

***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.



*Love
a word that leads
to(o) many destinations
like
Jesus*

April 28, 2013

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. The welcome tables at the entrance to the sanctuary and in Assembly Hall have some helpful church information.

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.

Non Emergency Number

Schenectady Police: 518-382-5200

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 at 11:15am 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 a cookie 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

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.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2013

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE

Naphtali Rothrock

Larg

G. F. Handel

Aria

G. F. Handel

Arioso

J. S. Bach

The Gift of Love

O Waly Waly
arr. Hal Hopson

10:00 a.m.

GREETING

Daniel Carlson

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord has risen indeed! Alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WORSHIP

ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill Levering

INTROIT *Alleluia, Lift Up Your Voice*

Shirley McRae

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #469

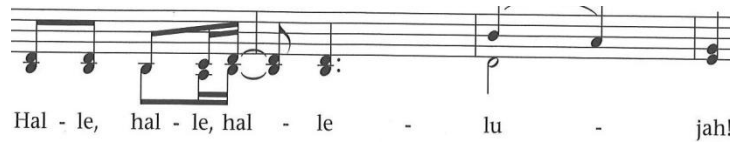
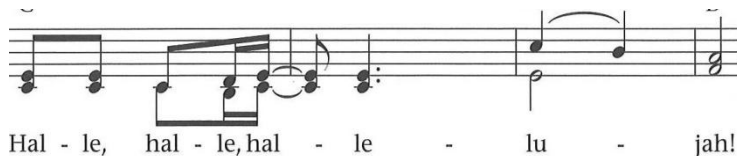
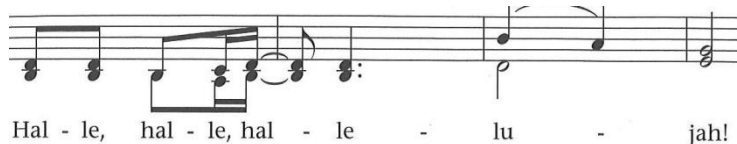
Morning Has Broken

Bunessan

*PRAYER (*unison*)

God of new life, we lift our hearts in thanksgiving for the hope you have brought us in Jesus. Deepen our lives with the message of your love. Amen.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE



*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord has risen indeed! Alleluia!

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM *Come, Sing, Rejoice!* G.F. Handel

Come, sing, rejoice, let all make music to
God alone.

Sing songs of grateful praise, your joyful
anthems raise.

God's mighty hand we see in all the earth.

The wide, expanding seas,

mountains and trees tell forth God's love.

Let all the people praise the Lord.

God's mighty hand we see in all the earth.

Sing songs of joy forevermore.

O praise the Lord.

Psalm 95:1-5

FIRST LESSON

Robert Dickson

Guide us, O Lord, by your Word and Holy
Spirit. **Amen.**

Revelation 21:1-6 (page 259)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Grades K-8 are dismissed for Church School.

SECOND LESSON *John 13:31-35 (page 108)*

SERMON *Loving Like Jesus* Bill Levering

*HYMN #335 *Though I May Speak*

O Waly Waly

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Stay with Us* Egil Hovland

Stay with us, Lord Jesus, stay with us.
it soon is evening and night is falling.

Jesus Christ, the world's true light!
Shine so the darkness cannot overcome it!

Let your light pierce the darkness
and fill your church with its glory.

Stay with us, Lord Jesus, stay with us,
it soon is evening, and night is falling.

Luke 24:29

*HYMN #592 *Praise God...* Doxology

*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 #376 *Love Divine* Hyfrydol

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Twofold Amen*

Please be seated for the Postlude.

POSTLUDE *Prelude in G Major* Naphtali Rothrock
J.S. Bach

+ + +

Music Note:

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah! Text © 1990, GIA Publications Inc. and music. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-700700

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:

Harold Cassidy, Rev. Dr. J. Dean Dykstra, Patricia Dykstra, Dae Gillespie, Dorothy Greenwood, Leonard Grupe, Clarence H. Linder, Sr., Leroy Moody, and Katherine Studer

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 chancel flowers to remember a loved one or to honor a special event. Please inform the office of your wishes. The cost of the flowers is \$30 for the two bouquets. You may send your check payable to Chancel Guild, c/o Marlene Risseuw, 2140 Niskayuna Dr., Niskayuna, NY 12309.

In Memoriam

The chancel flowers today are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God in loving memory of Janet Schwem from David and Carol Schweizer. 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

We are always looking for volunteers to bring in food! It can be cookies, cheese and crackers, fruit, or anything you want. There is a sign-up sheet in Assembly Hall. Food should be brought around 9:30am, unless it is already set up on a platter. Beginning June 2, 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. If any questions contact Heather Chestnut 346-7887.

