

***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.



August 7, 2016



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. Stop by a welcome table at the entrance to the Sanctuary.

Non Emergency Number

Schenectady Police: 518-630-0911

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.

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 a hearing aid loop system that will make it easier to hear. Ask an usher.

Child Care on Sunday

Childcare for children through age four is available from 9:45am until noon in Dykstra Chapel, which is located in the back left corner of the Sanctuary.

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 at 11:15am upstairs in room 20.

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 church school activities.

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, during the summer months, people stop for a chat and refreshments in Huntley Garden (weather permitting) 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

We have a lost and found basket in the Narthex (at the front entrance of the church). If you have lost/misplaced an item at church, please check this basket.

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 7, 2016

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Avery Tunningley

Antiphon Ludwig von Beethoven
Devotional Suite (#2 "Communion")

Prelude and Fugue Charles L. Talmadge
J. L. Krebs

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Daniel Carlson

The grace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Stacey Midge

*HYMN *We Meet You, O Christ* #311

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)

Jesus said that where our treasure is, our hearts will also be. Forgive us when we invest our treasure and our hearts in things, money, security, or power. Awaken us when we are lulled into prioritizing our own comfort. Keep us alert to your presence in those we meet. Set our hearts on the unfailing treasure of your love and mercy.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)

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

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

The Apostles' Creed - Ecumenical version

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son,
our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy**

Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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

MUSICAL OFFERING Gene Rowland

Fount of Mercy Nettleton

Lord, thou art our fount of mercy,
Thou the source of love and grace.
Teach us to respond in worship,
bringing songs of loudest praise.
As we raise our voices, singing,
send thy Spirit winging near;
from thy never failing well-spring,
streams of healing pure and clear

Through the ages thou hast blest us
by thy mighty acts of love.
Christ our Savior, now unite us
with thy Father high above.
Jesus save us when like strangers
we are wand'ring from our God.
Come and rescue us from danger
by the shedding of thy blood.

We are sinners, now confessing,
none deserving thy concern.

Yet we dare to ask forgiveness
as to Thee our faces turn.

Lead us upward out of darkness
by thy brilliant guiding light;
Make our hearts contrite and flawless,
let thy grace be our delight.

Let thy grace be our delight.

Gene Rowland

FIRST LESSON George Trimarco

Guide us, God, by your Word and Holy Spirit
Amen. *Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 (pg 225)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Luke 12:32-40 (pg75)*

SERMON *Be Ready* Stacey Midge

*HYMN *Be Thou My Vision* #339

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

To Your Table We Come Stan Pethel

Long ago in an upper room,
With disciples all list'ning close;
Jesus came and broke the bread,
With the people he loved the most.
Now we have come and we're list'ning too,
Seeking Christ's voice to hear,
Let each one selfish will subdue,
As we worship with hearts sincere.

To your table we come as you ask us to do,
Purify us Lord, make our hearts ever true.
We partake now, O God, may our spirits renew.
To your table we come
with our minds ever fixed on you.

Jesus told them of things to come,
And the suffering he would face.
Though it seemed like a dream to them
Jesus showered them with grace.
Just like the disciples we cannot know
How he could condescend,
Greater love has no one than this,
To lay down their life for a friend.

*DOXOLOGY #592
Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

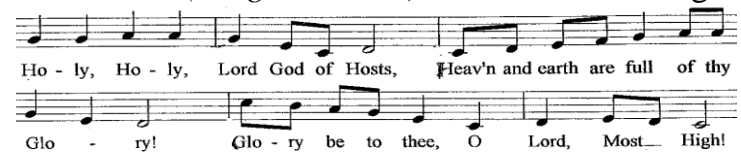
SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

*HYMN *Take My Life* #391 v. 1-4

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Sicilian Mariners
Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

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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 our church who entered eternal rest in previous years about this time:

Drew Mills, Thomas S. Getty, Miriam Carreker, John Senn, James A. Ramsey, Mark McDermott, Marjorie Burke, Helen Huff Lord

If you are aware of a departed member, whose name has not been noted near the anniversary of their death, please contact the church office.

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 Drive, Niskayuna, NY 12309.

