

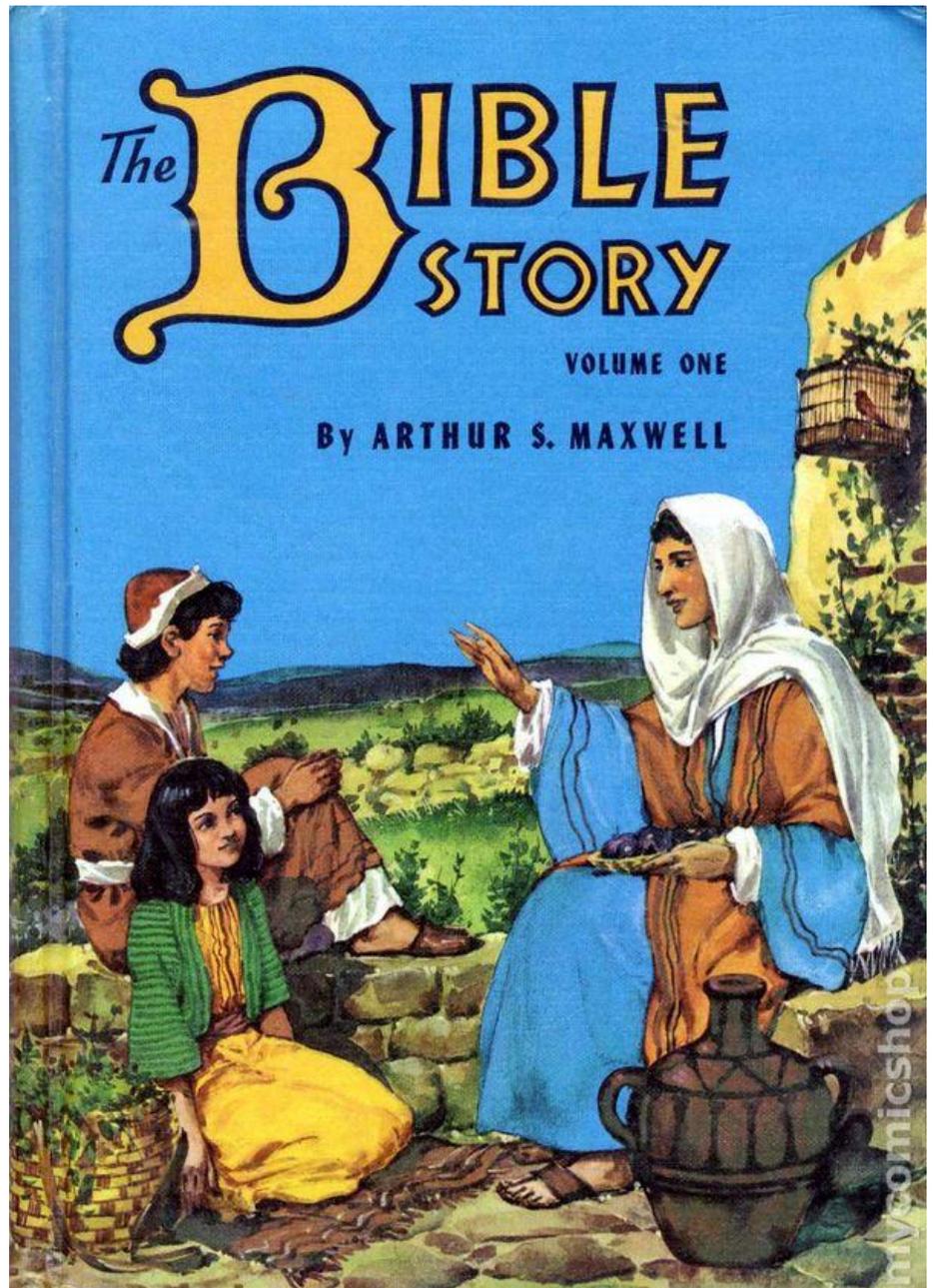
**The Covenant of Our  
Congregation  
Adopted in 1962**

*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.*



What makes a story true?

August 24, 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.

### **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](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.

**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

August 24, 2014

\*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Helderberg Madrigal Singers

*Cantate Domino*

Hans Leo Hassler (1564 – 1612)

Let us sing to the Lord a new song...

*Hark All Ye Lovely Saints Above*

Thomas Weelkes (1576 – 1623)

*Haec Dies*

Jaques Arcadelt (1510 – 1568)

This is the day the Lord has made:  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*Ain'-a That Good News*

William L. Dawson (1899 – 1990)

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

\*HYMN #357

*O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee*

\*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

O God, you know us completely. You know how we have failed to both love you above all others, and love our neighbors as ourselves. You know how we have failed to be faithful members of Christ's body. You know how we have failed to expect, embrace and employ your Spirit's gifts for the common good. O God, in your complete knowing and unfailing love, forgive us, we pray.

