

***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.



Put on the scratchy halo,
Put on the saint hood, too.
Join all the faithful wingers;
For Christ has come for you!

November 3, 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.

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.

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.

Stewardship Sunday

November 3, 2013

PRELUDE Jeannette Storch, oboe
Preludio from Sonata in A minor
Arcangelo Corelli (1653-1713)

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 *Let Your Light Shine* Tom Benjamin

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #507
I Come with Joy Dove of Peace

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)
Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed. We have failed to care for the people and the world you created. God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you come to us in mercy, we may turn to you, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our redeemer. Amen.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*unison*)
God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)
Adapted from the Belhar Confession
We believe that God wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people. In a

world full of injustice and enmity, God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry; God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind; God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly. The church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

*PASSING THE PEACE

MUSICAL OFFERING
Giga from Sonata in A minor Arcangelo Corelli

FIRST LESSON George Davidson
Guide us, O Lord, by your Word and Holy Spirit. **Amen.** *Romans 1:7-8 (page 152)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Romans 12:9-18 (page 162)*

SERMON *For All the Saints* Bill Levering

*HYMN # 422 *God, Whose Giving...*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY
Let us Talents and Tongues Employ
arr. Bradley Ellingboe
Jeannette Storch, oboe; Tom D'Andrea, conga

Let us talents and tongues employ,
reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured,
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the word around: loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one,
at the table he sets the tone.

teaching people to live to bless,
love in word and in deed express.

Jesus calls us in, sends us out
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share:
God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere!

Fred Kaan

***THANKSGIVING #591**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God whom we adore.
Amen.

***DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS AND
PLEDGES**

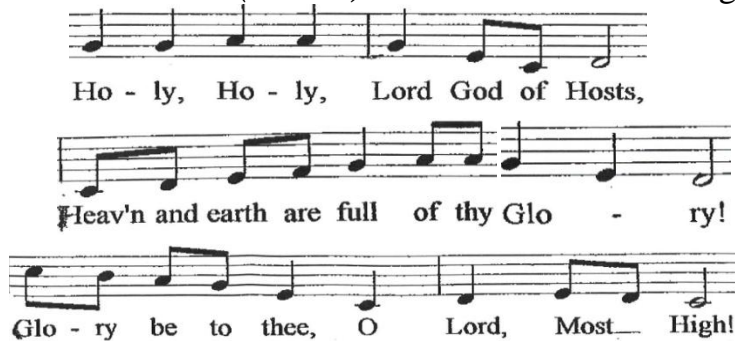
SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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 (unison) Carl Steubing



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts,
Heav'n and earth are full of thy Glo - ry!
Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord, Most High!

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**

For All the Saints

Sine Nomine

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

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 this congregation who entered eternal rest in previous years about this time:

Melissa Greskovich, Jean Heilman, and Ada Huybregtse

On Communion Sundays we also bear in mind those members who are unable to join us for worship, including:

Jean Brown, Janet Crandall, Dolph Ebeling, Ruth George, Deleo Gravink, Betty Kleiber, Helen McCary, Tom Norton, Margaret Reed, and Elyne Schulte

Entered Into Eternal Rest

Evelyn Johnson
October 29, 2013

Blockadeathon Breakfast

Next Sunday, Nov. 10, the Stockadeathon (we call it the Blockadeathon) will be running in downtown Schenectady DURING CHURCH so getting to worship will be difficult. We are having a continental breakfast to help you avoid the problem by getting here BEFORE 9am. Between 9 and 10:30am you may have trouble getting through police barricades. A continental breakfast will be available after 8:30am for all in Assembly Hall.

Forum

Held 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.

Today: Justice Action Council - A review and discussion of current issues for Congregational Awareness and Action. Co-Chairs Gay and Joe Doolittle

Nov. 10: Poetry Corner -Members share favorite poems, facilitated by Linda Witkowski. Come, listen and share passages and poems that touch your heart.

Nov. 17: Sharing Keys with Naphtali - Naphtali Rothrock shares some of her favorite works of music.

Nov. 24: Sermon talk-back and conversation with Rev. Bill Levering - *So how's it going?*

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday, 5pm

Nov. 3: Nat Phipps, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

Nov. 10: 'Azzaam Hameed, piano; Ronald Mayfield, guitar; Carl West, bass, Tom D'Andrea, drums

Nov. 17: Peg Delaney, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

Nov. 24: Thanksgiving Jazz Fest

The annual Jazz Festival from 4-6pm in the Sanctuary on Nov. 24 will feature David Gleason and Scott Bassinson on piano; Mike Lawrence and Pete Toigo on bass; Jim Corigliano, sax; Dylan Canterbury, trumpet; Tom D'Andrea, drums. Tickets are \$12 at the door, \$10 in advance,

students \$5. Call or pick up ticket(s) in the Church Office.

