



**Third
Presbyterian
Church**

Seeking the Light

“We tell ourselves stories in order to live.”
Joan Didion

**The Worship of God
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

December 23, 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 adjacent to the Sanctuary, at the Arnold Park exit.

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. **The fourth and fifth grade class will be at the Worship Table this morning.**

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 will take place on **Sunday February 3, 2019 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



@ThirdChurchROC

"Third Church Community"

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	

RESPONSE "Wait for the Lord"

(sing three times)

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. The lyrics are "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near." The piano accompaniment has a bass clef and the same key signature and time signature. The second system also has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. The lyrics are "Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!". The piano accompaniment has a bass clef and the same key signature and time signature. There is a fermata over the final note of the vocal line in the second system.

*HYMN 143 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

REGENT SQUARE

PRAYER of CONFESSION

We are lost and wandering, O God, pulled apart from every angle, because we have each chosen our own way, forgetting the common good, the universal good, your true good. We are in need of a way back from the messes we make for ourselves, because we have too often rejected your way to true peace and true wholeness. We are lost, and we need Christ to come quickly.

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 mer - - - cy up - on us.

Christ, have mer - - - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - - - cy up - on us.

Peter DuBois, 2004

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

ANTHEM

“Nova! Nova!”

Michael Bedford

Junior Choir

Kathryn Wise, *flute*

Carline Nielson, *tambourine*

The angel, Gabriel, by name, Unto the Virgin Mary came, with joyful news
unto the same. Nova, nova! Tidings of salvation! Nova, nova! Tidings of
salvation!

Then said the angel, "Do not fear, I bring glad news for you to hear: You
will bring forth God's Son so dear." *Nova, nova...*

Then Mary looked unto the sky: "Be as it pleases God on high, whose
name my soul shall magnify." *Nova, nova...*

By her the Christ Child comes to earth, In Bethlehem to have his birth; let
all the world be filled with mirth! *Nova, nova...*

Nova, nova, nova!

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 infants and toddlers. The fourth and
fifth grade class will be at the Worship Table today.*

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.*

GOSPEL LESSON — Luke 1:39-56

LEADER: In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

PEOPLE: **And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."**

LEADER: And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.
The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

“Magnificat”

Herbert Howells

(Collegium Regale)

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. For He hath regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth, all generations shall call me blessed. For He that is mighty hath magnified me; and Holy is His Name. And His mercy is on them that fear Him throughout all generations. He hath shown strength with His arm; He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich He hath sent empty away. He rememb'ring His mercy hath holpen His servant Israel; as He promised to our forefathers Abraham and His seed forever. *(Canticle of Mary - Luke 1:46-55)*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

SERMON

“Mary’s Story”

John Wilkinson

*HYMN 99

“My Soul Gives Glory to My God”

MORNING SONG

*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

In addition to our regular offering, we will receive gifts for the Christmas Joy Offering. This special offering provides assistance to church workers in their time of need and develops future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Envelopes are located in the pew racks.

ANTHEM

"The Best of Rooms"

Randall Thompson

Christ, He requires still, wheresoe'er He comes, To feed, or lodge, to have the best of rooms: Give Him the choice; grant Him the nobler part Of all the house: the best of all's the heart.

- Robert Herrick, "Christ's Part" (1647)

*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 grace, your eternal Word took flesh among us when Mary placed her life at the service of your will. Prepare our hearts for his coming again; keep us steadfast in hope and faithful service, that we may receive the coming of his kingdom. Amen.**

***HYMN 347** "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

PICARDY

***CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

***GREETING**

POSTLUDE "Vom Himmel hoch da komm ich her"
(From Heaven Above to Earth I Come, Hymn 111)

Johann Pachelbel

The chancel flowers this morning are given in loving memory of Shirley Mitchell Moore, beloved wife of James Moore and mother of Jennifer Moore Stahlkrantz, and James, David and Eliza Moore.

As we prepare to welcome again the birth of the Christ child, the memorial prayer candle is lit in solidarity with all those for whom this season presents hardships and challenges, particularly those who mourn. May they be comforted and know peace.

