



Third Presbyterian Church

Seeking the Light

"Everything has changed
For in truth, it's the beginning of nothing
And nothing has changed
Everything has changed
For in truth, it's the beginning of an end
And nothing has changed
And everything has changed"

David Bowie
Sunday

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

December 18, 2016

10:45am

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 also 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 in the pew racks.

Church School is available for children, preschool through sixth grade, during the 10:45am worship service. The 6th grade class will be in worship today.

Child Care is available all morning in the Education Building for infants, toddlers and pre-schoolers.

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 February 5 at noon.

Newsletter: The Messenger is published monthly. Copies are available at the back of the Sanctuary, in the literature racks outside Johnston Hall and by the Arnold Park entrance, 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

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 J. Robinson, Assistant Organist	
Roderic P. Frohman, Pastor Emeritus	

OFFICE: 271-6513; VOICEMAIL: 271-6537

RESPONSE

“Wait for the Lord”

(sing three times)

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Wait for the Lord". It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system contains the lyrics "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near." and the second system contains "Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!". The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C).

*HYMN 88

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

Stanzas 1 & 2 - ALL

Stanza 3 - Choir

Stanza 4 - treble voices

Stanza 5 - men's voices

Stanzas 6 & 7 - ALL

PRAYER of CONFESSION

It is never easy for us to confess our sins, waiting God.
There are the hurts we have caused to our families and friends,
which we would like to forget.
There are those we believe are impossible to love,
and so we don't try.
There are people who live on the edge of our society,
and we ignore their cries for help.
Forgive us, God who comes near to us.
When we have lost our way, show us yours.
Lead us in humility down the streets of your kingdom.
Teach us your truth,
so we might be able to keep your Word,
revealed to us in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. 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

ANTHEM

“Jesus Emmanuel”

Junior Choir

O come, the broken heart to mend,
 the troubled soul to cure;
 with treasures of your grace,
 come to the humble poor.
 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
 your welcome shall proclaim;
 and heav'n's eternal arches ring
 with your beloved name.
 He comes, the prisoners to release,
 in satan's bondage held;
 brass gates before him break,
 strong chains and shackles yield.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
 your welcome shall proclaim;
 and heav'n's eternal arches ring
 with your beloved name.
 How glad the sound, the Savior comes!
 The Savior promised long;
 Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne,
 and ev'ry voice a song.
 Jesus, Emmanuel, come.
K. Lee Scott

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(Following the children's message, children are invited to proceed to the education building for Sunday School. The nursery on the middle level of the education building is available for children to age three. The 6th grade class will be in worship today.)

DISMISSAL of CHILDREN

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

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 Isaiah 7:10-16

(Pew Bible, OT page 636)

LEADER: The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

"Magnificat"

Roland E. Martin

(St Paul's Cathedral, Buffalo)

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.

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 1:18-25

(Pew Bible, NT page 1)

LEADER: The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "Reconciliation and Hope"

John Wilkinson

*HYMN 99 "My Soul Gives Glory to My God"

MORNING SONG

*AFFIRMATION of FAITH

Confession of 1967, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A)

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love. Amen.

THE PRAYERS of the PEOPLE
and 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.

PRESENTATION of OFFERINGS

ANTHEM

"Ave Maria"

Franz Biebl

(translation) The angel of the Lord came to Mary and she conceived by the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Mary said: "Behold the handmaiden of the Lord, Let it be to me according to your word." Hail, Mary . . .

And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. Hail Mary . . .

*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

*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.**

ALL: **Eternal God,**

we thank you for every good gift.

**We ask that you send us into the world in peace
 for we have seen and have heard of
 your grace.**

Keep us faithful and alert

**As we prepare for the birth of the Christ child
 and lead us to live lives marked by truth and light.**

Amen.

*HYMN 347

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

PICARDY

*CHARGE and BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

*GREETING

POSTLUDE "Toccatà on VENI EMMANUEL" Andrew Carter

The memorial prayer candle is lit in solidarity with the people of Syria.

The flowers today are given in loving memory of Shirley Mitchell Moore, beloved wife of James Moore and mother of Jennifer Moore Stahlkrantz, and James, David and Eliza Moore.

