

The Second Sunday after Christmas Day

The Celebration of the Lord's Supper
Third Reformed Church – Grand Rapids, Michigan
January 5, 2025 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

*How Brightly Beams the Morning Star
Sing We Now of Christmas*

Philip Nicolai
French Carol

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.
See, darkness covers the earth
and thick darkness is over the peoples,
but the LORD rises upon you
and his glory appears over you.
Nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

 CONGREGATIONAL SINGING **181**

As with Gladness Men of Old

DIX

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We bless you, God our Father,
for you have visited your people
in one like us in all things but sin,
and in human fragility you have revealed
the face of divinity.

**Forgive us our sins we pray,
and gather into your arms
all the peoples of the world,
so that in your embrace
we may find blessing, peace,
and the fullness of our inheritance
as your daughters and sons. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

Ephesians 1:1-14 (NT pg. 169)

MESSAGE

The Beloved Community

The Rev. Jeffrey Petersen

WE RECEIVE THE GIFTS OF THE LORD'S TABLE

✠ CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

One Bread, One Body

John Talbot

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!**

PRAYERS OF GRATITUDE AND LONGING

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

☩ CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

All Glory Be To Christ

Traditional

☩ BENEDICTION

☩ POSTLUDE

Kling, Glockchen

arr. Chip Davis

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
the Rev. Olivia Stewart-Shoemaker, Pastor of Spiritual Formation
Len De Braber, liturgist
Pam Lockwood, Director of Music
Josie Breukink, sound technician
AJ Arechiga, Head of Technology*

THANK YOU TO OUR WORSHIP SERVANTS THIS MORNING

Keith and Paula Boeve, Dave and Paige Hendrickson - Greeters

Laura Blauw and Tim Breukink – Coffee and Cookies

NEXT WEEK (January 12)

AM Coordinator:

Bill Davidson

Greeters:

Gary Graeff and Kim Krause

Beverly, Lucas and Ivy Haycraft

Liturgist:

Keith Boeve

UPCOMING GREETER SCHEDULE

January 19

The Debowski Family, Steve and Marge Kemink

January 26

Bob and Ingrid Baird, Bill Dykstra

February 2

Bill and Barb Hamlin, Mark Dietrich

February 9

Ron and Deb Roden, Lisa and Henry Kuiper

February 16

The Schnelker Family

February 23

Brandon Slomp and Martha Garcia, David Wygmans

March 2

Tom and Marjean Dooley, Chad and Tiffany Van Dam

March 9

The Coleman Family

March 16

The Gebhart Family

March 23

Dave and Deb Ames, Reggie Turner

March 30

Chuck and Karen Vander Meulen, Gussie Farris

April 6

Joyce Bengelink, Millie Noordyke, Barb Struik

April 13

Ted and Nancy Zwart, Bruce and Susie Neckers

April 20

The De Korte Family

April 27

The Crow Family, Esther Woudenberg

May 4

Chris and Leslie Muller, Steve and Lisa Roskiewicz

May 11

The Teitsma Family

May 18

The Reid Morris Family

May 25

The Kent Family, Margo Taylor

***Please call or email the office if you have a conflict with the date you are scheduled for.**

Please join us for a time of fellowship following the worship service,
and for a cup of coffee or punch and a cookie or two 😊



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 give it to one of our pastors. Or, simply scan the QR code below and fill out a “visitor form.”

Contact Information



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 Bill and Barb Hamlin for caring for our little ones this morning. [Click here to sign up to help on a future Sunday](#)

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP

There will be no children’s worship this morning. Children’s bulletins are available in the narthex. Children’s worship will resume next Sunday, January 12.

FAITH FORUM AND CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL (2nd HOUR)

There will be no Faith Forum or Children’s Sunday School today, or on January 12. We will resume on January 19 when Bill Dykstra will share his faith story.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, JANUARY 12 (FOLLOWING WORSHIP)

The purpose of this meeting is to approve a budget for 2025. We ended the 2024 budget year with a significant shortfall. A plan is in place to evaluate and address this issue, which will require some time. Therefore, the consistory will bring a recommendation that we have an interim budget for 3 months. The reasons for this recommendation and the consistory’s plan will be fully explained at the meeting.

ARE YOU IN NEED OF PRAYER?

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.



Continue to Remember our Friends – Nancy Bloem, Mary Boelkins, Len Nagel, Virginia Schollaart, Dee Scully, Sandy Swan and Joan Vila.

“Dear Third Reformed Church,
Our family would like to tell you all how much all of your love, cards, calls, food and gifts have made us feel so loved and supported through the loss of our father and grandfather John Datema. The service at the church was exactly what he would have wanted and we felt all the love of Christ through you all. Thank you again!”

Sincerely, Jeff and Stacy Westra and Family

If you see Ben VanderLeek this morning, be sure to wish him a happy birthday!

