  
Bring forth the Kingdom of justice,  
Bring forth the City of God!

You are a light on the hill, O people:  
Light for the City of God!  
Shine so holy and bright, O people:  
Shine for the Kingdom of God!

You are a seed of the Word, O people:  
Bring forth the Kingdom of God!  
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice,  
Grow in the Kingdom of God!

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FIRST LESSON

Mary Jewett

Guide us, O Lord, by your Word and Holy Spirit. **Amen.** *Isaiah 58:9b-12 (pg 688)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Matthew 5:13-20 (pg 4)*

SERMON *Salt* Bill Levering

\*HYMN #446

*Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Afro-American Spiritual  
Arr. Daniel Kallman

*Steal Away*

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus!  
Steal away, steal away home,  
I ain't got long to stay here.

My Lord, He calls me,  
He calls me by the thunder,  
The trumpet sounds within-a my soul!  
I ain't got long to stay here.

Green trees are bendin',  
Poor sinner stands a tremblin',  
The trumpet sounds within-a my soul!  
I ain't got long to stay here.

My Lord, He calls me,  
He calls me by the lightning,  
The trumpet sound within-a my soul!  
I ain't got long to stay here.

\*DOXOLOGY #592

*Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

\*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 #425

*Lord of Light, Your Name Outshining*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE *Twofold Amen*

Rob Landes

POSTLUDE *Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy  
Blessing Sicilian Mariners*

+ + +

**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:

*Wayne Harvey, Lois Joyce Berner Mix, Bernice Stratton, and Myrtle Wilson*

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 Jean Kemp Bundy and George Bashor by David and Donna Bundy. 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**

Everyone is invited to have refreshments in Assembly Hall right after worship. We are always looking for volunteers to bring in food. It can be cookies, cheese and crackers, fruit, or anything you want. Food should be brought around 9:30am. There is a sign-up sheet in Assembly Hall or fill out a white pew card and

place it in the offering plate. If any questions, please contact the church office by e-mail to 1streformed@gmail.com or 377-2201.

### **We are in need of volunteers for February 9.**

#### **UPC Annual Meeting**

Today, at 11:15am in the Dirck Romeyn Room UPC will hold its Annual Meeting. Lunch arranged by Women's Association, reports from boards and groups, election of Officers, discussion of UPC future.

#### **Forum**

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 or Amy Brule, 785-8201.

**Today:** How are we doing together? Rev. Dr. Bill Levering

**Feb. 16:** Presidents weekend – Coffee & Conversation, along with an informal opportunity to learn more about our Covenanters, Jeremy Bork, and Daniel Eckert.

**Feb. 23:** *Faith in the Fields*: Negro Spirituals and Song of Praise. Join Timothy Dunn, friend of the Congregation and Choir for a lively interpretive session.

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

**Today:** Azzaam Hameed, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

**Feb. 16:** Peg Delaney, piano

**Feb. 23:** Michael Lamkin, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

#### **Faith Bookshop**

Today in the Bookshop you'll find gifts for special Valentines of all ages, including beaded and African wooden jewelry, note cards, CDs, devotionals and books of all genres. Pop-up books are on sale; books relating to local history are featured. To find a book's price, look inside front cover.

#### **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:** Regular meeting at 5pm; Mission Trip meeting at 7pm.

**Feb. 16:** No regular meeting. Senior High students who are going on the mission trip will meet at 6pm.

**Feb. 22:** Mission trip ends at noon

**Feb. 23:** No meetings.

#### **New Receptionist at the Church Office**

Jennifer Anderson begins this Monday as our new Receptionist and Publications Assistant. Jennifer attended SUNY Canton and Marist College. She has extensive knowledge in various Microsoft programs.

#### **Horizon Bible Study**

The Horizons Bible study group meets on Tuesdays at 10am in the Poling Conference room for a study of *Mark's Gospel*. Study guides by Mark Deibert from the Interpretation Bible series is available for \$7, and will be available at class. All interested are welcome to attend.

#### **Kerygma Conversations Resumes**

All are welcome each Wednesday, 9:30 to 11am, in Poling Conference room to explore the meaning of the gospel for our lives. We'll be considering a topic of recent growing interest: the writings about Jesus which were not included in the Bible, how these compare to those that were chosen, and what this has to do with our faith. The book we'll use is *Jesus, Gnosis, and Dogma*, which is available for perusal in the Faith Bookshop, as are copies of the first chapter we will discuss in class on Feb. 12. Those with questions may contact Daniel Carlson.

