

Christmas Eve Worship

December 24—Christmas Eve

4:30 p.m. Festival of the Nativity

Traditional candlelight service incorporates narration, carols and tableaux illustrating the Nativity. The Junior Choir, The Glorious Voices, The Carol Choir will lead the Festival, as will many of Third Church's senior high youth.

8:00 p.m. Communion

The Chapel is the setting for this intimate service of Holy Communion with meditation by John Wilkinson and lessons and carols led by a small vocal ensemble.



11:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols in the Sanctuary

"Once in Royal David's City," led by children and joined by choir and congregation, opens this beautiful candlelight service which portrays in scripture and music the wondrous story of our Savior's birth. The Chancel Choir provides musical leadership for the service, which includes much congregational singing as well.

The service will be broadcast live on Christmas Eve at 11:00 p.m. on WXXI FM 91.5. We are grateful to both WXXI and SeniorsFirst/Valley Manor for this continuing outreach to the community.



Seniors*first.*

Third Presbyterian Church
4 Meigs Street
Rochester, New York 14607
585-271-6513 FAX 585-271-6910
www.thirdpresbyterian.org

Advent and Christmas 2007



Joy to the World!



Advent and Christmas 2007

at

Third Presbyterian Church



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Sunday Mornings

Advent I-December 2

John Wilkinson preaching at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.
"Advent Visions: Public and Personal"
Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14
Sacrament of Holy Communion at both services

Advent II-December 9

John Wilkinson preaching at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.
"Advent Visions: Continuity and Change"
Isaiah 11:1-10; Matthew 3:1-12

Deacon poinsettia delivery

Church School Chapel at 11:00am; Theme: "Advent Gifts"

Advent III-December 16

John Wilkinson preaching at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.
"Advent Visions: Present and Not-Yet Present"
Isaiah 35:1-10; Matthew 11:2-11

Laud to the Nativity, by Ottorino Respighi, will be presented during 10:45 a.m. this morning.

Christmas Baskets delivered this morning.

Advent IV-December 23

John Wilkinson preaching at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.
"Advent Visions: Surprises and Anticipations"
Isaiah 7:10-16; Matthew 1:18-25

December 30, 2007

John Wilkinson preaching at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.
"Christmas Visions: A Service of Lessons, Readings and Music"

Adult Faith Development Highlights

Sunday, December 2

- ◆ **Public Health and the Environment** 9:30—10:30 a.m.

This morning's Adult Faith Development program is a special presentation for children and youth by Kimie Romero, the self-described "Recycling Queen of Monroe County."

- ◆ **Alternative Christmas Market**
Wonderful Gifts... Do Justice.. Promote Mercy
9:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.

The traditional Third Church Alternative Christmas Market will take place this day. **Holiday shopping will benefit:** One World Goods, Worship, Music and Arts, Youth Ministry, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Corner Place, Hunger Team, Girl Scouts, Earth Keepers and new this year: buy a Kenya Farm Animal! Lunch will be offered by the Youth.

Sunday, December 9 9:30-10:30 a.m.

- ◆ **Special Advent Music: Respighi's *Laud to the Nativity***

Third Church and Chancel Choir member Scott Stratton-Smith will provide a preview of the special music for Advent by the great twentieth century Italian composer, Ottorino Respighi. Fans of his music will hear echoes of his unique style in this lovely pastoral piece, with text by Jacopone da Todi setting the scene at the manger. The Chancel Choir will present the piece the following Sunday, December 16, in 10:45 a.m. worship.

Thursdays, November 29—December 6, 13, 20 12:00 p.m.

- ◆ **Advent Lectionary**
This course will trace the trajectory of the classical Bible texts of the Advent season. The biblical texts for Advent 2007 are different from those of the last two years because there are three cycles in the Sunday texts. Led by members of the Pastoral staff. See texts in column to left. Reading texts in advance is recommended.

Sunday morning Adult Faith Development programming will resume January 6, 2008. The full year Adult Faith Development catalog can be found on the Third Church website, www.thirdpresbyterian.org/education.

Special Events

First Monday Evening Prayer: "Advent"
Monday, December 3 7:00 p.m.
This service will focus on Advent as a time of preparation and waiting for the coming of our Lord. John Wilkinson and Amy Stratton-Smith will serve as liturgists with musicians Scott Stratton Smith, *cantor*, Jeremy Stratton-Smith, *cello*, Susan Kieren, *oboe* and Sandy Gianniny, *harp*. Candle Lighters will be Jo Whang and Ellen Foster. Come for a time of prayer and meditation in the beauty of the Chapel.

Advent Potluck and "Ring and Sing"
Friday, December 7 6:00 p.m.
All Church Potluck Dinner in the Celebration Center. Bring a dish to pass that serves 8: main dishes, salads, vegetables and desserts are needed. At 7:00 p.m. join us for Advent "Ring and Sing" led by the adult handbell choirs of Third Church: Third Church Ringers, Celebration Ringers and Chapel Bells. This festive service will feature Christmas Carols performed by the bell choirs, as well as a time for congregational carol singing. R.S.V.P. to Dona Culhane at 271-6537, ext. 101 or dculhane@thirdpresbyterian.org.

Blue Christmas Worship Service
Monday, December 17 7:00 p.m.
This special Chapel service is offered as a way to provide comfort and care to anyone who is feeling "blue" during the holiday season. Led by Jamie Kenyon.

Christmas Baskets
Donate new children's underwear (sizes 4-14 for boys & girls). Place on Johnston Hall stage. **Please call the church office (271-6513) to sign up for basket delivery.**

- ◆ **Thursday, December 13 at 9:00 a.m.**
Sorting donations (Johnston Hall)
- ◆ **Friday, December 14 at 9:00 a.m.**
Sorting and buying needed items (Johnston Hall)
- ◆ **Saturday, December 15 at 9:00 a.m.**
Packing Christmas Baskets (Johnston Hall)
- ◆ **Sunday, December 16** will be our annual Christmas Food Basket distribution Sunday. Please check www.thirdpresbyterian.org/outreach for the items you are asked to bring on a weekly basis and for contact information.

Christmas Decorations *Deadline: December 16*
If you would like to make a donation to help support the cost of our Christmas decorations, please send your check to the church office marked "*Christmas Flowers*" and note clearly the names that should be included in the Christmas Eve bulletins.

Christmas Joy Offering *Received throughout Advent*
The Christmas Joy Offering provides tangible support to retired church workers who have faithfully served the church as well as to the eight Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges where the gifts of students are being developed.