

**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.



Calling, yearning, urging
The holy best

Beaming benevolence
Being blessing

We celebrate the blessings of the past
The call of the future.

February 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. 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.

Heritage Sunday

February 2, 2014

*The congregation may stand.

PRELUDE Musicians of Ma'alwyck
Ann-Marie Barker Schwartz, violin
 Sten Isachsen, guitar
Beautiful Dreamer
 Stephen Foster (1826-1864)
Cowherder's Song Ole Bull (1810 - 1880)
Ashokan Farewell Jay Ungar (b. 1946)

10:00 a.m.

GREETING Stacey Midge
The grace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ORIENTATION

CALL TO WORSHIP Bill Levering

INTROIT *This is the Day* Lansom Demmings

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #281
Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*OUR NEED FOR GOD (*unison*)
God of fire and ice, we confess that the coldness of the world often drives us into the safety of our private homes. We need your help to venture out, to engage the world, to risk love.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE HYMN #576
Gloria, Gloria

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)
(from the United Church of Canada)
We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is

creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

*PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM *God of the Prophets* Toulon

God of the prophets! Bless the prophets' sons:
Elijah's mantle o'er Elisha cast;
Each age its solemn task may claim but once;
Make each one nobler, stronger than the last!

Anoint them prophets! Make their ears attend
To Thy divinest speech; their hearts awake
To human need; their lips make eloquent
To assure the right, and every evil break.

Anoint them priests! Strong intercessors they
For pardon, and for charity and peace!
Ah, if with them the world might pass, astray,
Into the dear Christ's life of sacrifice!

Anoint them rulers, gentle rulers, Lord!
Anoint them with the Spirit of Thy Son:
Theirs, not a jewelled crown, a blood-stained
sword;
Theirs, by strong love, for Christ a kingdom won.

Denis Wortman (1884), 15th minister of FRC

FIRST LESSON Therese McCarty
Guide us, O Lord, by your Word and Holy
Spirit. **Amen.** *1 Corinthians 1:18-31 (pg 166)*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND LESSON *Matthew 5:1-12 (pg 4)*

SERMON *Blessings* Bill Levering

*HYMN #520 *Here, O Our Lord...*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Italian Hymn

Christ for the World We Sing!

Christ for the world we sing!
The world to Christ we bring,
With loving zeal;
The poor, and them that mourn,
The faint and overborne,
Sin-sick and sorrow-worn,
Whom Christ doth heal.

Christ for the world we sing!
The world to Christ we bring,
With fervent prayer;
The wayward and the lost,
By restless passions tossed,
Redeemed at countless cost,
From dark despair.

Christ for the world we sing!
The world to Christ we bring,
With one accord;
With us the work to share,
With us reproach to dare,
With us the cross to bear,
For Christ our Lord.

Christ for the world we sing!
The world to Christ we bring,
With joyful song;
The new-born souls, whose days,
Reclaimed from error's ways,
Inspired with hope and praise,
To Christ belong.

Samuel Wolcott (1869)

*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 with your spirit.

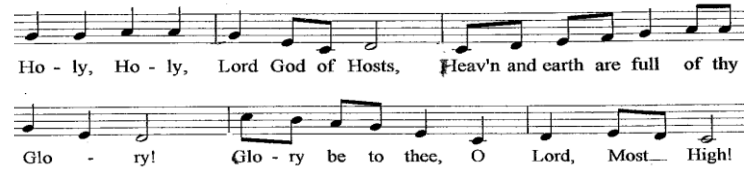
Lift up your hearts.

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 #282

If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Twofold Amen*

Rob Landes

Please be seated to enjoy the Postlude

POSTLUDE *Quadrilles*

Ph. Ernst (1792-1868)

+ + +

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:

Virginia Cleveland, Raymond Fisher, Janice Flom, Janet Schwem, Herbert Stare, and George Stroebel

Entered Into Eternal Rest

Emily Nagamatsu
January 30, 2014

Music Notes

Today's choir selections are hymns from the post Civil War era. The Anthem (written in 1884) is by Denis Wortman, 15th minister of First Reformed who was called to serve just after the close of the Civil War and who gave a discourse on the death of Abraham Lincoln to an overflowing audience at the church just after he was called. His hymn, published in 57 hymnals, was written for the 100th Anniversary of New Brunswick Seminary from which he graduated in 1860. It is a powerful call to ministry mentioning various biblical offices to depict Christian ministries: prophets, priests, and rulers. The Offertory was written by Samuel Wolcott (1813 – 1886), a missionary and Congregational pastor who wrote more than 200 hymns, mostly late in life.

Post Service Refreshments

Everyone is invited to have refreshments in Assembly Hall right after worship. We are always looking for volunteers to bring in food. 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 by e-mail to 1streformedpub@gmail.com or 377-2201. Please consider volunteering.

Narthex Display

For more about Heritage Sunday take a look at the east display case in the Narthex.

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 or Amy Brule, 785-8201.

Today: Rob Dickson of FRC will share his ongoing research of FRC in the Civil War, *It Touched Every Hearth*.

