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## The Second Sunday of Easter

Third Reformed Church – Grand Rapids, Michigan

April 27, 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

*The Strife is O'er  
I Know that My Redeemer Lives*

Hal Hopson  
Robert Hobby

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.  
**He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;  
he restores my soul.**

He leads me in right paths  
for his name's sake.

**Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil;  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff—  
they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord  
my whole life long.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going.

I do not see the road ahead of me.

I cannot know for certain where it will end.

**Nor do I really know myself,**

**and the fact that I think that I am following your will**

**does not mean that I am actually doing so.**

But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you.

And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.

**I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.**

And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road  
though I may know nothing about it.

**Therefore will I trust you always**

**though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.**

**I will not fear, for you are ever with me,**

**and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.**

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*

## **WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOD'S WORD

John 20:19-31 (*NT pg. 101*)

MESSAGE

*Passing Peace*

Rev. Jeffrey Petersen

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

✠ CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

*Step by Step*

Beaker

PRAYERS OF GRATITUDE AND LONGING

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

✠ CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

*Every Morning is Easter Morning*

Richard Avery

✠ BENEDICTION

✠ POSTLUDE

*Postlude: Fugue in C Major*

Dietrich Buxtehude

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*  
*Olivia Stewart-Shoemaker, Pastor of Spiritual Formation*  
*Deb Roden, liturgist*  
*Pam Lockwood, Director of Music*  
*Praise Team*  
*Brock Shoemaker, sound technician*  
*AJ Arechiga, Head of Technology*  
*Pat Burgess, organist*

## **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. We are in need of a volunteer to care for our little ones on May 25, June 1, June 8, June 15, June 22 and June 29. [Click here to sign-up if you can help on one of those dates](#)



## **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).

## **THANK YOU!**

We want to say thank you to Allison Teitsma as she concludes her time volunteering in Children's Ministry. Allison first started serving in that ministry area about 25 years ago and has been a faithful presence ever since. We are grateful for the generation of kids who grew in their knowledge of who God is, and who God made them to be through Allison's ministry. The spiritual formation of our youngest members requires patience, gentleness, curiosity and care. Allison has brought all those traits into the Children in Worship space, and our kids have been blessed through her. Please take the time to drop Allison a note or say thank you in person the next time you see her!

## **SAVE THE DATE FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!**

VBS 2025 is on the church calendar for July 28 -31. We will begin each of the four days at 9 am and conclude at 11:30 am. We will share more details as the date gets closer. Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors! Click here to register your child(ren) [Register for VBS 2025](#), or scan the QR code below.

**Register For VBS 2025**



**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**



Join us for a time of fellowship following the worship service and for a cup of coffee or punch and a cookie or two! We will meet in the fellowship hall, located at the end of the front hallway.

**FAITH FORUM (2<sup>nd</sup> HOUR)**

Join us today at 11:30 am in the youth room. David Wygmans will lead a discussion on “Apologies, Forgiveness and Other Difficult Conversations.” We will dismiss at 12:15 pm.

Be sure to also join us next Sunday (May 4) when Ava Coleman and Reggie Turner will share their faith stories!

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

- Bill Davidson – AM Coordinator
- The Crow Family – Greeters
- Laura Blauw and Nancy Zwart - Coffee and Cookies
- Melissa VanderLeek - Nursery & Little Lambs (Toddler Room)

**NEXT WEEK (May 4)**

- |                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| AM Coordinator:         | Bill Davidson             |
| Greeters:               | Steve and Lisa Roskiewicz |
| Liturgist:              | Eli Wicks                 |
| Coffee and Cookies:     | Jim and Karen Vanden Bos  |
| Nursery & Toddler Room: | Bill and Barb Hamlin      |

## UPCOMING GREETER SCHEDULE

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
July 6	Keith and Paula Boeve
July 13	The VanderLeek Family
July 20	Dave and Paige Hendrickson, Mark Dietrich
July 27	The Debowski Family

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

## YOUNG AT HEART (YAH)

Our next Young at Heart gathering will be on Wednesday, May 7 at 12 pm in the lounge. Art De Looft will be joining us. He is excited to share some of Third Reformed Church's history with us by way of personal stories and pictures. Chef Mark Dietrich will prepare a homemade lunch, which is SURE to be delicious! The suggested donation is \$12. If you plan to attend, let us know by signing up at the Connection Center or by [clicking this link](#)



The sign pictured above sat on this property as preparations were being made to build the very church you are sitting in today, which was built in 1968! This picture was given to us by Art, just one of many he plans to share and discuss with us.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THIRD THIS WEEK?

