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# Transfiguration Sunday

The Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Third Reformed Church – Grand Rapids, Michigan

March 2, 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

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

 CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

*Draw Me Lord*

CALL TO WORSHIP

 CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

*Centering Prayer*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God, sometimes it seems almost impossible to be where our feet are. The rapid pace of the day, the plethora of schedules, and the demands on our energy and time keep us ever moving forward and worrying about what we've left behind. We forget to watch and listen for what you are doing in our midst now. Help us to learn to be still, to "Be still, and know that you are God." Help us to see what you are doing with and in us - in our lives, in our homes, in your world. Teach us to be aware of where our feet are and aware to what you are asking of us in this moment.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**Thanks be to God!**

**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*

 CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

*Ancient Words*

LUKE 9:18-20

Meditation

Silent Reflection

LUKE 9:21-27

Meditation

Silent Reflection

LUKE 9:28-36

Meditation

Silent Reflection

## COMMUNION

*(We partake with gluten free bread and grape juice.)*

*Today we will be partaking in communion a little differently. You do not need to worry about what to do when. We will show you. Please stay seated until an elder comes and dismisses your pew. At that time, move forward to the table and come around it to form a circle. (The choir will show you what it looks like as they receive communion before they sing.) Once you are in a circle around the table, Pastor Olivia will come in front of you and offer you the bread. Please hold on to your piece of bread until everyone is served. As she is offering it to your neighbor, you are invited to say, "The body of Christ given for you." Once everyone in the circle has received the bread, you will be asked to partake together. Next, Pastor Jeffrey will come around with the juice in the same manner. Take your cup from him and as he serves your neighbor, you are invited to say, "The blood of Christ shed for you." Hold on to your cup until everyone is served and is invited to partake together. Please put your empty cup in the basket at the end of the first pew as you return to your seat. Before you do that though, please wait to receive a reminder of today's service – that you will "be where your feet are."*

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.**

*-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.**

Together we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

**Christ has died!**

**Christ is risen!**

**Christ will come again!**

PRAYER

✠ CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

*Step By Step*

BENEDICTION

✠ POSTLUDE

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*  
*Jen Kelly, Director of Children's Ministries*  
*Pam Lockwood, Director of Music*  
*Adult Choir under the Direction of Paul Boelkins*  
*Praise Team*  
*Brock Shoemaker, sound technician*  
*AJ Arechiga, Head of Technology*

## THANK YOU TO OUR WORSHIP SERVANTS THIS MORNING

Volunteer Needed – AM Coordinator

Tom and Marjean Dooley, Chad and Tiffany Van Dam - Greeters

Jim and Karen Vanden Bos – Coffee and Cookies

### NEXT WEEK (March 9)

AM Coordinator:

Bill Davidson

Greeters:

Les and Liz Coleman

Marc, Brandy, Ava, McKenna and Layla Coleman

Liturgist:

Len De Braber

Coffee and Cookies:

Jim and Karen Vanden Bos



### UPCOMING GREETER SCHEDULE

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 today's worship service, and for a cup of coffee or punch and a cookie or two.



### **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, Bill and Barb Hamlin, for caring 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 give it to one of our pastors. Or, simply scan the QR code below and fill out a "visitor form."

### **Contact Information**



### **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 week in Children's Worship we are learning that *"Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do."* -Ecclesiastes 4:9, NIV

Our Bible story is called "Come on, let's go!" In the book of Luke, we are reading about Jesus and His followers, and scripture teaches us that Jesus wants us to work together. By working together, we can do more than we can do alone!

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

This morning Eli Petersen will share his faith story with us. Join us in the youth room at 11:30 am.

Next week (March 9) is our First Sunday in Lent. We will be focusing on and discussing our theme for Lent, "Bread of Life," utilizing the Lenten Devotional, which will be available to everyone via hard copy or electronically next week, on Ash Wednesday (March 5).

## FROM THE DEACONS

Thank you for your generous contributions during the month of January. Several members of our congregation allocate their annual IRA required minimum distribution (RMD) towards their general fund giving. We received one of these distributions in January which represents the members' contribution for the year.

