
The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Third Reformed Church – Grand Rapids, Michigan

August 27, 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

Dawn

Dario Marianelli

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

There is none like you, O Lord,
nor are there any works like yours.
**All the nations you have made shall come
and bow down before you, O Lord,
and shall glorify your name.**
**For you are great and do wondrous things,
you alone are God!**

 CONGREGATIONAL SINGING 2

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

NICAEA

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Awesome and compassionate God,
you have loved us with unfailing, self-giving mercy,
but we have not loved you without fail in return.

You constantly call us, but we do not always listen.

**You ask us to love, but we often walk away from neighbors in need,
wrapped in our own concerns.**

God of grace, as you come to us in mercy,
we repent in spirit and in truth.

**Look with kindness on our shortcomings,
do not cease calling us to yourself,**

**and extend to us your mercy
through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

Wonderful, Merciful Savior

Dawn Rodgers

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

Luke 10:25-37 (NT pg. 62)

MESSAGE

To Our Neighbors

Rev. Jeffrey Petersen

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

✠ CONGREGATIONAL SINGING *All Around the World* Keith Getty

PRAYERS OF GRATITUDE AND LONGING

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

✠ CONGREGATIONAL SINGING *The Blessing* Kari Jobe Carnes

✠ POSTLUDE *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* William Runyan

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;
Les/Liz Coleman, liturgist;
Pam Lockwood, Director of Music;
Praise Team;
Tyler Nichols, Lead Audio and Visual Technician;
and Emma Christy, audio 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. We are always looking for volunteers. [Click here to sign-up to help on a future Sunday.](#)

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.

Please join us for a time of fellowship following the worship service, and for a cup of coffee or punch and a sweet treat.



ADULT ED 2nd HOUR

Come join us in the youth room today from 11:30 am – 12:15 pm. We will reflect on today's Sermon and Scripture. Bring your questions and thoughts. We will not be meeting on September 3.

THANK YOU TO OUR WORSHIP SERVANTS

TODAY (August 27)

AM Coordinator

Greeters:

Liturgist:

Coffee and Cookies:

Bill Davidson

Jason and Holly Crow

Les/Liz Coleman

Laura Blauw and Nancy Zwart

NEXT WEEK (September 3)

AM Coordinator

Coffee and Cookies:

Bill Davidson

Volunteers Needed

UPCOMING GREETER SCHEDULE

September 10

The VanderLeek Family, Ruth DeVries

September 17

John and Lori Gebhart, Becky Gebhart

September 24

Chuck and Karen VanderMeulen, Gussie Farris

October 1

Dave and Paige Hendrickson, Mary Cook, Barb Struik

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

Are you interested in finding out more about Third Reformed Church? Please join the Elders and Pastor Jeffrey on one of the following dates:

Today (August 27) from 11:30am-12:15pm

or

Tuesday, September 5 from 6-7:30pm

This will be a time to discuss what membership to Third Reformed and the Reformed Church in America (RCA) is all about. It is an opportunity to ask any questions you may have about what it means to belong to the body of Christ. It's also a chance to spend time in community with other believers; to get a better sense of where others we see in worship are coming from.

We will be using a book called *Belonging*, which is a publication of the RCA. Vice President of Consistory Kirk Breukink has copies available for you to have. They are available now or will be given out at the gatherings. Please RSVP to Kirk at kbreukink@rieth-riley.com. We hope you can join us!

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

- Continued prayers for Esther Woudenberg are much appreciated as she continues to recover from pneumonia. She is now home resting. Esther's address: 3615 Cook Valley Blvd SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546
- 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 you 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.

NEW CONTACT INFORMATION

Joan Vila called the office this week to let us know that she has a new phone number. It is 616.286.8875. Or, if you would like to reach out to her by mail, her address is: 1657 W Kentview Dr NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505. Joan mentioned that she has not heard from anyone from the church lately, mostly because she has a new phone number and did not let us know. She is homebound, receives Meals on Wheels daily, and struggles with macular degeneration and hearing loss. Please continue to put her in your prayers.

CRAFT/QUILT GROUP

Knitting, embroidery, and crochet are next up for our crafter's cabinet (the display case in the front hallway). It would be wonderful to display our creations and handwork treasures. Please connect with Ruth De Vries or Becky Gebhart if you have items you'd like to share. Ruth: 616.893.7374
Becky: 616.644.5515. Our next craft workshop or get together is on September 12 from 9:30 am – 12 pm.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THIRD THIS WEEK?