Feb. 9: How are we doing together? Rev. Dr. Bill Levering

Feb. 16: Presidents weekend – Coffee & Conversation, along with an informal opportunity to learn more about our Covenanters, Jeremy Bork, and Daniel Eckert.

Feb. 23: *Faith in the Fields*: Spirituals and Song of Praise. Join Timothy Dunn, friend of the Congregation and Choir for a lively interpretive session

Jazz Vespers Every Sunday ~ 5pm

Today: Nat Phipps, piano

Feb. 9: 'Azzaam Hameed, piano; Pete Toigo, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

Feb. 16: Peg Delaney, piano

Feb. 23: Michael Lamkin, piano; Bill Delaney, bass; Tom D'Andrea, drums

Faith Bookshop

See this month's *First Things* for Bookshop information, including gift suggestions for your Valentine.

Fair Trade ground coffees, including flavored and decaf have been restocked; also a selection of teas. Sales are self-serve and just in time for Valentine's Day buy your sweetheart dark chocolate hearts or buy Love Buzz dark roasted coffee. Proceeds from coffee sales are used by Mission and Benevolence to support extra needs of local organizations.

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: No meetings

Feb. 9: Regular meeting at 5pm; Mission Trip meeting at 7pm.

Feb. 16: No regular meeting. Senior High students who are going on the mission trip will meet at 6pm.

Feb. 22: Mission trip ends at noon

Feb. 23: No meetings.

Class Dismissed

Rev. Carlson has been in Chicago for a class this past week; he will be back in the church office on Monday, Feb. 3.

Group V

We will meet on Feb. 3 in the Dirck Romeyn room. We will be discussing the book *To Heaven and Back* by Mary Neal. A great book on how God has had a continued presence in this Orthopedic Surgeon's life.

Kerygma Conversations Resumes!

All are welcome each Wednesday, 9:30 to 11am, in Poling Conference room to explore the meaning of the gospel for our lives. Beginning this Wednesday, Feb. 5 and continuing through May 7 we'll be considering a topic of recent growing interest: the writings about Jesus which were not included in the Bible, how these compare to those that were chosen, and what this has to do with our faith. The book we'll use is *Jesus, Gnosis, and Dogma*, and is available for perusal in the Faith Bookshop and copies of the first chapter will be available in class. Those with questions may contact Daniel Carlson (346-6416).

Midweek Vegetarian Dinner & Worship

Every Wednesday at 6pm in Assembly Hall a small group of members and friends share a delicious, healthy, plant-based feast of soup, salad, and something sweet. Sign up in Assembly

Hall if you would like to bring an edible contribution. Then all are welcome to our contemplative service from 7 to 7:45pm in Poling Chapel. This worship always includes a lovely guitar prelude, gentle singing, guided reflection, Holy Communion, and shared prayers, through which we seek to rekindle awareness of God's loving presence within us and all creation.

Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast group will meet on Saturday, Feb. 8 at 8am. Our guest speaker on that day will be Bill Buell, a features writer for the Daily Gazette. Bill is a native of Glenville and a resident in Niskayuna. He is the author of *Historic Schenectady County: A Bicentennial History*, published in 2009, as a reference for the County's Bi-Centennial. He is currently writing a biography of George Lunn: *From the Pulpit to Politics: Commentary on the Life of Rev. Dr. George Lunn*.

The Rev. Lunn was Schenectady's mayor for a total of four years, first as a Socialist and later as a Democrat. He then served as a U.S. Representative from New York, and was Lieutenant Governor of New York. We are excited to hear what Mr. Buell has to say about this historic figure.

Memorial Service

For the Immortal Four Chaplains to be held on Saturday, Feb. 8, at 11am, with a light lunch following the program. The service will be held at the Lt. Fred H. Clark American Legion Post 91 at 427 S. Main St. Mechanicville, NY 12118. Please call the post at (518) 664-5333 and let them know if you are planning to attend.

Adult Winterfest

On Saturday, Feb. 8, Doug and Maria G. Todd have offered their abode (Fox Hill Farm, 6003 Parkis Mills Rd., Galway) as the location for our annual adult winter outing. For the adventurous, skating, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, or a muddy winter hike begin at 3pm. The food, beverage, fellowship, and laughter indoors

around the various blazing hearths of the farmhouse begin at 5:30pm with appetizers and drinks; a dinner of hearty soups, sides, salads, and desserts will follow. Glenda Luck (vocal/guitar/banjo) and Chris Duffy (stand up bass) will be providing the entertainment. To offset the cost of this event, we ask each person attending to contribute \$5. Please also bring some food to share (beverages provided). A signup sheet is posted in Assembly Hall. The Fellowship Committee is happy to assist with the cost of childcare for this annual event; please simply note this need on the signup sheet or with the church office. Car-pooling is encouraged. Contact Daniel Carlson if you have any questions; the Todd's for directions (882-6555).

Bulletin Announcement for this Sunday

UPC will hold its annual meeting next Sunday, Feb. 9, in the Dirck Romeyn Room following worship. A light lunch will be provided by the

Women's Association, followed by election of officers, reports from boards and committees, and discussion about UPC's future.

