Sunday Worship Service

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH



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 people in the midst of life, and comfort to those in life's later years to labor together for the betterment of humankind; and to care for all of God's creation. 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 love, protect and 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.

"Open mind, warm heart and hopeful spirit."

June 07, 2026

First Reformed Church
8 North Church Street
Schenectady, New York 12305
(518) 377-2201
www.frcschenectady.church/

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH
Schenectady

Welcome to First Reformed Church

We are a welcoming and affirming congregation and absolutely everyone is invited to our worship, fellowship, learning, and mission.

Kinderwyk Nursery
Parents may drop off children 5 years old with nursery caregivers any time after 9:45 am. Kinderwyk is located on the Youth Level, accessible by elevator or stairs. There is no youth program during the summer for children 6 & up. Children are encouraged to remain in service.

Open 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.

Helping Others Focus
Please silence your cellphones during worship.

Services Virtually
While nothing beats worshiping in person, all Sunday morning and Jazz Vesper services are live streamed and recorded. Find services at frcschenectady.church clicking the YouTube image there.

Offering
We now offer Venmo as an additional way to donate to the church! Use Venmo (follow QR code below) or put your donation into the offering plate. Thank you!

You Don't Have to Go It Alone
Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation trained and supported to provide one-to-one compassionate Christian care to those in the midst of a crisis or challenging time. Please contact the office or Maria Todd at mariagt@yahoo.com for further information.

After Worship Fellowship
Please join the members of the congregation for fellowship in Covenant Hall after today's service.

Parking
In addition to street parking, there are four areas set aside for your use when attending events and worship. You may use all the lots within sight of the church for events here.

Church Office
The church office is open Monday-Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm.

New to First Reformed?
New to the church? Either use this QR code or fill out a pew card and put it in the offering plate.

Second Sunday after Pentecost
10:00am
Communion Sunday
*The congregation may stand.
Preacher: Pastor Todd Buurstra
Liturgist: Liz Mastrianni
Special Music: Chancel Choir
Prelude: Max Caplan
Postlude: Susan Hale
Audio/Visual: Aaron Russo
Ushers: James Gonda, Rose & Del Pierce

PRELUDE *Sonata No. 16 in C major, II. Andante* W. A. Mozart

GREETING AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Forum – RCA Refugee Ministries Coordinator JJ TenClay will present in the service and lead a forum on how FRC can participate as a new RCA Church of Welcome for refugees and immigrants. So please give a warm FRC welcome to JJ!

Jazz Vespers – Tyler Giroux; Pete Toigo, bass. Pastor Todd Buurstra is hosting.

Gilded Age - Will be here on 6/26. Only essential office staff will be allowed on premises.

Annual Meeting – TODAY immediately after the Worship service in the sanctuary. The Nominating Committee has nominated three Deacons: James Gonda, Rachelle Meerschaert and Rose Pierce. Also, the following Consistory members are accepting the committee's nomination to change offices to align with their committee's reporting responsibilities in the restructured Consistory: Oliva Cox, Gay Doolittle, Laura Lee, and Vilhelm M. Lund will become Elders; and Kim Burgoyne and Liz Mastrianni will become Deacons.

Church Picnic – June 14 - Please join us for our annual summertime picnic following the service on June 14! We plan to be outside, weather permitting. The Membership and Fellowship Committee will provide pulled pork and eggplant parmigiana as the main entrees. Contributions of side dishes or desserts would be greatly appreciated. Please consider bringing enough food for 8-10 servings. We look forward to a relaxing day of delicious food and great conversation! We would like to mention that we are looking for volunteers to help with both set-up and clean-up.

Classis Assessment - For 2026 the amount being paid to the Classis of Schenectady in support of the work of the Albany Synod and the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America is $91.70 per member. Please consider making a donation to cover this expense. You can make payment to First Reformed Church of Schenectady and note in the memo line "Classis Assessment". Thank you.

Committee Chairs - Please let the office know if your committee is not meeting during the summer.

The Membership and Fellowship committee - Will be taking a summer break from providing post-service refreshments from June 28–August 30. During this time, coffee will still be served weekly. If you would like to

volunteer to provide refreshments in Covenant Hall during this period, your contributions would be greatly appreciated.
Interest in helping our Sound and Livestream Team? We are looking for volunteers to help with our sound and video for worship and church events. No prior experience is needed; training will be provided. This is a meaningful way to support the life of the church and help ensure clear sound and video for all. If you are interested, please contact Oksana at 1streformed@gmail.com.

