



**Third
Presbyterian
Church**

Seeking the Light

“Bonhoeffer in his skylit cell
bleached by the flares’ candescent fall,
pacing out his own citadel,

restores the broken themes of praise,
encourages our borrowed days,
by logic of his sacrifice.

Against wild reasons of the state
his words are quiet but not too quiet.
We hear too late or not too late.”

Geoffrey Hill
Christmas Trees

**The Worship of God
First Sunday of Advent**

November 29, 2015

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 Luncheon will take place December 6.

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, Associate Pastor for Outreach and Evangelism	ext. 106
Ernest F. Krug, Parish Associate	
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	
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 "Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland" BWV 659 J.S. Bach
("Savior of the Nations, Come" – based on Hymn 102)

LIGHTING of THE ADVENT CANDLE

8:30—Ron Hansen

10:45—The Fischer Family: Connor, Adrienne, Eleanor and Frederick,
Beth and Daniel

LEADER: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: **And also with you.**

LEADER: As we light the first Advent candle, we remember the words of the prophet Jeremiah: I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up, who shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

PEOPLE: **Because of this promise, we lift our hearts and souls to God, in whom we place our trust.**

LEADER: Teach us your ways, O God, and lead us in your truth.

PEOPLE: **Be mindful of your mercy and your steadfast love.**

* RESPONSE "While We Are Waiting, Come" (*Hymn 92*) WAITING
Stanza 1, sung twice

* HYMN 82 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" HYFRYDOL

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Coming Lord, as we wait and watch and yearn and ache, we seek signs of your presence. What we see are indications of our sinfulness. The needy are overlooked. Selfishness has the upper hand. Hatred and violence triumph over peace and reconciliation. Our commitments waver; our resolve weakens; and we find ourselves further away from the path for which you have marked in Christ. We long for a word of forgiveness and direction, and for a sense of purpose and meaning. Come quickly, Lord, with mercy and grace, come quickly Lord. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

KYRIE

Lord, have mer - - - cy up - on us.
Christ, have mer - - - cy up - on us.
Lord, have mer - - - cy 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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(10:45)

Following the children's message, school aged children are invited to gather at the table under the Arnold Park balcony for quiet activities during worship. Child care is provided for children, Kindergarten and younger, in the Education Building.

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

DISMISSAL of CHILDREN

(10:45)

I. *II.* TALLIS' CANON
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

Jeremiah 33:14-16

(Pew Bible, OT page 738)

LEADER:

The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE:

Thanks be to God.

SOLO

(8:30)

“Et Exsultavit”

J.S. Bach

(from “Magnificat”)

Caroline Nielson, *mezzo-soprano*

Et exsultavit spiritus meus in Deo
salutari meo

*And my spirit rejoices in God, my
Savior*

- Luke1:47

ANTHEM

(10:45)

“E’en so, Lord Jesus Quickly Come”

Paul Manz

Peace be to you and grace from him Who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed his blood That we might saved be. Sing
holy, holy to our Lord. The Lord, Almighty God, Who was and is
and is to come; Sing holy, holy, Lord! Rejoice in heaven, all ye that
dwell therein, Rejoice on earth, ye saints below, For Christ is
coming soon! E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, And night shall be
no more; They need no light nor lamp nor sun, For Christ will be
their All!

- adapted from Revelation 22 by Ruth Manz

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 21:25-36

(Pew Bible, NT page 85)

LEADER:

The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE:

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Sowing Seeds of Promise”

John Wilkinson

* HYMN 97

(10:45)

“Watchman, Tell Us of the Night”

ABERYSWYTH

*The pulpit side will sing the lines beginning with “Watchman;” the
lectern side singing the lines beginning “Traveler”)*

* AFFIRMATION of FAITH

The Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven
and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the
Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was
crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead; he
ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall
come to judge the quick and the dead.**

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. 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**

SOLO "How Beautiful Are the Feet of Them" G.F. Handel
(8 :30) (from "Messiah")

ANTHEM "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" David Ashley White
(10:45) Sarah Cohen, *flute*

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh; to us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her ways to go. *Rejoice! Rejoice!*

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thy justice here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. *Rejoice! Rejoice!*

O come, Desire of nations bind all peoples in one heart and mind. From dust thou brought me forth to life, deliver us from earthly strife. *Rejoice! Rejoice!*

- adapted from the ancient 'O Antiphons'

* 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: **Eternal God, you taught us that the night is far spent
and the day is at hand. Keep us awake and alert,
watching for your kingdom, and make us strong in
faith, so that when Christ comes in glory to judge the
earth, we may joyfully give him praise; who lives and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever. Amen.**

* HYMN 348 "Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending" HELMSLEY

* CHARGE
and BENEDICTION

* CONGREGATIONAL
RESPONSE

**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.**

* GREETING

POSTLUDE "Toccatà on 'Savior of the Nations Come'" Paul Manz

The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God in loving memory of our beloved cousin and "aunt," Molly Pipes Meltzer from Margaret, Jenna, Abby Lindsey and Alison Gray.

