



Seeking the Light

The Risk of Birth

This is no time for a child to be born,
With the earth betrayed by war & hate
And a comet slashing the sky to warn
That time runs out & the sun burns late.

That was no time for a child to be born,
In a land in the crushing grip of Rome;
Honour & truth were trampled by scorn-
Yet here did the Saviour make his home.

When is the time for love to be born?
The inn is full on the planet earth,
And by a comet the sky is torn-
Yet Love still takes the risk of birth.

Madeleine L'Engle

**The Worship of God
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

December 21, 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.

Children and Worship: Today we offer quiet activities for school aged children during worship in the sanctuary. There is a table and chairs on a rug under the Arnold Park balcony where children will have the opportunity to read books and do activities that relate to our scriptures for the day.

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	

(sung three times)



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.



5
Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

* HYMN 9
PRAYER
of CONFESSION

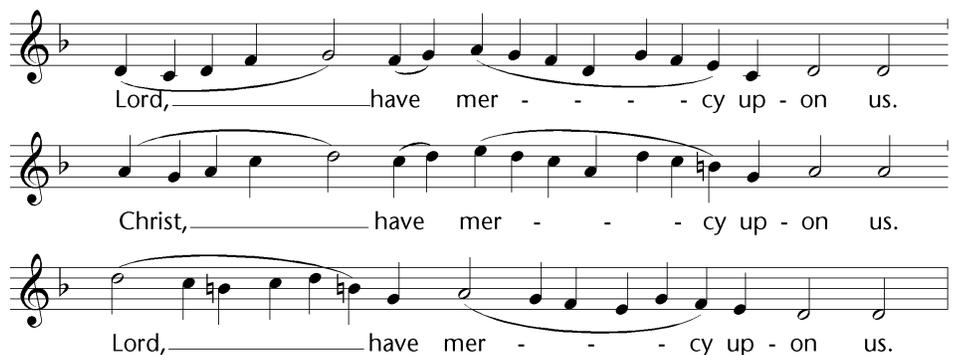
“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

Lord have mercy upon us: For all the times and all the ways we have resisted your rule in our lives, for seeking our salvation through lesser things; for standing in the pride of our own power; for insisting on our own tired, broken ways instead of embracing your life-giving Way; for our narrow vision of your expansive love. Free us from our sin, loving God. Lead us in the new life you give us, that we may follow in the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

KYRIE



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

“There Is Great Joy Coming”

Buryl Red
Covenant Singers
Scott Stratton-Smith, *piano*

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

2 Samuel 7:1-11

(Pew Bible, OT page 281)

LEADER:

The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE:

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“The White Dove”

Johannes Brahms

A snow white dove from heaven flew down to the earth, In angel form it greeted a Maid of lowly birth, With peace and joy its tidings filled her breast, For She, above all women, would be forever blest. Kyrie eleison.

The gates of heaven would open, The angel then did tell, and Christ our Blest Redeemer would deign on earth to dwell; The Holy Babe who lay her arms within, Should be the promised Saviour to purge the world from sin. Kyrie eleison.

And when our life is ended, on Thee will we call, The Son of Holy Mary, Who died to save us all; In mercy hear us when we cry to Thee, From fear of death's dark angel, O Jesus set us free. Kyrie eleison.

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

(Pew Bible, NT page 56)

LEADER:

The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE:

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"An Invitation to Blessing"

John Wilkinson

*** HYMN 600**

"Song of Mary"

MAGNIFICAT

*** 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.**

**Our only hope is Jesus Christ.
After we refused to live in the image of God,
He was born of the virgin Mary,
sharing our genes and our instincts,
entering our culture, speaking our language,
fulfilling the law of our God.
Being united to Christ's humanity,
we know ourselves when we rest in Him.**

**Come, Lord Jesus:
We are open to your Spirit.
We await your full presence.
Our world finds rest in you alone. Amen.**

**PRAYERS of the PEOPLE
and THE LORD'S PRAYER**

(Prayer Request cards are available in pew pockets and can be placed in the offering plate.)

