



Third Presbyterian Church

Seeking the Light

As if God were an old man
always upstairs, sitting about
in sleeveless undershirt, asleep,
arm folded, stomach rumbling,
his breath from open mouth
strident, presaging death. . .

No, God's in the wilderness next door
—that huge tundra room, no walls and a sky roof—
busy at the loom. Among the berry bushes,
rain or shine, that loud clacking and whirring,
irregular but continuous;
God is absorbed in work and hears
the spacious hum of bees, not the din,
and hears far-off
our screams. Perhaps he listens for prayers
in that wild solitude.
And hurries on with the weaving:
till it's done, the great garment woven,
our voices, clear under the familiar
blocked-out clamor of the task,
can't stop their
terrible beseeching. God
imagines it sifting through, at last, to music
in the astounded quietness, the loom idle,
the weaver at rest.

Denise Levertov
The Task

The Worship of God Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 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

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.

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

Children and Worship: Children's worship bulletins, Bibles and activity clipboards are available from the ushers. **The Fourth Grade class will be at the Children's Worship Table this morning.**

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 this noon.

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 "Praeludium in E Major" Vincent Lübeck

CHORAL INTROIT "Savior of the Nations, Come" NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND
(10:45) Junior Choir

Savior of the nations, come; virgin's son, make here your home.
Marvel now, O heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.

LIGHTING of
THE ADVENT CANDLE

8:30—Randy and Sue Northrup

10:45—The Colaluca Family:
Richard and Chris, Erin and Anna May,

LEADER: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: **And also with you.**

LEADER: As we light the second Advent candle, we remember the words of the prophet Malachi: I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me.

PEOPLE: **Blessed be the God of Israel, who has come to set the people free.**

LEADER: God's tender compassion dawns upon those who live in darkness.

PEOPLE: **God's grace guides our feet in the ways of peace.**

RESPONSE "While We Are Waiting, Come" (Hymn 92) WAITING
Stanza 2, sung twice

* HYMN 96 "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" WINCHESTER NEW

PRAYER
of CONFESSION

Merciful God, we hear the call to repentance, but we struggle to respond. A voice tells us to turn around, but we prefer our own ways. Our sin leads us in other directions, away from you, away from life. Look with mercy on us. Clear a place within us so that something new might be born, something that will return us to the way you have shown us in Jesus Christ. 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

BELL ANTHEM
 (10:45)

"Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" arr. Kevin McChesney
 Psalm 42 Covenant Ringers

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE
 (10:45)

(Children, age 3 through 6TH 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. The fourth grade class will be at the Children's worship table today.)

DISMISSAL
 of CHILDREN
 (10:45)

(sung twice: once in unison, once as a canon, beginning with the pulpit side)
 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 Malachi 3:1-4

(Pew Bible, OT page 889)

LEADER: The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

"How Lovely are the Messengers"
(from "St. Paul")

Felix Mendelssohn

How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace!
To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words,
throughout all the lands their glad tidings.

- Romans 10:15

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 3:1-6

(Pew Bible, NT page 60)

LEADER: The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"Seeds of Preparation"

John Wilkinson

* HYMN 87

(10:45)

"Comfort, Comfort Now My People"

GENEVAN

* 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.**

PRESENTATION

of OFFERINGS

ANTHEM

"Salvation is Created"

Paul Tschesnokoff

Salvation is created in midst of the earth, O God. Alleluia.

*** 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:

The musical score is written on five staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a common time signature (C), and a key signature of one flat (Bb). It includes an '(organ intro)' and the lyrics 'Ho - - - ly, ho - - - ly, ho - ly Lord,'. The second staff continues with 'God of pow-er and might, Heav'n and earth are'. The third staff includes '(organ)' and the lyrics 'full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est!'. The fourth staff has the lyrics 'Blest is the One who comes in the name of the'. The fifth staff concludes with '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

MOTET "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" Traditional French Melody

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand Christ
our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood, Lord of
lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood he will give all
the faithful his own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish as the shadows clear away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim, with sleepless eye, veil
their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord most high."