The Memorial Prayer Candle is lit today with hopes for peace around the world, and an end to violence.

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE:

PREACHER: John Wilkinson
LITURGISTS: Ernest F. Krug, Martha Langford,
10:45: Corni Labrum
ACOLYTES: Natalie Vinton, Audrey Vinton
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ORGANIST: Peter DuBois
GREETERS: Camille Clayton, Bonnie DeHollander, Betty Iwan,
Bernie Todd Smith, Dot Wallace
USHERS: (8:30) Deb Allyn, Justin Connolly
(10:45) Bill Boller, Clive Daunton, Dianna Daunton,
Elmer Dustman, Ann Haag, Otto Muller-Girard, Jr.,
Betsy Vinton, Griff Vinton
COFFEE HOUR HOSTS: Deacons, Parish A: Sarah Cohen, Carl Wheeler

November 29, 2015



MINISTRY, SERVICE, AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



We Shall Come Rejoicing:
Sowing Faithfully,
Harvesting Abundantly

**Third Presbyterian Church
Stewardship 2016**

Thanks to those who have already pledged. As of November 23, we have received 274 pledges totaling \$732,896 toward a goal of \$931,500. 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/Growing in the Word

Today at 9:30am in Johnston Hall

Both Adult Spiritual Developments groups combine today to discuss *A Righteous Branch from David's Line* led by Paul Gongloff.

Home for the Holiday

Will you be alone during the coming holiday celebrations and would welcome a chance to enjoy a Christmas meal with church friends? Would you be willing to host a church friend for either of the coming holiday meal? We want to hear from you.

Deacons Camille Clayton (413-0225) and Kay Ramsay (544-9022), are coordinating a Board of Deacon pilot project HOME FOR THE HOLIDAY. If you are interested or want to learn more, please call Camille or Kay.

Christmas Baskets

The response has been wonderful! Only five more donors are needed. A large Christmas Basket poster and Mitten Tree are on display during Coffee Hour in the Celebration Center. Stop by and sign up!

Living Waters Wednesdays



The next service is December 2 and will be led by Lynette Sparks.

Thursday Voices

**Thursday, December 3, 12:00noon,
Johnston Hall**

We will reflect on the season of Advent with sermons from the Advent season in December. John Wilkinson will lead a discussion on *Never Mind the Width* written on Isaiah 64:1-9 by Samuel Wells.

ROC the Day

On **Tuesday, December 1**, United Way of Greater Rochester for the fifth year is sponsoring ROC the Day, a one-day giving event Third Church's Human Service Programs (*food cupboard, dining room ministry, tutoring, etc.*) are registered to receive donations on ROC the Day, so on

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, from 12 am – 11:30 pm please ROC the Day by going on-line to www.ROCtheDay.org (or go directly to Third Church's donation page—<http://www.roctheday.org/Agency/ThirdPresbyterianChurchHumanServicePrograms>) and making a donation to support Third Church's Human Service Programs. This is an especially good way to encourage others to support our outreach programs, so please share this information with family and friends.

World Aids Day Benefit Concert

Tuesday, December 1, at 7:00pm
Third Presbyterian Church will host Rochester's 15th Annual World Aids Day Benefit Concert on December 1st at 7:00pm in the sanctuary. Proceeds will benefit Trillium Health. Tickets are \$15.00 and may be purchased online at www.eventbrite.com or at the door.

Advent Retreat: Fear Not

Saturday, December 5, 9:00am to 12:00noon

We live in an ever-intensifying 21st century landscape of fear. And yet, in Scripture stories of Advent and Christmas, the angel of the Lord tells Zechariah, Mary, and Joseph, "Do not be afraid." During this retreat, we'll focus on responding to our present-day fear-laden context through the lens of Advent.

For more information or to register for this retreat, please contact Lynette Sparks, 271-6513, ext. 106; or lsparks@thirdpresbyterian.org.

Chili Cook off Next Sunday!

The third annual Chili Cook-Off will take place following worship on December 6. You are invited to sample home-made recipes (\$5) and also to purchase baked

goods. Funds raised will support Youth Programming.

Advent Small Groups on Facebook

Knowing that schedules are busy, and also that many are searching for meaningful faith connections in this holy season, we are trying a new thing: Small groups based on the Facebook format! To learn more and indicate your interest, visit www.thirdpresbyterian.org/ThirdChurchFacebookSmallGroups page.

Advent Event/Evening Prayer

Next Sunday, December 6, 6:00pm
Celebration Center and Sanctuary

Our Annual Advent fellowship dinner will be held Sunday, December 6 at 6:00pm in the Celebration Center, followed by a service of Evening Prayer at 7:00pm, led by the children and youth who attended Camp Cory this past summer. A light dessert reception will follow Evening Prayer. Please reserve your place by calling the church office (271-6513).

Masquerade Charity Ball Benefit

The Young Professionals NeXus group of Xerox is hosting a black and white theme Masquerade Charity Ball and have chosen The Corner Place as recipient. Members of Third Church, a source of support for The Corner Place and providers of tutoring services, are invited to attend and spread the word to those they know.

