



Seeking the Light

"People are prepared for everything except for the fact that beyond the darkness of their blindness there is a great light."

Frederick Buechner

Telling the Truth:

The Gospel as Tragedy, Comedy, and Fairy Tale

**The Worship of God
Second Sunday of Advent**

December 7, 2014

8:30 and 10:45 a.m.

WELCOME TO THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are grateful for your presence this morning. Third Church strives to be a faithful, open and inclusive congregation. We are a diverse people united by a common faith in Jesus Christ and by meaningful worship and service. We invite all who are seeking to live a life of Christian faith and discipleship to join us. If you are new to Third Church, the following information may be helpful.

Parking On Sunday mornings: Street parking is possible on both sides of East Avenue. On Sundays, the Arnold Park parking lot is available for handicap parking only. Other parking is available in the Meigs Street parking lot and can be found at:

- Jewish Community Federation (Sibley Place)
- American Association of University Women
- Rochester Area Community Foundation
- Century Club (all on East Avenue)

In the event of a **Medical Emergency**, please notify an usher or staff member. An AED and first aid supplies are located in the hallway between the sanctuary and elevator.

Hearing Assistance: The Chapel and Sanctuary are equipped with induction loop systems. Use the "T-switch" of your hearing aid. If you have difficulty hearing during the worship service, please speak with an usher immediately.

An Elevator is located at the Parish House-Education Building junction to assist in accessibility.

Large Print Bulletins and Bibles are available from the ushers. Hymnals and Bibles are located under the first row pews.

Children and Worship: Children's worship bulletins, Bibles and activity clipboards are available from the ushers.

Child Care is available in the Education Building for infants and toddlers to age three.

Church School is available for children, preschool through sixth grade, during the 10:45am worship service.

Coffee Hour follows the worship service. All are invited to this time of fellowship in the Celebration Center.

Pastoral Care needs and prayer concerns may be communicated to Martha Langford.

More about Membership: If you are interested in joining Third Church, or just want to know more, contact Lynette Sparks. The next Exploring Membership dinner will take place January 11.

Newsletter: The *Messenger* is published monthly. Copies are available at the back of the Sanctuary, in the literature racks outside Johnston Hall and on the church website. If you are interested in receiving the newsletter, contact Cindy Mark in the Church Office (cmark@thirdpresbyterian.org or 271-6513, ext, 100).

A WORD ABOUT THIS CHURCH

THIRD CHURCH participates in the Presbyterian Church (USA) Commitment to Peacemaking. Our intention is to pursue avenues of peace and justice for ourselves, our families and communities, for all people in the world in which we live. We seek to be agents of reconciliation.

THIRD CHURCH has joined with other Presbyterian congregations in declaring ourselves to be a "More Light" church. We are committed to the full participation of all persons in our church community without regard for sexual orientation, personal background or human condition.



www.thirdpresbyterian.org



Find us on Facebook: "Third Presbyterian Church"

THIRD CHURCH STAFF

OFFICE: 271-6513; VOICEMAIL: 271-6537

John Wilkinson, Pastor	ext. 105
Martha C. Langford, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care	ext. 108
Lynette K. Sparks, Interim Associate Pastor for Outreach and Evangelism	ext. 106
Peter A. DuBois, Director of Music/Organist	ext. 109
Mary Ann Rutkowski, Associate Director of Music	ext. 101
Rebecca D'Angelo-Veitch, Coordinator of Children's Ministries and Congregational Life	ext. 118
Jane S. Carden, Youth Ministry Coordinator	ext. 107
Caroline Robinson, Assistant Organist	
William W. Young, Pastor Emeritus	
Roderic P. Frohman, Pastor Emeritus	

Preparation for Worship

We come to worship from a busy and noisy world. As we prepare to offer ourselves in praise and adoration of God, it is important that we step back from our preoccupations and focus our thoughts on God. We ask that you please turn off all cell phones and pagers. As the music begins this morning, please take time to become more aware of the continuing presence of God.

