

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Third Reformed Church – Grand Rapids, Michigan

July 30, 2023 10:00 AM

 *Invites the congregation to stand, as able*

Bold Text is spoken in unison by the congregation



The Sanctuary main floor is equipped with a loop system for the hearing impaired

We are happy you are here this morning!

Third Reformed Church celebrates the gospel of Jesus as the way God moves people from exclusion to embrace by grace through faith. As a gospel community we are fully inclusive of all people who seek to know, love, and follow Jesus in a life of faith regardless of race, class, gender, marital status, or sexual orientation.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

Air on the G String

J.S. Bach

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.

**All things came into being through him,
and without him not one thing came into being.**

**What has come into being in him was life,
and the life was the light of all people.**

The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not overcome it.


**And the Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory,
the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.**

From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

**The law indeed was given through Moses;
grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.**

In this Good News, come.

Let us worship God!

 CONGREGATIONAL SINGING 3

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

GROSSER GOTT
WIR LOBEN DICH

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace and truth,
in Jesus Christ you came among us
as light shining in the darkness.
We have not welcomed the light
or trusted your good news to be good.
We have often closed our eyes
because your light is too brilliant for us,
and then see little hope and expecting less.
Forgive us our doubt and our wandering.
Renew our hope that we might find the fullness
of the grace you offer each moment.
In the life and grace of Jesus Christ we pray.
Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God's light shines in the darkness.
And the darkness does not overcome it.

 CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

Oceans

Houston

 PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

The people offer a sign of peace to one another

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOD'S WORD

John 8:12-20 (NT pg. 88)

MESSAGE

Unimpeachable Witness

Rev. Jeffrey Petersen

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

✠ CONGREGATIONAL SINGING **311**

God Has Spoken by His Prophets

ODE TO JOY

PRAYERS OF GRATITUDE AND LONGING

...ending with THE LORD'S PRAYER (printed inside the hymnal cover)

✠ CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Founds

✠ POSTLUDE

If you brought an offering this morning, please put it in an offering plate on the tables in the narthex.
Offerings may also be mailed to the church or made online at: <https://thirdgr.breezechms.com/give/online>.

*Assisting God's people in worship this morning are the Rev. Jeffrey Petersen, Senior Pastor;
the Rev. Olivia Stewart-Shoemaker, Pastor of Spiritual Formation;
Pam Lockwood, Director of Music;
Praise Team;
Josie Breukink, audio technician,
and Eli Petersen, visual technician.*

VISION STATEMENT

What are we talking about when we talk about what defines us as a congregation? This August we will revisit some familiar passages of scripture on an exploration of our church vision statement.

Date	Text	Title
August 6	Romans 12:9-21	A Community
August 13	John 13:1-17	Of Christ's Disciples
August 20	John 1:1-18	The Presence of Christ
August 27	Luke 10:25-37	To Our Neighbors

NURSERY AND TODDLER ROOM (LITTLE LAMBS)

We provide care during worship for our little ones, from birth through 3-years-old. The nursery and the toddler room are both located at the southwest end of the building (rooms 104 and 105) near the church office.

ARE YOU VISITING?

If you are worshiping with us for the first time, please take a moment to fill out a "visitor card," found in each pew, and leave it in an offering plate, or give it to one of our pastors.

ADULT ED 2nd HOUR

This morning we continue our Sermon and Scripture Reflection series for the summer. Come join us in the youth room from 11:30 am – 12:15 pm. Bring your questions and thoughts.

THANK YOU TO OUR WORSHIP SERVANTS

TODAY (July 30)

Greeters: Rob and Barb Teitsma, Allison Teitsma,
Josh and Erin Teitsma
Coffee and Cookies: Jim and Karen Vanden Bos

NEXT WEEK (August 6)

Greeters: Bill and Barb Hamlin, Ted and Nancy Zwart
Liturgist: Erin Teitsma
Coffee and Cookies: **Volunteers Needed**

UPCOMING GREETER SCHEDULE

August 13 Rog and Jane Bolhouse, Don and Deb VanEssen
August 20 Ron and Deb Roden, Dawn Muller
August 27 Jason and Holly Crow

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THIRD THIS WEEK?

