



# Third Presbyterian Church

*Seeking the Light*

“The Special Theory came to me,”  
Einstein said,  
“as shifting forms of light.”  
Riemann once remarked, “I did not  
invent those pairs of differential equations, I found  
them  
in the world,  
where God had hidden them.”

Natural numbers stand firm,  
granite laced  
with ice.  
Negative numbers roam, lions  
about to pounce.

All things change  
when you measure them. You might as well  
sing, the sound of your voice  
joining the others, like waters overflowing,  
the name of the living God.

Kathleen Norris  
*Naming the Living God*

The Worship of God  
Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2015

8:30 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.

**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.

**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](http://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    Partita on "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"    Max Drischner  
              Prelude on "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"    Johannes Brahms

### LIGHTING of THE ADVENT CANDLE

Deb Allyn

LEADER:    The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE:    **And also with you.**

LEADER:    As we light the third Advent candle, we remember the words of the prophet Zephaniah: Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart.

PEOPLE:    **Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst.**

LEADER:    God will rejoice over you with gladness, and you will be renewed in God's love.

PEOPLE:    **God will save the lame and gather the outcast; God will restore us and bring us home.**

RESPONSE    While We Are Waiting, Come" (*Hymn 92*)    WAITING  
                  *Stanza 3, sung twice*

\* HYMN 84    "Creator of the Stars of Night"    CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

### PRAYER of CONFESSION

Gracious God, we are told that this is supposed to be a joyful time, so why do we often feel joyless? We hear the summons to rejoice, but why do we struggle so to respond? Absorbed in the needs of the day, we have lost sight of you. Beaten down by cares and burdens, we neglect the means of grace through which our hearts might be lifted. We pray partly and worship half-heartedly and serve grudgingly. Sin prevails and joy eludes and we drift farther away. Gather us in. Forgive us. Restore us. Bring forth a new spirit within us, that we might discover the joy for which you created us, the deep joy made known to 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

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 12:2-6** (Pew Bible, OT page 641)

LEADER: The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO **"But Who May Abide the Day of His Coming"** G.F. Handel  
 (from "Messiah" Cody Müller, bass)

GOSPEL LESSON **Luke 3:7-18** (Pew Bible, NT page 60)

LEADER: The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON **"Seeds of Expectation"** John Wilkinson

**\* 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 "Quia fecit mihi magna"  
(from "Magnificat")**

J.S. Bach

Quia fecit mihi magna, qui  
potens est; et sanctum  
nomen ejus.

*For the Mighty One has done  
great things for me; holy is  
God's name.*

\* 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  
© 1984 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.  
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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, through long generations you prepared a way for the coming of your Son, and by your Spirit you still bring light to illumine our paths. Renew us in faith and hope that we may welcome Christ to rule our thoughts and claim our love. Amen.**

\* HYMN 105 "People, Look East"

BESANÇON

\* 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 "Allegro"  
(from "Concerto in G")

Johann Sebastian Bach

*The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God in loving memory of  
Shirley Mitchell Moore, beloved wife of James Moore and mother of Jennifer Moore  
Stahlkrantz, James, David and Eliza Moore.*

***PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE:***

*PREACHER:* John Wilkinson

*LITURGIST:* Martha Langford

*DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ORGANIST:* Peter DuBois

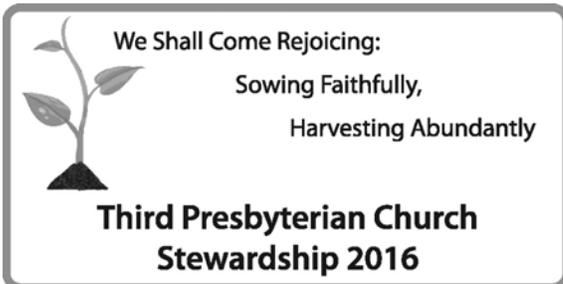
*USHERS:* Deb Allyn, Suzy Hengerer

December 13, 2015



## MINISTRY, SERVICE, AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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Thanks to those who have already pledged. As of December 9, we have received 307 pledges totaling \$782,817. 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](mailto:cfoster@thirdpresbyterian.org).

### Sunday Seminar

**Today at 9:30am in Johnston Hall**

A listener-friendly preview of the "Gloria" will be offered during the Sunday Seminar. 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.

### Growing in the Word

**Today at 9:30am in the Parlor**

Paul Gongloff will lead a discussion on The Holy One in Your Midst, Isaiah 12:2-6.

### Today's Special Music for Advent

**"Gloria" by Francis Poulenc (10:45am)**

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 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Annual Junior Choir Cookie Sale Today

Stop by the cookie sale table at Coffee Hour today to pick up some delicious treats. All funds raised are placed in the Children's Music Fund which helps support the children's musical, choir trips, and other activities—valuable parts

of our choir ministry.

## Celebrate Chanukah Today

**6:00pm at 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.

## A Conversation on Gun Violence

**Monday, December 14, 7:30pm, Chapel**

Join us for a conversation on gun violence, and brainstorming on ways Third Church can respond in light of recent national events.

## Poetry, Song & Art for All

**Monday, December 14, 6:00pm**

Join us for The Corner Place Arts Academy Fall Showcase of music, poetry and visual art at New Life Presbyterian Church, 243 Rosedale Street, Rochester, 14620.

