

THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 25th 2nd Sunday in Lent	8:45 am 9:30 am 10:30 am	Music Room Sanctuary Music Room Fellowship Hall	Sr. Choir Rehearsal Worship Service Youth Choir <i>Coffee Hour</i>
Monday, February 26th	7 pm	Lounge	Bible Study
Tuesday, February 27th	7 pm	Lounge	H & A
Wednesday, February 28th	7 pm	Music Room Lounge	Bells Membership
Thursday, March 1st	1 pm 7:30 pm	Lounge Sanctuary	Bible Study Sr. Choir
Sunday, March 4th 3rd Sunday in Lent Communion Sunday Mission-Synod Ministries Board	8:45 am 9:30 am 9:45 am 10:30 am	Music Room Sanctuary Education Building Music Room Room 103 Fellowship Hall	Sr. Choir Rehearsal Worship Service Sunday School Youth Choir Cherubs Choir <i>Coffee Hour</i>

The Niskayuna Reformed Church Mission Statement

Our mission is to be a family of people seeking to be of help to each other and to our world through the encouragement of God's Spirit and the sharing of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

To that end, we offer opportunities for worship, friendship, personal growth and service.



The Niskayuna Reformed Church
3041 TROY-SCHENECTADY ROAD
NISKAYUNA, NEW YORK 12309
FOUNDED IN 1750

Each member and friend
The Reverend Jason Fulkerson
Paul Alois
Rebecca Benjamin
Andrew Burger
James Friderici
Ellen Gauna
Kathy Mausert
Lester Perlee
Wendy Sims
Rick Wallace

Ministers
Pastor
Treasurer
Organist
Director of Music
Director of Bell Choir
Church Administrator
Director of Nursery School
Cemetery Superintendent
Teacher, Nursery School
Church Sexton

Church Office Information:

Phone: 785-5575 Fax: 785-3671
Hours: 9 am– 4 pm (*Office Hours*)
srpastor@niskayunareformed.org (Rev. Fulkerson-Pastor)
office@niskayunareformed.org (Ellen Gauna-Church Administrator)
www.niskayunareformed.org

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

**Remember to "like" us on Facebook at Niskayuna Reformed Church*

NISKAYUNA REFORMED CHURCH

2nd Sunday of Lent

9:30 am

February 25, 2018

ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Please remember to turn off cell phones or put on airplane mode,
if cell phones remain on, they interfere with the sound system.*

Let the first note of the prelude be a call to quietly prepare for the significance
of the experience that is before you.

THE APPROACH TO GOD

Announcements

Prelude *Ich Ruf Zu Dir, Herr Jesu Christ* Bach
(*I Call to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ*)

Introit

Votum Mary Park Flanders
Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. **Amen.**

Call to Worship

Let us worship God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ.

We are new creations; the old has gone, the new has come!

Let us worship God as Christ's ambassadors.

**Through us and through our worship may we announce the good
news to all.**

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

Praise God! We are reconciled, redeemed, renewed!

*Hymn *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* 379

FH. Suggested items are small games/puzzles, sidewalk chalk, jump ropes, bubbles, coloring books, small outdoor games, and healthy snacks (100% fruit snacks-no sugar added). This collection will run from **February 25th - March 18th**. The M&SC appreciates your support.

- Around three years ago, the congregation of NRC gathered together as part of the pastoral transition process to reflect on three questions: Where have we been? Where are we now? Where does God want us to go? This conversation helped the Pastoral Search Committee in the process of finding a new pastor. That search, of course, led us to call Pastor Jason. It has been two years since Jason became our pastor. Therefore, it seems a fitting time for us to come together again to have another conversation about where we are as a congregation. Using what was learned three years ago as a starting point, we will engage in a discussion about what God is up to now at NRC and where God might want us to go. We invite you to join this conversation on **Sunday, March 4th**, following the worship service. We will begin at 10:45am and aim to be finished by Noon. Childcare will be provided. We invite and encourage you to attend, and ask that you sign up through the office by February 26th.
- Thank you NRC City Mission volunteers!! Another successful dining experience was provided to customers at the City Mission on February 19th, thanks to our generous volunteers and their families. One hundred and twenty five dinners were served by our own Barb Valenti, husband Ron, daughter Debbie Passino, grandsons Nicholas and Alex and our new M & S Chairperson, Lisbeth Amorielli. Thank you all for your kindness and grace.
- The painting of the inside of the Education Building has begun. Classroom 103 is complete. The remainder of the painting will commence next Monday, February 26th, due to winter break. As you may have noticed some areas of the entryway have been spackled to prepare for painting. Additionally, the carpets will be cleaned this weekend in Fellowship Hall and a couple classrooms. Please note: the hallway may be congested over the weekend and into the beginning of next week. We **thank you** for your patience and understanding! We are very excited that this is happening. It is sure to improve the look of the building.

