

“To be commanded to love God at all, let alone in the wilderness, is like being commanded to be well when we are sick, to sing for joy when we are dying of thirst, to run when our legs are broken. But this is the first and great commandment nonetheless. Even in the wilderness - especially in the wilderness - you shall love him.”

Frederick Buechner

*A Room Called Remember*

**The Worship of God**  
**Second Sunday of Advent**

December 10, 2017

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 sixth grade class will be at the Worship Table this morning.

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

**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 (271-6537, ext. 106 or [lsparks@thirdpresbyterian.org](mailto:lsparks@thirdpresbyterian.org)). The Exploring Membership luncheon will take place today at 12:00pm.

**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](mailto: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](http://www.thirdpresbyterian.org)



@ThirdChurchROC



"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 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.*

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PRELUDE      “Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme,” BWV 645      J.S. Bach  
                         (“Sleepers Wake!” A Voice Astounds Us)

INTROIT      “Come to Us, Emmanuel”      Carol McClure  
                         Junior Choir  
                         Come to us, Emmanuel, Christ whose hope we now await,  
                         Whose birth the prophets did fortell,  
                         Come to us we pray, Come to us we pray.

LIGHTING of the ADVENT WREATH      The Tidd family

LEADER:      As we light the second Advent candle, we remember God’s  
                         vision spoken through the prophet Isaiah:

PEOPLE:      **“Comfort, O comfort my people —  
                         speak tenderly to Jerusalem...”**

LEADER:      We hold fast to the vision that “Every valley shall be lifted up,  
                         and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground  
                         shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

PEOPLE:      **Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people  
                         shall see it together...”**

LEADER:      We thank God for the gift of hope.

PEOPLE:      **Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

RESPONSE      “Wait for the Lord”

*(sing three times)*

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

The first line of musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

The second line of musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff. A fermata is placed over the final note of the melody.

PRAYER of CONFESSION

God of eternity, when the voice of the prophet was silent and the faith of your people low; when darkness had obscured light and indifference displaced zeal: you saw that the time was right, and prepared to send your Son. Give us hope. Set us free from fear and faithlessness that we may be ready to welcome him who comes as Savior and Lord. 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 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

setting by Joel Raney  
arr. Arnold B. Sherman  
Covenant Ringers

## 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 age 3 and younger. The sixth grade class will be at the Children's Worship Table today.*

## DISMISSAL of CHILDREN

*(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.*

## FOCUS on MISSION

Laurie Mahoney, RAIHN

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON — Isaiah 40:1-11

Pew Bible, OT page 667

LEADER: The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

“Drop Down, Ye Heavens”

Robert Edward Smith

Danika Felty, *soprano*

Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness: let the earth open and let them bring forth salvation and let righteousness spring up together. Mercy and truth are met together; Righteousness and peace have kissed each other. Truth shall spring out of the earth; and righteousness shall look down from heaven and shall set us in the way of his steps.

- Isaiah 45:8 and Psalm 85:10,11,13

GOSPEL LESSON — Mark 1:1-9

Pew Bible, NT page 34

LEADER: The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“The Stewardship of Advent”

John Wilkinson

\*HYMN 87

“Comfort, Comfort Now My People”

GENEVAN 42

\*AFFIRMATION of FAITH

*from* “A Statement of Christian Faith,” Church of Scotland, 1992

**We proclaim Jesus Christ, God the Son: Born of Mary, by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became one of us, sharing our life and our death. He made known God's compassion and mercy, giving hope and declaring forgiveness of sin, offering healing and wholeness to all. By his death on the cross and by his resurrection he has triumphed over evil. Jesus is Lord of life and of all creation.**

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

## "This is the Record of John"

Orlando Gibbons

Anders Namestnik, *tenor*

This is the record of John: when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him: Who art thou? And he confessed and denied not, and said plainly: I am not the Christ. And they asked him; What art thou then? Art thou Elias? And he said: I am not. Art thou the prophet, And he answered: No. Then said they unto him: What art thou? That we may give an answer unto them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself? And he said: I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness: Make straight the way of the Lord.

-John 1:19

### \*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.  
All rights reserved. Altered and Used under License #60455.

