

“...stewardship means our incorporation into the being and work of the One who came to serve and not to be served, the chief steward Jesus. If in our new identity as members of the body of Christ we find that we are orientated towards humanity and the biosphere, it is not because we are altruistic people; it is because the grace by which we are being grasped pushes us towards the world and enables us to begin to act like true servants and not hirelings – and not dominating managers either!”

Douglas John Hall

The Steward: A Biblical Symbol Come of Age

The Worship of God Palm Sunday

March 25, 2018

10:45am

WELCOME TO THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are grateful for your presence this morning. Third Church strives to be a faithful, open and inclusive congregation. We are a diverse people united by a common faith in Jesus Christ and by meaningful worship and service. We invite all who are seeking to live a life of Christian faith and discipleship to join us. If you are new to Third Church, the following information may be helpful.

Parking on Sunday Mornings: Street parking is possible on both sides of East Avenue. On Sundays, the Arnold Park parking lot is available for handicap parking only. Other parking is available in the Meigs Street parking lot and can also be found at:

- Jewish Community Federation (Sibley Place)
- American Association of University Women
- Rochester Area Community Foundation

In the event of a **Medical Emergency**, please notify an usher or staff member. An AED and first aid supplies are located in the hallway between the sanctuary and elevator.

Hearing Assistance: The Chapel and Sanctuary are equipped with induction loop systems. Use the "T-switch" of your hearing aid. If you have difficulty hearing during the worship service, please speak with an usher immediately.

An Elevator is located at the Parish House-Education Building junction to assist in accessibility.

Large Print Bulletins and Bibles are available from the ushers. Hymnals and Bibles are located in the pew racks.

Church School is available for children, preschool through sixth grade, during the 10:45am worship service.

Child Care is available all morning in the Education Building for infants and toddlers.

Pastoral Care needs and prayer concerns may be communicated to Martha Langford.

More about Membership: If you are interested in joining Third Church, or just want to know more, contact Lynette Sparks (271-6537, ext. 106 or lsparks@thirdpresbyterian.org). The next Exploring Membership luncheon will take place on Sunday May 6, at 12:00pm.

Newsletter: The Messenger is published monthly. Copies are available at the back of the Sanctuary, in the literature racks outside Johnston Hall and by the Arnold Park entrance, and on the church website. If you are interested in receiving the newsletter, contact Cindy Mark in the Church Office (cmark@thirdpresbyterian.org or 271-6513, ext. 100).

A WORD ABOUT THIS CHURCH

THIRD CHURCH participates in the Presbyterian Church (USA) Commitment to Peacemaking. Our intention is to pursue avenues of peace and justice for ourselves, our families and communities, for all people in the world in which we live. We seek to be agents of reconciliation.

THIRD CHURCH has joined with other Presbyterian congregations in declaring ourselves to be a "More Light" church. We are committed to the full participation of all persons in our church community without regard for sexual orientation, personal background or human condition.



www.thirdpresbyterian.org



@ThirdChurchROC



"Third Presbyterian Church"

THIRD CHURCH STAFF

John Wilkinson, Pastor

Martha C. Langford, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care

Lynette K. Sparks, Associate Pastor for Outreach and Evangelism

Ernest F. Krug, Parish Associate

Peter A. DuBois, Director of Music/Organist

Mary Ann Rutkowski, Associate Director of Music

Rebecca D'Angelo-Veitch, Coordinator of Children's Ministries and Congregational Life

Jane S. Carden, Youth Ministry Coordinator

Caroline J. Robinson, Assistant Organist

Roderic P. Frohman, Pastor Emeritus

OFFICE: 271-6513; VOICEMAIL: 271-6537

ext. 105

ext. 108

ext. 106

ext. 109

ext. 101

ext. 118

ext. 107

Preparation for Worship

We come to worship from a busy and noisy world. As we prepare to offer ourselves in praise and adoration of God, it is important that we step back from our preoccupations and focus our thoughts on God. We ask that you please silence or turn off all electronic devices. As the music begins this morning, please take time to become more aware of the continuing presence of God.

**Please stand as you are able, in body or in spirit.*

*OPENING ACCLAMATION

LEADER: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Hosanna in the highest!**

*PROCLAMATION of the ENTRANCE into JERUSALEM

Mark 11:1-11

NARRATOR: When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them,

JESUS: "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'"

BYSTANDERS

(CONGREGATION): **"What are you doing, untying the colt?"**

NARRATOR: They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

CROWD

(CONGREGATION): **"Hosanna!**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"**

NARRATOR: Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

*HYMN 196 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN
with the Third Church Ringers

*The hymn will be repeated until all have entered the Sanctuary.
Please wave your palm branches during the singing of the
refrain. Children process with One Great Hour of Sharing banks,
placing them in the baskets near the baptismal font.*

*UNISON PRAYER

We praise you, O God, for your redemption of the world through Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph and was proclaimed Messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Let these branches be signs of his victory and grant that we who carry them may follow him in the way of the cross, that, dying and rising with him, we may enter into your kingdom through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Following the children's message, children are invited to proceed to the education building for Sunday School. The nursery on the middle level of the education building is available for children age 3 and younger.

