



Third Presbyterian Church

Seeking the Light

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and the princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among brothers,
To make music in the heart.

Howard Thurman

**The Worship of God
Christmas Day**

December 25, 2016

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. Parking is available in the Meigs Street parking lot. On Sundays, the Arnold Park parking lot is available for handicap parking only. Street parking is possible on both sides of East Avenue. Additional parking can be found at *(all on East Avenue)*:

- Jewish Community Federation (Sibley Place)
- American Association of University Women*
- Rochester Area Community Foundation*
*(*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 to all floors/areas of the church.

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 bags are available from the ushers. Children are invited to sit at the Worship Table this morning.

Coffee Hour follows the 10:45am worship service. All are invited to this time of fellowship in the Celebration Center.

Pastoral Care needs and prayer requests 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 Lunch will take place February 5 at noon.

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	ext. 113
Peter A. DuBois, Director of Music/Organist	ext. 109
Mary Ann Rutkowski, Associate Director of Music	ext. 101
Caroline J. Robinson, Assistant Organist	
Rebecca D'Angelo-Veitch, Coordinator of Children's Ministries and Congregational Life	ext. 118
Jane S. Carden, Youth Ministry Coordinator	ext. 107
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 electronic devices. 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 "Nöel Étranger"

Louis-Claude Daquin

* DOXOLOGY

(PLEASE STAND AS THE ORGAN INTRODUCTION BEGINS)

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

* CALL to WORSHIP

LEADER: The Word was made flesh,

PEOPLE: **Alleluia, Alleluia!**

LEADER: and dwelt among us,

PEOPLE: **Alleluia, Alleluia!**

LEADER: Jesus, Son of the living God,
splendor of the Father, Light eternal—

PEOPLE: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

LEADER: Jesus, King of glory, Sun of righteousness,
Glory to you, O Lord!

PEOPLE: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

LEADER: Jesus, Wonderful counselor,
mighty God, everlasting Lord—

PEOPLE: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

LEADER: Jesus, Prince of Peace, Shepherd of souls,
perfect in holiness—

PEOPLE: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

LEADER: Jesus, Friend of all, Protector of the poor,
Treasure of the faithful—

PEOPLE: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

LEADER: Jesus, Good Shepherd, inexhaustible Wisdom,
our Way, our Truth, and our Life—

PEOPLE: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

LEADER: Jesus, joy of the angels,
and crown of all the saints—

PEOPLE: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

* HYMN 133 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ADESTE FIDELES

* PRAYER
of ADORATION

Glory to you, almighty God, for you sent your only-begotten Son, that we might have new life. Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for you became flesh and dwelt among us that we might become your people. Glory to you, Holy Spirit, for you direct and rule our lives. Glory to you, almighty God, and to your Son, Jesus Christ, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

* CAROL 145

"What Child Is This?"

GREENSLEEVES

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(Children will be at the Worship Table this morning. So that families might worship together, the nursery is closed this morning.)

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.)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 62:6-12

(Pew Bible, OT page 693)

READING

"Amazing Peace"

Maya Angelou

CAROL 132

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" *verse 1* IN DULCI JUBILO

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 97 *(read responsively by verse)*

(Pew Bible, OT page 551)

READING

"Christmas to Me"

Harper Lee

CAROL 132

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" *verse 2* IN DULCI JUBILO

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Titus 3:4-7

(Pew Bible, NT page 215)

READING

"Christmas Eve Vigil"

Kathleen Norris

SOLO

"Gesù Bambino"

Pietro Yon

Anders Namestnik, *tenor*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2:8-20

(Pew Bible, NT page 58)

REFLECTION

CAROL 132

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" *verse 3* IN DULCI JUBILO

* LITANY for
CHRISTMAS

Our Song of Hope, Reformed Church in America

- LEADER: We sing to the Lord a new song;
We sing in our world a sure Hope:
- PEOPLE: **Our God loves this world, God called it into being.
God is the world's true Hope.**
- LEADER: We are a people of hope
waiting for the return of our Lord.
- PEOPLE: **After we refused to live in the image of God, He was
born of the virgin Mary, sharing our genes and our
instinct, 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.**
- LEADER: God will renew the world through Jesus, who will put all
unrighteousness out, purify the works of human hands,
and perfect their fellowship in divine love.
- PEOPLE: **Christ will wipe away every tear; death shall be no
more. There will be a new heaven and a new earth,
and all creation will be filled with God's glory.**
- ALL: **Come, Lord Jesus; We are open to your Spirit. We
await your full presence. Our world finds rest in you
alone.**