TODAY	Worship Service	10:00 AM
April 27	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
April 28	Pickleball for Everyone	4:30 PM
TUESDAY	Worship Planning Meeting	10:30 AM
April 29		
WEDNESDAY	Women's Bible Study	9:30 AM
April 30	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
May 1	Ele's Place Program	5:30 PM
SUNDAY	Worship Service	10:00 AM
May 4	Celebration of the Lord's Supper	
	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



Our annual spring church workday is Saturday, May 17 from 9 am – 12 pm. This is always a fun day to work and laugh in community. There will be indoor and outdoor jobs for people of all ages to help clean and spruce up the building and grounds. We'll have pizza at noon!

Sign up at the Connection Center or by [clicking this link](#) to let us know how many people (and therefore how much work) we can plan on!

## CHURCH WORLD SERVICE – REFUGEE SUPPORT

We are now three weeks into a wonderful partnership with the Alam Zai family of five from Afghanistan! Abdul, the father of the family, worked for 14 years as a cook for the United States Army in Jalalabad. They were granted refugee status because of the threat of Taliban retribution for his work with our military. The family arrived in Grand Rapids in December, but had their support eliminated when the Trump administration froze funding. The loss of Federal refugee resettlement grants meant that Church World Service went from 14 staff members to 3 in the Grand Rapids office. They have been able to secure rent assistance through June, but not much practical support. That's where we come in! There is a core team from Third that has met the family and is quickly building relationships. That group is Tom and Marjean Dooley, David Wygmans, Ingrid Baird and Pastor Jeffrey. There is also a larger group that is getting specific requests for assistance by email. If you would like to be added to that group, please let Tom or Jeffrey know. You can also join in praying for the family as they work to build a life in America. The family is:

Abdul (Ab-dool) - father	Asia (Ah-see-ah) - 10 year old girl
Shamin (Shah-mean) - mother	Hadia (Hah-dee-ah) - 8 year old girl
	Bahzad Ali (Bah-zaad Ah-lee) - 2 year old boy

## CHURCH ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CAP)

Third 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.

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.

## NORTH END COMMUNITY MINISTRY FOOD PANTRY

April is quickly coming to an end, and we have collected 159 lb of sugar this month! Thank you! In May, we will be collecting **Canned Tomatoes, Canned Mixed Vegetables and Baked Beans**. 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.





## May 2025

May 2	Edie VanderLeek	May 13	Bruce Neckers
May 3	Carl Anderson	May 13	Kate Swiftney
May 3	Ron Roden	May 13	Ben Wicks
May 8	William Kent	May 13	Eli Wicks
May 9	Abigail Ames	May 16	Marge Kemink
May 9	Brandon Slomp	May 19	Margo Taylor
May 10	Judy Nagel	May 20	Gussie Farris
May 11	Josie Breukink	May 23	Melissa VanderLeek
May 12	Steve Kemink	May 29	Lisa Roskiewicz
May 12	Allison Teitsma	May 30	Josh Teitsma
May 12	Mary Tjoelker	May 31	Art De Loeff
May 13	Nancy Halliburton	May 31	Sam Wilford

## Happy Anniversary

May 1	Len and Judy Nagel
May 7	Rob and Barb Teitsma
May 22	Paul and Mary Boelkins
May 30	Brock and Olivia Shoemaker
May 31	Jeffrey and Jen Petersen





## 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**

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#### **THIRD REFORMED CHURCH**

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