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## The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Third Reformed Church – Grand Rapids, Michigan

February 9, 2025 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

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee  
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling  
Hymn to Joy*

Hal Hopson  
Michael Burkhardt  
Albert Travis

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Holy One,

**As we gather this morning to worship you,**

May we speak truth

**So that our words may give grace to those who hear.**

May we pray in faith

**So that our words may give grace to those who hear.**

May we sing with joy

**So that our words may give grace to those who hear.**

May we listen with open minds and receptive hearts

**So that Your words may give grace to us who hear.**

**Let us worship God!**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**When we are weary, O God, give us bread for the journey.  
When we are complacent, O God, set a fire in our bellies.  
When we are frightened, O God, put courage in our hearts and hands.  
When we are angry, O God, turn our anger into faithful response.  
When we are bewildered, O God, help us to see and follow You.  
When we stray, turn us around.  
When we fail, give us another chance.  
When we sin, forgive us.  
And hear our silent prayers.**

*Time for silent prayer*

**Alleluia! Amen.**

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*

*How lovely is Your dwelling place, Oh Lord Almighty  
My soul longs and even faints for You  
For here my heart is satisfied, within Your presence  
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings*

CHORUS

*Better is one day in Your courts  
Better is one day in Your house  
Better is one day in Your courts  
Than thousands elsewhere*

*One thing I ask, and I would seek, to see Your beauty,  
To find You in the place Your glory dwells*

CHORUS

*My heart and flesh cry out,  
For You the living God  
Your Spirit's water for my soul  
I've tasted and I've seen,  
Come once again to me.  
I will draw near to You.  
I will draw near to You*

CHORUS

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOD'S WORD

John 4:4-24 (NT pg. 82)

MESSAGE

*God as the Reference Point*

Rev. Olivia Stewart-Shoemaker



## THANK YOU TO OUR WORSHIP SERVANTS THIS MORNING

Bill Davidson - AM Coordinator

Deb Roden, Lisa and Henry Kuiper - Greeters

Jim and Karen Vanden Bos – Coffee and Cookies

### NEXT WEEK (February 16)

AM Coordinator:

Bill Davidson

Greeters:

Chuck and Karen Vander Meulen

Liturgist:

Rob Teitsma

Coffee and Cookies:

Edy Borgondy and Tim Breukink

### UPCOMING GREETER SCHEDULE

February 23

Brandon and Martha Slomp, 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

The Schnelker Family, 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.**

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



## FAITH FORUM (ADULT ED/2<sup>nd</sup> HOUR)

This morning Paige Hendrickson will join us and share some “Wisdom from the Aging.” We will begin at 11:30 am in the youth room. (Listen for the bell to be rung at 11:30 am.) We will dismiss at 12:15 pm.

Next Sunday, February 16, we will gather in the lounge for an intergenerational hymn sing led and accompanied by Pam Lockwood.

## 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. Thank you, Tammy Schollaart, for taking caring of our little ones this morning!

[Click here to sign up to help on a future Sunday](#)



## CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

All children, ages 4 years through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, will be invited during the worship service to dismiss to their own worship space. The children can be picked up following the service in the children's wing (east side of the building).

This month in Children's Worship, we are focusing on our uniqueness. Just as no two snowflakes are the same and all of our fingerprints are different, God has made us our own unique self! God made us. God knows us. And God loves us. We are learning about our unique selves and how we can make a difference in God's world. Our memory verse is *how you made me as amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well.* Psalm 139:14 NIRV

## 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](mailto: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.

## 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
February 9	Children's Worship Offered	
	Faith Forum and Children's Sunday School (2 <sup>nd</sup> Hour)	11:30 AM
	7/8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Group	5:30 PM
	High School Youth Group	5:30 PM
MONDAY	Senior Neighbors Tai Chi for Arthritis Classes	12:30 PM
February 10		
TUESDAY	Staff Meeting	10:30 AM
February 11	Worship Planning Meeting	11:30 AM
	Elder Meeting	6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY	Women's Bible Study	9:30 AM
February 12	Senior Neighbors Tai Chi for Arthritis Classes	12:30 PM
	Choir Rehearsal	6:30 PM
	Narcotics Anonymous	6:30 PM
THURSDAY	Take Charge Meeting (70x7)	9:30 AM
February 13	Ele's Place Program	5:30 PM
FRIDAY	Church Office Closed	
February 14		
SUNDAY	Worship Service	10:00 AM
February 16	Children's Worship Offered	
	Faith Forum and Children's Sunday School (2 <sup>nd</sup> Hour)	11:30 AM
	7/8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Group	5:30 PM
	High School Youth Group	5:30 PM





