

The Second Sunday in Lent

Third Reformed Church – Grand Rapids, Michigan

March 16, 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

Reverie

Claude Debussy

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Calling all who are hungry for the goodness of life!

The bread of life satisfies our hunger and thirst.

Come with empty pockets and open hands!

The bread of life loves us and knows our needs.

Let us gather from all walks of life,

celebrating in unity our common needs and singular purpose.

The bread of life has come to sustain us.

Believing this promise, let us worship together!

Please rise in body or spirit as we join in song!

 CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

Agnus Dei

Michael W. Smith

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God Most High,
who knows the highest heights and deepest valleys of this universe,
we confess we have limited your work because of our small thinking.
While you long for the bread of life to expand and nourish all creation,
our fears and worries keep us contained.
While you long to create kin(g)doms of peace and reconciliation,
we draw lines between us.
While you make space for everyone,
we worry about sharing too much or being too vulnerable.
While you search tirelessly for lost lambs,
we focus our concern inward on our own issues.
Forgive us for our small perspective,
and open our minds to the plans you have for our future. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

HANDBELL CHOIR

Jesus Loves Me

William Bradbury

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

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOD'S WORD

Luke 13:18-21 (NT pg. 66)

MESSAGE

Bread for Growth

Rev. Jeffrey Petersen

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

☒ CONGREGATIONAL SINGING **593** *The Gift of Love* GIFT OF LOVE

PRAYERS OF GRATITUDE AND LONGING

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

☒ CONGREGATIONAL SINGING *Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken* Mozart

☒ BENEDICTION

☒ POSTLUDE *I Will Sing of My Redeemer* HYFRYDOL

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
Eli Wicks, liturgist
Handbell Choir
Pam Lockwood, Director of Music
Praise Team
Josie Breukink, sound technician
AJ Arechiga, Head of Technology*

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



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be an informational meeting for the congregation regarding the budget following worship this morning. Consistory will present a sustainable budget and take comments.

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. Tammy Schollaart, thank you for caring for our little ones this morning and for your faithfulness. [Click here to sign up to help on a future Sunday](#)



CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

All children, ages 4 years through 5th 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).

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Next Sunday (March 23) we are celebrating the sacrament of baptism for Theodore Emerson Debowski and Josephine Violet Debowski, the children of Mike and Becky Debowski. Kent Fry, former pastor here at Third and the kids' grandpa, will be participating in the service.

THANK YOU TO OUR WORSHIP SERVANTS THIS MORNING

Bill Davidson – AM Coordinator

The Gebhart Family - Greeters

Edy Borgondy and Tim Breukink – Coffee and Cookies

NEXT WEEK (March 23)

AM Coordinator:

Bill Davidson

Greeters:

Dave and Deb Ames, Reggie Turner

Coffee and Cookies:

Volunteers Needed

UPCOMING GREETER SCHEDULE

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

June 1

The Maddox Family, Nancy Mc Intyre

June 8

The Plantenga Family, Bryan and Cheryl Hageman

June 15

Len and Dianne De Braber

June 22

Rog and Jane Bolhouse

June 29

Gary Graef and Kim Krause

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

NEW CONSISTORY NOMINATIONS

It's time for us to consider who God is calling to serve the church through the work of the Consistory. The Consistory is a group of 12 women and men who work alongside the pastor to provide leadership for our congregation. In making recommendations, you should consider people who reflect Christ-like love in the way they live their lives and engage with others. The Consistory is made up of 6 elders who provide leadership in the areas of worship, discipleship and pastoral care, and 6 deacons who provide leadership in the areas of justice and mercy, outreach and the care of our finances and facilities. You will find a nomination form in your bulletin this morning.

It can also be found by clicking here: [Consistory Nomination Form](#)

Please submit any names by Sunday, April 20, 2025.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

Our 2025 Lenten devotional, *Bread of Life Lenten Devotional*, is available in the Connection Center. Pick one up today!

The devotional can also be accessed electronically.

[Click Here for the Electronic Copy of the Bread of Life Lenten Devotional](#)

If you would like a copy mailed to you, please call or email the church office to let Lisa know.

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, Char Van Slooten, and Joan Vila.