First Forum

Today: JAC, Poling Conf. Rm: Practicing Social Justice - Members will lead a brief orientation and then guide participants in writing a letter or two to policy makers and legislators. Bring a pen.

May 5: Update on Union Presbyterian

May 12: No Forum (Mother's Day)

May 19: Church Picnic!

May 26: TBA

Faith Bookshop

Rabbi Jesus, the book highly recommended by Rev. Matthew Fox during his visit here last Sunday, is available in the Bookshop, as well as several books he authored. Bookshop book prices reflect a 30% discount.

Donated jewelry ranging from whimsical to elegant is also for purchase, and it's priced-to-sell. We welcome more jewelry donations. Proceeds will go to a worthy community endeavor.

Jazz Appreciation Month Every Sunday, 5pm

Today: Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Jim Corigliano, sax; Tom D'Andrea, drums

May 5: Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

May 12: 'Azzaam Hameed, piano

May 19: Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

May 26: David Gleason, piano

Junior & Senior High Youth Groups

Unless otherwise noted (see below), the Youth Groups meet every Sunday, Junior High (grades 6-8) at 5pm and Senior High (grades 9-12) at 7pm. Friends are always welcome.

May 12: Youth Service! Seniors will speak and youth will lead at the 10am worship service.

Normal youth group programming will be on hiatus for the summer, but stay tuned for special events in the warm weather!

Midweek Evening Prayer

Join us any Wednesday of May, 7-7:45pm, for an Eastertide service in Poling Chapel that includes gentle singing accompanied by guitar, guided reflection on the resurrection; joyful sharing of the Lord's Supper (homemade bread; wine or juice,) praying aloud or in silence, and extending a sign or word of Christ's peace. All who wish to rekindle their awareness of God's loving presence within, among, and beyond us are welcome.

End Poverty Schenectady

All are welcome to attend a forum to make our community and congregations aware of the crisis of poverty in Schenectady County and to develop a plan to eliminate this crisis within the next ten years. To be held on Saturday, May 4 from 10 - 12pm at Proctors, Fenimore Gallery. For more information, please contact Angelica A. Morris, Schenectady County Human Rights Commission Chair by e-mail at angelicamorris@yahoo.com, or call 201-5036.

CROP Walk

On Sunday, May 5, the annual Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty (CROP) walk will take place at 12:30pm, beginning at Emmanuel Friedens Church and winding 5k through Schenectady. The proceeds support hunger-fighting efforts around the world, with 25% going to local food pantries, Community Crisis Network, and Senior Meals. Want to walk? Get a donation form from Stacey Midge. Non-walkers can drop off their donations at the church office. Checks should be made out to "CWS/CROP."

Group V

We will have our end of the year picnic on Monday, May 6 at the home of Maria G. Todd, 1229 Viewmont Dr. Niskayuna. Bring a salad. For more information please contact Maria 882-6555.

Youth Lead Worship May 12

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.

Group VII

On Friday, May 17 at 11am we will have a tour at Congregation Gates of Heaven Temple. If any questions, contact Ronnie Bartholic at 393-7679.

Church Picnic, May 19

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 at 7:30pm. Our next meeting on May 21 is at Connie Young's home. Come and make new or renew old connections. Contact Connie 393-7061 for more information.

Prayer Shawl Knitting Group Date Change

Meetings are every fourth Thursday at 9:30am. Our next meeting is May 23 at the home of Ronnie Bartholic. We welcome anyone. Please contact Ronnie 393-7679 with any questions.

College Bound?

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

Yoga at FRC

Douglas Goodbee certified in Kripalu/Hatha E-RYT and athletic yoga teaches every Thursday at 6:45pm in Assembly Hall. These classes are free

for FRC members, \$10 a class for non-members. Learn yoga postures and breathing and have fun doing it. Drop in when you can. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a mat. This class is for everyone at any level; singles, families, and seniors. (Children must be with a parent or guardian.) Questions: contact Douglas 229-7291 or dagoods1@gmail.com.

Name Tags Are Available

If you do not have a name tag and would like one, please fill out a white pew card and place it in the offering basket. The following Sunday you can pick it up in the office.

New Sexton

Some of you may have noticed a familiar face on Sundays filling in as our Sexton. Starting May 1, Tom Mahan will officially be our church Sexton. Tom can be found Sunday mornings performing various tasks to get the church set-up for worship and coffee hour. Stop by and say HI.

Wrong Leather Jacket?

If the jacket you wore home from worship is not the one you wore to worship, please contact Paul Houpt at 698-6539, for whom this is also the case and would like his back; no questions asked.