TODAY	Worship Service	10:00 AM
August 27	New Member Orientation	11:30 AM
	Adult Ed 2 nd Hour	11:30 AM
MONDAY	Senior Neighbors Tai Chi for Arthritis Classes	12:30 PM
August 28		
TUESDAY	Worship Planning Meeting	10:30 AM
August 29		
WEDNESDAY	Staff Meeting	10:00 AM
August 30	Senior Neighbors Tai Chi for Arthritis Classes	12:30 PM
SATURDAY	Breakfast with Guests of Mel Trotter Transition House	10:00 AM
September 2		
SUNDAY	Outdoor Worship Service	10:00 AM
September 3	Celebration of the Lord's Supper	11:30 AM

OUTDOOR WORSHIP

Weather permitting, on **Sunday, September 3** we will be worshipping and celebrating the Lord's Supper on the front lawn. You may want to bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on. Chairs will be set up on cemented area near the front doors.



Join us as we kick off a new ministry year with our annual picnic following morning worship on **Sunday, September 10**. This tradition is a great opportunity to gather together for food and fellowship, as we celebrate a new ministry year. On the menu is: Hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, potato salad, chips, fruit and ice cream for dessert.

2nd HOUR EDUCATION (SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES)

On **Sunday, September 17**, we begin our fall year for Sunday school, or what we call 2nd Hour. There is something for all ages during this 45-minute time period. We meet from 11:30 am to 12:15 pm, following worship and a time of fellowship. Listen for the bell, which we ring when it is time to disperse to our designated rooms.

2nd hour for our adults and 8-12th graders - We will begin this semester with a 5-week exploration of **Spiritual Gifts**. The schedule is as follows:

September 17 – Adults and 8-12th graders will come together in the youth room to hear Jen Petersen’s faith story and how her spiritual gifts have played a part in her life of faith.

September 24 – Adults and 8-12th graders will gather in their own spaces to explore further what the different spiritual gifts are and where they come from.

October 8 – Adults and 8-12th graders will gather in their own spaces to participate in a spiritual gifts inventory. Each person will learn or get an idea of what their spiritual gifts are.

October 15 – Adults and 8-12th graders will gather in their own spaces to explore together how we can grow in our gifts and how they can be used in the church, at work/school, and in the home.

October 22 – Adults and 8-12th graders will gather around cookies and coffee as a community and connect with others who have the same or similar gifts.

We will follow a similar format for 5-weeks following the above series (October 29, November 5, November 12, November 19, December 3). Over these weeks we will focus on **Spiritual Disciplines**. What are they? How do we do them? Do they matter? And we will hear another faith story from a member and how spiritual disciplines affected them.

SMALL GROUPS – THEY ARE BACK!

In October, we will once again be forming small groups! Watch for sign-up sheets in the Connections Center, as well as online. There will be three different 6-week small group offerings. Details are being finalized and more information will be coming soon!

WEDNESDAY CONNECTIONS THIS FALL

We will gather together on **the third Wednesday each month** at 6 pm for a themed night, dinner and fellowship with one another. Put the following dates on your calendar now, and we look forward to connecting!



September 20 “Autumn Apples and New Beginnings”

October 18 “Harvest Fest and Pumpkin Outreach”

November 15 “Chili Cook-off”

December 20 “Christmas Carols and Cocoa”



NORTH END COMMUNITY MINISTRY

Supper House – We will be serving as a church on **Tuesday, September 5** from 4:45-6:30pm at St. Alphonsus Parish on Carrier St. in Grand Rapids. Our group will be responsible for serving the guests with food and drink, and bussing and wiping clean the tables after they leave. We will also help with the clean-up following the supper, and will take down the tables and chairs and vacuum. If you have already volunteered at Supper House, thank you, and please sign-up to help again! If you have not yet, it is a rewarding experience for all those who take part. There is a sign-up sheet in the Connections Center, or you can text or call Keith Boeve at 616.560.9429 to let us know you’ll be coming.

Food Pantry - We have been collecting jars of peanut butter this month. Thank you to everyone who donated! It is now time for us to start collecting cereal, including oatmeal in canisters. 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.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Nursery, Little Lambs, and Children's Worship is available for birth through 5th grade. This fall, kids will explore that God created us for community and learn how to reflect Jesus' love and treat one another with friendship.