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Merciful God, we have been fed at Christ's table.
Straighten our windings and smooth our rough paths.
Keep our hearts watchful in holiness and gratitude.
May we prepare the way and greet you with joy, for
the sake of Jesus Christ our redeemer. Amen.**

* HYMN 106 "Prepare the Way, O Zion"

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

* 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 "Prelude & Fugue in G Major"

Felix Mendelssohn

*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 in memory of victims of gun violence
everywhere with a fervent prayer for peace.*

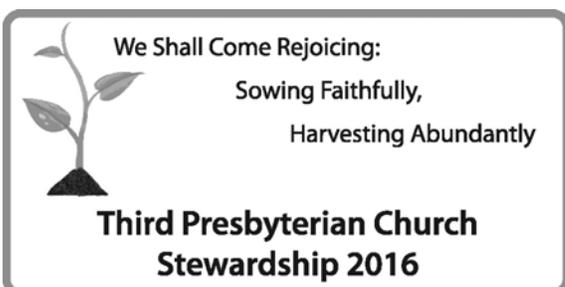
PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE:

PREACHER: John Wilkinson
LITURGISTS: Lynette Sparks, Martha Langford,
10:45: Brad Sparks
ACOLYTES: Danielle Lipari, Kelly Knickerbocker
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: (8:30) Bill Adams, Linda Adams; (10:45) Jim Boyer, Roxanne
Boyer, Jobin Philip, Beth Sieber, Betsy Vinton, Griff Vinton,
Rob White
COFFEE HOUR HOSTS: Youth Chili Cook-Off & Bake Sale

December 6, 2015



MINISTRY, SERVICE, AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Thanks to those who have already pledged. As of December 2, we have received 295 pledges totaling \$760,737. 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

Today at 9:30am in Johnston Hall
Cameron Community Ministries: Vision, Program, and Needs will be discussed by Jennifer Muniga, Executive Director of Cameron Community Ministries.

Growing in the Word

Today at 9:30am in the Parlor
Dianna Daunton will lead a discussion on *The Prophecy of Zechariah*, Luke 1:68-79.

Chili Cook-Off and Bake Sale Today!

The third annual Chili Cook-Off will take place following 10:45 worship during Coffee Hour today! You are invited to sample home-made recipes (\$5) and also to purchase baked goods. Funds raised will support Youth field trips and mission trips.

Exploring Membership Lunch

Today at 12:00noon in Johnston Hall
Today's Exploring Membership Lunch is a time to meet members, other newcomers and staff. It is an opportunity to share your story and

explore ways to connect with the people here. Those who wish to become members of Third Church can choose to attend a New Member Gathering immediately following the lunch, from 1:00-3:00pm, or on Sunday, December 13 at 8:30am. New Members will be received during worship on December 13. Come join us if you would like to pursue this avenue.

Advent Event/Evening Prayer

Today at 6:00pm
Celebration Center and Sanctuary

Our annual church-wide Advent fellowship dinner will be held today 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. Please come for dinner, even if you have not RSVP'd. If you can't come for dinner, do attend the service.

RAIHN

Our RAIHN@3rd volunteers have been so generous of their time. Here is our final need: Pick up a bag of laundry following worship this morning.

Living Waters Wednesdays



at Third Presbyterian Church

The next service is December 9 and will be led by John Wilkinson. Join us at 6:00pm in the Chapel.

UPT Holiday Distribution

Monday, December 7

Dewey Avenue Presbyterian Church

UPT has broadened its school support horizon. We need you to transport goodies to children in RCSD. Please join us on Monday, December 7, 5:00pm at Dewey Avenue Presbyterian Church for our holiday distributions to six schools and ministries. There'll be cookies, too! Questions? Text or call Beth Laidlaw at 690-4415.

Special Music for Advent

"Gloria" by Francis Poulenc

Next Sunday, December 13 at 10:45am

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! Invite a friend.

A listener-friendly preview of the "Gloria" will be offered during the Sunday Seminar time in Johnston Hall at 9:30am next Sunday. David Chin, a doctoral student in choral conducting at Eastman, and faculty member at Roberts Wesleyan College, will lead us in a fascinating exploration of the music, the text, and the context in which it was written. Open to all.

