

**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.



November 2, 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.

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

November 2, 2014

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Ann-Marie Barker Schwartz, violin
Norman Thibodeau, flute
Duo for Flute & Violin, op 2/5 in e minor
Bartolomeo Campagnoli (1751-1817)
(1) *Allegro* (2) *Minuetto, ma poco adagio*

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 *Open to Me* Eric Thiman

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #526 vs. 1, 2, 3
For All the Saints

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

Lord God, we confess that we have made excuses for not following your call. We have avoided and denied you. We do not look for you in the face of others, nor do we let others see your holiness in us. We have doubted your presence and failed to let you change our lives. Help us. Make us more complete and faithful in all that we do, we pray. Amen.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

**God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends!**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

from the Accra Confession

We believe in God, Creator and Sustainer of all life, who calls us as partners in the creation and redemption of the world. We live under the promise that Jesus Christ came so that all might have life in fullness. Guided and upheld

by the Holy Spirit we open ourselves to the reality of our world. We believe that God is sovereign over all creation. "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof."

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*
arr. Dale Wood

FIRST LESSON Rev. Peg Miller
Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit.
Amen. *Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37 (pg 559)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Congregation members are encouraged to speak the name of someone who taught them something about life.

SECOND LESSON *Matthew 23:1-12 (pg 25)*

SERMON *Arrogance Antidote* Bill Levering

*HYMN *Spirit of the Living God* #322

OFFERING

OFFERTORY arr. Anon
Dies Bildnis ist bezaubernd schön from the Magic Flute

*SONG OF THANKSGIVING #555

Now thank we all our God
With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom this world rejoices;
Who, from our mother's arms,
Has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.

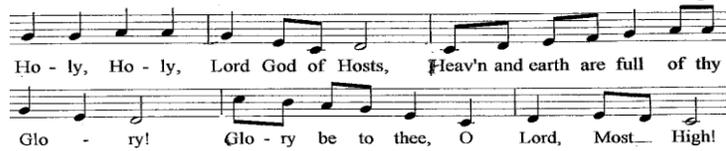
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

All are invited. We hold the elements until all are served.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise!

SANCTUS (sung in unison) Carl Steubing



COMMUNION

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 #526 vs. 4, 6**

For All the Saints

From earth's wide bounds,
from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl
streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Song, and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE** *Threefold Amen*
Danish

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

Melissa Greskovich, Jean Heilman, Ada Huybregtse

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 honor of our daughter Meghan and her marriage to Daniel Ferraro, from her parents, Mike and Vickie. 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.

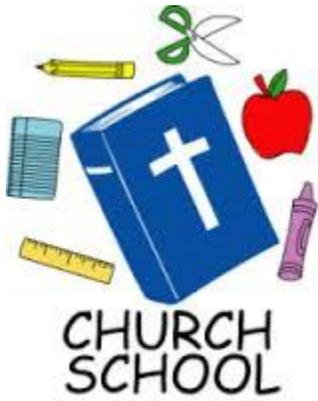
Celebratory or Memorial Flowers

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

Music Note: Our Response of Praise is a joyful declaration first heard by John Bell at the Sunrise Hospice in S. Africa. Words and transcription copyright 2008 WGRG, Iona Community Scotland, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-700700.

Post Service Refreshments

The Taart Boss (coordinator Karen Gonda) challenges all men who can bake or find their way around the grocery store to bring Sunday refreshments. Team up with a friend, or work it solo. Show the ladies your sweet side! Please sign up in Assembly Hall or contact the Taart Boss, 607-725-4521, gonda6@aol.com.



Church School

We joyfully welcome our Communion Class participants to the Lord's Table. Hannah Bachorik, Ava Muse, Gabby and Jillian Pizzolo have successfully completed their communion studies.

Forum

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, Olivia Mancuso 381-8860, or Joe Doolittle 384-1700.

Today: "No Nonsense" Stewardship

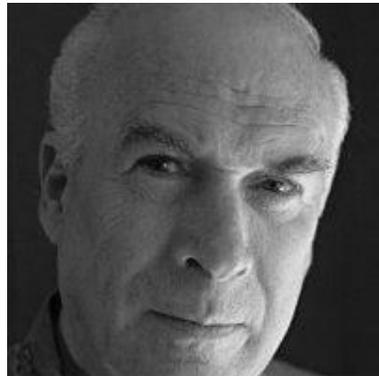
November 9: Report on Consistory Retreat

November 16: *Taking Risks* – A Publishing Adventure – Walter Robb

Photo Directory

Beginning

November 23, folks will have an opportunity to stop by a photo booth staffed by our own Ralph Rosenthal who will take a quick portrait of



your family and send you on your way. These pictures will be used to produce our own in-house directory of our new merged congregation. You don't have to sign up or anything and the process will be expeditious. Don't get dressed up.

