

Order of Worship for March 8, 2026
Third Sunday in Lent | Girl Scout Sunday
First Reformed Church Hastings on Hudson



“Scarce Abundance” by Hannah Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Statement of Welcome and Inclusion

First Reformed Church of Hastings-on-Hudson is a church for all people, each of us being unique and created in the image of God.

We believe God’s unconditional love and grace, as revealed through Jesus Christ, does not distinguish among God’s people based on race, ethnicity, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, ability, or disability.

All are children of God, and all are welcome with joy in our Sanctuary. We strive to provide an environment of mutual respect, hospitality and warmth.

We Approach God

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

Votum, Sentences, and Salutation

Prelude: "Sweet Hour of Prayer" by Walford/Bradbury

Michael Willson, guitarist

Call to Worship (responsive) ☩

One: If you need good news,

All: settle into this space. We have good news to share.

One: If you need a word of hope,

All: then trust us when we say, *there is hope enough to go around.*

One: If you need a glimmer of joy,

All: Then you're in luck! We have resilient joy abounding.

One: If you need to feel God's presence in your midst,

All: Then know that this is God's house.

One: This is the good news of the gospel.

All: God is here. Love is real. Joy is on the move. Let us worship our with-us God!

*Gathering Hymn: "We Thank You God for Values" (insert)

Recognition of Scouts

Invitation to Confession ☩

Prayer of Confession (unison) ☩

Holy God, with you the impossible is possible. We hear that with you, 5,000 can be fed. The blind can see. The hopeless can find hope. With you the impossible is possible, but we are quick to forget that. We look at our hurting world and tell ourselves that nothing can be done. We forget that you empowered the disciples to feed the crowd. We forget that you are always with us. Forgive our small-minded ways. Forgive us for doubting that change could ever come. But even more so, forgive us when we refuse to be a part of it. Inspire us to be part of your work for a better world, so that what we thought was impossible can be possible. With hope for a better tomorrow we pray, amen.

Silent Prayer

Kyrie (#572):

Lord have mercy upon us.

Christ have mercy upon us.

Lord have mercy upon us.

Words of Assurance ☩

Summary of the Law of Love

*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, amen.

We Hear God's Word

Prayer for Illumination ☩

Scripture Lessons

Mark 6:32-44

Ephesians 3:20-21

Children's Message

Sermon: "Making the Impossible Possible"

We Respond to God's Word

*Hymn of Response: "Called as Partners in Christ's Service" (#343) ☩

Affirmation of Faith ☩

**I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.
It sounds like welcome
and feels like home.
It sounds like laughter
and feels like mercy.
It sounds like love
and feels like a seat at the table,
so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.
I have seen it alive in the world.
And even when my heart aches,
even when wars rage,
even when mercy feels out of reach,
I remember the one who
welcomed the children
and led with nonviolence.
I remember the one who
cared for the vulnerable
and inspired those around him.
I remember that the good news really is good news,
for I have seen it alive in the world.
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Passing of the Peace

Invitation to the Offering

Offerings may be made virtually in three ways:

- Electronic transfer using Zelle to frc1850@aol.com
- Online giving at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=1289239>
- Checks made out to First Reformed Church may be mailed to 18 Farragut Ave.,
Hastings on Hudson, NY 10706

Offertory: "My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout"

FRC Choir

*Doxology (#592):

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

*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

**O Lord, you are our God; we are the people of your pasture, the sheep of your hand.
As you have provided so generously for us, may we be guided to do your will,
sharing what we have so that all of humanity may flourish; through Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession & The Lord's Prayer †

Prayer response after each petition:

One: Oh God of love and mercy,

*All: **Hear our prayer.***

Our time of prayer concludes with the 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.**

*Closing Hymn: "We'll Build a World" (insert)

*Blessing and Benediction †

*Musical Benediction: "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" by Peter Lutkin (insert)

Those attending in person are invited to coffee hour in the Fraser Room after worship for a time of fellowship and refreshments.

Liturgy marked with the † symbol created by A Sanctified Art

*Congregants in the sanctuary are invited to rise

Bold text is read in unison

Announcements

Thanks to all who are assisting with the service today! Our lector/liturgist is Bettina Speyer. Today's musicians are Michael Willson, Beth Rudd, and the FRC Choir.

Today is Girl Scout Sunday. We'd like to extend a warm welcome to all Girl Scouts, parents, and Girl Scout Leaders! First Reformed Church is home to many scouting activities, including Girl Scout Junior Troop 01707, as well as Boy Scout Troop 2 and Cub Scout Pack 1.

The next **Consistory meeting** will take place today, Sunday, March 8th, at 12pm via Zoom.

Guest Preacher & "Second Hour" Next Week: As our congregation considers becoming "dually affiliated," continuing to be part of the RCA (Reformed Church in America) denomination and additionally becoming part of the UCC (United Church of Christ) denomination, we look forward to welcoming Rev. Ann Kansfield to FRC next Sunday! Rev. Kansfield was raised in the RCA, ordained in the UCC, and serves an RCA/UCC Church, Greenpoint Reformed in Brooklyn, NY. Rev. Kansfield is the author of *Be the Brave One: Living Your Spiritual Values Out Loud and Other Life Lessons*. The first female and first openly gay FDNY chaplain, in 2015 she was voted the inaugural *New York Times* New Yorker of the year. Rev. Kansfield will preach, and will take part in a conversation following the service about her experience with the UCC and the RCA.