## February Break Mission Trip Deadline

**December 15** is the deadline for signing up for the February 14-18 Mission Trip to Baltimore, Maryland. Forms and information can be found on Weebly ([www.thirdchurchoyouth.weebly.com](http://www.thirdchurchoyouth.weebly.com)) or contact Jane Carden ([jcarden@thirdpresbyterian.org](mailto:jcarden@thirdpresbyterian.org)).

## Food Cupboard Urgent Need

A driver with a larger SUV or Van is needed for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday morning of each month to pick up the Foodlink order which is usually 500-600 lbs. A helper is already in place to do the loading. The custodians unload at

church. Please contact Carol Coons [carolycoons@gmail.com](mailto:carolycoons@gmail.com) or 227-5953.

## Living Waters Wednesdays



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

## Thursday Voices

**Thursday, December 17, 12:00noon,  
Johnston Hall**

We will reflect on the season of Advent with sermons for the season. Lynette Sparks will lead the discussion on "Waiting in Lag Time" by Sue Hauptert-Johnson.

## 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!

## Enneagram Series to be Offered

Susan Rupp and Amy Stratton-Smith are again offering two 5-week series of Enneagram classes. Enneagram as Invitation to Spiritual Transformation, Part 2 will be offered Thursday afternoons in January and February. There will be two independent series of Enneagram Foundations offered on

Tuesday afternoons (January and February) or evenings (April and May). The classes will all be held at the Mercy Spirituality Center, 65 Highland Avenue at a fee of \$125. Contact Susan at [jcsrl@aol.com](mailto:jcsrl@aol.com) or 586-5473 or Amy at [ameliajean123@gmail.com](mailto:ameliajean123@gmail.com) or 244-9051.

### **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](mailto:lsparks@thirdpresbyterian.org).

### **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 and volunteers. 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](http://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 celebration 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 come and enjoy the festivities on January 9 and 10!

**BOAR'S HEAD NEEDS YOU!** Many bakers are needed to provide cookies, breads, mince tarts and plum puddings for the festive receptions which will follow both performances of The Boar's

Head and Yule Log Festival on January 9 and 10. Items may be prepared as you do your holiday baking, but need to be delivered to the church by Friday, January 8. Easy recipes for mince tarts, plum puddings, and volunteer forms may be found in the literature racks outside the church office. *Please let us know as soon as possible if you can provide baked goods, and also if you are available to help with the reception set-up for either performance.*

**YOU ARE INVITED TO HELP financially support** our presentation of the biennial Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival on January 9 and 10, as a Patron. The Festival is a wonderful tradition and a gift from our congregation to the larger community of Rochester as we conclude our celebration of Christmas with this great Epiphany event! To help in this way, send a check payable to Third Presbyterian Church with the notation "**Boar's Head Patron**" clearly marked—or place your check, so marked, in the offering plate.

## 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.

## Hunger Sunday

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

## 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 tomorrow, Monday, December 14.**

## CALENDAR for December 13 – December 20

### Sunday at Third Church

8:30 am	Child Care	Christian Education Building (CE)
<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Worship</b>	<b>Chapel</b>
8:30 am	New Member Class	Parlor
9:30 am	Sunday Seminar	Johnston Hall (JH)
9:30 am	Growing in the Word	Parker Room
<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Intercessory Prayer</b>	<b>Chapel</b>
10:00 am	Session with New Members	Parlor
<b>10:45 am</b>	<b>Worship</b> ( <i>The Fifth Grade class is at the Worship Table today</i> )	<b>Sanctuary</b>
10:15 am	Bell Choir Warm Up	Sanctuary
11:00 am	Church School	CE
11:45 am	Coffee Hour/Jr. Choir Cookie Sale	Celebration Center (CC)
12:00 pm	Youth Ministry Implementation Team	Parker Room
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/Fellowship	CC/Youth Lounge
6:00 pm	Temple B'rith Kodesh Menorah Lighting	Off Site

### Monday, December 14

9:30 am	Food Cupboard	CC
6:00 pm	Corner Place Showcase	Off Site
6:00 pm	Boy Scouts	CC
6:30 pm	Yoga	JH

### Tuesday, December 15

9:15 am	Morning Prayer	Chapel
9:45 am	Staff Meeting	Parker Room
12:15 pm	Staff Christmas Luncheon	Off Site
6:00 pm	Deacon Meeting/Dinner	Off Site
6:00 pm	Trustee Meeting/Dinner	Off Site

### Wednesday, December 16

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
<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Living Waters Wednesdays</b>	<b>Chapel</b>
7:15 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

### Thursday, December 17

9:30 am	Food Cupboard	CC
10:45 am	Celebration Ringers	Moot Room
12:00 pm	Thursday Voices	JH
6:00 pm	Men's Reconnection	Parlor
6:00 pm	Daisy Troop	CE LL01
6:00 pm	Brownie Troop	CE LL04
7:00 pm	Handbell Concert	Valley Manor

### Friday, December 18

9:30 am	Sisters in Spirit	Parlor
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### Saturday, December 19

10:00 am	Dining Room Ministry	CC
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### Sunday, December 20

8:30 am	Child Care	CE
<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Worship</b>	<b>Chapel</b>
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	Youth Min. Implement. Team	Parker Room
<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Intercessory Prayer</b>	<b>Chapel</b>
<b>10:45 am</b>	<b>Worship</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
11:00 am	Church School	CE
12:00 pm	Coffee Hour	CC
12:15 pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room/Sanctuary
2:30 pm	Nativity Costuming	Sanctuary
3:00 pm	Nativity Rehearsal	Sanctuary

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WEBSITE: [www.thirdpresbyterian.org](http://www.thirdpresbyterian.org)