- Our Communion Collection for the month of March will go towards the Synod Ministries Board. A group of faithful, talented, and passionate people meet several times a year to discuss and plan events for the benefit of the churches within the bounds of the synod. That group is called the Synod Ministries Board (SMB). Its delegates include church members and ministers from all six classes and synod officers. The overall goal of the SMB is to empower classes and congregations to live out faithful and fruitful mission in God's world. All of this is funded by donations from individual churches that are part of the Regional Synod of Albany. The SMB does not receive funds from the assessments that churches pay every year. All of the ministry events coordinated by the SMB are funded solely by church donations.
- You may place your order for Easter memorial plants by calling Sue Felpel at 518-372-0936 or LSFelpel@yahoo.com, or in person. The price is lilies/\$8 & azaleas/\$16. The last day to order is Sunday, **March 18th**. Plants may be claimed anytime after the Easter Sunday Service on April 1st.
- The 2018 Women's Retreat on "The Art of Prayer" will take place on Saturday, March 17 from 9:30 am until about 2:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. The topic is based on the book "*Help, Thanks, Wow – The Three Essential Prayers*" by Anne Lamott. The day will be filled with discussion, drama, singing, sharing, art, praying (of course!), and will include a delicious luncheon professionally prepared by our in-house chef (!) and served by a few of our fantastic men. There is a small fee of \$8 to cover the cost of materials and lunch. Please register by March 12 by contacting Sharon Jackson (sej832@aol.com) or Sue Felpel (lsfelpel@yahoo.com), or the church office (office@niskayunareformed.org). Please join us for a time of thoughtful and inspirational fellowship.
- A short fly-over study of the book of Revelation will begin this week. This class will have six sessions, with two offerings each week. We will begin meeting on **Monday nights starting on February 26th @ 7pm and Thursday afternoons starting on March 1st @ 1pm**. We hope you can join us!
- SICM is putting together "Spring Bags" for children whose families use the Emergency Food Pantry. We are seeking items to fit 8" x 10" bags. All donations may be placed in the SICM baskets in the narthex &

*Salutation and the Peoples' Amen

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Almighty God, our Redeemer, in our weakness we have failed to be your messengers of forgiveness and hope. Renew us by your Holy Spirit, that we may follow your commands and proclaim your reign of love, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(continue in silent reflection)

Kyrie Eleison

Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Words of Assurance

Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. In Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God for this indescribable gift!

Call to New Life

As the chosen of God, then, the holy people whom he loves, you are to be clothed in heartfelt compassion, in generosity and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other if one of you has a complaint against another. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, put on love, the perfect bond. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together in one body.

May the Spirit of God help us to live this new life. Amen!

*Gloria Patri

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.

Anthem *How Great Thou Art* Arr. Courtney
 The NRC Senior Choir

THE WORD OF GOD

Junior Sermon

Interlude

Prayer for Illumination (in unison)

O Lord, you have given us your Word for a light to shine upon our path. Grant us so to meditate on that Word, and to follow its teaching that we may find in it the light that shines more and more until the perfect day. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson Micah 2: 1-11 & 3: 1-8 Bible page 862-864 OT
 This is the Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Sermon Rev. Jason Fulkerson

*Hymn *Take Time to Be Holy* **300**

THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Offering

Offertory *Holy is the Lord* Schubert
 The NRC Senior Choir Arr. Bock

*Doxology **544** and Prayer of Consecration

Lord's Prayer

***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.***

Choral Amen

*Hymn *Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing*

79

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

*Postlude *Agincourt Hymn* Dunstable

*Those who are able, please stand.

Congregational responses are printed in bold italics type.

TODAY

If you are a visitor to our worship service today, we welcome you. May you be reminded that you are loved and cared for by God, called to spread that love to the world. May this time of praising God and learning of His plan for our lives be helpful to each of us. If you wish to be identified as a guest, please help us to get to know you by meeting the greeter at the rear of the sanctuary and receive a visitor's bag of information about our church.

- Parents with infants and small children are reminded of the room behind the balcony with an audio system to hear the worship service. There is infant and toddler care in room 102 of the Education Bldg.
- Our greeter(s) today: Bob & Tracy Sacca.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Worship teams for **March 4th** are; Ushers: Bob & Tracy Sacca and John & Deborah Bennett; Counters: Judy Henery, Kim Cerone & Tony Pechulis; Greeters: Lizbeth Amorelli; Coffee Hour: Janel Mirel.