

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Celebration of the Lord's Supper
Third Reformed Church – Grand Rapids, Michigan

October 1, 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

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Joseph Martin

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it;
**for he has founded it on the seas,
and established it on the rivers.**

Lift up your heads, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in.
Who is the King of glory?

**The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord, mighty in battle.**

Lift up your heads, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in.
Who is this King of glory?

**The Lord of hosts,
he is the King of glory.**

 CONGREGATIONAL SINGING 45

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

“Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?
And who shall stand in his holy place?
**Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
who do not lift up their souls to what is false,
and do not swear deceitfully.**
They will receive blessing from the Lord,
and vindication from the God of their salvation.
**Such is the company of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.”**
God we seek your face and seek your grace.
**Be mindful of our frailty, forgiving of our faults,
and abundant in your mercy.**
Forgive us our sins and reassure us of your love.
Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

 CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

All Who Are Thirsty

Brenton Brown

INVITATION TO CHILDREN’S WORSHIP

Blessing

Congregation: **May the Lord bless you as you worship and learn.**

Children: The peace of Christ be with you.

Congregation: **And also with you.**

Dismiss

The people offer a sign of peace to one another

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOD'S WORD

Galatians 3:1-18 (*NT pg. 166*)

MESSAGE

Try As Hard As You Want

The Rev. Jeffrey Petersen

WE RECEIVE THE GIFTS OF THE LORD'S TABLE

✠ CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

One Bread, One Body

John Foley

THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy and right it is, and our joyful duty . . .

. . . With your whole Church on earth and with all the company of heaven
we worship and adore your glorious name.

-Sung-

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty

Early in the morning

our song shall rise to thee

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty

God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

Most righteous God . . .

. . . Together we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

Christ has died!

Christ is risen!

Christ will come again!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us, we pray . . .

. . . Even so, **come Lord Jesus!**

- ✠ CONGREGATIONAL SINGING *10,000 Reasons* Matt Redman
- ✠ BENEDICTION
- ✠ POSTLUDE *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* arr. John Carter

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
and the Rev. Olivia Stewart-Shoemaker;
Pam Lockwood, Director of Music;
Jen Kelly, Director of Children's Ministries;
Praise Team;
Tyler Nichols, Lead Audio and Visual Technician;
and Noah Breukink, visual technician.*

GRACE IN GALATIA

An 11 week journey through Paul's letter to the churches in Galatia fiercely advocating for a "Jesus plus nothing" gospel.

Date	Text	Title
Sept. 10	Galatians 1:1-10	Jesus Plus Nothing
Sept. 17	Galatians 1:11-2:10	Direct Knowledge
Sept. 24	Galatians 2:11-21	Integrity
Oct. 1	Galatians 3:1-18	Try As Hard As You Want
Oct. 8	Galatians 3:19-4:7	Boundless Inheritance
Oct. 15	Galatians 4:8-20	Gospel Growing
Oct. 22	Galatians 4:21-5:1	An Uncomfortable Allegory
Oct. 29	Galatians 5:1-15	Free To Love
Nov. 5	Galatians 5:16-26	The Fruit We Bear
Nov. 12	Galatians 6:1-10	On Our Own, Together
Nov. 19	Galatians 6:11-18	Don't Back Down

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. [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.



THANK YOU TO OUR WORSHIP SERVANTS

TODAY (October 1)

AM Coordinator:

Bill Davidson

Greeters:

Dave and Paige Hendrickson, Mary Cook,
Barb Struik

Coffee and Cookies:

Jim and Karen Vanden Bos

NEXT WEEK (October 8)

AM Coordinator:

Bill Davidson

Greeters:

Dick and Mary Welscott

Liturgist:

Reid Morris

Coffee and Cookies:

Jim and Karen Vanden Bos

UPCOMING GREETER SCHEDULE

October 15

The Tjoelker Family, Tom and Marjean Dooley,
Emily, Jordan and Sam Wilford

October 22

The Plantenga Family, Bryan and Cheryl Hageman

October 29

Ron and Tammy Schollaart

November 5

The Coleman Family

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP

Our children, ages 4 years (must be 4 by Sept. 2023) through 5th grade, will be invited to dismiss to their own worship space. This fall, kids will explore that God created us for community and learn how to reflect Jesus' love and treat one another with friendship. The children can be picked up following the service in the Children's Wing (east side of the building).