### **Midweek Vegetarian Dinner & Worship**

Every Wednesday at 6pm in Assembly Hall a small group of members and friends share a delicious, healthy, plant-based feast of soup, salad, and something sweet. Sign up in Assembly Hall if you would like to bring an edible contribution. Following dinner, all are welcome to our contemplative service from 7 to 7:45pm in Poling Chapel. This worship always includes a lovely guitar prelude, gentle singing, guided reflection, Holy Communion, and shared prayers, through which we seek to rekindle awareness of God's loving presence within us and all creation.

### **Musicians of Ma'alwyck Concert February 15**

Musicians of Ma'alwyck present a concert, *Despite all Obstacles of Nature: Composers with Hearing Loss* at 3pm on Saturday, February 15. Featuring music of Beethoven, Smetana, Faure and Einhorn, the program also includes readings of letters by each of these composers describing their anguish, soul-searching, and ultimate triumph by will over their silence. Bill Levering will be the featured reader. Composer Richard Einhorn, who recently lost most of his hearing, will give a pre-concert talk, beginning at 2:15pm and the concert will include the world-premiere of a new work written expressly for Musicians of Ma'alwyck and this performance.

### **Tuesday Ladies**

Meetings are every third Tuesday at 7:30pm at Connie Young's home, next meeting is Feb. 18. All ladies are welcome. For more information contact Connie at 393-7061.

### **Lenten Devotional Reminder**

Feb. 19 is the due date for the Devotional writings. Please e-mail your submission or bring in to the church office. Thanks to all 40 of you who have volunteered to be part of this Lenten Devotional.

### **Prayer Shawl Knitting Group**

We meet every fourth Thursday; our next meeting is on Feb. 27 at 9:30am at the home of

Ronnie Bartholic. For questions, contact Ronnie Bartholic 399-7679.

### **Are you a writer?**

A Flash Fiction critique group will meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month in the Walton Conference Room. Flash Fiction is a COMPLETE story, fiction or nonfiction, written in 1,000 words or less. **FIRST MEETING:** Wednesday, February 26 at 7pm. Bring a short piece to share and have critiqued. For more info and signups, contact James Gonda at jamesgonda63@yahoo.com or the church office.

### **New Receptionist at the Church Office**

Jennifer Anderson begins this Monday as our new Receptionist and Publications Assistant. Jennifer attended SUNY Canton and Marist College. She has extensive knowledge in various Microsoft programs.

### **Weekend Retreat at Fowler**

Come away with about a dozen others to the serene beauty of the Adirondacks to try out some contemplative practices enabling a deeper awareness of God's presence and guidance. Mary and Daniel Carlson will be leading this retreat: New Life this Lent, Friday, Feb. 28 - Sunday, March 2, in Fowler's newly refurbished Chi Rho Lodge. Opportunities for learning and engaging in contemplative Christian practices will be balanced with times of shared meals, relaxed conversation, and games around the blazing hearth. For further details and to register, visit Fowler Camp and Retreat Center on the web and click retreats, or call Fowler's office (631-6789). Those with additional questions may contact Daniel or Mary.

### **Group VII**

There will not be any meeting in February. We will resume on Friday, March 21 at 10am. Co-hostesses: Ann Gotwals and Linda Witkowski; Program: Coffee Hour – All church ladies invited, this is a gathering to make new friends and to reconnect in the New Year.

## Shares Available to Help Youth Mission

FRC has a rich history of sending youth on mission trips where they have the opportunity to help people in need while also experiencing diverse cultures and circumstances, building community, and learning about how they relate to the wider world. As a result of these trips, many FRC youth have gone on to service-related careers and lifestyles of volunteerism. Your support is invaluable as the Senior High Youth Group prepares for this year's trip, which will be right here in Schenectady. The youth will be joining with other area youth groups to serve meals, clean up neighborhoods, do flood relief, and participate in other projects that strengthen our own community. Please support the Youth Group and participate in their journey by purchasing a Mission Share from any member of the youth group, or from Stacey Midge, for only \$25. Mission Shareholders will also be invited to a dinner on March 30 to hear directly from the youth about their experience and to enjoy food inspired by the trip.

