



**Third
Presbyterian
Church**

Seeking the Light

“God will not now or ever withhold the divine life from our suffering. Flesh holds flesh, bone meets bone, and blood is joined. God is with us, in us, for us. Suffering will never thwart divine love for us, and what God joins together no power anywhere can separate. This true word has breathed through centuries to Christians, providing inexplicable confidence and irrepressible joy in the midst of monstrous horrors. It has turned suffering from a killing field to a place where God is working out flourishing life from us and with us.”

Willie James Jennings

**The Worship of God
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

July 30, 2017

10:00am

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.

Children and Worship: We offer quiet activities for school age children during worship in the sanctuary. There are 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 scripture readings for the day.

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

Pastoral Care: needs and prayer concerns may be communicated to Ernest Krug, ekrug@thirdpresbyterian.org.

More about Membership: If you are interested in joining Third Church, or just want to know more, contact Lynette Sparks (271-6513, ext. 106 or lsparks@thirdpresbyterian.org).

Newsletter: The Messenger is published monthly. Copies are available in the Chapel and Sanctuary, in the literature racks outside Johnston Hall and the Arnold Park entrance, and on the church website. If you are interested in receiving the newsletter, contact Cindy Mark in the Church Office (ext. 100 or cmark@thirdpresbyterian.org).

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 (on sabbatical).....	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	

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 silence all electronic devices. As the music begins, please take time to become more aware of the continuing presence of God.

**Please stand as you are able, in body or in spirit.*

PRELUDE “Ciaccona in G minor” Tomaso Vitali
Yawen Ding, *violin*

*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 from Psalm 105

LEADER: O give thanks to the Lord, call on God’s name,
make known God’s deeds among the peoples.

PEOPLE: **Glory in God’s holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.**

LEADER: Seek the Lord’s strength and presence continually.

PEOPLE: **Remember the wonderful works God has done.**

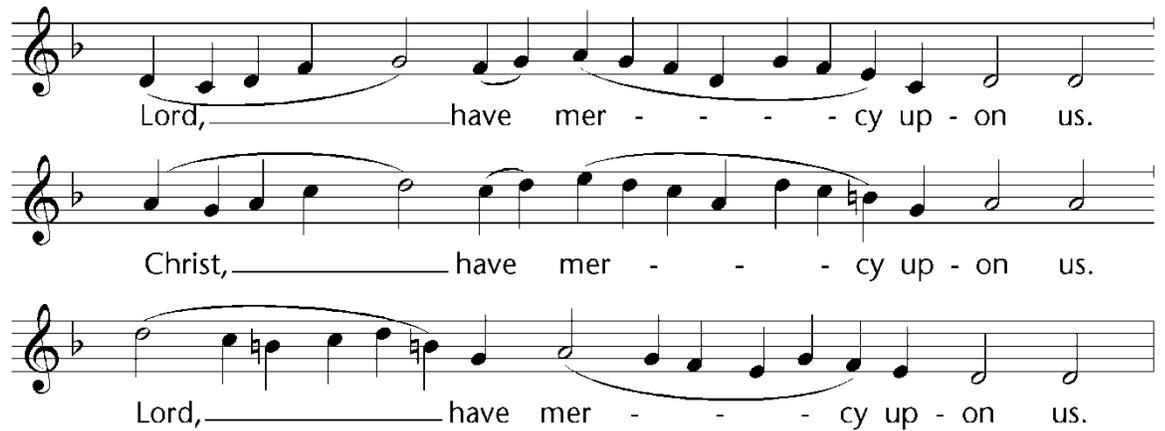
*HYMN 393 “O Day of Rest and Gladness” ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

PRAYER of CONFESSION

God of mercy, God of love, in humbleness of heart we confess our sins. We neglect to love and serve you, and we wander from your ways. We are careless of your world and put its life in danger. We talk of our concern for others, but fail to match our words with action. Merciful God, forgive us our sins and bring us to fullness of life now, and forever more. In Christ’s name we pray. 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

(Following the children's message, school age children are invited to gather at the table under the Arnold Park balcony for quiet activities during worship. The nursery on the middle level of the education building is available for infants and preschool age children.)

DISMISSAL of CHILDREN

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

TALLIS' CANON

I. II.

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.)

EPISTLE LESSON — Romans 8:26-39

(Pew Bible, NT page 158)

LEADER: The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO

“The Call”

Ralph Vaughan Williams
Sam Witmer, *baritone*

GOSPEL LESSON — Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

(Pew Bible, NT page 14)

LEADER: The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Sighs Too Deep for Words”

John Wilkinson

*HYMN 445

“God, How Can We Forgive”

LEONI

***AFFIRMATION of FAITH**

from *A Brief Statement of Faith, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. 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

SOLO

"For the Mountains Shall Depart"
(from *Elijah*)

Felix Mendelssohn
Sam Witmer, *baritone*

*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: **We give you thanks and praise, O God, and dedicate to you our thoughts, our words, our gifts, our deeds, the working of our hands, the thinking of our minds, the loving of our hearts. Keep us strong in faith and encompass us with your love, for evermore. Amen.**

*HYMN 846 "Fight the Good Fight"

DUKE STREET

*CHARGE and BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

RANDOLPH

God be with you 'til we meet again;
Loving counsels guide uphold you,
With a shepherd's care enfold you,
God be with you 'til we meet again.

*GREETING

POSTLUDE "Prelude and Fugue in G Major," BWV 541

J.S. Bach

The flowers this morning are given in loving memory of Francis Pedrick, beloved husband of Sylvia Pedrick.

The Memorial Prayer Candle is lit in solidarity for all those who experience loss of any kind.

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE:

John Wilkinson..... Preacher
Ernest F. Krug Liturgist
Peter A. DuBois..... Director of Music/Organist
Sheila Elliott, Betty Iwan, Fred Smith,
Jo Anne Smith, Miss Rickey Snowden Greeters
Tim Broshears, Clive Daunton Ushers