DISMISSAL of CHILDREN

(sung twice: once in unison, once as a canon, beginning with the pulpit side)

TALLIS' CANON

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way Through
this and ev - ery com - ing day, That in Your Spir - it
strong and true Our lives may be our gift to You.

text: Mary Jackson Cathey, 1986
music: Thomas Tallis, adapt. Parker's *Whole Psalter*, c.1561

WORDS of WELCOME

We ask that you sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to the person next to you in the pew. Please greet those worshipping with you at the close of the service.

(read responsively by verse)

ANTHEM “Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates” William Mathias

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up ye everlasting doors, and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates, even lift them up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

- Psalm 24:7-10

EPISTLE LESSON — Philippians 2:5-11

Pew Bible, NT page 197

LEADER: The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON “The Stewardship of Blessing” John Wilkinson

*HYMN 182 “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say” KINGSFOLD

*AFFIRMATION of FAITH *from “A Brief Statement of Faith,” Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. Amen.

THE PRAYERS of the PEOPLE
and THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRESENTATION of OFFERINGS

ANTHEM

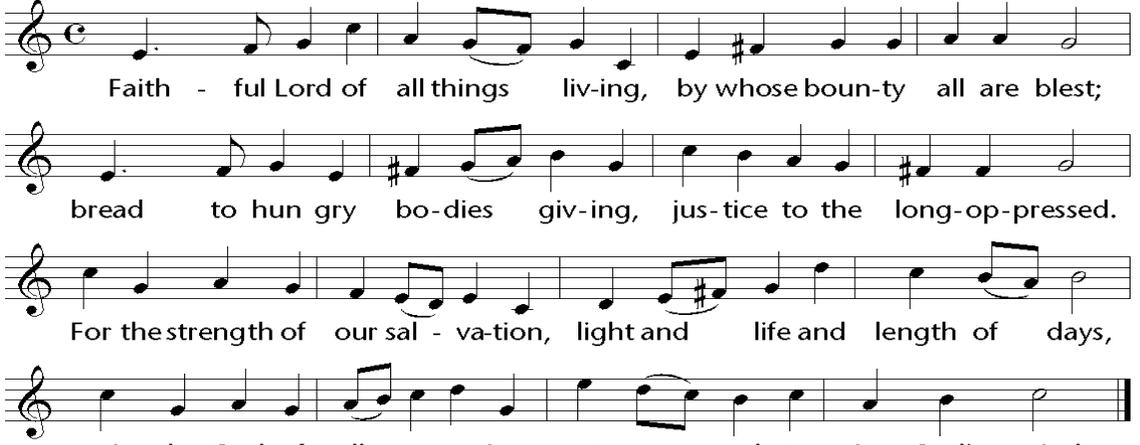
"Who Is At My Window, Who?"

Welford Russell

Who is at my window, who? Go from my window, go. Who calls there so like a stranger? Go from my window, go. Lord, I am here, a wretched mortal, that for Thy mercy does cry and call unto Thee, my Lord celestial See, who is at my window, who? Remember thy sin and all thy smart, and all for thee what was my part. Remember the spear that thirlit my heart, and in at my door thou shall go. I ask no thing of thee, therefore, but love for love to lay in store. Give me thy heart, I ask no more. And in at my door thou shall go. Who is at my window, who? Go from my window, go. Cry no more there like a stranger but in at my door thou go.

- from *Gude and Godlie Ballates*, Edinburgh 1578

*RESPONSE



Faith - ful Lord of all things liv-ing, by whose boun-ty all are blest;
bread to hun gry bo-dies giv-ing, jus-tice to the long-op-pressed.
For the strength of our sal - va-tion, light and life and length of days,
praise the God of all cre-a-tion, set your souls to sing God's praise!

Text: from the hymn "Praise the God of Our Salvation" by Timothy Dudley-Smith
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8.7.8.7 D
Tune: MEIGS ST.
Music: © 2004 Peter DuBois

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LEADER: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: **And also with you.**

LEADER: Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE: **We lift them to the Lord.**

LEADER: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

PEOPLE: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

ALL: **God of mercy and grace, we thank you for the trust we have in Jesus, for mercy underserved, for the love you pour out on us, and on all. Give us gratitude to serve you, by taking our cross and following in the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*HYMN 198

"Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!"