\*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

**Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah!**

**Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah!**

**Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah!**

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

*Our Song of Hope*

The Holy Spirit builds one church,  
united in one Lord and hope,  
with one ministry around one table.  
The Spirit calls all believers in Jesus to  
respond in worship together,  
to accept all the gifts from the Spirit,  
to learn from each other's traditions,  
to make unity visible on earth.

\*PASSING THE PEACE

MUSICAL OFFERING

*Almighty and Everlasting God*

Orlando Gibbons (1583 – 1625)

FIRST LESSON Mary Jewett

Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.

**Amen.** *Jeremiah 18:1-6 (pg 720)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Matthew 13:34-35 (pg 15)*

SERMON *Tales From the Lake* Bill Levering

\*HYMN *Tell Me the Stories of Jesus*

Tell Me the stories of Jesus I love to hear;  
Things I would ask Him to tell me if He were here;  
Scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,  
Stories of Jesus, tell them to me.

First let me hear how the children stood round His  
knee,

And I shall fancy His blessing resting on me;  
Words full of kindness, deeds full of grace,  
All in the love light of Jesus' face.

Tell me, in accents of wonder, how rolled the sea,  
Tossing the boat in a tempest on Galilee;  
And how the Maker, ready and kind,  
Chided the billows, and hushed the wind.  
Into the city I'd follow the children's band,

Waving a branch of the palm tree high in my hand.  
One of His heralds, yes, I would sing  
Loudest hosannas, "Jesus is King!"

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

+ + +

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

*Tragico Tecti Syrmate*

Orlando de Lasso (1532 – 1594)

Tragical garments cover us, who from heaven  
Come to the human race, bringing a requiem,  
Singing for those whose lives Destiny ended,  
Mournfully chanting, honoring dead heroes.

These freezing regions once did abound in fruit,  
Everywhere growing, weighing the branches;  
The earth was blooming,  
white with fair lily flowers;  
And, gently sighing,  
o'er fields the West Wind blew.

Here were lofty walls circling the cities,  
Standing guard nobly, pinnacles rising;  
Here royal courtyards, perfumed with saffron,  
And silken chambers, downy with pillows;

Now naught stands but grim, mouldering ruins,  
Burned down to embers, everything! Flaming!  
O'er yonder meadows smoke still is rolling,  
While the dust of heroes is borne along on the gale.

\*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.

\*HYMN *Christ of the Upward Way* #344

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### 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:

*Anne Marie Buchanan, John Herring, Robert Moore, Norma Peterson*

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 her daughter Beth and husband John from Eileen Herring. As a symbol of our care, each Sunday the flowers are delivered to members of FRC or UPC who are not able to join us here.

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

### Summer Church School is ON!

After the children's message we will gather at Kinderwyck where it is air conditioned and close to the after-worship goodies! We are looking to become a little more Bible savvy so we will play

“5 Questions” each week with interactive learning (drama, music, art, games, etc.) Everyone gets smart! We need one or two helpers (18 yrs+) to keep the program running. Regular church school will resume September 7.

**Music Notes:** We are grateful to the members of the Helderberg Madrigal Singers for today’s music: Martha Bond, soprano; Sarah Johnsen Popeil, soprano; Dawn Dana, alto; Beth Gurzler, alto; Dick Dana, tenor; Dave Metz, bass; and Tim Smith, bass.

**Music Note:** *Halle, Halle, Halle*, words: traditional liturgical; music: Caribbean; arr. John L Bell, 1990 WGRG, Iona Community, GIA Pub. Inc. All rights reserved. One License #A-700700.

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

**Today:** Dave Gleason, piano; Mike Lawrence, bass; Tom D’Andrea, drums

**August 31:** Paul Mastriani, piano; Linda Brown, bass; Tom D’Andrea, drums

**September 7:** TBA

### **Forum Resumes in September**

After worship most Sundays at 11:15am in Poling Chapel, suggestions for programs are welcome from any committee or member; simply contact Amy Brule 785-8201, Peggy King 370-1885, or Joe Doolittle 384-1700.

**September 7:** Fall Picnic

**September 14:** Perspectives on Unity FRC/UPC, Open Discussion to prepare both congregations for approval of the vote Sept. 21.

**September 21:** Separate Congregation Meetings for VOTE on the Union of FRC and UPC

**September 28:** Meet Cameron, Kendra, and Kelsey – Led by Rev. Stacey Midge

### **Faith Bookshop**

Today and during the rest of the summer, the Bookshop will be open briefly before and after most church services. In September, we will go back to our usual schedule and resume taking book orders.

### **Summer Refreshments**

Over the summer 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. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in Assembly Hall along with a sheet on “how to” suggestions. Please read these instructions prior to signing up as it is very important in that the set-up and clean-up is done differently. Any questions, please contact the church office at 377-2201. We are in need of volunteers for **Aug. 31**.