The 2024 giving statements have been distributed. Please contact Karen Vander Meulen with any corrections.

|                       | January     |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| General Fund – Actual | \$55,983.00 |
| General Fund – Budget | 37,568.00   |
| % of GF Budget        | 149.0%      |
|                       |             |
| Benevolent Fund       | \$275.00    |
| Camp Geneva           | 2,500.00    |

## CHURCH ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CAP)

Third Reformed Church partners 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.

## PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

- Continue to remember our friends – Nancy Bloem, Mary Boelkins, Len Nagel, Virginia Schollaart, Dee Scully, Sandy Swan, Char Van Slooten, and Joan Vila.
- Sierra Zylstra, Gary and Micky Van Til's 30-year-old granddaughter, passed away Thursday morning (February 27) after a 4-year battle with cancer. Sierra is the daughter of Marc and Vonda Van Til, Gary and Micky's son and daughter-in-law. The family and friends of Sierra would cherish your prayers as they face what they must, life without their beautiful Sierra. "My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever." Psalm 73:26 "Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die.'" John 11:25-26 Marc and Vonda Van Til's address: 12387 Mindarca NW, Grand Rapids MI 49534 Gary and Micky Van Til's address: 12305 Aleigha Dr, Grand Rapids, MI 49534 Watch MLive for the obituary and information on visitation and a service.



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.

**ASH WEDNESDAY** is **THIS WEEK** (March 5) marking the beginning of Lent, a 40-day season of preparation for Easter and remembrance of Jesus' suffering and sacrifice.

We will have our traditional pancake dinner at 5:45 pm, served by our 7/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Group. Dinner will be followed by worship at 7 pm.

*"By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."* -Genesis 3:19 (NRSV)

You will hear these words from Pastor Jeffrey or Pastor Olivia as your forehead is marked with ashes during Wednesday's service, "From dust you were made and to dust you will one day return."





## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THIRD THIS WEEK?

|                      |   |  |
|----------------------|---|--|
| TODAY                | Worship Service   | 10:00 AM   |
| March 2              | Celebration of the Lord's Supper<br>Children's Worship Offered<br>Faith Forum and Children's Sunday School (2 <sup>nd</sup> Hour)   | 11:30 AM   |
| MONDAY<br>March 3    | Senior Neighbors Tai Chi for Arthritis Classes  | 12:30 PM   |
| TUESDAY<br>March 4   | Worship Planning Meeting  | 10:30 AM   |
| WEDNESDAY<br>March 5 | Young at Heart Gathering - (See announcement below)<br>Senior Neighbors Tai Chi for Arthritis Classes<br>Traditional Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper<br>Improv Class<br>Narcotics Anonymous<br>Ash Wednesday Worship Service | 12:00 PM<br>12:30 PM<br>6:00 PM<br>6:30 PM<br>6:30 PM<br>7:00 PM |
| THURSDAY<br>March 6  | Take Charge Meeting (70x7)<br>Ele's Place Program   | 9:30 AM<br>5:30 PM   |
| SATURDAY<br>March 8  | DeColores Board Meeting   | 9:30 AM  |
| SUNDAY<br>March 9    | Worship Service<br>Children's Worship Offered<br>Faith Forum and Children's Sunday School (2 <sup>nd</sup> Hour)<br>7/8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Group<br>High School Youth Group  | 10:00 AM<br>11:30 AM<br>5:30 PM<br>5:30 PM                       |



Do you think the soldiers realized that the battle and subsequently the kingdom was lost for “want of a nail”? If you google this quote, you will find the rest of the details for this centuries old proverb that illustrates the importance of the “little things” in life that can often make a big difference!

In the Young at Heart series at Third Reformed Church in year 2025, we are focusing on some of those “little things.” The luncheons are scheduled for **noon to about 2 pm** in the lounge unless numbers or conditions require a change in venue. The suggested donation is \$15 per person and the sign-up sheet is in the Connection Center. Signing up in advance greatly helps with the planning of food and some activities.