ST. DROSTANE

*CHARGE and BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

*GREETING

*POSTLUDE "Allegro" Charles-Marie Widor
(from *Symphonie VI, Op. 42*)

*The chancel flowers this morning are given in loving memory of
Frederick W. Swanton, Jr., brother of Fran Gotcsik.*

*The memorial prayer candle is lit in memory of victims of gun violence
everywhere, with our deepening commitment to work for peace in all
communities.*

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE:

- John Wilkinson..... Preacher
- Lynette K. Sparks, Ernest F. Krug Liturgists
- Eilee and Reese Ossont Acolytes
- Peter A. DuBois..... Director of Music/Organist
- Mary Ann Rutkowski Associate Director of Music
- Caroline J. Robinson Assistant Organist
- Ruth Sylvestre Rossi, Carol Roth,
- Miss Rickey Snowden, Tim Stout, Dot Wallace Greeters
- Sue Danielson, Dianna Daunton, Miriam Gale, Tom Gillett,
- Ann McMican, Gayle Phillips, Janet Stewart, David Tennant Ushers
- Deacons Parish H..... Coffee Hour Hosts

Easter Floral Decorations

If you would like to make a donation to help support the cost of our Easter decorations, please send your check to the church marked "Easter Decorations" and note clearly the names that should be included in the Easter bulletin.

For your convenience, you may also send your Easter flower names to Emily Blecksmith at eblecksmith@thirdpresbyterian.org.

I would like this gift to be:

- in loving memory of: _____
- in honor of: _____
- in celebration of: _____

The deadline for receiving NAMES (donations can be sent after this date) is Tuesday, **March 27**.



MINISTRY, SERVICE, AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

In Our Prayers

- **Lynn Lambert** on the death of her brother Ben Lambert.
- **Helen and Bob Edelman** on the death of Helen's sister Lois Tomlinson.

Sunday Seminar

Sunday, March 25, 9:30am in Johnston Hall
"The Relationship Between Church and State," led by Elizabeth Thorpe, Assistant Professor at the College of Brockport.

Growing in the Word

Sunday, March 25, 9:30am in the Parlor
"Introducing Exodus," led by Martha Langford.

Monday Night Yoga

Monday, March 26, 6:30pm, Johnston Hall
Join us for this free class!

Living Waters: Service of Wholeness

Monday March 26, 7:00pm, Chapel
Holy Week observances will begin with a Living Waters worship service tomorrow evening. This Service of Healing and Wholeness will include music and prayer and silence, scripture and reflection and introspection. At the heart of the service, participants will be invited to prayer stations where they may receive intercessory prayer by a pastor and anointing by a deacon. All are invited to come, and share in a space where we approach God with our concerns and our need for healing and wholeness.

Thursday Voices

Thursday, March 29, 12:00pm, Johnston Hall

"Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18:1-19:42," led by Martha Langford.

Holy Week Schedule

- **Monday, March 26**
7:00pm Living Waters Service, Chapel (details this page)
- **Tuesday, March 27**
9:15am Morning Prayer, Chapel
- **Thursday, March 29, Maundy Thursday**
7:30pm Tenebrae Service with Communion, Sanctuary
- **Friday, March 30, Good Friday**
8:45am Ecumenical Walk (details next page)
12:15pm Service of Prayer, Chapel
- **Sunday, April 1, EASTER**
6:30am Ecumenical Sunrise Service, CRCDS
9:00am and 11:15am, Festival Easter worship, Sanctuary

Stations of the Cross during Holy Week

You are invited to participate in an interactive Stations of the Cross prayer experience at ROC SALT (68 Ashland St).

The circuit is self-paced and available throughout the week: Monday - Thursday (March 26-29) from 9:00am to 12:30pm and 5:00 to 7:00pm; on Good Friday (March 30) from 9:00am to 7:00pm.

Tenth Annual Ecumenical Good Friday Cross Walk 2018

Friday, March 30, 8:45am

This event will begin with a short prayer service 8:45am at the Auditorium of the Aquinas Institute - 1127 Dewey Ave, Rochester, NY 14613.

The walk is approximately 1.5 miles long.
More information at www.grcc-fian.org.

Blood Drive at Third Church – Donate in Memory of Mary Sue Jack

Wednesday April 4, 1:00pm – 6:00pm

Johnston Hall

Celebrate life and make a difference by giving blood. For an appointment, please visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Spring Toddler Music Class!