### **Post Service Refreshments**

Beginning September 14 we will return to having post service refreshments in Assembly Hall. We are always looking for volunteers! 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 volunteers for **Sept 14**.

### **Church Parking Lot**

Monday, August 25 – Saturday, August 30, the entrance to the church parking lot will be closed for repairs. The entrance on Front St. will still be open. Any questions, please call Gary, 377-2201.

### **Summer Kerygma Conversations**

If you are interested in meeting up with other members to discuss whatever is currently of interest to you (e.g., an experience, event, book, movie, trip, issue) then you are invited to join us for a leisurely yet engaging conversation, 9:30 – 11am, this Wednesday, August 27 in the Dirck Romeyn room. No preregistration required; those with questions may contact Daniel Carlson.

### **Writers Group**

A Flash Fiction critique group meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7pm in the Walton Conference Room. Flash Fiction is a COMPLETE story, fiction or

nonfiction, written in 1,000 words or less. For more info and signups, contact James Gonda at jamesgonda63@yahoo.com or the church office.

### **SICM School Supplies**

SICM is collecting school supplies and will continue through the end of August. We hope you will take advantage of those back-to-school sales! All donations can be brought to the SICM business office at 1055 Wendell Ave. or brought to the church office for Stacey Midge. Any questions, you may call 374-2683. Thank you!

### **Labor Day Weekend Presentation**

In honor of Labor Day, we will have a special speaker after the worship service at 11:15am on August 31 in Poling Chapel, in cooperation with the Labor and Religion Coalition. Frank Natalie from the Capital District Area Labor Federation will present about a skilled labor apprenticeship program, followed by discussion about the project and other efforts of the Labor and Religion Coalition.

### **Sunday Church School**

We need Church School teachers! There are 3 terms and three classes in each term:  
Fall term=Sept 7 – Nov 23 (K-2)(3-5)(6-8)  
Winter term=Nov 30 – Feb 15 (K-2)(3-5)(6-8)  
Spring term=Feb 22 – May 24 (K-2)(3-5)(6-8)  
The curriculum is the lectionary based “Seasons of the Spirit.” It is very easy to follow and gives lots of background information and ideas for each class. I will happily meet with you to go over the format. No experience is needed! Please call Jamie, 399-6848, if you are able to help out teaching, even if it is for only a few Sundays!

### **Fall Picnic September 7**

All are invited to stay after worship for a time of food and fellowship at our annual fall picnic! Hamburgers from the grass-fed cows of Buckley Farm will be provided, in addition to hot dogs, veggie burgers, and drinks. In an effort to promote sustainable and healthy farming and feasting those attending are encouraged to use locally-grown and/or made products in the food

they prepare; everyone should bring something to share. Volunteers are needed for set up before the picnic and break down/clean up after the picnic. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Nancy Wainwright, 377-3573, or the church office, 377-2201 or 1streformedpub@gmail.com. There is also a sign-up sheet available in Assembly Hall.

### **Ice Cream Social**

The SICM Summer Lunch Program would like to thank all those who volunteered to serve the meals this summer. It was a great success! You are all invited to an Ice Cream Social at the Central Park Pavilion on Sunday, September 7 at 3pm.

### **Group VII**

We will have our Fall Luncheon at the Mohawk Golf Club September 12 at 11:30am. Please make a reservation with Connie Young, 393-7061 or cyoung50@nycapp.rr.com.

### **New Worship Service Coming Soon**

Our new Saturday evening worship service, called The Link, will begin on September 20 at 5pm. This is a family-friendly opportunity to worship through contemporary music and casual liturgy. All people are welcome, but we especially invite families with Sunday sports activities, those who work Sunday mornings, and anyone who is seeking a supportive Christian community in a modern worship setting. Please contact Stacey with any questions about this new service.

### **Horizons Bible Study Material**

Our study for the fall is “Reconciling Paul: A Contemporary Study of 2 Corinthians.” We will be resuming September 23; however, study guides are now available in the church office for \$8 for anyone interested.

### **Kinderwyck**

We are looking for helping hands and arms to play with toddlers and rock babies from 9:50-noon each Sunday. Please call the church office if

you are willing and able to help with this vital ministry.

### **Run, Ride, Walk 4 Love**

Safe Inc. and Love 146 are co-sponsoring a Run, Ride, Walk event to raise money to end human trafficking and support survivors of exploitation on September 27 in Saratoga Spa State Park. You can register to participate in this event at [www.rrwl4l.com](http://www.rrwl4l.com), or sponsor Stacey in running the 5K.