* *Stand as you are able*

PRELUDE "Partita on 'Comfort, Comfort You My People'"
(based on Hymn 3) Georg Böhm

BELL PRELUDE "Advent Carol"
(10:45) Hal Hopson
Junior High Bells

CHORAL INTROIT "Prepare the Way of the Lord" Jacques Berthier, Taizé
(10:45) Junior Choir

Prepare the way of the Lord.
Prepare the way of the Lord,
and all people will see the salvation of our God.

LIGHTING of the
ADVENT CANDLE

8:30—Janet Reed, Melanie Ward

10:45—Riley, Carolyn & Kelly Knickerbocker
From Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

LEADER: As we light the second Advent candle, we remember the psalm's vision of God's goodness. "Lord, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob. You forgave the iniquity of your people; you pardoned all their sin."

We affirm that "God will speak of peace to the people. Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky."

PEOPLE: **As we wait on you, O God, invite us into your righteousness and goodness.**

(sung three times)

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

* HYMN 2 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

HYFRYDOL

PRAYER
of CONFESSION

Patient and loving God, as we wait for the coming of your kingdom, you call us to lead lives of holiness. We are slow to change our ways, even when they do not please or glorify you. We have lived unto ourselves and not to you. Forgive our carelessness in not heeding your will. Establish your rule in our hearts, that our lives may proclaim your praise, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER
KYRIE

Lord, have mercy up on us.

Christ, have mercy up on us.

Lord, have mercy up on us.

Peter DuBois, 2004

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

LEADER: Friends, believe the good news.
PEOPLE: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

* RESPONSE:

organ intro

Glo-ry be to God: Cre - a - tor, Christ, and
Ho - ly Ghost. As it was in the be - gin-ning, is now, and ev-er
shall be: World with-out end. A - men! A - men!

Peter DuBois, 2007

ANTHEM

(10:45)

“O Come, O Come Immanuel”

Natalie Sleeth

Junior Choir

O come, O come, Immanuel,
Come now to earth and with Thy people dwell, The world awaits
from heav’n a holy sign, O come and show to us the light divine.

O come, O come, Immanuel,
As age to age the prophets did foretell; Redeemer, come to save us
one and all, Be born again in Bethl’hem’s manger stall.

For Thy coming we prepare,
Wisdom from on high,
Gracious Spirit, Lord most fair:
Now to us draw nigh.

O come, O come, Immanuel,
And free Thy children, Israel,
Be now our hope, our comfort from above, And bless us all with
everlasting love;

O bless us all with everlasting love.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

(10:45)

*(Children, age 3 through sixth grade, may depart for church school
and child care following the children’s message. You may exit through
the doors to the left of the pulpit to get to the Education Building.)*

DISMISSAL of CHILDREN

(10:45)

(sung twice: once in unison, once as a canon, beginning with the pulpit side)

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way Through
this and ev - ery com - ing day, That in Your Spir - it
strong and true Our lives may be our gift to You.

text: Mary Jackson Cathey, 1986
music: Thomas Tallis, adapt. Parker's *Whole Psalter*, c.1561

WORDS of WELCOME

*We ask that you sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to the person next
to you in the pew. Please greet those worshipping with you at the close
of the service.*

OLD TESTAMENT

LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11

(Pew Bible, OT page 667)

LEADER:

The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE:

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

"And the Glory of the Lord"

Georg Frideric Handel

(from Messiah)

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

- Isaiah 40:5

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 1:1-8

(Pew Bible, NT page 34)

LEADER:

The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE:

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"An Invitation to Preparation"

John Wilkinson

* HYMN 3

(10:45)

"Comfort, Comfort You My People"

PSALM 42

* AFFIRMATION of FAITH

from "Our Song of Hope"

Reformed Church in America

We sing to our Lord a new song;
We sing in our world a sure Hope:
Our God loves this world,
God called it into being,
God renews it through Jesus Christ,
God governs it by the Spirit.
God is the world's true Hope.

Christ places the Lord's table in this world.
Jesus takes up our bread and wine
to represent His sacrifice,
to bind His ministry to our daily work,
to unite us in His righteousness.
Here Christ is present in His world
proclaiming salvation until He comes,
a symbol of hope for a troubled age.

Come, Lord Jesus:

We are open to your Spirit.

We await your full presence.

Our world finds rest in you alone. Amen.

