



“Although setbacks of all kinds may discourage us, the grand, old process of storytelling puts us in touch with strengths we may have forgotten, with wisdom that has faded or disappeared, and with hopes that have fallen into darkness.”

Nancy Mellon

**The Worship of God
Second Sunday of Advent**

December 9, 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. **Grades 1-3 will be at the worship table today.**

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

Pastoral Care: needs and prayer concerns may be communicated to Ernest Krug.

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 is **today at 12:00pm.**

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

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

OFFICE: 271-6513; VOICEMAIL: 271-6537

John Wilkinson, Pastor.....	ext 105
Lynette K. Sparks, Associate Pastor for Outreach and Evangelism.....	ext 106
Ernest F. Krug, Parish Associate	ext 108
Peter A. DuBois, Director of Music/Organist	ext 109
Mary Ann Rutkowski, Associate Director of Music	ext 101
Rebecca D'Angelo-Veitch, Coordinator of Children's Ministries and Congregational Life.....	ext 118
Jane S. Carden, Youth Ministry Coordinator	ext 107
Rachel Norton, Director of Stewardship, Development and Communications.....	ext 113
Alden Wright, Assistant Organist	
Roderic P. Frohman, Pastor Emeritus	

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 all electronic devices. As the music begins, please take time to become more aware of the continuing presence of God.

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

PRELUDE “Partita on ‘Freu dich sehr’” Georg Böhm
(based on Hymn 87)

INTROIT “Light of Hope, Light of Peace” Mark Patterson
Junior Choir

Light of hope, light of peace, you are just the light we need.
Shine for all the world to see: Christ is coming soon.

Light of hope, light of peace, promise of the love he brings.
Shine for all the world to see: Christ is coming soon.

LIGHTING of the ADVENT WREATH The Renauto Family

LEADER: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: **And also with you.**

LEADER: We light the second candle of Advent. We seek God’s comfort.
Both mighty and tender, God comes to us. Prepare our hearts
to be transformed by you.

Shine on us, O God of justice;

Guide our path through gloom of night;

PEOPLE: **Bear within us wisdom’s glory; come to us,
O Christ the light.**

RESPONSE

“Wait for the Lord”

(sing three times)

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

*HYMN 87

“Comfort, Comfort Now My People”

GENEVAN 42

PRAYER of CONFESSION

We need you to speak to us, O God, because we have, each in our own way, forgotten your law, forgotten your love for us. We are in need of your deliverance, because we have too often given ourselves to powers and practices that would destroy us. We are lost, in need of rescue.

Come, Lord Jesus; forgive us and restore us.

Come, Lord Jesus; guide us and deliver us.

Come, Lord Jesus; teach us and renew us.

Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy up on us.

Christ, have mercy up on us.

Lord, have mercy up on us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

LEADER: Friends, believe the good news.

PEOPLE: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

*RESPONSE

organ intro

Glo-ry be to God: Cre - a - tor, Christ, and
Ho - ly Ghost. As it was in the be - gin-ning, is now, and ev-er
shall be: World with-out end. A - men! — A - men!

Peter DuBois, 2007

ANTHEMS

“God So Loved the World”

Wayne L. Wold

Covenant Singers

Scott Stratton-Smith, *piano*

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that all who believe should never perish, but live forever. God did not send his Son for condemnation; God sent his Son so that all might be saved through him. God so loved the world...

“Keep Your Lamps!”

arr. André Thomas

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.
Children don't get weary 'til your work is done. Christian journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh. Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.

- *Spiritual*

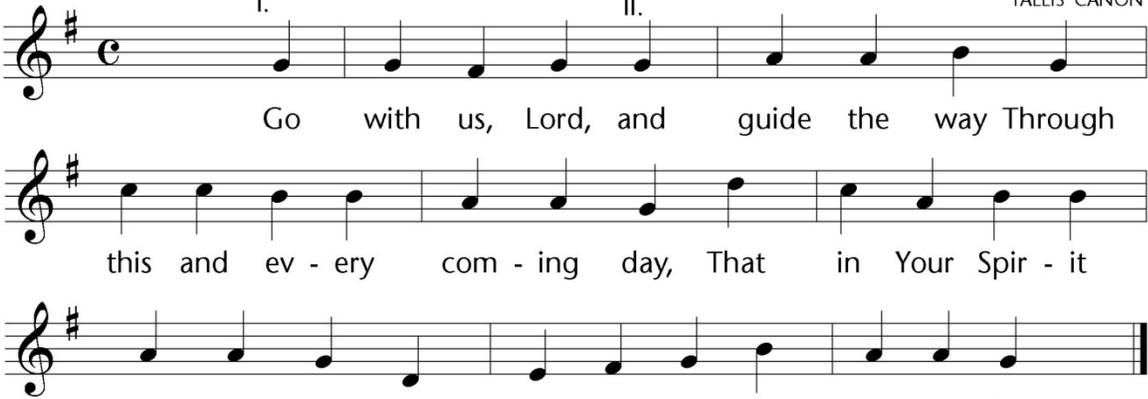
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*Following the children's message, school age 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 infants and toddlers. **Grades 1-3 will be at the Worship Table this morning.***