- August 27** Kid's worship bags available for big church
- September 3** Outdoor worship – worship bags available
- September 10** Children's Worship begins for all kids 4 years (before Sept. 2023) through 5th grade; all-church picnic following worship
- September 17** 2nd Hour Sunday School begins for all ages



YOUTH GROUP

Our Middle School Ministry has two big goals:

1. To help preteens/teens truly know Jesus and grow in their relationship with Jesus
2. To have a lot of fun!

We will meet on September 10 at 5:30 pm to kick-off our year together! It will be a fun night with a campfire, food, and yard games! We will continue to meet every other Sunday this semester.



8-12th GRADERS

2nd HOUR AND YOUTH GROUP ARE STARTING!

2nd Hour is following worship on Sundays from 11:30 am – 12:15 pm.

Youth Group is on Sunday evenings from 5:30 - 7:30 pm.

September 10

Youth Group Kick-off!

September 17

2nd Hour

First Day! Meet in the Youth Room and hear Mrs. Jen’s faith story.

No **Youth Group** in the evening.

September 24

2nd Hour

Spiritual Gifts...You have them...but what are they?

Youth Group

Dinner, Games, Mission Impossible style Gathering

October 1

2nd Hour from 11:30 am – 12:15 pm

Spiritual Gifts...You have them...let’s find out what they are!

Youth Group

Rev. Liv’s gonna walk around **Art Prize** if you want to come with!



2023

Sept 3 Jennifer Kelly
Sept 3 Kevin Mc Intyre
Sept 5 Bill Hamlin
Sept 5 Carolyn Maddox
Sept 5 Jason Vanderploeg
Sept 7 Lucas Haycraft
Sept 7 Anna Wicks
Sept 8 Jim Bodwin
Sept 8 Laura De Looff
Sept 10 Davis De Looff
Sept 10 Levi De Looff
Sept 10 Dave Hendrickson
Sept 15 Don Van Essen
Sept 17 Jamie De Korte
Sept 21 Laura Blauw
Sept 22 Rog Bolhouse
Sept 24 Corey Swiftney
Sept 25 Bill Davidson
Sept 25 Elle Nichols
Sept 25 Teigan Van Prooyen
Sept 28 Chris Fann
Sept 29 Susie Neckers
Sept 29 Abby Schnelker
Sept 30 Olivia Stewart-Shoemaker

Happy Anniversary!

September 3 Tom and Marjean Dooley
September 5 Jim and Karen vanden Bos
September 9 Doug and Linda Besteman
September 9 Dave and Paige Hendrickson
September 10 Jason and Holly Crow
September 11 Les and Liz Coleman
September 12 Josh and Emily Wilford
September 17 John and Monica Inhulsen
September 19 John and Diane Plantenga
September 19 Chuck and Karen VanderMeulen
September 19 Don and Deb vanEssen
September 22 Josh and Erin Teitsma
September 24 Bryan and Cheryl Hageman
September 25 John and Lori Gebhart
September 29 Ron and Tam Schollaart
September 30 Walt and Pam Lockwood





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
Melissa VanderLeek, Clerk
Walt Lockwood
Windy Schnelker
Ron Schollaart
Barb Teitsma

DEACONS

Karen VanderMeulen, Assistant Treasurer
Mark Dietrich, Chair of Deacons
Marc Coleman
Ryan De Korte
Ben Maddox
Brandon Slomp

PRESIDENT

Rev. Jeffrey Petersen

TREASURER

Ron Schollaart

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

REV. JEFFREY PETERSEN

Senior Pastor
Cell: (616) 240-0690
jeffrey@thirdreformedchurchgr.org

REV. OLIVIA STEWART-SHOEMAKER

Pastor of Spiritual Formation
Cell: (317) 318-4175
olivia@thirdreformedchurchgr.org

JEN KELLY

Director of Children's Ministries
Cell: (616) 914-2339
jennifer@thirdreformedchurchgr.org

PAM LOCKWOOD

Director of Music
Home: (616) 364-8489
walterlock177@gmail.com

LISA ROSKIEWICZ

Administrative Coordinator
Cell: (616) 262-7037
lisannegsky86@gmail.com

THIRD REFORMED CHURCH

Email: email@thirdreformedchurchgr.org
Website: www.thirdreformedchurchgr.org
Address: 2060 Michigan NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Phone: (616) 458-3089
Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9 am – 4 pm