TODAY July 30	Worship Service Adult Ed 2 nd Hour	10:00 AM 11:30 AM
TUESDAY August 1	Worship Planning Meeting	10:30 AM
Wednesday August 2	Staff Meeting Senior Neighbors Tai Chi for Arthritis Classes	10:00 AM 12:30 PM
SATURDAY August 5	Breakfast with Guests of Mel Trotter Transition House	10:00 AM
SUNDAY August 6	Worship Service Celebration of the Lord's Supper Adult Ed 2 nd Hour	10:00 AM 11:30 AM

CRAFT/QUILT GROUP WORKSHOP

Do you enjoy knitting, crocheting, cross stitching, quilting, etc., especially when you are with others who are likeminded? Pack up whatever you are working on at home and come join in on **Tuesday, August 8** from 9:30 am – 12 pm in the drama room.

AN INVITE FROM THE BAIRD'S

Bob and Ingrid Baird invite you to spend a day at their cottage on **Saturday, August 12** (weather permitting) from 2 pm until dusk. Bob and Ingrid will provide sloppy joes, s'mores, water and sparkling water. Please bring any other "types of beverages" you prefer. Their cottage is located on White Lake just an hour's drive from Grand Rapids. There are spots for 8 people in any configuration: Singles, couples or families. Sign up in the Connections Center or call/email the church office! Further information will be provided for those who can join us!

TACOS, TREATS, TRAILS

Come join the Schollaart's at their home in Belmont on **Tuesday, August 15** at 5:45 pm for another evening of fun. The dinner will be provided. (Wow! Thank you, Ron and Tammy.) Please bring your own beverage, and your bike or walking shoes if you plan to get ice cream following dinner. The Schollaart's live on the White Pine Trail and there is an ice cream shop just .75 mile from their home. Bring \$ for ice cream. Please sign up in the Connections Center or call/email the church office to let us know you are coming.

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

- Continue to Remember our Friends – Nancy Bloem, Mary Boelkins, John Gorsky (Lisa Roskiewicz's dad) Bonnie Kovacs, Len Nagel, Roger Ritsema, Leon and Kathy Siekman, Sandy Swan, and Joan Vila.
- Please take time this week to pray for the missionaries we support through the RCA: Ahuas Clinic/Doctors – Honduras, **Nathan and Nozomi Brownell – Japan**, Adrian and Bernardeth Bobb-Kelly – Nicaragua, our missionaries in the Netherlands, and Brian and Donna Renes – USA.

If you are in need of prayer or know of someone who is, or if would like to receive prayer requests via the prayer chain, please contact Paula Boeve @ 616.581.5459 or psvsboo@aol.com, or call the church office. Prayer requests are sent out by Paula and received by you via email.

VBS 2023

Wow! Last week flew by! It was a week full of singing, moving and praising God, as well as playing games, exploring science, creating art, listening to Bible Story, and worshipping together! It is by far one of my favorite weeks of the summer. Last week was a blessing. I loved sharing Jesus' light and love with around 100 or more kids who walked through our doors every morning! We learned how to shine Jesus' light when life seems dark, when people don't get along and when good things happen. We learned we can give praise back to God for all of the amazing things in our life! Thank you to everyone who helped and to all of you who prayed! With a grateful heart, Jen Kelly.

NORTH END COMMUNITY MINISTRY – FOOD PANTRY

We have been collecting raisins, canned pineapple, canned peaches and canned fruit cocktail this month. Thank you to everyone who donated! It is now time for us to start collecting peanut butter. There is a table in the “gathering space” or space by the church mailboxes for donations. You may also make a monetary donation, which can be put in the white mailbox on the food donation table.



Third Reformed Church

**A community of Christ's disciples,
and the presence of Christ to our neighbors.**

YOUR 2023/2024 CONSISTORY

ELDERS

Kirk Breukink, Vice President
Walt Lockwood
Windy Schnelker
Ron Schollaart
Barb Teitsma
Melissa VanderLeek

DEACONS

Marc Coleman
Ryan De Korte
Mark Dietrich
Ben Maddox
Brandon Slomp
Karen VanderMeulen

PRESIDENT

Rev. Jeffrey Petersen

TREASURER

Ron Schollaart

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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THIRD REFORMED CHURCH

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