PRESENTATION of OFFERINGS

ANTHEM

(8:30) "Of the Father's Heart Begotten" arr. David Willcocks
(see 10:45 motet for text)

(10:45) "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" Edward Bairstow

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and stand with fear and trembling, and lift itself above all earthly thought. For the King of kings and Lord of lords, Christ our God, cometh forth to be our oblation, and to be giv'n for Food to the faithful. Before Him come the choirs of angels, with ev'ry principality and pow'r; the Cherubim with many eyes, and winged Seraphim, who veil their faces as they shout exultingly the hymn; Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

- from the Liturgy of St. James

* RESPONSE



Faith - ful Lord of all things liv-ing, by whose boun-ty all are blest;
bread to hun gry bo-dies giv-ing, jus-tice to the long-op-pressed.
For the strength of our sal - va-tion, light and life and length of days,
praise the God of all cre-a-tion, set your souls to sing God's praise!

Text: from the hymn "Praise the God of Our Salvation" by Timothy Dudley-Smith
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8.7.8.7 D
Tune: MEIGS ST.
Music: © 2004 Peter DuBois

The Lord's Supper this morning will be celebrated by the ancient practice of "intinction," from the Latin "to dip." At the time of communion, ushers will invite you to come forward to the lower chancel via the center aisle. Take a piece of bread from the server, dip it in the cup which contains grape juice, and partake as you are served. Gluten-free bread is available at a clearly marked station on the left (as you face the front of the chapel/sanctuary). You may return to your seats via the side aisles. If moving to the communion table is difficult for you, a team of servers will come to you to serve the communion elements.

* THE SACRAMENT of THE LORD'S SUPPER

* INVITATION TO
THE LORD'S TABLE

* GREAT PRAYER
OF THANKSGIVING

LEADER: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: **And also with you.**

LEADER: Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE: **We lift them to the Lord.**

LEADER: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

PEOPLE: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

LEADER: We praise you, holy God, for...

... Therefore with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, we worship and adore your glorious name, praising you forevermore:

(organ intro)

Ho - - - ly, ho - - - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 God of pow-er and might, Heav'n and earth are
 full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est!
 Blest is the One who comes in the name of the
 Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est!

setting by William Mathias

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.

SHARING THE BREAD
 AND CUP
 PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Loving God, you have given us a share in the one bread and the one cup and made us one with Christ. Help us to bring your salvation and joy to all the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

MOTET
 (10:45)

"Of the Father's Heart Begotten" arr. David Willcocks

Of the Father's heart begotten, ere the world from chaos rose, He is Alpha: from that Fountain All that is and hath been flows; He is Omega, of all things Yet to come the mystic Close, Evermore and evermore.

By his word was all created; He commanded and 'twas done; Earth and sky and boundless ocean, Universe of three in one, All that sees the moon's soft radiance, All that breathes beneath the sun, Evermore and evermore.

He assumed this mortal body, Frail and feeble, doomed to die, That the race from dust created Might not perish utterly, Which the dreadful Law had sentenced In the depths of hell to lie, Evermore and evermore.

O how blest that wondrous birthday, When the Maid the curse
retrieved, Brought to birth mankind's salvation, By the Holy Ghost
conceived; And the Babe, the world's Redeemer, In her loving arms
received, Evermore and evermore.

This is he, whom seer and sybil Sang in ages long gone by; This is
he of old revealed In the page of prophecy; Lo! he comes, the
promised Saviour; Let the world his praises cry! Evermore and
evermore.

Sing, ye heights of heaven, his praise; Angels and archangels, sing!
Wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful, Let your joyous anthems ring, Every
tongue his name confessing, Countless voices answering, Evermore
and evermore!
- text by Prudentius (c. 348-413)

* HYMN 12 "People, Look East"

BESANÇON

* CHARGE
and BENEDICTION

* CONGREGATIONAL
RESPONSE
(8:30)

**God be with you till we meet again;
Loving counsels guide, uphold you,
With a shepherd's care enfold you,
God be with you till we meet again.**

* CHORAL RESPONSE
(10:45)

* GREETING

POSTLUDE "March on Handel's 'Lift Up Your Heads'"

Alexandre Guilmant

*The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God in loving memory of
Hugh H. Whitney from his wife, Jean, and their children, Grant and Julia.*

The Memorial Prayer Candle is lit today for parents grieving the loss of children.