## 2014 Youth Mission Trip

This year's youth mission trip is to a fabulous, exotic location full of opportunities for growth and service: Schenectady! Many of our senior high youth, along with youth from other area churches, will be spending their February break staying together in a church at night and volunteering in local agencies during the day. Some of the organizations we are assisting include: City Mission, Schenectady Inner City Ministry, Albany Street cleanup, and Fort Plain Flood Relief. All youth in grades 9-12 are invited to participate, so if you haven't signed up yet, please contact Stacey.

We also need adults to provide our evening meals. If you are willing to help prepare dinner for a bunch of hungry teenagers - either on site, or cooked at your home and dropped off at church for us to heat - please contact Stacey.

	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Victoria McGowan-Horan, Lisa Etkin	Fred Daniels, Doug Todd
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Roberta Blackmer	Virginia Laumeister
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Ronnie Bartholic	
<b>Greeters</b>	Karlyne & Nelson Drimalas	Eleanor & Darwin Brudos
<b>Kinderwyk</b>	Sarah Bachorik	Sarah Bachorik, Shannon Kerwin
<b>Liturgist</b>	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
<b>Preacher</b>	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Veronica Bartholic, Rob Dickson, Margaret King, Carolyn Jones- Assini, Tom Lindsay, Linda Witkowski	Mary Jewett, Keith Muse, Gene Zeltmann, Bob Beadle, Christine Daniels, Maria G. Todd
<b>Reader</b>	Mary Jewett	Carol Troost
<b>Refreshments</b>	Lorraine Aumic	Please sign up.
<b>Usher</b>	Glenn Blinckmann (head usher), Linda Malgieri, Gerry Myers, Crystal Mongillo, Justine Ochal	Tom Burgoyne (head usher), David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Chris Langdon

**Sunday, February 9**

10:00 am ..... Worship  
 10:15 am ..... Church School for K-8  
 11:15 am ..... Forum  
 11:15 am ..... UPC Annual Meeting  
 5:00 pm ..... JH&SH Youth Groups  
 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

**Monday, February 10**

9:00 am ..... Men's News Group

**Tuesday, February 11**

10:00 am ..... Morning Prayer  
 10:00 am ..... Horizon Bible Study  
 6:00 pm ..... Archives  
 6:00 pm ..... CRTC  
 6:30 pm ..... Standing Committee  
 7:30 pm ..... Consistory

**Wednesday, February 12**

9:30 am ..... Kerygma Conversations  
 1:00 pm ..... Archives  
 1:00 pm ..... Thursday Belles  
 6:00 pm ..... Vegetarian Dinner  
 7:00 pm ..... Midweek Evening Worship

**Thursday, February 13**

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

**Saturday, February 15**

1:30 pm ..... Musicians of Ma'alwyck Concert

**Sunday, February 16**

9:00 am ..... Choir Rehearsal-Sanctuary  
 9:30 am ..... Choir Rehearsal-Poling Chapel  
 10:00 am ..... Worship  
 10:15 am ..... Church School for K-8  
 10:20 am ..... Carol Choir  
 11:15 am ..... Forum  
 11:15 am ..... Orff Rehearsal  
 11:20 am ..... Kirk Ringers  
 4:00 pm ..... Youth Orchestra  
 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers  
 6:00 pm ..... Senior High Youth Mission Trip

“Neither sugar nor salt tastes particularly good by itself. Each is at its best when used to season other things. Love is the same way. Use it to "season" people.” — Vera Nazarian, *The Perpetual Calendar of Inspiration*

“[N]obody likes having salt rubbed into their wounds, even if it is the salt of the earth.”  
 - Rebecca West, *Harsh Voice*

“Like some winter animal the moon licks the salt of your hand, Yet still your hair foams violet as a lilac tree  
 From which a small wood-owl calls.”  
 - Johannes Bobrowski

No man is worth his salt who is not ready at all times to risk his well-being, to risk his body, to risk his life, in a great cause.  
 -Theodore Roosevelt

Let there be work, bread, water and salt for all. - Nelson Mandela

Talent is cheaper than table salt. What separates the talented individual from the successful one is a lot of hard work.  
 - Stephen King

Any man worth his salt will stick up for what he believes right, but it takes a slightly better man to acknowledge instantly and without reservation that he is in error. - Andrew Jackson

The cure for anything is salt water: sweat, tears or the sea. - Isak Dinesen

“Don't be a pepper on the eyes of people; Rather be the salt on their tongue and make a difference that influences their sense of belonging to the earth.”  
 -Israelmore Ayivor