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE:

John Wilkinson..... Preacher
Martha Langford, Lynette Sparks, Katie Orem Liturgists
Peter A. DuBois..... Director of Music/Organist
Mary Ann Rutkowski Associate Director of Music
Caroline J. Robinson Assistant Organist
Reese Ossont, Eilee Ossont..... Acolytes
Peg Rachfal, Camille Claxton, Jean Whitney,
Alison Gray, Clive Daunton Greeters
Bill Boller, Priscilla Boller, Otto Muller-Girard, Jr.,
Phil Tschorke, Beth Tschorke, Jeff Sprague Ushers

ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

The *Praeludium in D Major* BuxWV 139 is among the shortest of Dieterich Buxtehude's preludia. As organist at the Marienkirche in Lübeck, Buxtehude often improvised fantasia-like pieces with many sections during church services. The D major Praeludium only contains one fugue, which directly follows an extroverted opening. Later, an "Adagio" section emulates the "durezza e ligature" style derived from Italy. The piece then steadily gains energy towards the end, triumphantly cadencing over a long, held pedal note.

Roland E. Martin, composer of the *Magnificat* setting, is on the music faculty at the State University at Buffalo, and Director of Music at St. Joseph's University Church. He has composed a sizable body of wonderful choral music –this setting was composed especially for St. Paul's Cathedral in Buffalo.

Among the most beautiful settings of *Ave Maria* composed in the 20th century is one by German composer Franz Biebl. Written in 1964, it gained popularity in this country after being brought back from a concert tour by the Cornell University Glee Club in 1970 – on which they met the composer, who gave them a number of works, including this lovely Ave Maria.

English composer Andrew Carter is a friend of our Chancel Choir, since giving them a private choral workshop in York on their last Tour, and his subsequent visit to Third Church a few years ago.

His *Toccatà on Veni Emmanuel* was written in early 1995, and premiered later that year by John Scott at St. Paul's Cathedral, London. It reveals Andrew Carter's love of French organ music, and the French toccata style, in particular.



MINISTRY, SERVICE, AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Be the Church: Stewardship Update

Thanks to the 327 of you who have already pledged \$ 778,784 for 2017. We are grateful for your response. Thus far, 116 of you who pledged for 2016 have yet to respond for next year. We seek to raise approximately another \$175,000. Your response is critical as we begin planning for 2017.

If you have yet to pledge, you can do so by:

- Sending your pledge card to the church office
- Placing your pledge card in the offering plate
- Sending a confidential pledge to Carol Foster at cfoster@thirdpresbyterian.org
- Pledging online at http://www.thirdpresbyterian.org/give/give_stewardship.shtml and click on the "Pledge Online" tab

City Sing: An Interfaith Event

Walking through the JOSANA Neighborhood singing songs of Peace. Join us **today** at 4:00pm at School 17, 158 Orchard Street.

Nominations Being Received

Your Nominating Committee is hard at work identifying slates for our three offices – Session, Deacon and Trustee. You can nominate yourself or suggest someone who you think has the gifts and qualifications to serve. All nominations are confidential. Please send your nominations to jwilkinson@thirdpresbyterian.org or complete a nomination form located in the chapel and sanctuary or the church office.

Christmas Eve Worship Services at Third Church

Saturday, December 24

- Festival of the Nativity 4:30pm in the Sanctuary
- Candlelight Communion 8:00pm in the Chapel
- Lessons and Carols 11:00pm in the Sanctuary

Christmas Day Worship Service at Third Church

Sunday, December 25

- One service of worship at 10:45am (So that families can worship together, there will not be Sunday school or child care. The worship table will be available.)

Use Amazon and Support Third Church

Did you know that if you use Amazon.com for your Christmas shopping, you can also support Third Church. If you enter Amazon through the church's website (www.thirdpresbyterian.org) and then go to the Amazon site, Third Church will receive a portion of the purchase. Thank you!