DISMISSAL of CHILDREN

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

I. II. 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.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON — Malachi 3:1-4

Pew Bible, OT page 889

LEADER: The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

Edward C. Bairstow

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and stand with fear and trembling, and lift itself above all earthly thought. For the King of kings and Lord of lords, Christ our God, cometh forth to be our oblation, and to be giv'n for Food to the faithful. Before Him come the choirs of angels, with ev'ry principality and pow'r; the Cherubim with many eyes, and winged Seraphim, who veil their faces as they shout exultingly the hymn; Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

- from the Liturgy of St. James

GOSPEL LESSON — Luke 3:1-6

Pew Bible, NT page 60

LEADER: The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON “John’s Story, Part I”

John Wilkinson

*HYMN 96 “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

WINCHESTER NEW

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

“Our Song of Hope,” Reformed Church in America

**We sing to our Lord a new song;
We sing in our world a sure hope:
Our God loves this world,
God called it into being,
God renews it through Jesus Christ,
God governs it by the Spirit.
God is the world's true hope.
Come, Lord Jesus:
We are open to your Spirit.
We await your full presence.
Our world finds rest in you alone. 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

“Arise, Shine!”

Joel Martinson

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and His glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord. Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

- Isaiah 60:1-5, 6b

*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
© 1984 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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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: **Faithful God, your promises stand unshaken through all generations. Renew us in hope, that we may be awake and alert as we watch for the glorious return of Jesus Christ, our judge and Savior, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*HYMN 88 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

VENI EMMANUEL

Stanzas 1 and 2 – All

Stanza 3 – Treble voices

Stanza 4 – Men's voices

Stanza 5 – Choir

Stanza 6 and 7 – All

*CHARGE and BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

*GREETING

POSTLUDE "Fugue in G minor," BWV 578

J. S. Bach

The chancel flowers this morning are given in loving memory of Beth Sinclair, sister of Kathryn Thomas.

The memorial prayer candle is lit in gratitude for infants born into the Third Church community, their families and all who care for them.

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE

John Wilkinson..... Preacher
Lynette K. Sparks, Ernest F. Krug, Mary DuBois..... Liturgists
Peter A. DuBois..... Director of Music/Organist
Mary Ann Rutkowski..... Associate Director of Music
Alden Wright..... Assistant Organist
Leah Ormaechea, Danielle Walker..... Acolytes
Clive Daunton, Bob Eames, Alison Gray,
Maryjane Link, Betsey Wheeler..... Greeters
Elmer Dustman, Hope Herting, Jeremy Peters, Gloria Pleger,
Jim Pochodylo, Don Schichler, Rebecca Schichler, Anne Sievers..... Ushers
Deacons Parish E (Yellow) Coffee Hour Hosts



MINISTRY, SERVICE, AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Advent 2018 at Third Church

Please see the December issue of *The Messenger* for further details.

Today – Second Sunday of Advent

- Worship at 8:30am and 10:45am, John Wilkinson preaching
- Sunday Seminar and Living in the Word, 9:30am
- Holiday Handbell Concert featuring the Third Church Ringers, Celebration Ringers, Covenant Ringers and Junior High Ringers. A reception will follow. 4:00pm, ROC SALT, Ashland and Averill, parking at Postler and Jaeckle

Monday December 10

- Advent Living Waters Service, 7:00pm, ROC SALT (see above for location and parking)

Wednesday December 12

- Intergenerational Qabats Advent Gathering. Our time together will include a shared meal and center on "The Story of the Nativity." \$10 suggested donation. 6:00pm-7:15pm