## **YOUNG AT HEART – LUNCH AND FELLOWSHIP FOR OUR RETIREES**

Join us on the following dates in the church lounge at 12 pm:  
March 5, April 2, May 7

## **WEDNESDAY NIGHT CONNECTIONS - DINNER AND FELLOWSHIP FOR US ALL**

Plan to join us on these Wednesday dates:

- February 19 – “Love is in the Air”
- March 5 - Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper and Worship
- March 19 – “Spring is Coming”
- April 23 – “Easter – Renewal & Resurrection”

**WEDNESDAY**  
*Night*

## **MORE UPCOMING DATES TO LOOK FORWARD TO**

- April 13 – Palm Sunday Breakfast and Worship
- April 19 – Community Easter Egg Hunt and Holy Pilgrimage
- April 20 – Easter Sunday
- May 11 – Mother’s Day
- May 18 – Graduate Recognition Sunday
- May 26 – Memorial Day

## **NORTH END COMMUNITY MINISTRY**

**Food Pantry** – This month we are collecting **canned soup** for the Pantry. 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. Thank you for the generous donations we have received already this month. Let’s keep on keeping on and fill the Pantry with soup, soup and more soup 😊

**Supper House** – Our next opportunity to serve at Supper House, which is located at St. Alphonsus Parish (224 Carrier St NE), is on Tuesday, February 18. We serve from 4:45 – 6:30 pm. Please sign up at Connection Center or by [clicking here](#) if you plan to come and help. It’s easy and no experience is necessary. If you have any questions, see or contact Keith Boeve @ 616.560.9429.

## **KENT HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

We have been asked to provide snacks for the students at Kent Hills Elementary. We provided these in the fall and they were greatly appreciated by the teachers who provided them to students who had not had breakfast or were just having a bad day. The type of items requested are as follows (individual servings - not large boxes please & NUT FREE):

Applesauce Pouches (no spoons in the classrooms – so pouches preferred)  
Fruit Snacks  
Teddy Grahams  
Goldfish Crackers  
Cheez-It Crackers  
Cereal Bars

If you do not have time or want to shop, Pam Lockwood or Tammy Schollaart would be happy to shop for you! Pam will be getting the items to the school over the next few weeks. There is a collection box in the gathering space for your donations. Thank you!



Pictured above are some of our 2025 KIDS HOPE mentors and prayer partners.



## **WE ARE BETTING YOU'VE HEARD THE WORD "BREEZE" AROUND THIRD**

"Breeze" is the church management software that we use. All of our members are listed in Breeze and their information (address, phone, and email) is right at your fingertips via a computer or smartphone. You can also tithe through Breeze and see your giving history. If you do not have a "Breeze" account, we encourage you to get one. You will need to be invited by Lisa Roskiewicz for security reasons. Simply email the church office @ [email@thirdreformedchurchgr.org](mailto:email@thirdreformedchurchgr.org) and let Lisa know that you wish to be invited to be a "Breeze" user. When you receive the link to register, you will be asked to create a user name and password. (We can also deactivate your current account if you are having trouble and reinvite you, start over so to speak.)

After you have created a user name and password and have your own account, you can get the Breeze app! It's so cool to be able to access another member's demographic information very quickly and to both give and see your own giving history right from your smartphone. To get the Breeze app, load the app called **Breeze ChMS**. You will need to then enter our church ID, which is **Thirdgr**, and be prompted to put in your user name and password. You can stay logged in indefinitely. One of our favorite features is the built in GPS!

After you have become a "Breeze" user, be sure to email the church office a picture of yourself and/or family so we can download it into your Breeze profile.

Of course, we are here to help should you have any questions or need assistance. Simply contact Lisa in the church office during office hours.



# Third Reformed Church

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

## **YOUR 2024/2025 CONSISTORY**

### **ELDERS**

Len De Braber, Vice President  
Melissa VanderLeek, Clerk  
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**

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  
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### **JEN KELLY**

Director of Children’s Ministries  
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### **PAM LOCKWOOD**

Director of Music  
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### **LISA ROSKIEWICZ**

Administrative Coordinator  
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### **TAMMY SCHOLLAART**

Kids Hope Director  
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[tschollaart@comcast.net](mailto:tschollaart@comcast.net)

### **THIRD REFORMED CHURCH**

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