Calvin Guild

Thursday, December 22 at noon at Temple B'rith Kodesh, 2131 Elmwood Avenue, Brighton (note different time and location) We will join the seniors group at B'rith Kodesh for a very special presentation by Rabbi Stein about their extensive Menorah collection. We will meet at the temple where we can enjoy a catered lunch (\$8/per person). Please RSVP to Dot Wallace no later than December 19.

Donation Needed

We are looking for a gently used infant/toddler car seat for a Rochester family in need. If you are able to assist in this way, please contact Lynette Sparks at lsparks@thirdpresbyterian.org

Living Waters: Longest Night Service

Monday, December 19 in the Chapel at 7:00pm

Known at times as “Blue Christmas,” this Living Waters service will take place on the Monday before the winter solstice—the longest night. It acknowledges that, for many, Christmas is a time of loneliness, sorrow, alienation, and sadness. This service offers a way for us to claim our feelings while gathered together in worship surrounded by the compassionate, healing love of God. The order of service will include music, scripture, reflections, and prayer.

Advent: Reflecting on Unity, Reconciliation, and Justice

During the Advent Season, Third Church is spending time with the Belhar Confession, both individually and in groups using the devotional booklet, “30 Days with the Belhar Confession.” We will use this resource with Thursday Voices on Thursdays at noon and with a small group meeting at the church Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. Join us!

Tutors Needed!

Do you have 1½-2 hours a week to spend with a child? School #3 students need you! We currently have openings for elementary grades for reading and math help. Materials are provided by teachers. Please contact Deb Bishop, dabishop@rochester.rr.com or 267-9939, to learn more.

Christmas Joy Offering

With Christ at the center of this holiday season, we can follow in his example of servant leadership by serving our brothers and sisters in faith. Through the Christmas Joy Offering, we are able to support those in our community and give them the gift of hope. Funds from the Christmas Joy Offering help in two particular ways: providing critical financial assistance to eligible workers/families in the PC (USA) and to qualifying retired church workers and their families; and supporting the education and development of our future leaders 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 25. Envelopes are available in the pew racks and pew pads.

Spiritual Formation

Sunday seminar and Growing in the Word will resume on January 8.

Calendar for December 18 – December 25

Sunday at Third Church

8:30am	Worship	Chapel
8:30am	Child Care	Christian Education (CE) Building
9:30am	Growing in the Word	Parlor
10:00am	Intercessory Prayer	Chapel
9:30am	Sunday Seminar	Johnston Hall (JH)
9:30am	Junior Choir Rehearsal	Moot Room
10:45am	Worship	Sanctuary
12:00pm	Coffee Hour	Celebration Center (CC)
12:00am	Nominating Committee	Parker
12:15pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
1:30pm	Nativity Costuming	Sanctuary
2:00pm	Nativity Rehearsal	Sanctuary
4:00pm	City Sing (Interfaith Caroling)	Off-site

Monday, December 19

9:30am	Food Cupboard	CC
5:00pm	Shawl Knitting Ministry	Parlor
7:00pm	Longest Night Living Waters	Chapel

Tuesday, December 20

9:15am	Morning Prayer	Chapel
9:45am	Staff Meeting	Parker
6:00pm	Trustee Meeting	Off-site

Wednesday, December 21

5:30pm	Nativity Rehearsal	Sanctuary
5:30pm	Youth Group Alumni Party	Youth Lounge
7:15pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Rm

Thursday, December 22

9:30am	Food Cupboard	CC
12:00pm	Thursday Voices	JH
12:00pm	Calvin Guild	Off-site
6:00pm	Advent Study	Parlor

Friday, December 23

Saturday, December 24

11:00am	Dining Room Ministry	CC
3:30pm	Nativity Cast	CC
3:30pm	Junior Choir Warm-up	Moot Rm
3:50pm	Glorious Voices Warm-up	Moot Rm
4:10pm	Carol Choir Warm-up	CE Building
4:15pm	Glorious Voices	Moot Rm
4:30pm	Worship (Nativity)	Sanctuary
8:00pm	Worship	Chapel
11:00pm	Worship	Sanctuary

Sunday, December 25

9:45am	Christmas Day Brunch	JH
10:45am	Worship	Sanctuary
12:00pm	Coffee Hour	Narthex