Lenten Suppers with Greenville Community Church – Wednesdays at 6:30pm: During Lent, we will be partnering with our neighbors at Greenville Community Church for a series of simple Lenten potluck suppers. Each will include a meal with time for fellowship, a spiritual program based on Amy-Jill Levine's *Witness at the Cross*, and a simple service of Communion. We will alternate between meeting at Greenville Community Church and meeting at First Reformed Church as follows:

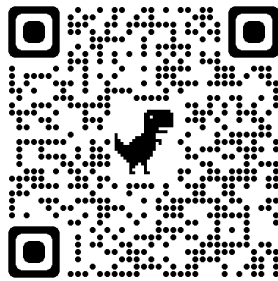
March 11: FRC

March 18: Greenville

March 25: FRC

We hope we'll see you with a dish to share this Wednesday at 6:30 in the Fraser Room!

For more information about First Reformed Church, scan this QR code to go to www.frchoh.org



Clergy: The Rev. Emily M. Brown First Reformed Church

Staff: Trish Waters, Office Administrator & Music Director

Hanna Skaskiv, Sexton

We Thank You, God, for Values

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2017

Aurelia

Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

1. We thank you, God, for val - ues that guide us day by day—
2. For Scouts earn trust from oth - ers; they're loy - al to the end.
3. We thank you, God, for val - ues that send our youth out - doors
4. We thank you, God, for val - ues that make our coun - try great:

that help us learn to fol - low your faith - ful, lov - ing way.
They're help - ful, friend - ly, cour - teous to stran - ger and to friend.
for hik - ing and ca - noe - ing, for cook - outs and S' - mores.
for love that dares to wel - come, for love that con - quers hate.

We thank you, too, for Scout Troops—where youth are taught to be
They're kind and they're o - be - dient, they're cheer - ful, thrif - ty, too;
As youth go out ex - plor - ing, they learn cre - a - tion's worth.
We thank you, God, for Scout - ing— for youth and lead - ers, too,

ma - ture and mor - al lead - ers in each com - mu - ni - ty.
They're brave and clean and rev - erent in all they try to do.
They care for what you've giv - en— the wa - ter, sky and earth.
who seek to serve their coun - try by first o - bey - ing you.

Called as Partners in Christ's Service 343

BEECHER 8.7.8.7 D

Jane Parker Huber, 1981

John Zundel, 1870



1. Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, Called to min-is-tries of grace,
2. Christ's ex - am - ple, Christ's in - spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
3. Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, In a small or glob-al sense,
4. So God grant us for to - mor-row Ways to or - der hu - man life



We re-pond with deep com-mit-ment Fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 Let us fol - low, nev - er fal-tering, Rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth.
 Help us bear each oth - er's bur-dens, Break-ing down each wall or fence.
 That sur-round each per - son's sor-row With a calm that con - quers strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, Side by side and friend with friend,
 Men and wom-en, rich - er, poor-er, All God's peo-ple, young and old,
 Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, Words of chal-lenge, said with care,
 Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, Our com-pas-sion to in - crease,



E - qual part - ners in our car-ing To ful - fill God's cho - sen end.
 Blend-ing hu - man skills to - geth-er Gra - cious gifts from God un - fold.
 Bring new power and strength for ac-tion, Make us col-leagues, free and fair.
 Mes - sen - gers of faith, thus giv-ing Hope and con - fi - dence and peace.



We'll Build a World

1. We are diff - rent, you and I, yet to -
 2. As we la - bor toward that day, don't let
 3. In this var - ied u - ni - verse all ex -

geth - er, fates en - twine. Now we gath - er in this
 diff - rence fall a - way. Your u - nique - ness I will
 ist - ence so di - verse. Filled with won - der, life so

space, joined in spir - it, filled with grace; bring your
 see, and the same thing, see in me. Thus we're
 queer, steeped in mys - t'ry, oft un - clear. Yet to -

full - ness, I'll bring mine, and to - geth - er we will
 val - ued, known and named, hon - ored, cher - ished, loved and
 geth - er, hand in hand, we'll cre - ate that Prom - ised

REFRAIN

shine. To-gether, we'll build a world where there's
 claimed.
 Land.

room for all to be; a world where we'll live our lives lib - er -
 at - ed, strong, and free! This glo - ri - ous fu - ture

build it now with me.

THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU

Numbers 6:24-26

Music by
PETER C. LUTKIN

J = 80

C Dm7/F G7 C Am Am/C

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord lift His coun - te - nance up -

p *cresc.*

G/D D G A7/G Dm7/F G7/F C/E G7/D

on you, and give you peace, and give you peace; The

decresc.

C C/G G#dim7 Am F C/E C7/E F

Lord, make His face to shine up - on you, and be gra - cious un - to you, be gra - cious.

cresc. *decresc.*

Detailed description: This block contains the first three systems of the musical score. Each system includes a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The first system starts with a tempo marking of quarter note = 80. The second system continues the lyrics and includes a piano dynamic marking. The third system concludes the main body of the song with a decrescendo marking.

Musicnotes

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Optional ending (single Amen)

C7/E A7 Dm C/G G7 C F C

The Lord be gra-cious, gra-cious un - to you. A - men.

p *dim e rit.*

Detailed description: This block contains the optional ending for the song. It features a vocal line with the lyrics 'The Lord be gra-cious, gra-cious un - to you. A - men.' and a piano accompaniment. The piano part includes a piano dynamic marking and a decrescendo/ritardando marking.