Thursday December 13

- Thursday Voices, 12:00pm

Sunday December 16 – Third Sunday of Advent

- Worship at 8:30am and 10:45am, John Wilkinson preaching
- Sunday Seminar and Living in the Word, 9:30am
- Special Music – *Gloria in D* by Antonio Vivaldi, 10:45am
- Junior Choir Cookie Sale, Coffee Hour

Wednesday December 19

- Intergenerational Qabats Advent Gathering, 6:00pm-7:15pm

Thursday December 20

- Thursday Voices, 12:00pm

Sunday, December 23 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

- Worship at 8:30am and 10:45am, John Wilkinson preaching
- Sunday Seminar and Living in the Word, 9:30am

Monday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

- Festival of the Nativity, 4:30pm, Sanctuary
- Communion Service, 8:00pm, Chapel
- Service of Lessons and Carols, 11:00pm, Sanctuary

A Rochester Festival of Lessons and Carols recorded at Third Church last January will be broadcast on WXXI 91.5 at 11:00pm on Christmas Eve or can be streamed at classical915.org.

This Morning's Sermon

Using the lens and life of John the Baptist, this morning's sermon seeks to explore two questions:

- What is the relationship between faith and politics?
- How do our faith commitments lead us to political action, and what happens when we disagree?

I will not attempt to answer these questions once and for all, but rather to suggest directions for us all to consider together. I hope to prompt discussion, even healthy and respectful difference of opinion, that will lead us to a deeper sense of understanding and commitment. – *John Wilkinson*

Sunday Seminar

Today at 9:30am in Johnston Hall

"Prayer," led by Beth Struever.

Sunday December 16: "The Story of Bethlehem Today," led by Susan Orr, Stated Clerk, Presbytery of the Genesee Valley.

Living in the Word

Today at 9:30am in the Parlor

Advent II: Philippians 1:3-11 and Luke 3:1-6, "What is repentance really all about? Stories of turning," led by Paul Gongloff.

Sunday December 16: Advent III: Isaiah 12: 2-6 and Luke 3:7-18, "How do our lives reflect the love of God? Stories of showing God's face," led by Dianna Daunton.

Exploring Membership Luncheon – TODAY

12:00pm in Johnston Hall

If you are new to Third Church we invite you to join the Exploring Membership Luncheon **today** at 12:00pm. You can bring all your questions, get to know our pastoral staff, and meet other folks new to this place. Our conversation is informal, and emphasizes the many ways to connect. Our luncheon conversation will conclude by 1:30pm. For those that are ready to join in membership, the next step is a New Member Gathering offered following the luncheon from 1:30-2:30pm, or can be arranged at another mutually convenient time.

Special Music – Next Sunday!

Sunday December 16, 10:45am Service

The Chancel Choir, Soloists and Orchestra will offer the sparkling and brilliant Baroque masterpiece *Gloria in D, RV 589* by Italian master Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741). Featured soloists include Heather Holmquest, Megan Graves and Caroline Nielson. Additionally, as Prelude that morning, Assistant Organist Alden Wright will be joined by the orchestra in the *Organ Concerto in F, Op. 4, No. 4* by George Frideric Handel. Two Baroque gems to inspire us as we continue our advent preparation for the birth of the Christ Child.

Support for Special Music presentations is provided in part by the Lois V. Parker Special Music Fund. A Special Music Offering will also be received that morning to fully fund this presentation.

Heartfelt Thanks

Thank you to all who have made a pledge to support Third Church in the year ahead. Your generosity and commitment are greatly appreciated.

As of this week, we have reached 74% of our pledge goal and 66% of our participation goal – a strong start!

If you have not yet made a pledge, don't worry, it's not too late! You can still participate by:

- Mailing your completed card to the church office
- Pledging online at bit.ly/pledgetothirdchurch
- Sending a confidential email to Carol Foster at cfoster@thirdpresbyterian.org

Every contribution matters, and no pledge is too small (or too great!). Thank you for sharing your gifts with us. You can still get an "I Pledged Today" sticker by contacting Rachel Norton.

Christmas Decorations

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 bulletin.

I would like this gift to be:

- In loving memory of:
- In honor of:
- In celebration of:
- A donation from:

The deadline is **Friday, December 14.**

Monday Night Yoga

Monday, December 10, 6:30pm
Johnston Hall

Please join us for this free class. All levels welcome.

Thursday Voices

Thursdays in Johnston Hall at 12:00pm

During Advent, we will explore the lectionary passages for the following Sunday. Come, engage the Word, and connect your story to the Advent and Christmas story.