Thursday Voices

**Thursday, December 10, 12:00noon,
Johnston Hall**

We will reflect on the season of Advent with sermons for the season. Martha Langford will lead a discussion on "Mary and Elizabeth" written on Luke 1:39-45 by Deni Mack.

Celebrate Chanukah!

**Sunday, December 13, 6:00pm
Temple B'rith Kodesh, 2131 Elmwood
Avenue**

Our friends at Temple B'rith Kodesh have invited us to come celebrate Chanukah with the lighting of the Chanukah Menorah. Refreshments will be served. RSVP to the Church Office, 271-6513.

Christmas Baskets

The response has been wonderful! All 79 families will receive Christmas baskets! Still needed are white tights and "undies" as well as cash for gift cards. Visit the table at coffee hour or contact Lynette Sparks at 585-271-6537, ext. 106 or lsparks@thirdpresbyterian.org.

City Sing for Peace

**Sunday, December 20, 4:00pm
Public Market—A City United in Song**
Join your neighbor in song starting at the Public Market... walk together in peace. Join in singing songs of Chanukah, Kwanzaa, Christmas and Peace. Songbooks will be provided. Bring your own candle. All are welcome!

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.

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 a meal? We want to hear from you.

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.

Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival

HELP SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT THE BOAR'S HEAD FESTIVAL!

If you're planning on sending out Christmas cards in the coming weeks to friends and relatives, you can help spread the word about the Boar's Head Festival, as well. Small pre-printed announcements are available in quantities for you to pick up in the church office during the week, or at coffee hour on Sunday mornings. These

can be enclosed with your Christmas cards to serve as a personal invitation to com and enjoy the festivities on January 9 and 10!

Pictorial Directory

Having found errors in the pages provided with the Lifetouch Pictorial Directory update, new directory pages have been created and will be available outside the church office. If you have not yet picked up your supplemental Pictorial Update pages, you can pick these up along with the updated directory listing.

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 December 14.

CALENDAR for December 6 – December 13

Sunday at Third Church

8:30 am	Child Care	Christian Education Building (CE)
8:30 am	Worship	Chapel
9:30 am	Sunday Seminar	Johnston Hall (JH)
9:30 am	Growing in the Word	Parlor
9:30 am	Junior Choir Rehearsal	Moot Arts Room
9:30 am	Outreach Steering Committee	Parker Room
10:00 am	Intercessory Prayer	Chapel
10:45 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:00 am	Church School (<i>The fourth grade class is at the worship table today</i>)	CE
11:45 am	Coffee Hour/Chili Cook-Off & Bake Sale	Celebration Center (CC)
12:00 pm	RAIHN Guests Depart	
12:00 pm	Exploring Membership Lunch	JH
6:00 pm	Advent Dinner	CC
7:00 pm	Camp Cory Evening Prayer	Sanctuary
8:00 pm	Camp Cory Evening Prayer Reception	JH

Monday, December 7

9:30 am	Food Cupboard	CC
12:00 pm	Retired Pastors' Luncheon	JH
2:00 pm	Library Committee	Library
5:30 pm	Personnel Committee	Parker Room
6:00 pm	Boy Scouts	CC
6:30 pm	Yoga	JH

Tuesday, December 8

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

Wednesday, December 9

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
6:30 pm	Choir Sectional Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:15 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

Thursday, December 10

9:30 am	Food Cupboard	CC
10:45 am	Celebration Ringers	Moot Room
12:00 pm	Thursday Voices	JH
5:45 pm	Third Church Ringers	Moot Room

Friday, December 11

Saturday, December 12

10:00 am	Dining Room Ministry	CC
10:00 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary

Sunday, December 13

8:30 am	Child Care	CE
8:30 am	New Member Class	Library
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	Parker Room
10:00 am	Session with New Members	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
4:30 pm	Covenant Ringers	Moot Arts Room
4:30 pm	Junior High Bells	Sanctuary
5:15 pm	Covenant Singers	Choir Room
6:00 pm	Youth Dinner/Fellowship	CC/CE
6:00 pm	Menorah Candle Lighting	<i>Temple Brith Kodesh</i>

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WEBSITE: www.thirdpresbyterian.org