Mondays, April 16 – May 21, 10:30am – 11:00am, CE 204

This six week class is for children 14 months – 3 years, with their caretakers.

Songs, movement, stories from scripture and rhythm instruments will all be a part of the experience each week!

If you'd like to join us, please contact Mary Ann Rutkowski at 271-6537, ext. 101 or mrutkowski@thirdpresbyterian.org by **Wednesday, April 11.**

Young Adult Fellowship (20s and 30s) Potluck Dinner

Friday April 13, 6:30pm, Johnston Hall

Join fellow young adults from Third Church for a casual potluck dinner and get-to-know-you event! This will be a fabulous opportunity to meet other young adults at Third Church in a relaxed setting. Drinks will be provided, please bring a yummy dish of your choosing to share.

During this time, we will also have the opportunity to learn about many existing outreach opportunities at Third Church, as well as brainstorm some new possibilities.

Please RSVP to Mary Ann Rutkowski (mrutkowski@thirdpresbyterian.org, 271-6537 x101) by Tuesday, April 10. Hope to see you there!

Thinking about Qabats

The Qabats program has been a cornerstone of children's ministry for 25 years. In that time, we have refined our programming and evolved to meet the needs of families.

We believe it may again be time to evolve, and we wonder if part of that evolution may be expanding beyond our traditional first to sixth grade model.

All members and friends including (but not limited to) families currently in the program are encouraged to fill out a short survey to guide us as we think about this program for next year and beyond.



Use your cell phone camera to access the survey via this QR code, or find the survey on the children's page of the Third Church Website.

Support Local Women and Girls

Church Ladies is joining Temple B'rith Kodesh (TBK) in their support of local women and girls. Buy supplies (pads and pantyliners, any size) to make emergency kits for women living in poverty.

For the month of March, bring in supplies and drop them in the wooden collection box outside Johnston Hall.

Join the Church Ladies on Saturday, April 28 from 9:00am -11:00am in Johnston Hall for a light breakfast (\$3/person to help offset the cost) and to listen to a representative from the PAD Project while we assemble emergency kits.

A New Small Group is Forming!

Are you seeking an opportunity to engage in some discussion with other members of the Third Church community, beyond the "hellos" of Sunday morning? This group will focus on the intersections of faith in life, utilizing various resources to facilitate conversation. The group will meet twice a month at Third. Suggestions for topics will be discussed with those interested, as well as the best evening to meet.

If interested, or for questions, email Dianna Daunton, ddaunton@rochester.rr.com

Young Adult Group News (20s and 30s)

Have an idea for a gathering? Want to stay informed of future YA happenings and events? Please contact Mary Ann Rutkowski (mrutkowski@thirdpresbyterian.org) with your e-mail address to stay in touch!

Junior Choir CDs Still Available!

Did you get a chance to purchase your copy of the Jr. Choir's latest CD, "So it is with the Spirit"? We have copies still available for purchase. They make great gifts and offer a different way to share Third Church with friends and neighbors. Contact Mary Ann Rutkowski (mrutkowski@thirdpresbyterian.org, 271-6513, ext. 101) to order, or stop by the office during the week. CDs are \$12 each, or 2 for \$20. Thank you for your support!

Calling All Gardeners!

Can you commit to one hour per week to help grow fresh, healthful vegetables for families in need? Volunteer with the Alison Clarke Community Garden to supplement the food at the South Wedge Food Program at the corner of Averill Ave. and Ashland Street. Contact Tracy Walker at tracy@walkermedia.net for a tour of the garden and a discussion of how you can help.

Find Us on Twitter and Instagram!

In addition to Facebook, Third Church is also on Twitter and Instagram at handle @ThirdChurchROC. Join the conversation!

New Ways to Donate Online

Donating to Third Church just got easier!

If you'd like to donate online, visit www.thirdpresbyterian.org, click on the "Give" tab on right under the banner at the top of the page, and select "Give Online."

From there you will find several ways to make a quick and convenient donation, whether it's recurring or one-time only.

Worship Recordings and Sermon Availability

Did you know that Sunday sermons and anthems can be listened to again via the church website?

Visit www.thirdpresbyterian.org, click on "Worship," then select "Sermons and Order of Worship" from the drop down menu.

Sermons are also available for viewing on the website; printed versions are available at several locations in the church.

Support Third Church When You Shop at Amazon

Amazon Associates is a program which pays referral fees to Third Church when an Amazon customer accesses amazon.com through the Third Church website.

Go to www.thirdpresbyterian.org and click on the Amazon logo on the homepage. Shop as you usually do, and Amazon will send a percentage of your purchase to Third Church. It's a great way to generate income for Third Church at no additional cost to you!