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## The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Third Reformed Church – Grand Rapids, Michigan

October 22, 2023 10:00 AM

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 *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

*The Church's One Foundation*

Carson Cooman

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

**The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh—  
my adversaries and foes— they shall stumble and fall.

**Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;  
though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.**

One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:

**to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, when Isaiah learned to see clearly,  
he said, “Woe is me, I am lost!  
for I am a man of unclean lips,  
and I live among a people of unclean lips,  
yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”  
**Gracious God, we too long to see clearly  
and recognize that we are in need of cleansing.**

Your world suffers wars and rumors of war.  
Those with power wield it for terror or vengeance  
while the vulnerable pay the cost.  
**We lament the violence that ruins lives,  
destroys families, and pulls communities apart.  
We cry out to you, O Lord, “Move in power and provide peace!”**

Your world suffers because of sin, and not one of us is without it.  
You call us to love you with our whole self and love our neighbor as ourself.  
In spirit we are willing, God, but in flesh we are weak.  
**We lament the sin that gains footholds in our hearts.  
We cry out to you, O Lord, “Move in power and provide peace.”  
For your glory and your name’s sake, we pray.  
Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

*We Will Glorify*

Twila Paris

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOD'S WORD

Galatians 4:21-5:1 (NT pg. 167)

MESSAGE

*An Uncomfortable Allegory*

The Rev. Jeffrey Petersen

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

 CONGREGATIONAL SINGING **130**

*O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

AZMON

PRAYERS OF GRATITUDE AND LONGING

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

☒ CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

*Agnus Dei*

Michael W. Smith

☒ BENEDICTION

☒ POSTLUDE

*O For a Thousand Tongues*

Alice Jordan

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

**Make an Offering**



*Assisting God's people in worship this morning are the Rev. Jeffrey Petersen, Senior Pastor;*

*Jason Crow, liturgist;*

*Jennifer Kelly, Director of Children's Ministries;*

*Pam Lockwood, Director of Music;*

*Adult Choir under the direction of Paul Boelkins;*

*Praise Team;*

*Josie Breukink, audio technician;*

*Noah Breukink, visual technician;*

*and Bruce Klanderman, organist.*

## 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
<b>Oct. 22</b>	<b>Galatians 4:21-5:1</b>	<b>An Uncomfortable Allegory</b>
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 give it to one of our pastors. Or, simply scan the QR code below and fill out a “visitor form.”

### **Contact Information**



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



## **FAITH FORUM (Formerly called 2<sup>nd</sup> Hour)**

Today at 11:30 am we begin our series on **spiritual disciplines**. What are they? How do we do them? Do they matter? You can look forward to another faith story and intergenerational gatherings.

## **NORTH END COMMUNITY MINISTRY FOOD PANTRY**

This month we are collecting **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.)

## THANK YOU TO OUR WORSHIP SERVANTS

### **TODAY** (October 22)

AM Coordinator: Bill Davidson  
Greeters: John, Diane and Jeff Plantenga  
Bryan and Cheryl Hageman  
Coffee and Cookies: Jim and Karen Vanden Bos

### **NEXT WEEK** (October 29)

AM Coordinator: Bill Davidson  
Greeters: Ron and Tammy Schollaart  
Len and Dianne DeBraber  
Liturgist: Ingrid Baird  
Coffee and Cookies: Laura Blauw and Nancy Zwart

## UPCOMING GREETER SCHEDULE

November 5 The Coleman Family  
November 12 The Reid Morris Family, Ted and Nancy Zwart  
November 19 Keith and Paula Boeve  
Martha Katt, Beverly, Lucas and Ivy Haycraft  
November 26 Jim and Mary De Korte, Bill Dykstra  
December 3 Ron and Deb Roden, Lisa and Henry Kuiper

## CHILDREN AND WORSHIP

Our children, ages 4 years (must be 4 by Sept. 2023) through 5<sup>th</sup> 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 22)

LEVEL 1 Jen Kelly  
LEVEL 2 Barb Teitsma

### **Children's Worship Volunteers This Week** (October 29)

LEVEL 1 Jen Kelly  
LEVEL 2 Jamie De Korte

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THIRD THIS WEEK?

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TODAY	Worship Service	10:00 AM
October 22	Children's Worship Offered	
	Faith Forum and Children's Sunday School	11:30 AM
	6-7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Group	5:30 PM
	8-12 <sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Group	5:30 PM
MONDAY	Senior Neighbors Tai Chi for Arthritis Classes	12:30 PM
October 23	Small Group Meeting (Faith After Doubt)	6:30 PM
TUESDAY	Craft/Quilt Group Workshop	9:30 AM
October 24	Staff Meeting	10:30 AM
	Worship Planning Meeting	11:30 AM
	Consistory Meeting	6:30 PM
WEDNESDAY	Women's Bible Study	9:30 AM
October 25	Handbell Choir Rehearsal	11:00 AM
	Senior Neighbors Tai Chi for Arthritis Classes	12:30 PM
	Small Group Meeting (What is the Bible)	5:45 PM
THURSDAY	Take Charge Meeting (70x7)	9:30 AM
October 26	Ele's Place Program	6:15 – 8:00 PM
	Small Group Meeting (Woven)	6:30 PM
SUNDAY	Worship Service	10:00 AM
October 29	Children's Worship Offered	
	Meeting to Discuss Kids Hope Ministry (In Lounge)	Following Worship
	Faith Forum and Children's Sunday School	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 us THIS Tuesday, October 24 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.



## WEDNESDAY CONNECTIONS



**Join us on Wednesday, November 15 at 6 pm** for our annual Chili Cook-Off!

Sign up in the Connections Center to bring a chili, and/or dessert.

Last year we had 12 delicious chilis to choose from.

Our 2022 winners were:

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Amy Breukink with her Italian Chili

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Bryan Hageman with his Roasted Pumpkin Chili

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Mark Dietrich with his Beltline Chili.

## 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](mailto:psvsboo@aol.com), or call the church office. Prayer requests are sent out by Paula and received by you via email.



## YOUTH GROUP

Let’s hang out! We will meet tonight (October 22) from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Join us for a fun game night and gathering with peers! Dinner is provided. Invite a friend!



**8-12<sup>th</sup> GRADERS**

**2<sup>nd</sup> HOUR AND YOUTH GROUP**

**2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

October 22

**2<sup>nd</sup> Hour**

Spiritual Disciplines...Say What?

**Youth Group**

Dinner, Games, Gathering

October 29

**2<sup>nd</sup> Hour**

Spiritual Disciplines...Seriously?

No **Youth Group**

November 5

**2<sup>nd</sup> Hour**

Spiritual Disciplines...O.K. I guess

**Youth Group**

Dinner, College Care Packages, Games, Gathering



# 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](mailto:jeffrey@thirdreformedchurchgr.org)

### **REV. OLIVIA STEWART-SHOEMAKER**

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

### **JEN KELLY**

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

### **PAM LOCKWOOD**

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

### **LISA ROSKIEWICZ**

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

### **THIRD REFORMED CHURCH**

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