

**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.



Who are we with?

Who is with us?

May 11, 2014



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.

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.

Hearing Assistance

We have hearing reinforcement units that will make it easier to hear. Ask an usher.

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.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 11, 2014

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Naphtali Rothrock
Prelude and Fugue in D G.F. Handel
Unter Den Linden Grune J.P. Sweelinck

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Stacey Midge
The grace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT *Alleluia, Lift Up Your Voice*
Shirley McRae

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #455
All Creatures of Our God and King

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)
O Lord our Shepherd, you know us better than we know ourselves. We come before you now, believers and doubters alike, to share our deep need for strength and renewal. Forgive us and help us to know we are forgiven. Give us the heart and direction for renewal and service, we pray.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE HYMN #579
Gloria Patri

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)
Apostle's Creed (RCA, Contemporary)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was

crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM William Mathias
As Truly as God is Our Father, So Just as Truly is God our Mother

As truly as God is our Father,
so just as truly is God our Mother.
In our Father, God Almighty, we have our being; in our merciful Mother,
we are remade and restored.

Our fragmented lives are knit together.
And by giving and yielding ourselves,
through grave, to the Holy Spirit
we are made whole.

It is I, the strength and goodness of Fatherhood.
It is I, the wisdom of Motherhood.
It is I, the light and grace of holy love.
It is I, the Trinity, it is I, the Unity.

I am the sovereign goodness in all things.
It is I who teach you to love.
It is I who teach you to desire.
It is I who am the reward of all true desiring.

All shall be well, and all shall be well,
and all manner of thing shall be well. Amen.

Julian of Norwich (b. 1342)

FIRST LESSON Jim Miller
Guide us, O Lord, by your Word and Holy Spirit. **Amen.** *Psalm 23 (pg 501)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *John 10:1-10 (pg 103)*

SERMON *Being a Good Sheep in a Big Flock*
Bill Levering
Eugenio Bernardini

*HYMN #439
In Christ There Is No East or West

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Geoffrey Shaw
The Lord My Pasture Shall Prepare

The Lord my pasture shall prepare
and feed me with a shepherd's care.
His presence shall my wants supply
and guard me with a watchful eye.
My noonday walks he shall attend
and all my midnight hours defend.

When in the sultry glebe I faint,
or on the thirsty mountain pant,
To fertile vales and dewy meads
my weary, wand'ring steps he leads
Where peaceful rivers soft and slow
amid the verdant landscape flow.

Though in a bare and rugged way
through devious lonely wilds I stray,
Thy bounty shall my pains beguile;
the barren wilderness shall smile
With sudden greens and herbage crowned,
and streams shall murmur all around.

Though in the paths of death I tread
with gloomy horrors overspread,
My steadfast heart shall fear no ill,
for Thou, O Lord, art with me still;
Thy friendly crook shall give me aid
and guide me through the dreadful shade.

*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 #139
Come, Thou Almighty King

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Threefold Amen*
Traditional

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 FRC & UPC who entered eternal rest
in previous years about this time:

*Sybil Liebhafsky, Henry Nagamatsu, Harrison
Todd, Rev. Cornelius VanLeeuwen, Charles
Young*

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 their mothers, Caroline Taylor and
Marguerite Melber, by Martha and Glenn
Winchester; and in honor of her mother, Ann
Gotwals, from her daughter, Amy Gotwals. 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 flowers to remember a loved one or to honor a special event. Please inform the church office of your wishes. The cost of the flowers is \$30 for two bouquets. You may send your check payable to Chancel Guild, c/o Marlene Risseeuw, 2140 Niskayuna Dr., Niskayuna, NY 12309.

Entered into Eternal Rest

Garrett Veeder
April 30, 2014

Waldensian Visiting

Eugenio Bernardini, Moderator of the Waldensian Church, is joining us in the pulpit and will meet with people in the Dirck Romeyn Lounge to chat after refreshments. The Waldensians are a very old protestant denomination in Europe who emphasize social responsibility.