Kinderwyck

We are looking for one adult to help play with our littlest children. No experience is required. Actually, we need an extra adult (over 18) in Kinderwyck each Sunday to keep FRC's child protection policies valid. Please find one Sunday this year to devote to this important child care. It's from 9:45-noon) If you are available a signup sheet will be outside room 20 and at Kinderwyck for all other Sundays.

Johnson Library

The Johnson Library is in need of a manual typewriter. If anyone has one to donate, someone from the Library can pick it up.

Consistory 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 exercise particular concern for the interior life and programs of the church (Worship, Fellowship, Education, and Congregational Care). Deacons exercise particular concern for the outreach of the church (Mission and Benevolence, Finance, Justice Advocacy, and Historical Concerns). Elders and Deacons will be elected at the annual meeting of the congregation on **June 2, 2013**.

The names of recommended candidates for Elder and Deacon may be submitted on a **white pew card or a yellow nomination form** and delivered to the church office or given to any member of the Committee: Joe Gallagher, Lyn Gordon, Rebecca Grande, Hans Erickson, Jennifer Evans; Senior Elders, Caroline Brooks, Keith Muse; Ministers, Bill Levering, Daniel Carlson, or Stacey Midge. The Nominating Committee would appreciate your response as soon as possible.

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Bill Martin, Nancy Wainwright	Richard Davis, Caroline Welch
Faith Bookshop	Linda Witkowski	Nancy Wainwright
Flower Delivery	Katherine & George Trimarco, Chris & Leah Kidwell-Fernandes	Laura Lee Linder, Peggy & Robert Ridgway
Greeters	Connie Young, Joanne Bedell	
Kinderwyck	Sarah Bachorik, Inge-Lise Pangburn	Sarah Bachorik, Gay Doolittle
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Caroline Brooks, William Brooks, Delbert Pierce, William Rochelle, Linda Witkowski	Mary Jewett, Keith Muse, Eugene Zeltmann, Christine Daniels, Robert Dickson, Phillip Falconer, Delbert Pierce, Tom Lindsay
Reader	Robert Dickson	Bradley Lewis
Refreshments		
Ushers/ Offertory Deacons	Art Shultes (head usher), Jeff Cox Linda Stanhope, Louis Acquasanta	Richard Davis, Lisa Etkin, Claire Hughes, Nancy Wainwright, Caroline Welch, David Bundy, Kimberly Burgoyne, Tom Burgoyne

Sunday, April 28

10:15 a.m. Church School
 11:00 a.m. Coffee & Refreshments
 11:00 a.m. Membership Committee
 11:15 a.m. First Forum
 11:15 a.m. Kirk Ringers
 4:00 p.m. Youth Orchestra
 5:00 p.m. Jazz Vespers
 5:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group
 7:00 p.m. Senior High Youth Group

Monday, April 29

9:00 a.m. Men's News Group
 7:00 p.m. African Drumming
 7:00 p.m. Samaritan Mindfulness
 7:00 p.m. Klokken Tower Ringers

Tuesday, April 30

10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

Wednesday, May 1

9:30 a.m. Kerygma Class
 7:00 p.m. Midweek Evening Prayer

Thursday, May 2

7:30 a.m. Breakfast Bible Bunch
 10:00 a.m. Stitch Group
 6:45 p.m. Yoga
 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Sunday, May 5

9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
 9:15 a.m. High School Choir
 10:00 a.m. Worship with Communion
 10:15 a.m. Church School
 11:00 a.m. Coffee & Refreshments
 11:15 a.m. First Forum
 11:15 a.m. Kirk Ringers
 12:00 p.m. Justice Action Council
 3:00 p.m. Octavio Singers Concert
 4:00 p.m. Youth Orchestra
 5:00 p.m. Jazz Vespers
 5:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group
 7:00 p.m. Senior High Youth Group

Being deeply loved by someone gives you strength, while loving someone deeply gives you courage.

~Lao Tzu

Friends can help each other. A true friend is someone who lets you have total freedom to be yourself - and especially to feel. Or, not feel. Whatever you happen to be feeling at the moment is fine with them. That's what real love amounts to - letting a person be what he really is. ~Jim Morrison

Affection is responsible for nine-tenths of whatever solid and durable happiness there is in our lives.

~C. S. Lewis

I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear.

~Martin Luther King, Jr.

Immature love says: 'I love you because I need you.' Mature love says 'I need you because I love you.'

~Erich Fromm

A loving heart is the beginning of all knowledge.

~Thomas Carlyle

I have found the paradox, that if you love until it hurts, there can be no more hurt, only more love.

~Mother Teresa

Love does not begin and end the way we seem to think it does. Love is a battle, love is a war; love is a growing up.

~James A. Baldwin