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: Regular meeting at 5pm. We will be hearing and acting out Jesus' parables. After the meeting at 7pm, we will have a brief gathering for those youth who are interested in participating in the mission trip.

Nov. 10: Senior High youth will be taking pie orders after the worship service at 11am, to raise money for the mission trip. Regular meeting at 5pm. We will play games and have a panel of interesting people who you can grill about their perspective on God, the church, their own faith journeys, or life in general.

Nov. 17: Senior High youth will be taking pie orders after the worship service at 11am, to raise money for the mission trip. Regular meeting at 5pm, with an exciting and mysterious video project.

Book Fair

"... and we all had a real good time!" I would be remiss if I failed to thank the many buyers and donors of books. We had an embarrassment of riches. Special thanks to the Yangs who, once again, provided the autumn decorations. Special thanks also to the men of the Oct. 19 Mens Breakfast group. They cheerfully VOLUNTEERED to bring the books from the conference room into Assembly Hall. Bless them! See you all at the 2015 extravaganza!

Faith Bookshop

The donated jewelry sale ends today. Proceeds from this project will go to *Things of My Very Own*, and remaining jewelry will be given to the *Elite Repeat Boutique*. For information about these organizations which benefit our local community, see the Nov. issue of First Things.

Stephen Ministry Training Continues

This coming week our Stephen Ministry training will be considering the subject of *Assertiveness: Relating Gently and Firmly*. In this presentation they will be finding out the difference between passive, assertive, and aggressive behavior and gaining skills that will help both in relating with others and in affirming their own worth. We thank God for the continuing dedication of our Stephen Ministry trainees, and ask your continued prayers for them and for God's blessings upon their ministries.

Evening Circle

The Evening circle will meet at the home of Ellie Rowland, 1249 Sandra Lane in Niskayuna at 7:30pm on Wednesday, Nov. 6. The program will be a discussion of *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak, a most unusual and beautifully written book about Nazi Germany from a young school girl's viewpoint.

All women are invited, whether you have read the book or not. Please call Ellie, 370-1958 or email, erowland@nycap.rr.com if you can attend.

Fellowship Luncheon

Fellowship Luncheon will meet Friday, Nov. 8, in Assembly Hall at 11:45am. *Note that date is not the last Friday in October.* Ellie Rowland and Ellie Brudos will serve as co-hostesses for the day. Our own Rev. Stacie Midge will tell us about her work with *Patty's Place*.

Movie Night

Join in viewing the film *Fast Life* on Fri., Nov. 8 at 7pm at the home of Andy and Heather Chestnut (1286 Wendell Ave., Schenectady). A thought provoking film made by students from Schenectady High School, RSVP by Tues., Nov. 5 to Leah Kidwell-Fernandes at 383-2167 or sign-up in Assembly Hall.

Men's Breakfast

All men of FRC and UPC are welcome; bring a friend. We will meet at 8am on Saturday, Nov. 9

in Assembly Hall. To read more see our *Nov. First Things*.

Pie Sale

The youth group will begin taking orders for its annual Pie Sale on Nov. 10. Homemade apple and pumpkin pies will be available for pickup on Sunday, Nov. 24 for \$15 each. Proceeds from the sale support the youth mission trip.

Lights. Camera. Jesus!

Beginning Nov. 19, on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7pm, we invite you to join us in Dirck Romeyn room for a new group: **Lights. Camera. Jesus!** Each week we will gather together to watch a documentary, a short film, or a movie followed by reflective conversation. The films will cover a variety of topics from feminism to food, from evangelism to evolution, from sexuality to Scripture, and from Hell to health care. This group is intended for adults and older teens who are willing to ask deeper questions, curious to talk about the things we don't often talk about, and eager to seek Jesus in new ways.

Contact Covenanter Jeremy Bork (jeremybork19@gmail.com; or call 605-254-2645) if you are interested, and join us on Nov. 19 at 7pm.

Commissioning Service

All are invited to attend the joint commissioning service of Abby Norton-Levering and Bob Hoffman on Saturday Nov. 23 at the Herkimer Reformed Church. Abby will be commissioned to her new position as the Regional Synod of Albany's Ministries Coordinator, and Bob to his position as Synod Administrator. A joyful worship service will be at 2pm, and a celebrative meal will follow. Childcare will be provided. All interested in joining the synod-wide pick-up choir and orchestra are invited to come at 12 for practice. No RSVP needed, but you should email Abby at nortonlevering@gmail.com if you need childcare, or if you want to be part of the choir or orchestra.

Operation Christmas Child

OCC brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God's love.