Music Notes: The lyrics for today's Anthem are from the writings of Julian of Norwich (1342-1416,) an anchoress who lived in a small room (cell) attached to a parish church in England for much of her life. Very little is known of this early Christian mystic but many of the key insights of her visions speak directly to the needs of the worlds today, and her theology and gentle wisdom have become better known in recent years (after being nearly forgotten for 600.) Her perception of the feminine in God is strikingly relevant to the 21st century. Mathias's music depicts the mystical aspects of her writings in the organ accompaniment. The Offertory is a stylized version of today's lectionary Psalm 23 written by Joseph Addison (1672-1719.) Both composers are well known for English religious choral music.

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. **We are in need of 3 volunteers for May 25.**

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, Peggy King 370-1885, or Amy Brule 785-8201.

Today: Mother's Day – Stories of Our Mothers – A Story Swap of Stories & Remembrances – we'll share stories of you as a mother, your mother, grandmother and family; led and facilitated by Joe Doolittle. Helpful prompts: Share a story of your mother's favorite thing to do with you; of saying hello or goodbye, of shopping with her. Please bring a story.

May 18: Annual Congregational Picnic – Forum around the outside tables!

May 25: A Walk About our Historic Stockade Neighborhood. Over 50 stops with informative brief presentations. Meet in Assembly Hall at 11:30am.

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: No Meeting

May 18: End of Year Party 5pm

Faith Bookshop

Today, Mother's Day, items specially selected with women in mind are featured on the Bookshop's round tables.

Yoga Moved to Monday Nights

Beginning May 12, Thursday evening Yoga will move to Monday's at 6:45pm – 7:45pm in Assembly Hall. If you have any questions please contact Douglas at: 229-7291 or dagoods1@gmail.com.

Joint Mission at State Street

First Reformed Church, Union Presbyterian Church, and State Street Presbyterian Church have joined in mission projects at State Street Presbyterian in Schenectady. There is currently a weekly Kids Cooking Class that will begin meeting on Mondays instead of Tuesdays, starting May 12, 4-5:30pm. (So if you could not help on Tuesdays, but can on Mondays, please come!) The kitchen is in great need of a new range for this project and a future cooking group with adults, so a fundraiser dinner has been planned.

College Scholarships

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

Group VII

We will meet Friday, May 16 for "A Surprise Trip." Join us at 10:30am at Scotia Reformed Church for a tour, after we will meet for lunch at Scotia Diner. Contact Ronnie Bartholic with any questions.

Youth Lead Worship May 18

The youth of the church are taking over! The youth will be doing the readings, prayers, and music that morning, and our graduating seniors will be celebrated at the service. Please plan to attend and support our youth.

Church Picnic, May 18

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!

Tuesday Ladies

Meetings are every third Tuesday of the month in the home of Connie Young. We will meet May 20 at 7pm. Hope to see you then.

Prayer Shawl Knitting Group

We will be meeting May 22 at 9:30am at the home of Ronnie Bartholic. We welcome anyone interested in joining us. Please contact Ronnie at 393-7679 with any questions.

Soulicious Dinner Fundraiser

Thursday, May 22; 4-6:30pm (mainly ordered, pre-paid, take-out meals) Location: State Street Presbyterian Church (5 Catherine Street, church parking lot on State Street)

These soul food dinners are being prepared by local chef, Monica McGill, who has been assisting with the weekly Kids Cooking classes. For \$12, you will get collard greens, mac & cheese, yams and a choice of chicken or ribs. Dessert of sweet potato pie or cake is available for \$3. Orders and payment (cash or checks to State Street Presbyterian Church) can be given to UPC member, Jeanette Davidson, or by calling State Street Presbyterian at 374-2684. Reservations to be made by Sunday, May 18. (Jeanette will meet you during refreshment time on May 18 for your orders!) Thanks! Any questions? Call Jeanette at 393-1898. Thank you.

Central College Choir

The Central College A Cappella Choir from Pella, Iowa will present a concert on Friday, May 23 at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary. The choir is an auditioned 60-voice ensemble in its 82nd year. Their eclectic repertoire ranges from Renaissance to Modern 21st Century music and there will be two selections presented jointly by the choir and area RCA church choir members. The concert is free but donations will be accepted. Please join us

for a festive and spirit-filled evening of choral music.