Baptismal Buddies – TODAY

This group, of parents and recently and soon to be baptized, gathers today right after worship in the Poling Chapel for basic CPR training for emergency care of infants and children led by a professional first-responder. Others in the congregation who wish to join us for this training are most welcome. Sweet refreshments in the garden will follow for those able to stay.

Church School for Summer

There will always be a prepared craft or game activity for the children each Sunday if anyone chooses to attend. We may be meeting upstairs in room 20, or outside (weather permitting), but you will always pick up your children in room 20. Contact Blythe to volunteer to help.

Youth Group Schedule

Our youth group does not meet regularly during the summer months, but stay tuned for special activities to come! If you would like to be added to the email list, please contact Stacey at revstacey@gmail.com.

Faith Bookshop

If you find it closed, a Bookshop committee member will be glad to help you. Seek out Birdie Blackmer, Bill Clock, Ginny Laumeister or Nancy Wainwright.

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday ~ 5:00 pm

Today: Tim Olsen Trio

Aug 14: Mike Lamkin, piano

Aug 21: Peg Delaney Trio



Summer Refreshments

Whenever possible, our post service refreshments will be served in the Huntley Garden. Please consider signing up for preparation, cleanup, and refreshments by yourself or with a friend. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in Assembly Hall.

Summer Playground Dates on Mondays

Every Monday at 10am until the end of August, we will meet at *Niskayuna's River Road playground* for a playground date. All ages are welcome. There will be refreshments provided, not guaranteed to be healthy but will be nut free. The play date is scheduled for 1 hour. Blythe Czwakiel, our Children's Ministry Director, will be there for any questions and/or suggestions for the Children's Education Program. Please join us for some fun!

Summer Kerygma Conversations-Aug 10

Our group meets every other week, usually 9:30-11am in the Dirck Romeyn room, through August 24 to discuss Dietrich Bonhoeffer *Life Together*. This Wednesday we're taking the talk on the road...to the Browns' lake house. Contact Rev. Carlson for details.

Midmonth Evening Meal & Worship-Aug. 10

Join us this Wednesday at 6pm in Assembly Hall for a delicious dinner--main dish is provided; sides, salads, and desserts are invited. A brief contemplative service follows at 7pm in the quiet of Poling Chapel, where we attend to the love of God for all creation via guitar accompanied songs, guided meditation on Scripture, silence, Communion, prayers, and Christ's peace.

First Forum will resume in the Fall

Forum happens 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

Summer Ice Cream Socials at the Levering's House

Bill and Abby will be hosting a time at their place for ice cream and fellowship. While they are inviting certain folks, come on by if you are bored. We will start at 7pm and be done by dark.

August 14 – Great Consistory

Elders and Deacons ever ordained in any denomination are welcome to gather and share the wisdom of the ages.

The Short-Short Writing Group – Aug 16

A writing critique group meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 7pm in Dirck Romeyn room/Assembly Hall. Short-Shorts are stories, essays, memoirs, or other non-fiction works told in 1,000 words or less. Contact James Gonda for more info, at jgonda12309@gmail.com.

Call For Submissions!

The *Beverwyck Anthology* is now accepting submissions for its Fall 2016 issue. Deadline for submissions is August 31. Fiction, non-fiction, travel pieces, memoir, all told in 1,000 words or less are acceptable. Submissions may be emailed as a WORD doc to Rudy and Kathy Petersen, Editors-in-Chief, at threeoaksgarden@yahoo.com.

Church Library Story Time – August 20

All new this summer, we are pleased to invite you and your children and all of their friends to *STORY TIME*. On the 3rd Saturday of August we will have Story Time in the library. It will include either a read, or told story, and access to the Library for book check out. Refreshments will be available for adults and children in Assembly Hall. We meet in the Library at 10am.

Horizon Bible Study for Fall

Horizon's Bible study materials on "Who Is Jesus?" have arrived and can be obtained from Peg Miller for \$8 per copy. The new study will begin on September 13.

SICM Summer Lunches at Yates

Thank you everyone for volunteering at the summer luncheon program. We have enough volunteers but could always use substitutes. If you are interested in being a substitute, contact Ellie Rowland at 250-4302 or email her at erowland@nycap.rr.com.

Office Help

The church office is looking for volunteers to help out between the hours 2pm-4pm Monday-Friday. Even if it is one or two days or once a month. Contact Heather at 377-2201 for further information.