Chancel Choir – For those interested in joining, the choir will continue singing through June this spring. For those interested in joining now or in September, please contact Corine Salon at 518-346-9060 or email louisacsalon@gmail.com.

"Talking Faith With Kids" Hosted by Pastor Lucas - June 21st @ First Forum come talk about how to navigate intentional faith conversations with youth and kids. Receive our volunteer certification for Sunday School. No matter how you utilize this workshop, you will find the tools and confidence of navigating faith conversations with the young mind invaluable. Kids welcome; engaging for all.

Multi-Church Mission Trip - We are very excited about our mission trip this summer to Highland Park, NJ from Sunday, June 28 (leaving around 2pm) and returning Thursday night, July 2. This is for all 8th – 12th graders and college aged. It promises to be a very meaningful time of participating in lots of different projects and activities in small groups related to housing, feeding, and advocating for vulnerable people. The Reformed Church of Highland Park will be our host and recently shared with us their housing corporation's annual report. Check it out! The group will also get to experience the Global Grace Cafe. The book Global Grace Cafe tells Highland Park's story over 20 years and is a great resource. Do you have any questions? NOW is the time to declare your interest. Please let Pastor Sherri Meyer-Veen know of your interest and/or questions. PastorSherriMV@gmail.com

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 33:1, 4, 5

Leader: Let the godly sing for joy to the LORD…
PEOPLE: For the word of the LORD holds true…
Leader: [God] loves whatever is just and good
PEOPLE: the unfailing love of the LORD fills the earth.

*HYMN *Every Time I Feel the Spirit* #315

*OUR NEED FOR GOD

Forgive us for imposing our agenda over Your own. For caring just for the people on our priority list, but seeing your priority people as interruptions; that is, the refugee, the oppressed, or more simply, the last or the least or the lost. Let us hold our plans lightly, so that Your plans for our days and lives might better be accomplished. Not our will, but Yours be done, amen.

*GOD'S FORGIVING LOVE Proverbs 19:21

The human mind may devise many plans, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will be established.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE *Gloria Patri* #579

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be.
World without end. Amen.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: by Rosemary Radford Ruether

Women play an important role in the Gospel vision
of the vindication of the lowly in God's new order...
The role played by women of marginalized groups
is an intrinsic part of the...messianic vision.
It means that women [have been] the oppressed of the oppressed.
They [have been] the bottom of the...social hierarchy,
and hence can be, in a special way,
the last who will be first in the Kingdom of God.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

ANTHEM *The Heavens are Telling the Glory of God* The Creation Franz Joseph Haydn
Soloist Kate Rose- Gabriel, Jean Johnson- Uriel, Kofi Opoku - Raphael

The heavens are telling the glory of God, The wonder of his work displays the firmament;
Today that is coming speaks it the day, The night that is gone to following night.
The heavens are telling the glory of God, The wonder of his work displays the firmament;
In all the lands resounds the word, never unperceived, ever understood.
The heavens are telling the glory of God, The wonder of his work displays the firmament

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: JJ TenClay

*HYMN *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* #298

*SCRIPTURE READING Mark 5:21-43

SERMON ***Interruptions*** Pastor Todd Buurstra

MINUTE FOR MISSION RCA Refugee Ministry Coordinator JJ TenClay

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Ubi Caritas* Ola Gjeilo

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.	Where charity and love are, God is there.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.	Christ's love has gathered us into one.
Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur.	Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.
Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.	Let us fear and let us love the living God.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincere	May we love each other with a sincere heart.

*DOXOLOGY (tune #592)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

MEANING OF COMMUNION JJ TenClay

COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy and right it is and our joyful duty to give thanks to you at all times and in all places, O Lord, our Creator, almighty and everlasting God! You created the heaven with all its hosts and the earth with all its plenty.

You have given us life and being, and preserve us by your providence. But you have shown us the fullness of your love in sending into the world your Son, Jesus Christ, the eternal Word, made flesh for us and for our salvation.

For the precious gift of this mighty Savior who has reconciled us to you we praise and bless you, O God. With your whole Church on earth and with all the company of heaven we worship and adore your glorious name.

SANCTUS (sung in unison) Carl Steubing

Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and Earth are full of thy glory!
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND SHARING OF BREAD AND CUP

The table is set. All is prepared. Come as you are. All are welcome to the banquet of life.

THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION *Psalm 103:1*

Leader: Bless the LORD, oh my soul.