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: **God of our salvation, keep our hearts watchful in holiness and bring to fulfillment the good you have begun in us. Give us grace to wait and prepare in faith, that we may greet with joy the coming of our Redeemer. Amen.**

**\*HYMN 88      "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"**

VENI EMMANUEL

- Stanzas 1 and 2 – all
- Stanza 3 – treble voices
- Stanza 4 – men's voices
- Stanza 5 – treble voices
- Stanza 6 – men's voices
- Stanza 7 – all

**\*CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL RESPONSE**

**\*GREETING**

**POSTLUDE      "Prelude and Fugue in G Major"**

Felix Mendelssohn

*The chancel flowers this morning are given in recognition of the Third Church Staff.*

*The memorial prayer candle is lit in solidarity with all those who struggle in body, mind and spirit in this holiday season.*

**PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE**

- John Wilkinson..... Preacher
- Ernest F. Krug, Lynette K. Sparks, Donna Brink Fox..... Liturgists
- Peter A. DuBois..... Director of Music/Organist
- Mary Ann Rutkowski..... Associate Director of Music
- Caroline J. Robinson ..... Assistant Organist
- Clive Daunton, Bob Eames, Alison Gray,  
Maryjane Link, Betsey Wheeler..... Greeters
- Elmer Dustman, Hope Herting, Jeremy Peters, Gloria Pleger,  
Jim Pochodylo, Don Schichler, Rebecca Schichler, Anne Sievers..... Ushers
- Deacons Parish F..... Coffee Hour Hosts

## ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

J. S. Bach (1685-1750) certainly knew the value of a good tune! And he would find ways to use them in various forms. He quite often adapted pieces he had composed in one genre to a form in an entirely different genre. Today's prelude is a prime example. The chorale prelude *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme* is a transcription for organ of a chorale verse for tenor that appears in his Cantata 140 by the same name. In the cantata, it is scored for tenor, accompanied by violins and basso continuo. Those elements translate pretty much verbatim into the trio texture of the organ chorale we hear today.

The first anthem, *Drop Down, Ye Heavens*, is an atmospheric setting of texts from Isaiah 48 and Psalm 85, by American composer Robert Edward Smith (b. 1946). The gently undulating accompaniment supports descending vocal lines often moving in intervals of a fourth, with layering of entrances among the voice parts, giving an aural picture of righteousness descending to earth from heaven. Smith has been Composer in Residence at Trinity College Chapel in Hartford, CT, since 1979, and is active as both composer and harpsichordist.

The story of John the Baptist, featured in today's Gospel lesson, is wonderfully recounted in the verse-anthem, *This Is the Record of John*, by the early 17th century composer Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625). Gibbons served as organist of the Chapel Royal under King James I, and also was organist at Westminster Abbey. The words of the anthem come from the gospel of John. The music features solo verses by tenor, with answers in verses given by the full choir. Originally accompanied by viols, we'll hear it with organ accompaniment.

The *Prelude and Fugue in G Major* by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847), is the second of a set of Three Preludes and Fugues, Op. 37 that he composed in the mid-1830s. The gentle 6/8 meter of the prelude gives it something of a pastoral feel, creating the effect of a "song without words" – a genre he devised within his piano works. The fugue, by contrast, begins with a broad, sweeping subject, first appearing in the pedals, and developed through entrances in all voice parts, leading to a grand conclusion. As with much of Mendelssohn's music, the wonderfully worked out contrapuntal lines also point to his deep love and respect for the music of J. S. Bach, who lived more than two centuries earlier.



# MINISTRY, SERVICE, AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## Stewardship Update



Thanks to those who have responded already to the 2018 Stewardship Campaign, "Our Hope for Years to Come."

If you've yet to respond, you can:

- Place your pledge card in the offering plate this morning. Additional cards are available in the pew racks.
- Mail a completed pledge card to the church office.
- Send a confidential pledge to [cfoster@thirdpresbyterian.org](mailto:cfoster@thirdpresbyterian.org).

Your timely response is deeply appreciated.

Thank you again, and Advent blessings to you.

*The Stewardship Committee*

## Sunday Seminar

**Sunday, December 10, 9:30am, Johnston Hall**

"Art of the Nativity," led by Jim Moore, Third Church Member.

**Next Sunday, December 17:** "The Messiah: A New Look at a Seasonal Favorite."

## Growing in the Word

**Sunday, December 10, 9:30am, Parlor**

"The Mystery Appears, Mark 1:1-15," led by David Evans.

**Next Sunday, December 17:** "The Mystery Discriminates, Mark 3:13-35," led by Paul Gongloff.

## Junior Choir Annual Cookie Sale TODAY

Please visit our table of goodies during Coffee Hour today!

Cookie packages will be available for a suggested donation of \$5 each. We will also

have copies of our latest CD, "So it is with the Spirit," available for purchase – the CD makes a GREAT Christmas gift or stocking stuffer for family, friends, and neighbors!!!

## Exploring Membership Luncheon TODAY

**12:00pm, Johnston Hall**

If you are new to Third Church or just would like to know more about us, you can bring all your questions to our Exploring Membership luncheon today.