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE:

PREACHER: John Wilkinson
LITURGISTS: Lynette Sparks, Martha Langford, Corni Labrum (10:45)
ACOLYTES: Juju Ling, Maisie Merz
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ORGANIST: Peter DuBois
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Mary Ann Rutkowski
ASSISTANT ORGANIST: Caroline Robinson
GREETERS: Bonnie DeHollander, Alice Fishbeck, Ann Haag,
Jack Salzer, Carl Wheeler
USHERS: Jim Boyer, Roxanne Boyer, Jobin Philip, Beth Sieber, Betsy Vinton,
Griff Vinton, Jeff Weis, Rob White
COFFEE HOUR HOSTS: Youth Chili Cook-Off and Bake Sale



December 7, 2014

MINISTRY, SERVICE, AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Thanks to those who have already pledged. As of December 1, we have received 291 pledges totaling \$755,804 toward a goal of \$984,000. Pledge cards are available in the office, in the pew pads in the Chapel, and in the pew racks in the Sanctuary. You may mail them to the church or you may submit a confidential pledge to Carol Foster at cfoster@thirdpresbyterian.org.

Sunday Seminar at 9:30am (Johnston Hall)

Today: *Reclaiming Christmas*
with Martha Langford.

Explore and share a variety of simple spiritual practices that deepen the experience of Advent and Christmas.

December 14: *Bach Cantata 140*

with Michael Anderson, Eastman School of Music, who will prepare us to experience the Bach Cantata which will follow during the 10:45am worship service.

Growing in the Word at 9:30am (Parlor)

Today: Isaiah 40:1-11: Advent Comfort with Darryl Powell

December 14: Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11: Advent Transformation with Susan Rupp

Chili Cook off Today!

The second annual Chili Cook-Off will take place following 10:45am worship today. You are invited to sample home-made recipes (\$5) and cast your vote for your favorite. Be sure to pick up a baked good! Funds raised will support Youth Programming.

Fair Trade Palestinian Olive Oil for Sale Today

The Peacemaking Mission Team is offering olive oil and olive products from the Cannan Fair Trade Cooperative for sale only today following 10:45am worship.

Tonight's Youth Events

Dinner and Fellowship tonight!
#christmasgamenight

Holly Bundles Available at Coffee Hour

Holly bundles for those who have requested them are available for pick up today.

Thursday Voices at 12:00noon (in Johnston Hall)

December 11: *Emmanuel—A Christmas Article* by Buechner, led by Martha Langford.

Christmas Basket Ministry

Contributions toward gift cards and food purchases are needed. Please make out checks to Third Presbyterian Church marked "Christmas Basket 2014."

Living Water Wednesdays



You are invited you to join us at 6:00pm in the Third Church Chapel on Wednesday evening, December 10 for this new worship opportunity. Martha Langford leads this week.

Special Music for Advent—Next Sunday at 10:45am

J.S. Bach, Cantata 140 Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme
The Chancel Choir, Orchestra and Soloists will present this extraordinary Advent Cantata in our worship. Based on the hymn of the same name (#17 in the *Presbyterian Hymnal*), written in 1599, it illustrates the Gospel text of the parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins, and the relationship between the coming Christ (the Bridegroom) and the Church. It is glorious music and includes a familiar movement for tenors and orchestra, made popular by various transcriptions for organ and other instruments.

In addition to the Bach cantata, the choir and orchestra will be offering a first performance of a setting of the 15th century text “There Is No Rose,” by contemporary American composer Z. Randall Stroope. He is a well-known conductor and composer, and Director of Choral Studies at Oklahoma State University. Originally composed for women’s chorus, oboe and piano, we will present the first performance of a version commissioned by Third Church for women’s chorus, oboe, and string orchestra. The commission was made possible by the Janet S. and David B. Reed Fund. A special music offering will be received next Sunday to support the cost of the orchestra.

Annual Jr. Choir Christmas Cookie Sale—Next Sunday

The Junior Choir’s annual Christmas Cookie sale will be held next Sunday following 10:45 worship. Stop by the table at coffee hour to

purchase some delicious treats and help support our upcoming trip to Pittsburgh.