**March 5<sup>th</sup> will begin the series with an overview of some of those little things,**  
**April 2<sup>nd</sup>** will focus on some of the little things in our legal system, and  
**May 7<sup>th</sup>** will have Art DeLoof sharing the details of his work at Third Reformed Church.  
We will break for the summer and resume this series on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

We hope to have you join us for as many of the dates as you are able and encourage you to invite your friends as well. Last year we enjoyed some great food, entertainment and socializing. This year we look forward to more of the same. -Len De Braber

### **HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MISSION TRIP 2025**

If you have not heard, our High School Youth will be taking a mission trip this June (June 8-14) to Nashville, Tennessee. They will be working with City Service Mission (CSM). CSM is part of a well-respected nonprofit organization called The Center for Youth Ministry Training (CYMT). Like most mission trips, they will not have our exact schedule until a month or so before the trip. Our students are, however, planning to:

- Be given opportunities to have a conversation with someone experiencing homelessness
- Work in food distribution centers either by serving hot meals or serving at a food bank
- Experience a “Prayer Tour, Urban Exposure and Neighborhood Activity/Poverty Training”
- See and learn about Nashville with the Lord’s heart and eyes – to learn more about the history of the City, to learn about current issues that people of Nashville are facing, to learn more about social justice issues...

If you would like to learn more, visit the CSM site at <https://csm.org/>

## HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER

Our Youth is having both a silent auction and a live auction to raise money for their trip to Nashville in June! The auction is on Saturday, March 15 at The Grand Rapids Yacht Club from 6-9 pm. They are rolling out the red carpet and are excited to wine and dine us. They are preparing a wonderful hors d'oeuvres menu and gathering the best supplies to create moments of laughter at the photobooth. Dress is optional. Go casual or if you feel like it, fancy it up! What will be up for bid? Here are just a few things to be auctioned off:

Skydiving Jump in Grand Haven

Flyfishing 101

TerraTrike Recumbent Bike

Gift Baskets (Even a Charcuterie Gift Basket with a Gift Card to the Cheese Lady)

Homemade South Korean Dinner for 6, including Bulgogi and Kimchi

5 Different Bottles of Bourbon

Your Own Batch of the Famous Nancy McIntyre Consistory Cookies

Power Washing Services

Babysitting Services

Handyperson Services

\*If you have an idea or something you would like to give our Youth to auction off, please let Pastor Olivia know ASAP.

Although we do not require an RSVP to attend the auction, please click below to let us know if you plan to attend so we can be super prepared! You can also sign up at the Connection Center.

[Click Here if You Plan to Attend the HS Youth Auction](#)

## NORTH END COMMUNITY MINISTRY

**Food Pantry** – This month of March we are collecting **flour and toilet paper**. 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.

**Supper House** – Our next opportunity to serve at Supper House, which is located at St. Alphonsus Parish, is Tuesday, April 8, 2025 from 4:45 – 6:30 pm.

## NORTH END COMMUNITY MINISTRY cont'd

- **Thank You** – “Dear friends, thank you so very much for all your group did to make the NE Supper House Christmas Program a great success!! All the way from the cooks in the kitchen, the servers, the setup and cleanup crew, the donors of gifts and gift cards, and a great MC, Keith Boeve. THANK YOU!!! So appreciate ALL your support!! Blessings.”  
Laura Castle, Executive Director
- **Thank You** – “A huge thank you to the many of you who donated soup to North End Community Ministry (NECM) Food Pantry. Sunday night (February 23) our High School Youth Group delivered over 550 cans of soup and took a short informational tour. It was enlightening to the kids to see how we attempt to help those in poverty. This month we are collecting cooking oil but are also adding toilet paper as there is a serious need for it we learned Sunday night. Thanks in advance for your continued support as we help our neighbors.” -Keith Boeve



## KIDS HOPE/KENT HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

A huge thank you to this kind and generous church community for providing much needed snacks for the students at Kent Hills Elementary. I am so grateful for the many ways you continue to support them! I am also grateful for 2 more mentors (and prayer partners) starting this month. We now have 13 mentors making a difference!! There are more kids waiting for a mentor, maybe it's you!! 😊🙏

-Tammy Schollaart



### 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  
[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)

### **TAMMY SCHOLLAART**

Kids Hope Director  
Cell: (616) 260-3675  
[tschollaart@comcast.net](mailto:tschollaart@comcast.net)

### **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