For those that are ready to join in membership, the next step is a New Member Gathering offered this afternoon following the luncheon from 1:30-2:30pm, or the following Sunday at 8:30am.

## 2017 East Avenue Grocery Run Souvenir Pint Glasses

Relive the fun of the Grocery Run all year! Please stop by our table in coffee hour today to purchase your souvenir Grocery Run pint glasses **today only**. Each glass is a suggested \$1 donation to our hunger programs—take home a set of 6 for \$5 or 12 for \$10. Glasses make great stocking stuffers or fill them with treats and give them to coworkers, neighbors or friends.

## Christmas Eve Service Schedule

**Sunday December 24 – Fourth Sunday of Advent**

One service at 10:45am.

**Sunday December 24 – Christmas Eve**  
4:30pm – Festival of the Nativity, Sanctuary  
8:00pm – Candelight Communion, Chapel  
11:00pm – Festival of Lessons and Carols, Sanctuary

## Monday Night Yoga

**Monday, December 11, 6:30pm, CE 206**

Please note this week we're in the Ed Building. Join us for this free class!

## Thursday Voices

**Thursday, December 14, 12:00pm, Johnston Hall**

"Waiting for God," written by Henri Nouwen, led by Lynette Sparks.

## Immediate Food Cupboard Staffing Needs

We are in immediate need of several volunteers to manage the Food Cupboard stockroom.

**-Stockroom manager:** 3 hours every Tuesday afternoon plus 1 hour on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday

**-Foodlink Shopper:** a few hours every Tuesday

**-Shopper for last minute perishables:** a few hours every Wednesday for Thursday needs, and every Friday or Saturday morning for Monday needs.

Contact Lynette Sparks,  
lsparks@thirdpresbyterian.org or 271-6537, ext. 106.

## 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 is **Friday, December 15.**

## Handel's "Messiah" Times TWO!

**Next Sunday, December 17**

The Chancel Choir, Soloists, and Orchestra will offer Part One (the "Christmas" portion) of George Frederick Handel's beloved masterpiece, "Messiah" on Sunday, December 17 – twice! And you're invited to each!

On Sunday morning, "Messiah" will serve as the centerpiece of our Advent III worship service at 10:45am, and on Sunday evening at

7:30pm, we'll offer it to the wider community – as a "Community Sing!" Bring your own score, borrow one for the evening, or download the choruses from [thirdpresbyterian.org](http://thirdpresbyterian.org). Or, if you'd like, you can just sit back and enjoy the music!

Bring a friend!

## YOUth Holiday Ornament Sale

**Sunday, December 17, during Coffee Hour**

This year's version is Origami ornaments made from our old blue Hymnals.

Don't miss out on a unique Christmas gift that helps to support our youth ministry!

## Living Waters: Longest Night Service

**Monday, December 18, 7:00pm, Chapel**

All are invited to a "Longest Night" observance in this Advent Season. Also known as "Blue Christmas," this Living Waters service will take place on the Monday before the winter solstice—the longest night.

## Dining Room Ministry Christmas Meal – Volunteers Needed

Our annual Dining Room Ministry Christmas Meal will be served on Saturday, December 23. We are looking to the congregation for volunteers to help serve our hungry neighbors. Volunteers will need to arrive at the Celebration Center kitchen at 10:00am and would be done by 1:00pm. Please consider joining us on December 23.

Contact Nancy Adams at  
nancycadams@hotmail.com or 314-3783.

## Help Publicize Boar's Head

YOU can help spread the word about the upcoming Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival, January 6 and 7! Pre-printed invitation post-cards are available in the church office for you to pick up and send to your friends. All you need to do is add an address, and a stamp! There's room for a short personal message, too. They're available in packets of ten. Please help yourself, and help us fill the church for the Festival!

### **Worship Recordings and Sermon Availability**

Did you know that Sunday sermons and anthems can be listened to again via the church website?

Visit [www.thirdpresbyterian.org](http://www.thirdpresbyterian.org), click on "Worship," then select "Sermons and Order of Worship" from the drop down menu.

Sermons are also available for viewing on the website; printed versions are available at several locations in the church.

### **Support Third Church When You Shop at Amazon**

Amazon Associates is a program which pays referral fees to Third Church when an Amazon customer accesses [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) through the Third Church website.

Go to [www.thirdpresbyterian.org](http://www.thirdpresbyterian.org) and click on the Amazon logo on the homepage. Shop as you usually do, and Amazon will send a percentage of your purchase to Third Church. It's a great way to generate income for Third Church at no additional cost to you!

### **Find Us on Twitter and Instagram!**

In addition to Facebook, Third Church is also on Twitter and Instagram at handle [@ThirdChurchROC](https://twitter.com/ThirdChurchROC). Join the conversation!