**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.**

PRESENTATION of OFFERINGS

ANTHEM "Magnificat in C"

Bryan Kelly

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. For He hath regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth, all generations shall call me blessed. For He that is mighty hath magnified me; and Holy is His Name. And His mercy is on them that fear Him throughout all generations. He hath shown strength with His arm; He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich He hath sent empty away. He rememb'ring His mercy hath holpen His servant Israel; as He promised to our forefathers Abraham and His seed forever. (*Canticle of Mary - Luke 1:46-55*) 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.

* 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

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.**
ALL: **Who are we, Lord God, that you should come to us?
Yet you have visited your people and redeemed us in
your Son. As we prepare to celebrate his birth, make
our hearts leap for joy at the sound of your word, and
move us by your Spirit to bless your wonderful works.
We ask this through him whose coming is certain,
whose day draws near, your Son, our Lord Jesus
Christ. Amen.**

* HYMN 36 "In the Bleak Midwinter"

CRANHAM

* 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 "Toccatà in B minor"

Eugène Gigout

The Memorial Prayer Candle is lit in memory
of those killed in Pakistan this week and all those facing violence across the globe.

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE:

PREACHER: John Wilkinson

LITURGISTS: Lynette Sparks, Martha Langford, Donna Brink Fox (10:45)

ACOLYTES: Evan Crowley-Perry, Aidan Weis

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ORGANIST: Peter DuBois

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Mary Ann Rutkowski

ASSISTANT ORGANIST: Caroline Robinson

GREETERS: Camille Clayton, Darryl Powell, Holly Powell,
Peg Rachfal, Bernie Todd Smith

USHERS: Nancy Adams, Robb Adams, Bill Boller, Priscilla Boller, Otto
Muller-Girard, Jr., Jeff Sprague, Beth Tschorke, Phil Tschorke

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS: RAIHN/Habitat/Peacemaking



December 21, 2014

MINISTRY, SERVICE, AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Gratitude · Blessings · Generosity · Praise · Hope

An invitation to

Give

Third Presbyterian Church Stewardship 2015

Thanks to those who have already pledged. As of December 16, we have received 324 pledges totaling \$810,606 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: Advent Hymns with Vince Lenti, Professor of Piano, Eastman School of Music. He will look at the songs that have been used throughout the ages in celebration of Advent and Christmas.

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

Today: Luke 1:26-38: Advent Vocation, with Martha Langford.

Invitation to Prayer

Prayers are always welcome for those on the weekly congregational prayer list, which is available in the Chapel as well as in the church office. To add names to the prayer list, please contact Martha Langford at 271-6513, ext. 108 or mlangford@thirdpresbyterian.org.

Happy Bunch Out to Lunch Today

The Happy Bunch will meet at NAPA Wood Fired Pizza, 573 S. Clinton Avenue, for lunch and conversation.

Youth Events Today

Youth Caroling at the Presbyterian Home. Meet in the Youth Lounge after 10:45am worship. All are welcome!
Nativity Rehearsal at 3:00pm.

College Connections

Holiday Reunion Party

Monday, December 22, 6:00pm

Calling all college kids! Catch up with other youth group alumni.

Christmas Joy Offering

This year, give something more than a present – give opportunity. The Christmas Joy Offering is a way for you to do more than simply give a gift; it's a way to improve the lives of those who are struggling. 50% of all funds raised for this Offering are given to both past and current church workers who need a little boost to get over life's obstacles. The other 50% goes toward providing quality education to students seeking higher learning and leadership

development at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. Thanks to your generosity, we can support those in need. We will receive the Christmas Joy offering through Sunday, December 28. Envelopes are available in the pew racks and pew pads.

Living Waters Wednesdays



You are invited to join us at 6:00pm in the Third Church Chapel next on Wednesday evening, January 7 for this new worship opportunity.

UPT Children's Program Support

**December: Coloring Books
Money for Field Trips**

Hunger Sunday

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

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

Thursday Voices will return January 8.

Great Schools for All Symposium Update

At the November 10 *Great Schools for ALL (GS4A)* Education Symposium, we considered lessons learned from Raleigh/Wake County, N.C. and other successful urban school systems to develop alternatives to Rochester's failing schools. We want you to know what happened and what we learned. Your involvement is crucial to our progress. You can read a comprehensive

summary at <http://bit.ly/1yxSyOv>. Hard copies are also available in the literature rack outside the library, or by contacting Lynette Sparks (lsparks@thirdpresbyterian.org.)