Chancel Guild Meeting Today

We will have our Fall Business Meeting today following worship in the Dirck Romeyn room.

Jazz Vespers

Every Sunday

Today: Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

November 9:

Azzaam Hameed, piano

November 16: Scott Bassinson, piano

November 23: A Jazz Thanksgiving Festival with a delightful dozen of regional jazz stars. This special program will start and 4, will cost \$10, and will help support the Jazz Vespers program.



Horizons Bible Study Material

During Advent, we'll be using a book by Katherine Paterson called *A Stubborn Sweetness*. It is a compilation of stories of real-life people whom have forgotten the true meaning of Christmas because of unfortunate circumstances, and how each are reminded of the first Christmas story. Books are \$9 each and are available in the church office. Anyone interested is welcome to join us weekly Tuesdays at 10am.

Faith Bookshop Seeks Used Books

The Bookshop would like to restock its shelves of looks-like-new, gently read used books. We'll happily accept donations and sell the books at bargain prices to benefit the Bookshop. Biographies, historical and other non-fiction books are most popular.

Prospective

Member Class

Today

Interested in a closer relationship with this congregation? We

will be holding a membership orientation meeting that includes a tour of the church and a chat about who we are. It lasts 90 minutes and is held in the church office at 3pm on the first Sundays of October through February, excluding December.



Fall Youth Activities

Youth group will meet every Sunday at 5pm for dinner, discussion, games, etc. All youth in grades 6 – 12 are welcome, including friends who do not normally attend this church. If you have questions, please contact Stacey.

Today: Regular Meeting, 5pm

November 9: Regular meeting, 5pm

November 16: Regular meeting, 5pm

The Youth Group will start to take pie orders November 9 to raise money for the Youth Group Mission Trip to Kentucky. The pie choices are Apple and Pumpkin for \$13 each. They will be available for pick-up after worship on November 23.

Midweek Evening Meal

Each Wednesday in November at 6pm in Assembly Hall, you are invited to come and share the bounty of the harvest with those who appreciate a pot-luck dinner and friendly conversation. There's no sign-up for this weekly dinner, simply bring whatever edibles you wish to share; cold water and hot coffee are provided. We clean up after ourselves; a contemplative communion service follows for those who wish to worship.

Midweek Evening Worship

During the month of November, while leaves show forth their final resplendent colors before falling to the earth, we reverently and gently give thanks in song, Scripture, silence, sacrament, and supplication, for the heart of our faith: in life and in death we belong to God – together with all those who have gone before us. Midweek Evening Worship. Each Wednesday at 7pm in Poling Chapel. All are welcome!

Group V

Group V meets the first Monday of the month at 11am in the Dirck Romeyn room. Our next meeting will be Monday, November 3. Any questions, contact Barbara Piper, 399-3620.

Saturday Worship Service – The Link

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.



Choirs to Join for Evensong Today

The choirs of St. George's Episcopal and First Reformed, Schenectady, will come together today at 5pm for a traditional Episcopal service of All Souls Evensong in our church sanctuary. Music includes "And I Saw a New Heaven" by Edgar Bainton, "Stay With Us" by Egil Hovland, and the "Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat." by John Stainer. A reception will follow the service for those attending the Evensong as well as jazz vespers.



Vocal Recital Today

Bass-baritone Nicholas Wiggins will present a concert today in the sanctuary at 2:30. His program will include music of Mozart, Debussy, and Rachmaninoff. A free will offering will be collected.

Evening Circle

We will meet on Wednesday, November 5, at 6pm at Turf Tavern for an evening of fellowship, good food and conversation. All women of the church are welcome. Please call Sally Clark, 377-2154 or sign up in Assembly Hall.

Union College World Lecture

“Negotiating the Ethical in Islam Law: Practices, Politics and Tradition” Thursday, Nov. 6, 5:30pm, at Nott Memorial, by Prof. Ebrahim Moosa, currently professor at Notre Dame and internationally recognized for his research on the history of Islamic thought, on Islamic thought, on Islamic law and ethics, and on topics in contemporary Islam.

Men’s Breakfast This Saturday

Our next breakfast will be held on Saturday, November 8 at 8am in Assembly Hall. We will be welcoming David Gibson, Partner, Adirondack Wild: Friends of the Forest Preserve. Our program will be Reflections on Striving to Safeguard, Educate & Extend the Wild. A sign-up sheet will be available in Assembly Hall.