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE
and 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

*(In addition to our regular offering, we will receive gifts for the
Christmas Joy Offering. Envelopes are located in the pew racks and
pew pads.)*

OFFERTORY SOLO

"O Holy Night"

Adolphe Adam

*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 your thanks and praise.**
ALL: **All glory to you, great God, for the gift of your Son, whom you sent to save us. With singing angels, let us praise your name, and tell the earth his story, that all may believe, rejoice, and bow down, acknowledging your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

* CAROL 113 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

GLORIA

* CHARGE
and BENEDICTION

* CAROL
RESPONSE 134 "Joy to the World"
(Stanza 1 only)

ANTIOCH

POSTLUDE "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" Johann Pachelbel

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE:

- PREACHER:** John Wilkinson
LITURGISTS: Mary DuBois, David Stimson, Ernest Krug
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ORGANIST: Peter DuBois
GREETERS: Sheila Elliott, Carol Roth, Miss Rickey Snowden, Cynthia Capps, Tim Stout, Bernie Smith
USHERS: Ann McMican, Miriam Gale, Tom Gillett, Sue Danielson, Janet Stewart, Dianna Daunton, David Tennant

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.

The Memorial Prayer Candle is lit in gratitude for all who share their resources in this holiday season.



MINISTRY, SERVICE, AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Be the Church: Stewardship Update

Thanks to the 341 of you who have already pledged \$ 795,789 for 2017. We are grateful for your response. Thus far, 103 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 www.thirdpresbyterianchurch.org/give/give_stewardship.shtml and click Pledge Online

Spiritual Formation

January 8

Sunday Seminar (9:30am, Johnston Hall)

“NAMI: What it means to support those dealing with a mental illness”

led by Kristina Mossgraber and Loekie Windig, NAMI Rochester

Representatives from our local NAMI chapter (National Alliance on Mental Illness) will share the day to day realities of living with a mental illness and of supporting someone who lives with a mental illness. This is an opportunity to explore how we respond supportively to individuals and caregivers and work together to end the silence and stigma associated with these diseases.

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

“Named and Claimed”

Focus on Matthew 3:13–17

Christmas in January!

Come and Sing Carols...for the Christmas Lessons & Carols recording, 2017

January 14, from 1:00 – 2:30pm., Sanctuary

All members and friends of the congregation are invited to participate in a Christmas Lessons and Carols recording that the Chancel Choir, readers, and clergy will be making in collaboration with WXXI. This recording will be broadcast locally on Christmas Eve 2017 and around the nation during the Christmas season! We hope to gather a “congregation” – as many people as possible – to join us. We’ll sing traditional Christmas carols and hear the readings we typically hear on Christmas Eve. Join us for this event to help share the Good News of Christ’s birth in 2017!

**"Between the World and Me"
Collaborative Conversations on Race**

Third Church will collaborate with Gates and Laurelton Presbyterian Churches to explore the book "Between the World and Me" by Ta-Nehisi Coates. Coates, national correspondent for the *Atlantic*, has crafted a nationally noted book, an extended essay/letter addressed to his son on what it means to be black in America today. The series will take place for three Thursdays in January from 6:00- 7:30pm:

January 12th Gates Presbyterian Church ~ 1049 Wegman Rd.

January 19th Laurelton United Presbyterian Church ~ 335 Helendale Rd.

January 26th Third Presbyterian Church

You don't have to read the book, but it would be helpful if you did. It is relatively brief and very accessible. It's readily available at bookstores or online.

Contact Martha Langford or Lynette Sparks with questions.

Calendar for December 25 – January 1

Today at Third Church

10:45am **Worship**
12:00pm Coffee Hour

Sanctuary
Narthex

Monday, December 26
Office Closed

Friday, December 30

Tuesday, December 27
9:15am **Morning Prayer** **Chapel**
9:45am Staff Meeting Parker Room

Saturday, December 31
11:00am Dining Room Ministry CC

Wednesday, December 28

Sunday, January 1 **New Year's Day**
10:30am Child Care CE Building
10:45am **Worship** **Sanctuary**
12:00pm Coffee Hour Johnston Hall (JH)

Thursday, December 29
9:30am Food Cupboard
Celebration Center (CC)