Congregational Advent Event—Next Sunday

Join with members of all ages in the Celebration Center for a simple spaghetti supper prepared by the Congregational Fellowship Committee. An informal time of carol singing will follow the supper. Please RSVP to the church office at 271-6513 or cmark@thirdpresbyterian.org by December 11. There is no set charge for this event, though a free-will offering will be received.

UPT Children’s Program Support

*December: Coloring Books
Money for Field Trips*

Dining Room Ministry Christmas Team

Saturday, December 20, 10:00am-1:00pm
Volunteers—experienced or new—are needed for the special Christmas Dining Room Ministry team. Please contact Nancy Adams at nancycadams@hotmail.com if you are interested in joining us.

Hunger Sunday

*Food Cupboard has an ongoing need for
Peanut Butter (18 oz.)*

Shopping at Amazon Benefits Third Church

If you are planning on holiday shopping at amazon.com, please start by clicking on the ‘Amazon button’ on the Third Church web page. There is no additional cost to you when you purchase from Amazon in this way, and Third Church receives a commission.

Christmas Decorations Deadline Tomorrow

If you would like to make a donation to help support the cost of our Christmas decorations, please send your check to the church office marked “*Christmas Flowers*” and note clearly the names that should be included in the Christmas Eve bulletin. **The deadline for receiving donations is tomorrow, December 8.**

I would like this gift to be:

_____ *In loving memory of:*

_____ *In honor of:*

_____ *In celebration of:*

_____ *A donation from:*

CALENDAR for December 7 – December 14

Sunday at Third Church

8:30 am	Child Care	CE
8:30 am	Worship	Chapel
9:30 am	Junior Choir Rehearsal	Moot Arts Room
9:30 am	Sunday Seminar	JH
9:30 am	Growing in the Word	Parlor
9:30 am	Youth Church School	CE 201
10:00 am	Intercessory Prayer	Chapel
10:40 am	Church School	Education Building
10:45 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:45 am	Coffee Hour/Youth Chili Cook-Off	Celebration Center
4:30 pm	Junior High Bells	Sanctuary
4:30 pm	Covenant Ringers	Moot Arts Room
5:15 pm	Covenant Singers	Choir Room
6:00 pm	Youth Dinner and Fellowship	CC and CE Lounge

Monday, December 8

9:30 am	Food Cupboard	CC
6:00 pm	Boy Scouts	CC
6:45 pm	Yoga	JH

Tuesday, December 9

9:15 am	Morning Prayer	Chapel
9:45 am	Staff Meeting	Parker Room
7:00 pm	Session	JH

Wednesday, December 10

5:00 pm	Children's Bell Choir	Moot Arts Room
5:30 pm	Junior Choir Rehearsal	Moot Arts Room
5:30 pm	Qabats	CC
6:00 pm	Living Waters Wednesdays	Chapel
7:15 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

Thursday, December 11

9:30 am	Food Cupboard	CC
10:45 am	Celebration Ringers	Moot Room
12:00 pm	Thursday Voices	JH
1:00 pm	Book Club	Library
7:00 pm	Bell Concert	<i>Off Site (Monroe Comm. Hosp)</i>
7:00 pm	Corner Place Steering Committee	<i>Off Site (New Life)</i>

Friday, December 12

Saturday, December 13

10:00 am	Dining Room Ministry	CC
10:00 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
1:00 pm	Memorial Service for Nancy Mayne	Chapel

Sunday, December 14

8:30 am	Child Care	CE
8:30 am	Worship	Chapel
9:30 am	Jr. Choir Rehearsal	Moot Arts Room
9:30 am	Sunday Seminar	JH
9:30 am	Growing in the Word	Parlor
10:00 am	Intercessory Prayer	Chapel
10:45 am	Worship/Special Music	Sanctuary
11:00 am	Church School	CE
12:00 pm	Coffee Hour/Jr. Choir Cookie Sale	CC
12:00 pm	Youth Revisioning/Implement.	Whitney Rm
4:30 pm	Junior High Bells	Sanctuary
4:30 pm	Covenant Ringers	Moot Arts Room
5:15 pm	Covenant Singers	Choir Room
6:00 pm	Advent Event	CC

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