Stock Contributions

We love to receive contribution of stock and they are a good way to get a good deduction for appreciated stock without paying tax. However, sometimes brokers don't tell us what is going on. So if you give a gift of stock, please let us know so that we can get the right number in the right place. Contact Heather and let her know. And thanks.

Shepherds Needed to Feed the Sheep

FRC is committed to provide lunch at the Salvation Army on: Sept. 7, Oct. 5, and Nov. 9 in 2016. Join three friendly servers at the Salvation Army from 11am-1:30pm. We have fun! Contact Connie Young at 393-7061 or cyoung50@nycap.rr.com.

Music Notes

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.

Classis Assessment

You have received a letter about our Classis assessment. We are currently assessed \$93.91 a member to keep the denomination & its mission going. It's a lot, but we don't mind since it keeps us together nationally. It's sort of a franchise fee per member.

Pocket Prayer Shawls

Designed to fit in a pocket, purse, or backpack and can travel with you. The pocket shawl can remind you of God's comfort, support and closeness. Hold this prayer shawl in your hand and be reminded that God is always with you. Pocket prayer shawls will be available on the tables at the entrances to the sanctuary and in the church office. There is no charge for the shawls.

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The soul should always stand ajar, ready to welcome the ecstatic experience.

— Emily Dickinson

A Christian reveals true humility by showing the gentleness of Christ, by being always ready to help others, by speaking kind words and performing unselfish acts, which elevate and ennoble the most sacred message that has come to our world.

— Ellen G. White

I've heard there are troubles of more than one kind; some come from ahead, and some come from behind. But I've brought a big bat. I'm all ready, you see; now my troubles are going to have troubles with me!

— Dr. Seuss

We are all ready to be savage in some cause. The difference between a good man and a bad one is the choice of the cause.

— William James

There is no one, says another, whom fortune does not visit once in his life; but when she does not find him ready to receive her, she walks in at the door, and flies out at the window.

— Charles de Montesquieu

When you wash your hands, when you make a cup of coffee, when you're waiting for the elevator - instead of indulging in thinking, these are all opportunities for being there as a still, alert presence.

— Elkhart Tolle

For all your days be prepared, and meet them ever alike. When you are the anvil, bear -- when you are the hammer, strike.

— Edwin Markham

For the want of a nail, the shoe was lose; for the want of a shoe the horse was lose; and for the want of a horse the rider was lost, being overtaken and slain by the enemy, all for the want of care about a horseshoe nail.

— Benjamin Franklin

I run on the road, long before I dance under the lights.

— Muhammad Ali

I will prepare and some day my chance will come.

— Abraham Lincoln

Sunday, August 7

10:00 am Worship/Communion/
 Officer Installation
 10:15 am Church School K-5
 11:00 am Refreshments
 11:00 am Baptismal Buddies
 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers

Monday, August 8

9:00 am Men's News Group

Tuesday, August 9

10:00 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday, August 10

8:45 am Kerygma, *off site*
 1:00 pm Archives
 6:00 pm Midmonth Meal
 7:00 pm Midmonth Worship

Sunday, August 14

10:00 am Worship
 10:15 am Church School K-5
 11:00 am Refreshments
 5:00 pm Jazz Vespers
 7:00 pm *Great Consistory* Ice Cream Social
 at the Levering's home

Sunday Volunteers	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Tom Burgoyne and George Trimarco	Richard Davis and Bill Rochelle
Greeters		
Flower Delivery	Sarah Howes and Nancy Wainwright	Kathy and Liz Barker Kitty & George Trimarco
Faith Bookshop	Committee Member	Committee Member
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Jeremy Bork
Preacher	Stacey Midge	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Mary Jewett, Cathy Lewis, Liz Mastrianni, Keith Muse, Del Pierce, Jeanne Shoulder	Birdie Blackmer, Tom Lindsay, Bill Rochelle, Kitty Trimarco
Reader	George Trimarco	Ellie Rowland
Refreshments	Liz Mastrianni and Frank Ralbovsky	Ruth Roinos
Ushers	Bill Clock (head usher), Jacob Etkin, Nancy Wainwright, Kay Koroma, Ray Bostick	Del Pierce (head usher), Mike Horan, Vickie McGowan-Horan, Carol Troost, Christine Lund