We are in great need of families or individuals that can host two or more choir members overnight on Friday evening the 23. If you are able to be a host please contact Julie Panke, Director of Music at kirkechor@earthlink.net or 370-5434. A sign-up sheet will also be available in Assembly Hall.

Susan Hale in Concert May 30

Susan Hale will be giving an eclectic concert celebrating the Easter season on May 30 at 8pm in our Sanctuary. Admission is free and all are invited.

At Camp Fowler

Registration is now open for summer camp 2014! Campers are students in grades 3-12; Fowler also offers a family camp where children of all ages and parents can experience camp together. Volunteers are also needed as cabin counselors and kitchen and maintenance staff. You can find more information on the website at campfowler.org or by contacting Stacey Midge (377-2201), who will be spending the week as chaplain for the senior high campers.

Kerygma Conversations Delay Notice

The monthly gathering has been postponed a week to Wednesday, June 4, 9:30-11am in the Dirck Romeyn room. Join us to talk about what you've found interesting in summer activities like reading, viewing, traveling, or whatever.

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Darwin Brudos, Claire Hughes	Fred Daniels, Doug Todd
Faith Bookshop	Virginia Laumeister	Nancy Wainwright
Flower Delivery	Daniel Ertel, John & Sally Bestgen	Richard & Natalie Davis, Douglas & Ann Phillips
Greeters	Ellie & Darwin Brudos	Nancy & George Davidson
Kinderwyk	Sarah Bachorik	Sarah Bachorik
Liturgist	Stacey Midge	Youth
Preacher	Bill Levering	Youth
Processing Elders	Robert Dickson, Margaret King, Roberta Blackmer, Brad Lewis, Cathy Lewis, Margaret Schadler	Keith Muse, Darwin Brudos, Gay Doolittle, Phil Falconer, Joe Lovell, Maria G. Todd
Reader	Jim Miller	Marilyn Leach
Refreshments	Kitty Trimarco, Glenda Eager	Lorraine Aumic, Amanda Bogatka
Ushers	Earl Wainwright (head usher,) Hendrick Arnold, Joanne Arnold, Richard Davis, Adam Kerwin, Philip Yourno, George Davidson	Art Shultes (head usher,) Jeff Cox, Jim McCullough, Sharron McCullough, Jean Lindsay, Ron Lindsay
Vespers	Azzaam Hameed, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums	David Gleason, piano; Mike Lawrence, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

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 and Deacons will be elected at the annual meeting of the congregation on June 1, 2014.

Recommendations may be submitted on to the church office or any member of the Committee: Bill Ward, Bill Brooks, Peggy King, Carol Troost, Hans Erickson, Jennifer Evans, Joseph Gallagher, Lyn Gordon, Rebecca Draffen-Grande; Senior Elders: Keith Muse, Mary Jewett; Ministers: Bill Levering, Daniel Carlson, or Stacey Midge. The Nominating Committee would appreciate your response as soon as possible.

ELDER

DEACON

Sunday, May 11

- 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
- 5:00 pm JH & HS Youth Group

Monday, May 12

- 9:00am Mens Newsgroup
- 6:45 pm Yoga
- 7:00pm Klokken Ringers

Tuesday, May 13

- 10:00 am Morning Prayer
- 6:00 pm Archives
- 6:30 pm Committee Meetings
- 7:30 pm Consistory Meeting

Wednesday, May 14

- 1:00 pm Archives

Thursday, May 15

- 7:30 am Breakfast Bible Bunch
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Sunday, May 18

- 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal-Sanctuary
- 9:15 am High School Choir
- 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal-Poling Chapel
- 10:00 am Youth Lead Worship
- 10:15 am Church School for K-8
- 10:20 am Carol Choir
- 11:15 am Forum/Congregational Picnic
- 11:15 am Orff Rehearsal
- 11:20 am Kirk Ringers
- 4:00 pm Youth Orchestra
- 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers
- 5:00 pm JH & HS End of Year Party