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## The First Sunday in Lent

Third Reformed Church – Grand Rapids, Michigan

March 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

*My Song Is Love Unknown*  
*Amazing Grace*

Michael Burkhardt  
Raymond Haan

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us gather together, hungry and thirsty.

Come, all who long to be filled with good things.

**The bread of life satisfies our hunger and thirst.**

Let us open our hands to receive from God's son,  
our brother and friend.

**The bread of life loves us and knows our needs.**

Let us quiet our minds and awaken our hearts  
to be transformed by God's Spirit, who redeems us.

**The bread of life has come to sustain us.**

**Believing this promise, let us worship together!**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, even though we choose to follow Jesus,  
live his way, and share in the bread of life,  
we confess we have overlooked the hungry in our midst.  
We confess it is easier to avoid people and places  
that demand our attention and resources,  
and go about our days turning our eyes from those in need.  
But Jesus shows us a different way – a way of sharing, a way of justice.  
Forgive us for the times we have looked away  
from those who are hungry  
and their needs for food, clothing, friendship, or anything else.  
Forgive us for neglecting our neighbors and our community.  
Help us be faithful to this calling.  
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

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

arr. Virgil Thompson

*My Shepherd will supply my need,  
Jehovah is his name;  
in pastures fresh he makes me feed,  
beside the living stream.  
He brings my wand'ring spirit back.  
when I forsake his ways;  
He leads me, for his mercy's sake,  
in paths of truth and grace.*

*When I walk through the shades of death,  
Thy presence is my stay;  
one word of thy supporting breath  
drives all my fears away.  
Thy hand in sight of all my foes,  
Doth still my table spread;  
My cup with Blessings overflows,  
Thine oil anoints my head.*

*The sure provisions of my God  
attend me all my days;  
oh, may thy house be my abode,  
and all my work be praise.  
There would I find a settled rest,  
while others go and come;  
no more a stranger, nor a guest,  
but like a child at home.*

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOD'S WORD

John 6:25-40 (NT pg. 85)

MESSAGE

*Bread of Life*

Rev. Jeffrey Petersen

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

☒ CONGREGATIONAL SINGING      *In The Cross of Christ I Glory*      Brian Moss

PRAYERS OF GRATITUDE AND LONGING

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

☒ CONGREGATIONAL SINGING **200**      *Lord, Who Throughout*      LAND OF REST

☒ BENEDICTION

☒ POSTLUDE      *Trumpet Voluntary*      Gordon Young

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*

*Len De Braber, liturgist*

*Elder Walt Lockwood*

*Pam Lockwood, Director of Music*

*Adult Choir under the Direction of Paul Boelkins*

*Praise Team*

*Brock Shoemaker, sound technician*

*AJ Arechiga, Head of Technology*

*Pat Burgess, organist*

## **THANK YOU TO OUR WORSHIP SERVANTS THIS MORNING**

AM Coordinator – Bill Davidson

The Coleman Family - Greeters

Jim and Karen Vanden Bos – Coffee and Cookies

### **NEXT WEEK (March 16)**

AM Coordinator:

Bill Davidson

Greeters:

Becky Gebhart and John, Lori, Christian and Cody Gebhart

Liturgist:

Eli Wicks

Coffee and Cookies:

Edy Borgondy and Tim Breukink

### **UPCOMING GREETER SCHEDULE**

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 Wouderberg

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.



### **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

There will be an informational meeting for the congregation regarding the budget on March 16 after worship. At that time 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. [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).

## **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**



## **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, Char Van Slooten, and Joan Vila.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE BREAD OF LIFE LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

When the world feels heavy, divided and uncertain, our hearts ache, minds seek peace and souls hunger for hope. In these moments, while many search for a way forward, the bread of life reminds us of abundance. There is enough love, grace and hope for all, a gift that Jesus gives freely so we may give to others. As we journey through Lent, from the wilderness to the shorelines of Galilee, we will find the sacred in the ordinary—like bread, simple yet essential. *Bread of Life* highlights how Jesus fed people—not just their bodies but their souls—with good news, redemption and stories of God’s kin(g)dom. From wedding feasts to eating with tax collectors to feeding thousands, people left Jesus’ presence with full hearts and bellies. This resource invites you to come and nourish your soul with the bread of life. Spend time each week reading the scripture and reflection. Ponder the provided questions or discuss them with someone in your home or your community. We hope this resource will be a simple invitation into the Lenten season and help create a memorable and meaningful Lent and Easter. -*Bread of Life Lenten Devotional* Contributors

Pick up a *Bread of Life Lenten Devotional* today in the Connection Center.

It 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.

## 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
March 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
March 10		
TUESDAY	Staff Meeting	10:30 AM
March 11	Worship Planning Meeting	11:30 AM
	Elder Meeting	6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY	Women's Bible Study	9:30 AM
March 12	Handbell Choir Rehearsal	11:00 AM
	Senior Neighbors Tai Chi for Arthritis Classes	12:30 PM
	Choir Rehearsal	6:30 PM
	Improv Class	6:30 PM
	Narcotics Anonymous	6:30 PM
THURSDAY	Take Charge Meeting (70x7)	9:30 AM
March 13	Devotional Discussion Group w/Pastor Jeffrey	10:00 AM
	Ele's Place Program	5:30 PM
SATURDAY	Auction at Grand Rapids Yacht Club	6:00 – 9:00 PM
March 15	High School Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser	
SUNDAY	Worship Service	10:00 AM
March 16	Children's Worship Offered	
	Congregational Meeting Following Worship	
	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



## SPECIAL DATES DURING LENT

March 9, 16, 23 and 30

Group Discussion with Focus on *Bread of Life Lenten Devotional*  
11:30 am – 12:15 pm (Faith Forum/2<sup>nd</sup> Hour Time Slot)

March 13, 20 and 27, April 3

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

March 19

Wednesday Night Meal at 6 pm

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

## HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER

Our high school youth is having both a silent auction and a live auction to raise money for their trip to Nashville in June! The auction is THIS Saturday (March 15) at the Grand Rapids Yacht Club from 6-9 pm. They are excited and are rolling out the red carpet. They have prepared a wonderful hors d’oeuvres menu and gathered the best supplies to create moments of laughter at the photobooth. Dress casually or fancy it up if you’d prefer.

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**

Because of recent trends and reassessment of inventory, we have been given a revised monthly list by The Pantry. Our congregation is one of twelve that focuses on just one item per month, ensuring that the pantry stays full. Here is the revised list so there is no confusion:

March	Cooking Oil
April	Sugar
May	Canned Tomatoes, Canned Mixed Vegetables, Baked Beans
June	Pasta Sauce in Jars
July	Canned Fruit, Raisins
August	Juice (64 oz. bottles)
September	Cereal, Crackers
October	Salad Dressing
November	Rice
December	Shampoo, Dish Soap
January	Flour
February	Canned Soup

This month we are collecting **oil**, as well as **toilet paper** which is currently in short supply. 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.

## **KIDS HOPE/KENT HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

We have an opportunity to bless the staff at Kent Hills by providing a meal for the staff during the Parent/Teacher Conferences on Thursday, March 13. The following items are needed to accompany the main dish of pulled pork, which is already provided: Coleslaw, chips, chip dip, buns, salad (in a bag) with dressing, dessert. There are approximately 30 staff members. Please use the sign-up link below. We need all items to the church by Thursday, March 13 @ 12:30 pm. If you would like to donate cash (in lieu of shopping for an item), Tammy Schollaart would be happy to shop for you!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10COD4CA4A82BA02-55574958-kent>



# 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**

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