### **54<sup>th</sup> Stockade Walkabout**

Plans are underway for September 27, 2014 from 11am – 5pm, and we are looking for volunteers. Will you help welcome visitors to FRC that day? Have you an activity, program, display, or such, for people to do or see as they tour FRC? If you have any questions or wish to sign up to volunteer, you may contact Laura Lee Linder, 882-6866. We are also looking for volunteers to help bake pastries for Saturday's event on Friday, September 26. If you would like to sign-up, you may contact Mary Jewett, 355-8059.

### **Patty's Place**

This drop-in center is open and providing a safe, warm place for sex workers to find resources so that they can make safer choices now, and have the referrals and support to leave prostitution when they are ready. Those who are interested in volunteering or donating to this ministry should contact Stacey Midge. Volunteers are needed to staff the center from 7-10pm on Wednesday nights. Patty's Place also accepts donations of supplies and money. Supplies currently needed include: individual sized shampoo and conditioner, soap, lotion, toothpaste, toothbrushes, ready to eat food items such as soup and microwave popcorn, chocolate, cans of soda (Diet Coke is in high demand,) NEW women's socks, underwear, bras, shorts, and T-shirts. Donations can be left in Stacey's office after church or during normal office hours. Financial contributions should be made out to SICM, with Patty's Place in the memo line. Thank you for your support!

	<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Counting Deacons</b>	Bill Rochelle, Tom Burgoyne	Darwin Brudos, Christine Daniels
<b>Faith Bookshop</b>	Committee Member	Committee Member
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Mary Jewett, Adam Kerwin	Jerry Griggs
<b>Greeters</b>	Vickie & Mike Horan	Ellie & Gene Rowland
<b>Kinderwyk</b>	Sarah Bachorik	Sarah Bachorik
<b>Liturgist</b>	Daniel Carlson	
<b>Preacher</b>	Bill Levering	
<b>Processing Elders</b>	Jeanne Shoulder, Mary Jewett, Don Leach, Tom Lindsay, Del Pierce	Adam Mason, Joyce Griggs, Amy Brule, George Davidson, Jerry Griggs, Joe Lovell
<b>Reader</b>	Mary Jewett	Amy Brule
<b>Refreshments</b>		Please sign up!
<b>Ushers</b>	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

## **Sunday, August 24**

- 10:00 am ..... Worship
- 10:15 am ..... Summer Church School for K-8
- 11:00 am ..... Refreshments
- 2:00 pm ..... Vandenberg Memorial
- 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

## **Monday, August 25**

- 9:00 am ..... Men's Newsgroup

## **Tuesday, August 26**

- 10:00 am ..... Morning Prayer

## **Wednesday, August 27**

- 9:30 am ..... Kerygma Conversations
- 11:00 am ..... First Things Volunteers
- 7:00 pm ..... Writers Group

## **Sunday, August 31**

- 10:00 am ..... Worship
- 10:15 am ..... Summer Church School K-8
- 11:00 am ..... Refreshments
- 5:00 pm ..... Jazz Vespers

“Make it dark, make it grim, make it tough, but then, for the love of God, tell a joke.” – Joss Whedon

“We were the people who were not in the papers. We lived in the blank white spaces at the edges of print. It gave us more freedom. We lived in the gaps between the stories.” – Margaret Atwood, *The Handmaid's Tale*

“We owe it to each other to tell stories.” – Neil Gaiman

“A good story is always more dazzling than a broken piece of truth.” – Diane Setterfield, *The Thirteenth Tale*

“We're all stories, in the end.” – Steven Moffat

“Stories can conquer fear, you know. They can make the heart bigger.” – Ben Okri

“Carve your name on hearts, not tombstones. A legacy is etched into the minds of others and the stories they share about you.” – Shannon L. Alder

“Don't ever tell anybody anything. If you do, you start missing everybody.” – J.D. Salinger, *The Catcher in the Rye*

“There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you.” – Maya Angelou, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*

“After nourishment, shelter and companionship, stories are the thing we need most in the world.” – Philip Pullman

“It's like Tolstoy said. Happiness is an allegory, unhappiness a story.” – Haruki Murakami, *Kafka on the Shore*

“Some of these things are true and some of them lies. But they are all good stories.” – Hilary Mantel, *Wolf Hall*

“But there's a story behind everything. How a picture go on a wall. How a scar got on your face. Sometimes the stories are simple, and sometimes they are hard and heartbreaking. But behind all your stories is always your mother's story, because hers is where yours begins.” – Mitch Albom, *For One More Day*

“It's like everyone tells a story about themselves inside their own head. Always. All the time. That story makes you what you are. We build ourselves out of that story.” – Patrick Rothfuss, *The Name of the Wind*

“There's always room for a story that can transport people to another place.” – J.K. Rowling

“Perhaps someday I'll crawl back home, beaten, defeated. But not as long as I can make stories out of my heartbreak, beauty out of sorrow.” – Sylvia Plath, *The Unabridged Journals of Sylvia Plath*