



FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

SCOTIA

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF SCOTIA

14th Sunday after Pentecost

August 30th, 2026

Bold invites you to join in the reading.

* invites you to rise in body or spirit, as you are able.

We Gather to Worship

Prelude

Largo (from Xerxes)

G.F. Handel (1685-1759)
arr. N. Alloisio

Welcome & Announcements

Votum

* Call to Worship

Let us give thanks to the Lord!

Let us sing praises to our God!

Let us declare the Lord's mighty deeds!

Let us tell of God's wonderful works!

Let us glory in God's holy name!

Let us seek the Lord and rejoice!

Let us seek the Lord and find strength!

Let us seek God's presence continually!

Remember the wonderful works of the Lord!

The Lord provides for us in abundance!

The Lord's covenant shall endure forever!

The Lord is our God!

The Lord sets us free!

God has brought us out with joy!

So praise the Lord, the Great I AM! Let us worship God!

* Hymn (See Insert)

Praise God for This Holy Ground

HEYMONYSTRAAT

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

O Lord God, you call us by name and commission us. You call on us to serve the suffering of this world; to lift up the oppressed; to comfort those in misery. And yet, we turn aside. We look away. We feel unprepared, unfit and underresourced. We resist your calling and your commission. Forgive us, Almighty One.

Remind us that you are always with us. That you are always by our side. For you are the Great I AM with you.

~ Silent Personal Confession ~

O Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Let us glory in God's holy name! Friends, hear and believe the Good News of the Gospel, in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

Summary of the Law

Passing of the Peace

Peace be with you!

And also, with you! (Please greet those around you)

Call to Gratitude

Offering

Offertory - 8:00

I want to Walk as a Child of the Light
"HOUSTON"

*Kathleen Thomerson
(b.1934)*

- 10:00

Vision

Written and performed by Victoria Carroll

Response

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

* Prayer of Dedication

We Proclaim the Word

Unison Prayer for Illumination

O Spirit, burn. Burn in our hearts - burn in our spirits. Burn and never go out. Set us alight with your truth. Ignite us with faith. Amen.

1st Lesson Exodus 1:8-14 & 2:23-25 p. 38

Heart Song God of Great and God of Small *by Natalie Sleeth*
Alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.

Children's Sermon Rev. McCloskey

2nd Lesson Exodus 3:1-15 p. 39

Sermon I Will Be There Rev. McCloskey

We Respond with Gratitude

* Hymn No. 525 Here I Am, Lord HERE I AM, LORD

* Statement of Faith The Seven 'I AM' Statements of Jesus

"I am the bread of life." (John 6:35)

"I am the light of the world." (John 8:12)

"I am the gate for the sheep." (John 10:7)

"I am the good shepherd." (John 10:11)

"I am the resurrection and the life." (John 11:25)

"I am the way, the truth, and the life." (John 14:6)

"I am the true vine." (John 15:1)

Prayer of the People and 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.

We are Sent Out to Serve

* Hymn No. 488 The God of Abraham Praise LEONI

* Charge & Benediction

Postlude

Jesus Shall Reign
DUKE STREET

Victor C. Johnson
Arr. Douglas E. Wagner



Worship Leadership at 8:00am

Preaching: Rev. Christopher McCloskey
Pianist: Michael Linke

Worship Leadership at 10:00am

Preaching: Rev. Christopher McCloskey
Organist: Michael Linke
Soloist: Victoria Carroll
Ushers: Spike Ahl, Bill Eberle and
Ed LeGere

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Kathleen Thomerson “HOUSTON” ©1970 Celebration

Natalie Sleeth; “God of Great and God of Small”; ©1973 Carl Fischer, Inc.

Victoria Carroll; “Vision”; © 2025 Album: Good in the End

Victor C. Johnson; Jesus Shall Reign Arr. Douglas E. Wagner ©202 Lorenz Publishing
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Announcements:

Our Life in Worship

WELCOME! We are so glad that you have joined us this morning to worship God! We strive to be a warm and welcoming community of Christian people who seek to follow the example of our Lord Jesus Christ in all that we do. You are encouraged to introduce yourself to the pastor and to those around you.

IF YOU ARE VISITING US FOR THE FIRST TIME - We encourage you to fill out a visitor card which you can find in each pew with the offering envelopes. Once completed these can be given to an usher so we can contact you. If you would rather, there is also a QR Code on the narthex bulletin board, which will allow you to digitally submit to us the same information. We also have a welcome bag for you, please speak to an usher to receive one.

LISTENING DEVICES & LARGE-PRINT BULLETINS - are available for those who need them. Speak to an usher if you would like to try one.

RESTROOMS - There is one restroom just off the narthex. Other bathrooms are through the door on the right-hand side of the sanctuary then to the left or down the long hall to the right.

FLOWERS - in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God by Ellen Schultz in memory of her friend John Hopkins.

NURSERY CARE - Sad news, Miss Brittney has resigned. She has moved and the drive is just too far for her to be here Sunday mornings. We thank her for her service. In the short term the nursery will not be staffed until we decide what to do going forward. The TV will be on with the live stream and you are more than welcome to use it with your child. If you have any questions please speak with Miss Diana.

FAITH FORMATION classes resume on SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th for grades K-12. Join Miss Diana at 10:30ish for a time of learning and worship.

SUMMER TAKE HOME CHURCH - Here is a summer resource geared for families but can be used by all. This resource will guide you through scripture readings along with some awesome stories to help you keep connected with God over the summer months. Packets are available in the narthex and on the FRCS website with links to all the stories. Enjoy “worshipping” from home.