People of all ages can be involved in this simple, hands-on mission project while focusing on the true meaning of Christmas - Jesus Christ. *All boxes are due at church by Sunday Nov. 17.*

Brochures with packing instructions and labels can be found in Assembly Hall. The red & green boxes will also be available. **Please only take a box if you plan on returning it** for OCC as we now have to pay for these - regular shoe boxes or similar sized containers are still acceptable! Please be sure to include the \$7 shipping fee per box.

Completed boxes and items for the boxes can be dropped off at our blue bin in the church lobby.

All cash donations are tax deductible. Checks can be made payable to FRC of Schenectady indicating OCC on the memo line. We especially need the \$7 shipping fee that needs to accompany each box!

For more information visit:

www.samaritanspurse.org

Questions? Contact Shannon Kerwin 374-2542 or shan2112@yahoo.com

Dedicated Christmas Flowers

As we prepare for the Holiday season, remember a loved one by participating in the Christmas Memorial Flowers. Each year the church is decorated with plants and greens during the holiday season. Your loved ones will be remembered in the bulletin on December 24. The donation is \$20. Even if you have donated in previous years, you must place a new order for Christmas 2013. Please call the church office **no later than Thursday, December 19**, to make arrangements. Send payment to Chancel Guild, c/o Marlene Risseeuw, 2140 Niskayuna Drive, 12309.

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Fred Daniels, Caroline Welch	Richard Davis, Gay Doolittle
Faith Bookshop	Bill Clock	Virginia Laumeister
Flower Delivery	Cathy & Robert Allen, Karen & Rob Dickson	Karlyne & Nelson Drimalas, Catherine & Brad Lewis
Greeters		
Kinderwyk	Sarah Bachorik	Sarah Bachorik, Peggy Ridgway
Liturgist	Daniel Carlson	
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Robert Dickson, Mary Jewett, Keith Muse, Caroline Brooks, Bill Brooks, Darwin Brudos, Brad Lewis, Catherine Lewis	Veronica Bartholic, Peggy King, Christine Daniels, Tom Lindsay, Carolyn Jones-Assini, Margaret Schadler
Reader	George Davidson	Carol Troost
Refreshments	Gini McDermott, Amy Brule	Ann Hicks, Ann Bish
Offertory Deacon/ Usher	Fred Daniels, Bill Martin, Victoria McGowan-Horan, Nancy Wainwright, Joe Gallagher, Kim Burgoyne, Tom Burgoyne, Caroline Welch	Bill Clock (head usher), Cathy Allen, Robert Allen, Joe Gallagher, Maurice Robbins

Sunday, November 3

- 10:00 amWorship with Communion
- 10:15 amChurch School for K-2
- 11:00 amCoffee & Conversation
- 11:15 amForum
- 11:15 amUPC Women’s Assoc. Meeting
- 5:00 pmJazz Vespers

The Feast of All Saints

For all the saints whom no one thought to name.
Just here and now their holy praise proclaim.

For the homely saints no halo aglow,
Favored by the Lord but to us "so-so."

For the ruined saints who craved no boardroom
glee, But offered their arms and gave without fee.

For the tattered saints who found no rest at home,
But served in patient woe and shrank in hearts
alone.

For the silent saints captured by their pain,
Offering it to Him for salvation’s gain.

For the blithering saint whose strings of words
bemuse, His blank stare runs counter to the civil
use.

For the stunted saints no worldly stature given
Graced by a shrug and through neglect, shriven.

The humble face of saints uncanonized
Lies in the dust by Him only prized

For these great saints we have yet to know
Celebrate today! Feast on crow.

Monday, November 4

- 9:00 amMens News Group
- 6:30 pmStephen Ministry Training
- 7:00 pmKlokken Tower Ringers

Tuesday, November 5

- 10:00 amHorizons Bible Study
- 10:00 amMorning Prayer
- 1:30 pmWorship Planning
- 6:00 pmCRTC

Wednesday, November 6

- 9:30 amKerygma Conversations
- 1:00 pmArchives
- 1:00 pmThursday Belles
- 6:00 pmDinner & Faith Discussion
- 7:00 pmContemplative Communion

Thursday, November 7

- 7:30 amBreakfast Bible Bunch
- 10:00 amStitch Group
- 6:45 pmYoga
- 7:30 pmChancel Choir

Friday, November 8

- 12:00 pmFellowship Luncheon

Saturday, November 9

- 8:00 amMen’s Breakfast

Sunday, November 10

- 9:00 amChancel Choir Rehearsal
- 9:15 amHigh School Choir
- 10:00 amWorship
- 10:15 amChurch School for K-8
- 11:00 amCoffee & Conversation
- 11:15 amForum
- 11:15 amOrff Rehearsal
- 11:20 amKirk Ringers
- 4:00 pmYouth Orchestra
- 5:00 pmJH & SH Youth Group
- 5:00 pmJazz Vespers