People: and all that is within me, bless God's holy name

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As part of our prayers this morning, we give thanks to God for FRC members who have entered eternal rest near this day in previous years: Veronica "Ronnie" Bartholic, Duane Anderson, Harold (Hal) Clements, Chuck Nelson, Anne Robb, Jocelyn Mathes, Jean Bundy, William Dotter, Edwards Murray, Mandalay Grems, Sally Bestgen, Helen P. Lindsay.

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.

*CLOSING HYMN	*Here, I Am, Lord*	#525
*BENEDICTION		
AMEN	Danish Amen	#586
POSTLUDE	Susan Hale	By: Jacque Lemmens

OUR CURRENT CONSISTORY

Elders	**Deacons**
Sarah Bachorik	Olivia Cox
Rebecca Draffen Grande	Linda Ward
Dave Hjelmar	Elaine Thuener
Del Pierce	Christina Jones
Liz Mastrianni	Elsa Hjelmar
Andrew Chestnut	Jeanne Shoulder
Kimberly Burgoyne	Gay Doolittle
Catherine Lewis	Laura A. Lee
Florence Reed	Vilhelm M. Lund
Nancy Rimany	

Officers

Catherine Lewis, Treasurer

Kate Rose, Assistant Treasurer

Staff

Pastor Todd Buurstra, Interim Pastor (908-642-2889, frcminister@gmail.com)

Lucas Grove, Pastor of Preaching & Pastoral Care (860-578-0471, frcassocminister@gmail.com)

Oksana Podoba, Business Manager

Gary Nelson, Facility Manager

Robin Mooney, Bookkeeper

Darlene Muscanell, Administrative Assistant

David Toth, Custodian/Sexton

Corine Salon, Music Director

Max Caplan, Church Musician

joani jameson, Youth Ed Coordinator

Mission	Contact Person	Phone Number	Email
Pastoral Care	Joe Doolittle	518-588-2801	aldenjoe@nycap.rr.com
Stephen Ministers	Maria Todd	518-429-7931	mariagt44@yahoo.com
Prayer Chain	Vernetta Thuener	518-280-1297	verthr@icloud.com
Support and Care	Vickie McGowan	518-852-0113	Torymc@aol.com
Senior Elder	Becky Draffen	518-618-7502	rebeccadraffen@gmail.com
Senior Elder	Sarah Bachorik	518-225-9805	sbachori@gmail.com
Elder	Andy Chestnut	646-258-2628	atrammellc@me.com
Facilities Manager	Gary Nelson	518-928-6358	nelson1680@gmail.com
Business Manager	Oksana Podoba	518-377-2201	1streformed@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sunday, June 7	9:45 am	Kinderwyk Nursery Care	Youth Level
	10:00 am	Sunday Worship – Communion	Sanctuary / YouTube
	11:00 am	Fellowship Coffee Hour	Covenant Hall
	11:00 am	Annual Congregational Meeting	Sanctuary
	11:20 am	First Forum	Poling Chapel
	3:00 pm	Writing Group	Library
	5:00 pm	Jazz Vespers	Covenant Hall / YouTube
Monday, June 8	5:30 pm	Staffing Ad Hoc Committee 2	Mohawk - Presby
	7:00 pm	M&B Meeting	Mohawk - Presby
Tuesday, June 9	2:00 pm	Adult Education and Nurture Committee	Zoom
	7:00 pm	Finance Committee	Mohawk Lunn / Zoom
Wed., June 10	9:00 am	Property Meeting	Mohawk Lunn
	9:30 am	Thursday Musical Club	Mohawk Lunn
	10:00 am	Archives & Historical Concerns	Archives Room
	11:00 am	Library Open (Sign-in at Church Office)	Library
	12:00 pm	Wednesday Lunch	Covenant Hall
	12:00 pm	Organ Practice	Sanctuary
Thursday, June 11	10:30 am	Move to Dance	Covenant Hall
Sunday, June 14	9:45 am	Kinderwyk Nursery Care	Youth Level
	10:00 am	Sunday Worship – Youth Sunday	Sanctuary / YouTube
	11:00 am	Church Picnic	
	11:15 am	Confirmation Class	Mohawk - Lunn
	11:20 am	First Forum	Poling Chapel
	5:00 pm	Jazz Vespers	Covenant Hall / YouTube
	7:30 pm	Leyson Album Release Concert	Covenant Hall

UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Date	*Preacher*	*Liturgist*
6/14	Pastor Lucas Grove	Open
6/21	Pastor Lucas Grove	Open

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