RENEW BIBLE STUDY- resumes September 22 and meets Tuesdays Noon-1:30pm on Zoom and is open to all. This fall, we’ll study “Why Science and Faith Need Each Other” by Elaine Howard Ecklund. Instead of treating science and church as battlefields, we will explore how virtues like curiosity, humility, healing, and awe can bridge the cultural divide and strengthen our love for the Creator. Whether you work in a STEM field, have big questions about the universe, or just want to sit with honest discussion, there is a place for you. The \$11 book is available from Diana Ackner or Sunny Baldwin. For the Zoom link, contact Sunny at csunnyb53@gmail.com or 518-320-4562. Read Chapter 1 before the first class.

OUTDOOR WORSHIP - The 8am service will be worshipping on the patio outside, weather permitting through September 6th.

Our Life in Community

PASTOR CHRISTOPHER'S OFFICE HOURS - Rev. McCloskey will be available in his office this Tuesday and Thursday from 1:00-4:00pm for anyone who would like to drop by. If you would like to schedule an appointment with him outside of this time please email him at pastorchristopher@firstreformedscotia.org. For pastoral emergencies, please call his cell at (203) 430-1990.

THE CHURCH OFFICE - will be CLOSED Monday and Tuesday and open this week from 9am-1pm Wednesday through Friday.

FAMILY FUN CARNIVAL & BBQ - On Sunday, September 13th following the 10:00am worship service, we will have our annual carnival. We will have a bounce house, games and prizes. This year the Men's Group will be grilling hot dogs and hamburgers. If you can help set up or clean up the carnival please contact Miss Diana.

Our Life in Service

MISSION OF THE MONTH: Our August Mission of the Month is the Samaritan Counseling Center's Care Fund. Samaritan Counseling Center provides therapy for individuals, couples, and families, and is the largest nonprofit interfaith counseling practice in the Capital Region. The Care Fund provides assistance to uninsured and underinsured clients, and helps them continue their therapy. To learn more, call the Center at 518-374-3514 or go to www.samaritancounselingcenter.org

QUILT RAFFLE - Enter for a chance to win a beautiful quilt crafted by the members of Judi's Sew n Sew to benefit Kids Hope USA. Tickets are available August 10th -September 21st at the Church Office M-F 9am-1pm, or see Diana Ackner. Tickets are 1 for \$5 or 5 for \$20 and the drawing will be held Monday September 21st. The quilt is on display in the hallway near the classrooms.

KIDS HOPE USA - One caring adult mentoring one at risk child one hour every week. When kids feel loved and valued, they are better able to learn, grow and succeed. Another important piece of this program is the prayer partner that each mentor and student pair have praying for them. We are entering our 15th year of this important ministry and we need your help! The list of kids who want and need mentors is growing. You can make a difference in a kid's life! Volunteer today! If you are interested in becoming a mentor or a prayer partner or want to learn more contact Miss Diana, education@firstreformedscotia.org.

COMMUNITY CUPBOARD- has had a busy summer. Thank you for the wonderful response to the summer food drive. The traffic we have had with people using the Cupboard really did show that hunger indeed does not take a summer vacation. As we enter the new school year we can think about food donations to help ease things for busy families: Fruits & Snacks: 100% fruit cups, applesauce, raisins, and pretzels. Breakfast: Instant oatmeal packets, whole-grain cereals, granola bars, and shelf-stable milk. Questions? Cindy Taft & Karen Wentworth are always happy to speak with you!

DUTCH FAIR - The 77th Dutch Fair will be on Saturday September 19th from 9am-2pm. Volunteers are needed throughout the week before the fair to sort and set up as well as the day of the fair and for cleaning up. Bakers are also needed for our Bake Sale.

BACKPACK PROGRAM NEEDS DRIVERS - Our Backpack Program provides much needed food assistance to families in the Scotia/Glenville school district. Each week during the school year students who are participating in the program take home a backpack full of food to assist in providing meals over the weekend. During the summer months participating families receive monthly distribution boxes of food. Some of these families require delivery of their distribution boxes. Want to help by being a delivery driver? Contact June Coryer (junecoryer@gmail.com). Thank you!!

This Week's Calendar

SUN, AUG 30	8:00am	Outdoor Worship Service (Weather Permitting)
	9:00am & 11:15am	Coffee Hour and Fellowship, Patio
	10:00am	Worship Service in the Sanctuary
MON, AUG 31		Church Office Closed
TUES, SEPT 1		Church Office Closed
WED, SEPT 2	3:30pm	Fellowship Council, Memorial Lounge
SUN, SEPT 6	8:00am	Outdoor Worship Service (Weather Permitting)
	9:00am & 11:15am	Coffee Hour and Fellowship, Patio
	10:00am	Worship Service in the Sanctuary

The Consistory of First Reformed Church of Scotia

President: Rev. Christopher McCloskey

Elders

Don Bowers
Kevin McCann
Paul Munson
Debbie Perretta
David Schalekamp, VP
Kathe Sheehan

Deacons

John Ackner
Laura Taft Bull
Erikka Gravell
Allison Beauchemin
Lee Poremba
Bill Shave, Clerk

Our Congregation's Covenant

*First Reformed Church of Scotia is a fellowship of people,
each called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit
to be disciples of Jesus Christ,
and instruments of his presence in the world.
We sustain our fellowship through worship
and the celebration of the sacraments, through prayer,
and through the encouragement of each other's spiritual growth.
Our shared task is to follow Christ in mission and ministry
in our lives, our homes, our community, and our world so loved by God.*

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