Midnight Run Nov. 14

The next Midnight Run will be on Friday, November 14. We will meet at church to pack bag lunches at 6pm, leave at 7pm, and return in the wee hours of the morning after we deliver items to homeless people in Manhattan. Please contact Stacey if you are interested in going. We need donations of the following items: blankets, sleeping bags, sweatshirts, hoodies, sweaters, new underwear (both men’s and women’s), sturdy shoes, deodorant, travel-sized hygiene products, and juice boxes. Any donations can be brought to the church office.

Operation Christmas Child

We bring joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God’s love. Boxes should be filled with small toys, school supplies, hygiene items, socks, gloves, etc. Please be sure to include the \$7 shipping fee per box. All boxes are due at church by Sunday, **November 16.**

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Richard Davis, Caroline Welch	Fred Daniels, Therese McCarty
Faith Bookshop	Roberta Blackmer	Nancy Wainwright
Flower Delivery	Nancy & George Davidson, Ann & Doug Phillips	The Hjelm Family, Sarah Howes
Greeters	Kip & Joanne Arnold	Dick & Natalie Davis
Kinderwyk	Sarah Bachorik, Inge-Lise Pangburn	Sarah Bachorik
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Adam Mason, Jeanne Shoulder, Caroline Welch, Mary Jewett, Rob Dickson, Art Casey, George Davidson, Gay Doolittle	Caroline Welch, Bill Ward, Barbara Walton, John Bestgen, Brad Lewis, Cathy Lewis, Bill Rochelle, Linda Witkowski
Reader	Rev. Peg Miller	Therese McCarty
Refreshments	Joanne Arnold, Karen Giuzio	Gay Doolittle, Barbara Walton
Ushers	Art Shultes (head usher), David Bundy, Joe Gotwals, Chris Langdon, Karen Gonda, Jerry Wergedal, Michael Jablon	Bill Clock (head usher), Cathy Allen, Robert Allen, Joe Gallagher
How To Classes	How to Read a Financial Statement	How to Sing Hymns – Julie Panke

Sunday, November 2

- 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary
- 10:00 am Worship w/Communion
- 10:15 am Church School for K-2
- 11:00 am Chancel Guild Meeting
- 11:00 am UPC Session
- 11:15 am Forum
- 11:15 am Kirk Ringers
- 11:15 am How To Classes
- 2:30 pm Wiggins Recital
- 3:00 pm New Member Class
- 5:00 pm Evensong
- 5:00 pm JH & HS Youth Group
- 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers

Monday, November 3

- 9:00 am Men's Newsgroup
- 11:00 am Group V
- 6:15 pm Yoga
- 7:00 pm Klokken Tower Ringers

Tuesday, November 4

- 10:00 am Morning Prayer
- 10:00 am Horizons Bible Study
- 11:30 am Support & Care

Wednesday, November 5

- 9:30 am Kerygma
- 12:30 pm Thursday Belles
- 6:00 pm Midweek Evening Meal
- 7:00 pm Midweek Evening Worship

Thursday, November 6

- 7:30 am Bible Bunch
- 10:00 am Stitch Group
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Saturday, November 8

- 5:00 pm Link Service

Sunday, November 9

- 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary
- 10:00 am Worship
- 10:15 am Church School K-8
- 11:15 am Forum
- 11:15 am Kirk Ringers
- 11:15 am How To Classes
- 5:00 pm JH & HS Youth Group
- 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers

“Class is an aura of confidence that is being sure without being cocky. Class has nothing to do with money. Class never runs scared. It is self-discipline and self-knowledge. It’s the sure-footedness that comes with having proved you can meet life.” – Ann Landers

“Be careful not to mistake insecurity and inadequacy for humility! Humility has nothing to do with the insecure and inadequate! Just like arrogance has nothing to do with greatness!” – C. JoyBell C.

“You never really learn much from hearing yourself speak.” – George Clooney

“There are two circumstances that lead to arrogance: one is when you’re wrong and you can’t face it; the other is when you’re right and nobody else can face it.” – Criss Jami, *Diotima, Battery, Electric Personality*

“Arrogance is someone claiming to have come to Christ, but they won’t spend more than five minutes listening to your journey because they are more concerned about their own well being, rather than being a true disciple of Christ. Blessed is the person that takes the time to heal and hear another person so they can move on.” – Shannon L. Alder

“It may be a species of impudence to think that the way you understand God is the way God is.” – Joseph Campbell, *Thou Art That: Transforming Religious Metaphor*