Tuesday Ladies

Meetings are every third Tuesday at 7:30pm at Connie Young's home, next meeting is Feb. 18. All ladies are welcome. For more information contact Connie at 393-7061.

Lenten Devotional Reminder

Feb. 19 is the due date for the Devotional writings. Please e-mail your submission or bring in to the church office. Thanks to all 40 of you who have volunteered to be part of this Lenten Devotional.

Former minister Vincent Fasano is very ill and would appreciate a contact. His address: 1465 Halls Path One, East Harwich, MA 02645

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
Counting Deacons	Gay Doolittle, Leah Kidwell-Fernandes	Victoria McGowan-Horan, Lisa Etkin
Faith Bookshop	Veronica Bartholic	Committee Member
Flower Delivery	Veronica Bartholic, Connie Young	
Greeters	Ann & Emile Walraven	Karlyne & Nelson Drimalas
Kinderwyk	Sarah Bachorik, Inge Pangburn	Sarah Bachorik
Liturgist	Stacey Midge	Daniel Carlson
Preacher	Bill Levering	Bill Levering
Processing Elders	Mary Jewett, Keith Muse, Gene Zeltmann, Darwin Brudos, Art Casey, Del Pierce, Barbara Walton, George Davidson	Veronica Bartholic, Rob Dickson, Margaret King, Carolyn Jones- Assini, Tom Lindsay, Linda Witkowski
Reader	Therese McCarty	Mary Jewett
Refreshments	Ellie Rowland, Karen Gonda	Lorraine Aumic
Offertory Deacons/Usher	Gay Doolittle, Leah Kidwell- Fernandes, Bill Martin, Nancy Wainwright, Kim Burgoyne, Tom Burgoyne, Claire Hughes	Glenn Blinckmann (head usher), Linda Malgieri, Gerry Myers, Crystal Mongillo, Justine Ochal

Sunday, February 2 ~ Heritage Sunday

- 10:00 am..... Worship with Communion
- 10:15 am..... Church School for K-2
- 11:15 am..... Forum
- 5:00 pm..... Jazz Vespers

Blessed are the hearts that can bend; they shall never be broken. ~Albert Camus

Blessed are the cracked, for they shall let in the light. ~Groucho Marx

Monday, February 3

- 9:00 am..... Men's News Group
- 11:00 am..... Group V

Blessed is the influence of one true, loving human soul on another. ~George Eliot

Blessed is he who expects nothing, for he shall never be disappointed. ~Jonathan Swift

Tuesday, February 4

- 10:00 am..... Morning Prayer
- 10:00 am..... Horizon Bible Study
- 1:30 pm..... Worship Planning
- 7:00 pm..... Lights. Camera. Jesus!

Blessed are the single-hearted, for they shall enjoy much peace. If you refuse to be hurried and pressed, if you stay your soul on God, nothing can keep you from that clearness of spirit which is life and peace. In that stillness you will know what His will is. ~Amy Carmichael

Wednesday, February 5

- 9:30 am..... Kerygma
- 6:00 pm..... Vegetarian Dinner
- 7:00 pm..... Midweek Evening Worship

For some reason, the most vocal Christians among us never mention the Beatitudes. But, often with tears in their eyes, they demand that they Ten Commandments be posted in public buildings. And of course, that's Moses, not Jesus. I haven't heard one of them demand that the Sermon on the Mount, the Beatitudes, be posted anywhere. "Blessed are the merciful" in a courtroom? "Blessed are the peacemakers" in the Pentagon? Give me a break! ~Kurt Vonnegut, A Man Without a Country

Thursday, February 6

- 7:30 am..... Breakfast Bible Bunch
- 10:00 am..... Stitch Group
- 6:45 pm..... Yoga
- 7:30 pm..... Chancel Choir

Blessed are they who see beautiful things in humble places where other people see nothing ~Camille Pissarro

Saturday, February 8

- 8:00 am..... Men's Breakfast
- 5:30 pm..... Winterfest

Blessed are the young, for they shall inherit the national debt. ~Herbert Hoover

Sunday, February 9

- 9:00 am..... Choir Rehearsal-Sanctuary
- 9:15 am..... High School Choir
- 9:30 am..... Choir Rehearsal-Poling Chapel
- 10:00 am..... Worship
- 10:15 am..... Church School for K-8
- 10:20 am..... Carol Choir
- 11:15 am..... Forum
- 11:15 am..... Orff Rehearsal
- 11:20 am..... Kirk Ringers
- 11:30 am..... UPC Annual Meeting
- 4:00 pm..... Youth Orchestra
- 5:00 pm..... Jazz Vespers

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall take flack from both sides. ~Robert Lynn Asprin

Blessed are they who have the gift of making friends, for it is one of God's best gifts. It involves many things, but above all, the power of going out of one's self and appreciating whatever is noble and loving in another. ~Thomas Hughes

Blessed are the geeks, for they shall inherit Middle-earth. ~Anonymous Geek