December 13: led by Lynette Sparks.

Mission Trip Over February Break Information Session

Sunday December 16, 4:00pm
Celebration Center

We are planning a mission trip for youth and adults to the Texas Gulf Coast February 17-23, 2019. The purpose of this trip, which is sponsored by the Youth and Outreach Committees, is to assist with recovery efforts after Hurricane Harvey.

Join us on December 16 to:

- Find out about plans taking shape
- Talk to the trip planning group
- Ask questions

This information session is for youth, parents and interested adults. If you'd like to know more but can't be there on December 16, contact Lynette Sparks at lsparks@thirdpresbyterian.org or 271-6537, ext. 106.

Business Administrator Position

Third Church is seeking applicants for the position of Church Business Administrator. Please contact John Wilkinson for further information.

Volunteers Needed at the South Wedge Food Program

ROC SALT Center

Weekly opportunity: "Picker-Upper" This volunteer picks up bread and meat from the FoodLink warehouse at 1999 Mt. Read Blvd. Must have a vehicle (the bigger the better) and be able to help another volunteer load up at the warehouse and drive it back to the Pantry. Time Commitment: Two hours once a week on a Tuesday or Thursday morning.

One-time opportunities:

- Christmas basket giveaway on Tuesday, December 11: Preparation 9:00am-12:00pm; Giveaway 1:00pm-3:00pm
- Sorting food contributions from Episcopal Home collection on Thursday, December 13, 9:30am-12:00pm

To volunteer, contact Katie Jo Suddaby at southwedgefoodrochester@gmail.com.

Tutors Needed

We are still looking for a few more tutors to fill substitution spots and to work with those approaching middle school in fifth and sixth grades at School #35. If you are interested, contact School #35 tutoring coordinator Melanie Jones at mjones@thirdpresbyterian.org.

Current Food Cupboard Needs

BOXES OF CEREAL.

Wifi Password

If you would like to connect to the "TPC-Guest" network, the password is "WelcometoThird!"

Please note that the password is case sensitive.

The upgrade in wireless signal strength is part of the overall technology upgrade taking place here at Third Church.

Name Tags

The most recent name tag order has arrived. Please pick yours up in the church office.

If you would like to order a name tag, please contact the church office. We will place orders several times a year.

Help Us Build Community on Social Media

Calling all Facebook friends! If you haven't yet, please like and follow the Third Presbyterian Church Facebook page and *also* join the Third Church Community Facebook group. Because Facebook is such a powerful tool for ministry in the digital age, we are launching a more intentional presence on the platform to reach more people.

Now you have more opportunities to engage, reflect, and share than ever before. Updates to Third Church's Twitter and Instagram feeds will be next. Join us online at @ThirdChurchROC.

Additionally, if you are not on our email distribution list to receive weekly updates, please contact Cindy Mark at cmark@thirdpresbyterian.org.

Third Church Has Mobile and Online Giving

Donating has never been easier! Visit bit.ly/givetothirdchurch to give online.

On your mobile device, download the Give+ app, search for Third Presbyterian Church, and follow the instructions to make one-time or recurring gifts toward your pledge or special funds.

A Window Returns

When you're next in the Sanctuary, you'll see one of our stained glass windows has been repaired and reinstalled. *Nativity*, second in from the narthex on the Arnold Park side, is now structurally sound and newly polished. We are grateful to all who donated to the James P. Chisholm Stained Glass Fund, which enabled this restoration. Another window will be restored next year, and we will all have the opportunity to support that effort through the Chisholm Fund once again.

Your Holiday Shopping Can Help Third Church

Amazon Associates is a program which pays referral fees to Third Church when a customer accesses Amazon through our 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. This allows you to support Third Church at no additional cost to you. Note that, unlike Amazon Smile, this program only works if you click through the Third Church website first, but the extra effort is worth it because Associates creates more income than Smile does.

Sunday Morning Parking

Third Church aspires to be inclusive in many ways, including for those with mobility challenges. In order for worshipers to be able to use the ramp at the Arnold Park door, we have designated the ENTIRE Arnold Park parking lot for handicap access on Sunday mornings.

We know, however, that there are more with handicap access needs than there are spaces in the Arnold Park lot. If you do not have a blue handicap parking card or a handicap license plate, please do not to park there. If you are dropping someone off at the Arnold Park entrance, please continue through the driveway to our Meigs Street lot.