Donating Appreciated Stocks

Do you own stocks that have appreciated over the years? If so, you might consider donating stocks to fulfill your pledge for 2014. You might find it advantageous to prepay your pledge for 2015 as well.

You may give shares through your own broker. When you request a transfer of shares from your brokerage account to Third Church's account, be sure to provide a letter (with a copy to Third Church) saying something like this:

These shares are intended as a gift to Third Presbyterian Church. Would you kindly transfer these shares into the account of: Third Presbyterian Church, 4 Meigs Street, Rochester, NY 14607; Tax ID #16-0743201.

Please contact Carol Foster at cfoster@thirdpresbyterian.org, or 271-6537, ext. 111 or your own broker, for further information. Thank you!

New Fitness Opportunity

Zumba® is an international dance-based workout that incorporates dancing and fitness using Latin and other world rhythms, and can be customized to serve all abilities and age levels. A person with two left feet will never be left out. Zumba® will be available as a fitness program on Monday evenings from 6:30-7:30pm in Room 206 (upper

floor of the Christian Education Building) at Third Presbyterian Church. Licensed instructors are Third Church member Amy Mangieri and Melanie Jones. Two introductory classes will be taught on January 12 and 26. The regular session runs on Mondays from February 23 – April 27 (*no class on March 30 or April 6*). There is a cost to participate; *a portion of all proceeds will*

be donated to Third Church Outreach. Suggested rates for Third Church members are as follows: Introductory classes on January 12 and 26 – at-will donation; regular February-April session: \$65; per-class drop-in fee: \$7. To sign up, please contact Melanie Jones at amymelanierocn@aol.com or 347-668-6181.

Christmas Eve Schedule

Festival of the Nativity
4:30pm in the Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Communion
8:00pm in the Chapel

Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols
11:00pm in the Sanctuary

“A Rochester Festival of Lessons and Carols”

Once again, WXXI FM 91.5 will offer this broadcast locally on Christmas Eve at 11:00pm EST. Taken from last year’s Christmas Eve service at Third Church, it features clergy and liturgists from Third Church, as well as the Chancel Choir in a service of nine lessons and carols. It may also be live streamed by going to www.wxxi.org/listen, and clicking on the stream for Classical 91.5. This program is also being offered by a number of other public radio stations across the country during the coming weeks, in preparation for Christmas. Tell your out-of-town friends and family to tune in!

CALENDAR for December 21 – December 28

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
10:00 am	Intercessory Prayer	Chapel
10:45 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:00 am	Church School	Education Building
11:45 am	Coffee Hour	Celebration Center
12:00 pm	Happy Bunch Out to Lunch	<i>Off Site</i>
12:00 pm	Youth Caroling at Presbyterian Home	<i>Off Site</i>
12:15 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
3:00 pm	Youth Nativity Rehearsal	Sanctuary
4:30 pm	Junior High Bells	Sanctuary

Monday, December 22

9:30 am	Food Cupboard	CC
5:30 pm	Junior Choir	Sanctuary
6:00 pm	Nativity Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:00 pm	College Reunion	CE/Youth Lounge

Tuesday, December 23

9:15 am	Morning Prayer	Chapel
9:45 am	Staff Meeting	Parker Room

Wednesday, December 24

3:30 pm	Junior Choir Rehearsal	Moot Arts Room
4:00 pm	Glorious Voices Rehearsal	Moot Arts Room
4:30 pm	Festival of the Nativity	Sanctuary
8:00 pm	Christmas Eve Worship	Chapel
10:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
11:00 pm	Lessons and Carols	Sanctuary

Thursday, December 25—Christmas

Office Closed

Friday, December 26—Office Closed

Saturday, December 27

10:00 am	Dining Room Ministry	CC
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Sunday, December 28

8:30 am	Child Care	CE
8:30 am	Worship	Chapel
10:00 am	Intercessory Prayer	Chapel
10:45 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:00 am	Worship Table	Sanctuary
12:00 pm	Coffee Hour	CC

4 Meigs Street, Rochester, NY 14607-2013

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