Today he turns 17! Happy Birthday, Ben 😊

CHURCH ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CAP)

Third has partnered with Pine Rest in a church assistance program. Each one of us (and everyone living in the home) has access to many services offered by Pine Rest, including 3 free counseling visits, elder care consultation, real estate consultation, and 100s of webinars on topics related to mental health and wellness. It is all confidential and between only you and the folks at Pine Rest. To learn more about the amazing benefits we all have access to, click the link below and follow the step-by-step instructions for the CAP Orientation Video.

[Click this Link to Learn More about CAP](#) and then from the top left-hand corner of the screen, where it says “This content is for EAP, CAP, and SAP Client members only,” select **Log In**. Then enter **EAP-client** for **BOTH** the username and password as they are case sensitive.

If you would like to make an appointment with Pine Rest, call 1.800.442.0809 (press 1 and follow the prompts). Please remember to say, “I have a CAP with Third Reformed Church.” A licensed counselor will return your call within 60 minutes.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THIRD THIS WEEK?

TODAY	Worship Service	10:00 AM
January 5	Celebration of the Lord's Supper	
MONDAY	Senior Neighbors Tai Chi for Arthritis Classes	12:30 PM
January 6		
TUESDAY	Worship Planning Meeting	10:30 AM
January 7		
WEDNESDAY	Senior Neighbors Tai Chi for Arthritis Classes	12:30 PM
January 8	Choir Rehearsal	6:30 PM
THURSDAY	Take Charge Meeting (70x7)	9:30 AM
January 9	Ele's Place Program	5:30 PM
SUNDAY	Worship Service	10:00 AM
January 12	Children's Worship Offered	
	Congregational Meeting	Following Worship
	Soup Luncheon (Following Congregational Meeting)	12:00 PM



TRC ANNUAL SOUP LUNCHEON

Our annual soup luncheon is on Sunday, January 12, 2025, following worship and the congregational meeting. Let us know if you plan to come by signing up at the connection center or clicking this link: [Sign up for the Soup Luncheon](#). Please consider bringing a soup, bread and/or dessert to share, or just come ready to warm yourself with some hot soup. There is always enough for everyone!

NORTH END COMMUNITY MINISTRY FOOD PANTRY

December and the year 2024 are behind us. Since April 2023, we have been collecting a specific item each month for the Pantry, a basic item the Pantry frequently runs out of. Thanks to all of you this strategy has been very successful over the past year and a half. Below is a list of the items we collect in monthly order.

January	Flour
February	Canned soup
March	Cooking oil
April	Sugar
May	Canned tomatoes (whole or diced), canned mixed vegetables
June	Tomato sauce in jars (Prego or Ragu or similar)
July	Fruit: Raisins, canned pineapple, peaches, fruit cocktail
August	Peanut butter
September	Cereal, including oatmeal in canisters
October	Salad dressings
November	Crackers
December	Shampoo

Please drop off your donation of **flour** on the table in the “gathering space” or space by the church mailboxes. You may also make a monetary donation, which can be put in the white mailbox on the food donation table.

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

Vacation Bible School (VBS) is on the calendar for July 28-31. If this week does not work for your family, please let Jen Kelly know. We want to serve our Third family and friends, and this is a wonderful week of serving and sharing the love of Jesus. We are especially excited about the available themes to choose from this summer and would appreciate any feedback to make this a great week for all of us!

Summer Camp - Most summer camps will open up registration beginning in January. Camp Geneva's registration begins on January 7. Please let Jen Kelly know which dates you are thinking of registering your child(ren) for so she can let other parents know. It would be great to have some of our Third friends attend at the same time (not necessarily together but the same week) for their comfort and to ease any nervousness.



Third Reformed Church

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

YOUR 2024/2025 CONSISTORY

ELDERS

Kirk Breukink, Vice President
Melissa VanderLeek, Clerk
Len De Braber
Walt Lockwood
Dawn Muller
Windy Schnelker
Barb Teitsma

DEACONS

Brandon Slomp, Assistant Treasurer
Marc Coleman, Chair of Deacons
Jason Crow
Ryan De Korte
Bill Hamlin
Karen Vander Meulen

PRESIDENT

Rev. Jeffrey Petersen

TREASURER

Karen Vander Meulen

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

REV. JEFFREY PETERSEN

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jeffrey@thirdreformedchurchgr.org

REV. OLIVIA STEWART-SHOEMAKER

Pastor of Spiritual Formation
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JEN KELLY

Director of Children’s Ministries
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PAM LOCKWOOD

Director of Music
Home: (616) 364-8489
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LISA ROSKIEWICZ

Administrative Coordinator
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TAMMY SCHOLLAART

Kids Hope Director
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THIRD REFORMED CHURCH

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