EASTER FLOWERS IN MEMORY OR IN HONOR OF LOVED ONES

Would you like to purchase a plant(s), which will be in the sanctuary on Easter morning, in memory or honor of a loved one(s)? Pam Lockwood will be in the gathering space (near the church mailboxes) following worship next Sunday (March 23) and on March 30 and April 6 to take orders. She will be selling 6" daffodils, hyacinths and tulips - \$15 each and Lillies - one stem \$15 and two stem \$29 . Please plan to pay at the time of your order. Following worship on Easter morning, you may take your purchased plant(s) home with you. The many flowers and their beautiful colors and fragrance are heavenly in the sanctuary on Easter morning!



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THIRD THIS WEEK?

TODAY	Worship Service	10:00 AM
March 16	Children's Worship Offered Congregational Meeting Following Worship	
MONDAY	Senior Neighbors Tai Chi for Arthritis Classes	12:30 PM
March 17		
TUESDAY	Worship Planning Meeting	10:30 AM
March 18		
WEDNESDAY	Women's Bible Study	9:30 AM
March 19	Senior Neighbors Tai Chi for Arthritis Classes	12:30 PM
	Wednesday Night Connections – Dinner and Fellowship	6:00 PM
	On the Menu: Shepherd's Pie, Mac & Cheese, Irish Soda, Bread, Salad, Fruit and a Green Dessert!	
	Choir Rehearsal	6:30 PM
	Improv Class	6:30 PM
	Narcotics Anonymous	6:30 PM
THURSDAY	Take Charge Meeting (70x7)	9:30 AM
March 20	Devotional Discussion Group w/Pastor Jeffrey	10:00 AM
	Ele's Place Program	5:30 PM
SUNDAY	Worship Service	10:00 AM
March 23	Children's Worship Offered Sacrament of Baptism	
	Theodore and Josephine Debowski	
	Faith Forum and Children's Sunday School (2 nd Hour)	11:30 AM
	7/8 th Grade Youth Group	11:30 AM
	High School Youth Group	5:30 PM

SPECIAL DATES DURING LENT

March 19 – This Week!

Wednesday Night Connections - Meal at 6 pm

On the Menu: All things Irish! Shepherd's Pic, Mac & Cheese, Irish Soda Bread, Salad, Fruit and a Green Dessert.

March 20 and 27, April 3

Bread of Life Lenten Devotional Discussion Group with Pastor Jeffrey at 10 am

March 23 and 30

Group Discussion with Focus on *Bread of Life Lenten Devotional*

11:30 am – 12:15 pm (Faith Forum/2nd Hour Time Slot)

April 13 Palm Sunday

Breakfast from 8:30 – 9:45 am

Worship at 10 am

April 17

Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service at 7 pm – “a service of lights”

April 18 Good Friday

Worship with Communion at 12 pm in the Lounge



April 19 Easter Egg Hunt and Holy Pilgrimage

Community Event begins at 11 am

April 20 – Easter Sunday

Worship at 10 am

YOUNG AT HEART MEAL

Our next gathering is on Wednesday, April 2 at 12pm in the lounge. Details on what will be served will be coming soon. Cost is \$12. Please let us know if you will be attending by signing up in the Connection Center today or clicking this link:

[Young at Heart Luncheon April 2](#)

Also be sure to mark your calendar for May 1 when we will gather once again.



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.

CAN AND BOTTLE DRIVE (FUNDRAISER FOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MISSION TRIP IN JUNE)

Are you spring cleaning? Consider collecting all your returnable bottles and cans and dropping them off at the church - in front of the garage door in the parking lot. This drive is a huge help to our high school youth as they prepare for their mission trip this summer and lessens the cost for each student. Thank you Keith Boeve and Bill Davidson for returning the bottles and cans on a regular basis and reporting to the congregation how much money you collect for our youth each time.

NORTH END COMMUNITY MINISTRY FOOD PANTRY

- **Food Pantry** - This month of March we are collecting **oil** and **toilet paper** 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. Jesus taught that helping others is a way to show love for God. This church family no doubt pours out love for God by helping others in so many ways. Thank you! (Next month we will be collecting sugar for the Pantry.)
- **Supper House** – Our next opportunity to serve at Supper House, which is located at St. Alphonsus Parish, is on April 8. Be sure to save the date!



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

REV. OLIVIA STEWART-SHOEMAKER

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

JEN KELLY

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

PAM LOCKWOOD

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

LISA ROSKIEWICZ

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

TAMMY SCHOLLAART

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

THIRD REFORMED CHURCH

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