Saturday, December 5, 5pm to 10:00pm

La Luna Event Center, 60 Brown Race
Please follow the link to the event website for further information and to purchase tickets in advance, or if you will be unable to attend and would like to make a donation: <http://www.ypnexus.org/ball>.

Special Music for Advent

"Gloria" by Francis Poulenc

Sunday, December 13 at 10:45am Worship

On Sunday, December 13, the Chancel Choir, under the direction of Peter DuBois will present *Gloria* by Francis Poulenc in the 10:45am worship service. The presentation will feature soprano soloist Paige Kiefner, with accompaniment by Assistant Organist, Caroline Robinson.

This 20th century choral masterpiece joyfully and exuberantly illustrates the traditional liturgical text, "Glory to God in the highest, on earth, peace to those of goodwill."

Composed in 1959, the *Gloria* represents one of the most significant achievements of Poulenc's later years. It incorporates elements of the witty, urbane style of his earlier years, but is also infused with a deeply felt religious aspect, characteristic of his later years.

A special music offering will be received to help support the presentation of major choral works in worship. Come enjoy this special Advent presentation!

Temporary Shelter Seeks Donations

While working on a long-term solution for Rochester's homeless, the *Rochester Emergency Action Committee for the Homeless* (REACH) has established a temporary shelter and is seeking donations. To learn more, visit their website <http://reachrochester.wix.com/reach>.

Amazon Shoppers

For those who will shop Amazon this season: Third Presbyterian Church is a nonprofit Amazon Associate, you may have noted the Amazon link on our homepage. Each time you enter the Amazon site to shop through the link provided on our website, a portion of your purchase is credited to Third Church at no additional cost to you. If you plan purchases from Amazon, consider starting at www.thirdpresbyterian.org.

Hymnals Available

Copies of the blue *Presbyterian Hymnal* are available for the taking. Boxes of the hymnals are available in the Chapel narthex and at Coffee Hour in the Celebration Center following worship.

Christmas Decorations

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.

I would like this gift to be:

_____ *In loving memory of:*

_____ *In honor of:*

_____ *In celebration of:*

_____ *A donation from:*

The deadline for receiving donations is **Monday, December 8.**

CALENDAR for November 29 – December 6

Sunday at Third Church

8:30 am	Child Care	Christian Education Building (CE)
8:30 am	Worship	Chapel
9:30 am	Growing in the Word/Sunday Seminar today	Johnston Hall (JH)
9:30 am	Commissioning Class	CE 207
10:00 am	Intercessory Prayer	Chapel
10:45 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:45 am	Coffee Hour	Celebration Center (CC)
12:30 pm	More Light Committee	Parker Room
2:00 pm	RAIHN Guests Arrive	

Monday, November 30

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

Friday, December 4

9:30 am	Sisters in Spirit	Parlor
3:00 pm	Great Schools 4 All Steering Comm.	JH

Saturday, December 5

9:00 am	Advent Retreat	JH
10:00 am	Dining Room Ministry	CC

Sunday, December 6

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
9:30 am	Outreach Steering Committee	Parker Room
10:00 am	Intercessory Prayer	Chapel
10:45 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:00 am	Church School	CE
12:00 noon	Exploring Membership Lunch	JH
12:00 pm	RAIHN Guests Depart	
12:00 pm	Coffee Hour/Chili Cook-Off/Bake Sale	CC
4:30 pm	Covenant Ringers	Moot Arts Room
5:00 pm	Advisor Meeting	CE Youth Lounge
5:00 pm	Advent Dinner	CC
5:15pm	Junior High Bells	Sanctuary 5:15pm
7:00 pm	Camp Cory Evening Prayer	Sanctuary
8:00 pm	Evening Prayer Reception	JH

Tuesday, December 1

ROC the Day

9:15 am	Morning Prayer	Chapel
9:45 am	Staff Meeting	Parker Room
5:30 pm	Peacemaking	<i>Off Site</i>
7:00 pm	World AIDS Day Concert	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Youth Committee	Parker Room
7:00 pm	Congregational Fellowship	Whitney Room

Wednesday, December 2

5:00 pm	Children's Bell Choir	Moot Arts Room
5:00 pm	Shawl Knitting Ministry	Parlor
5:30 pm	Junior Choir Rehearsal	Moot Arts Room
5:30 pm	Qabats	CC
6:00 pm	Living Waters Wednesdays	Chapel
6:30 pm	Choir Sectional Rehearsals	Sanctuary
7:15 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

Thursday, December 3

9:30 am	Food Cupboard	CC
10:45 am	Celebration Ringers	Moot Room
12:00 pm	Thursday Voices	JH
1:00 pm	Clergy Group Luncheon	Parlor
5:30 pm	Joint Budget/Finance	JH
5:45 pm	Third Church Ringers	Moot Room
6:00 pm	Daisy Troop	CE LL01
6:00 pm	Brownie Troop	CE LL04
7:00 pm	Outreach Committee	CC

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