Children's Worship Volunteers This Week (October 1)

LEVEL 1	Allison Klinck
LEVEL 2	Jen Kelly

Children's Worship Volunteers This Week (October 8)

LEVEL 1	Allison Teitsma
LEVEL 2	Barb Teitsma

FAITH FORUM (Formerly called 2nd Hour)

Today at 11:30 am we continue our series on spiritual gifts. Hopefully you had a chance to complete the spiritual gifts inventory. Even if you did not, come along and pilgrimage with others as we learn more about ourselves and the gifts the Spirit has given to each of us to build up the Body of Christ and be of service in the world. No one will be held in Detention because they didn't finish their homework.

Coming up:

October 8 – 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 15 – 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 sessions following the above series (October 22, October 29, November 5, November 12 and November 19. Over these weeks, we will focus on **Spiritual Disciplines**.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THIRD THIS WEEK?

TODAY October 1	Worship Service Celebration of the Lord's Supper Children's Worship Offered Faith Forum and Children's Sunday School	10:00 AM 11:30 AM
MONDAY October 2	Senior Neighbors Tai Chi for Arthritis Classes	12:30 PM
TUESDAY October 3	Worship Planning Meeting	10:30 AM
WEDNESDAY October 4	Women's Bible Study Senior Neighbors Tai Chi for Arthritis Classes Choir Rehearsal	9:30 AM 12:30 PM 7:00 PM
THURSDAY October 5	Take Charge Meeting (70x7) Ele's Place Program	9:30 AM 6:15 – 8:00 PM
SATURDAY October 7	Breakfast with Guests of Mel Trotter Transition Houses	10:00 AM
SUNDAY October 8	Worship Service Children's Worship Offered Faith Forum and Children's Sunday School 6-7 th Grade Youth Group 8-12 th Grade Youth Group Chapel Worship at Mel Trotter	10:00 AM 11:30 AM Following Worship 5:30 PM 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

It's a new season for the Women's Bible Study group which meets here at the church on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am. Our study this fall is called "Listening to God." We are using a study guide written by Carolyn Nystrom, appropriately titled *Listening to God*. Please come join us, even if you can't make it every week. Everyone is welcome anytime. If you have any questions, just call or text Becky Gebhart at 616.644.5515.

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 us on Tuesday, October 10 from 9:30 am – 12 pm in the drama room. Can't make it on that date? This group meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays each month. Be sure to take a look at the display case in the front hallway. In it you will find 2, fall-themed, counted cross stitch pieces by Dee Scully and a quilt made by Karen Vanden Bos, all very beautiful 😊

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!

October 18 "Harvest Fest and Pumpkin Outreach"

November 15 "Chili Cook-off"

December 20 "Christmas Carols and Cocoa"

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

- Continue to Remember our Friends – Nancy Bloem, Mary Boelkins, John Gorsky (Lisa Roskiewicz's dad), 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: 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.

SMALL GROUPS

If you have signed up for a small group, you can pick up your books in the Connections Center TODAY! It's not too late to sign up, but please do so today. The links for each small group are below.

Small Group #1

What is the Bible? By Rob Bell

Led by Ron Roden

<https://thirdgr.breezechms.com/form/894341>

Small Group #2

Faith After Doubt By Brian McLaren

Led by Jeffrey Petersen

<https://thirdgr.breezechms.com/form/6a19b3>

Small Group #3

(this is for parents of children **and** youth)

Woven By Meredith Miller

Led by Olivia Stewart

<https://thirdgr.breezechms.com/form/40cab1>

NORTH END COMMUNITY MINISTRY FOOD PANTRY

Thank you to all who donated to the Food Pantry during the month of September! We collected many boxes of cereal and canisters of oatmeal. October is here, and it is now time for us to collect salad dressings. 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. (In November, we will be collecting crackers.)



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

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