

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Third Reformed Church – Grand Rapids, Michigan

September 10, 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

Finlandia

Jean Sibelius

INTROIT

From All That Dwell Below The Skies

Gordon Young

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

In Christ, the God of heaven has made his home on earth.

Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

Highest of all creation, he lives among the least.

He journeys with the rejected and welcomes the weary.

Come now, all who thirst,

and drink the water of life.

Come now, all who hunger,

and be filled with good things.

Come now, all who seek,

and be warmed by the fire of love.

 CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

Everlasting God

Brenton Brown

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you
with our whole heart and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.
Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

 CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

Shine on Us

Michael W. Smith

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

CHORAL ANTHEM

Jubilate Deo

Dale Wood

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOD'S WORD

Galatians 1:1-10 (NT pg. 165)

MESSAGE

Jesus Plus Nothing

Rev. Jeffrey Petersen

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

✠ CONGREGATIONAL SINGING **379**

For the Fruit of All Creation

AR HYD Y NOS

PRAYERS OF GRATITUDE AND LONGING

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

✠ CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

My Friends, May You Grow in Grace

Timothy James Meaney

✠ POSTLUDE

Praeludium II.

AR HYD Y NOS

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;

Jane Bolhouse, liturgist;

Elder Ron Schollaart;

Jennifer Kelly, Director of Children's Ministries;

Adult Choir under the direction of Paul Boelkins;

Pam Lockwood, Director of Music;

Praise Team;

Emma Christy, audio 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. A great big thank you to Tammy Schollaart for taking care of our little ones this morning! [Click here to sign-up to help on a future Sunday](#).

ARE YOU VISITING?

If you are worshipping 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 (September 10)

AM Coordinator:

Bill Davidson

Greeters:

The VanderLeek Family, Ruth DeVries

NEXT WEEK (September 17)

AM Coordinator

Bill Davidson

Greeters:

John and Lori Gebhart, Becky Gebhart

Liturgist:

Deb Roden

Coffee and Cookies:

Karen Dean

UPCOMING GREETER SCHEDULE

September 24

Chuck and Karen VanderMeulen, Gussie Farris

October 1

Dave and Paige Hendrickson, Mary Cook, Barb Struik

October 8

The Tjoelker Family, Tom and Marjean Dooley

October 15

Emily, Jordan and Sam Wilford, Dick and Mary Welscott

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: 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.

NORTH END COMMUNITY MINISTRY FOOD PANTRY

This month we are 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. (In October, we will be collecting salad dressings.)

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 this Tuesday, September 12 from 9:30 am – 12 pm in the drama room.

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”



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THIRD THIS WEEK?

TODAY	Worship Service	10:00 AM
September 10	Children's Worship Offered	
	Church Picnic Following Worship	
	6-7 th Grade Youth Group	5:30 PM
	8-12 th Grade Youth Group	2:00 – 4:00 PM
	Chapel Worship at Mel Trotter	6:00 PM
MONDAY	Senior Neighbors Tai Chi for Arthritis Classes	12:30 PM
September 11		
TUESDAY	Craft/Quilt Group Workshop	9:30 AM
September 12	Staff Meeting	10:30 AM
	Worship Planning Meeting	11:30 AM
	Elder Meeting	6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY	Ele's Place Board Meeting	9:00 AM
September 13	Senior Neighbors Tai Chi for Arthritis Classes	12:30 PM
	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM
THURSDAY	Take Charge Meeting (70x7)	9:30 AM
September 14		
SUNDAY	Worship Service	10:00 AM
September 17	Children's Worship Offered	
	2 nd Hour Education (Sunday School for All Ages)	11:30 AM

NORTH END COMMUNITY MINISTRY SUPPER HOUSE

Our very own Mary and Martha served the drinks this past Tuesday evening at Supper House (Mary Cook and Martha Garcia). Paula Boeve, Edy Borgondy, Jim De Korte, Mark Dietrich, Bill Hamlin, Cheryl Plantenga, Brandon Slomp and Ron and Tammy Schollaart also helped serve. A great big thank you to all of you! -Keith Boeve

2nd HOUR EDUCATION (SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES)

Next Sunday (September 17), we begin our 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 THIS FALL

We will begin the year 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!



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 (September 10)

LEVEL 1	Allison Teitsma
LEVEL 2	Jen Kelly

Children's Worship Volunteers This Week (September 17)

LEVEL 1	Allison Klinck
LEVEL 2	Jen Kelly

6TH GRADE

7th Grade

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 this evening (September 10) at 5:30 pm to kick-off our year together! Plan on 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 This Afternoon!

Swimming at Les and Liz Coleman's from 2 - 4 pm

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!



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

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