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE

John Wilkinson Preacher
Lynette K. Sparks, Ernest F. Krug, Katie Orem.....Liturgists
Peter A. DuBois..... Director of Music/Organist
Mary Ann RutkowskiAssociate Director of Music
Alden Wright.....Assistant Organist
Natalie Derthick and Jennifer SchafrathAcolytes
Rick Elliott, Sheila Elliott,
Carol Roth, Miss Rickey Snowden, Tim Stout..... Greeters
Sue Danielson, Dianna Daunton, Miriam Gale, Tom Gillett,
Ann McMican, Gayle Phillips, Janet Stewart, David Tennant Ushers
Stewardship Committee Coffee Hour Hosts

Third Church Staff

John Wilkinson	Pastor
Lynette K. Sparks	Associate Pastor for Outreach and Evangelism
Ernest F. Krug	Parish Associate
Roderic Frohman	Pastor Emeritus
Peter A. DuBois	Director of Music/Organist
Mary Ann Rutkowski	Associate Director of Music
Alden Wright	Assistant Organist
Rebecca D'Angelo-Veitch	Coordinator of Children's Ministry and Congregational Life
Jane Carden	Coordinator of Youth Ministry
Rachel Norton	Director of Stewardship, Development and Communications
Carol Foster	Church Business Administrator
Lisa Cramer	Assistant to the Church Business Administrator
Cindy Mark	Office Administrator
Emily Blecksmith	Pastoral Administrator
Deb Bishop	Tutoring Coordinator for School #3 and East High
Melanie Jones	Director of Arts and Enrichment, Tutoring Coordinator for School #35
Joey Becerril	Sexton
Terdaryle Paige	Sexton
John Pilato	Lead Sexton



MINISTRY, SERVICE, AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Christmas Eve at Third Church

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 online at classical915.org.

The Sunday After Christmas and Epiphany

Sunday, December 30, First Sunday after Christmas

One Worship Service at 10:45am, Sanctuary
Join us for a service of lessons, readings and carols.

Sunday January 6, Epiphany Sunday

We will resume our regular 8:30am and 10:45am worship schedule.

2018 Christmas Joy Offering Through the end of December

This special offering provides assistance to church workers in their time of need and develops future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Envelopes will be available in the pews.

Sunday Seminar

Today at 9:30am in Johnston Hall

"The Christmas Pageant (A Reading)," led by Mary DuBois.

Sunday January 6: "RAIHN," led by Lou Loggi and Laurie Mahoney.

Living in the Word

Today at 9:30am in the Parlor

Advent IV: Hebrews 10:5-10 and Luke 1:39-45,
"Our songs of praise for what God has done.
Stories of praise," led by Ernest Krug.

Sunday January 6: Matthew 2:1-12 and Ephesians 3:1-12, "Journeys in the unknown. Stories of following God's path," led by Paul Gongloff.

The Season of Giving

It's time to wrap up this year and prepare for the next. Third Church is excited to build on all we've accomplished in 2018, and we would be grateful for your help. We are incredibly thankful for the number of individuals and families who have already pledged to support Third Church in 2019. An additional donation to Third Church made before December 31, 2018 could greatly enhance our financial outlook, and, in light of changing tax laws, may be beneficial to you as well. Some options for making a gift include:

- Giving from your IRA (if you are 70.5 or older); your donation helps to fulfill your Minimum Required Distribution and is not considered taxable income.
- Naming Third Church as a beneficiary of your retirement plan assets; these assets are tax-free when donated to a nonprofit. Consult your tax advisor if you are considering this method.
- Writing a check payable to Third Presbyterian Church and returning it to the church office, or giving online at bit.ly/givetothird

As you plan the final moments of your 2018, please consider making a year-end donation to Third Church.

Pledge Card Envelope Pick-Up

For those who requested envelopes with their 2019 Stewardship pledge cards, your envelopes are ready to be picked up. They are on the white table by Johnston Hall in alphabetical order. Thank you.

Thank You for Providing Christmas Baskets

Thank you to each of you who purchased, packed, and delivered a Christmas basket to a family in need from Schools #3 and #35 or from RAIHN. On December 15, we delivered 82 Christmas baskets filled with food and more. Thank you also for your contributions of money for Aldi gift cards, and for socks, undies, tights, hats and mittens for children. We appreciate your generosity!

Monday Night Yoga

Mondays, 6:30pm
Johnston Hall

Yoga resumes January 7.

Thursday Voices

Thursdays in Johnston Hall at 12:00pm

Thursday Voices resumes January 3.

In January we will read a range of contemporary articles that touch on matters of faith and life. Copies of the articles are available in the literature rack adjacent to Johnston Hall.

Church Ladies Zumba and Potluck

Friday January 4, 5:30pm-8:00pm

Start 2019 right with an evening of Zumba!

We will gather in Johnston Hall, then move to the top floor of the education building to get moving with some Zumba led by our own Melanie Jones, followed by food and fellowship back in Johnston Hall. No prior experience is needed—all are welcome and no rhythm required! Party your way into the New Year with fellowship and fitness. Please wear flexible sneakers and bring water and a salad ingredient for our shared meal. So that we can get a sense of numbers, please RSVP to Becky D'Angelo-Veitch at rveitch@thirdpresbyterian.org or 271-6537, ext. 118.

Intergenerational Qabats

Wednesday January 9, 6:00pm

The first Qabats intergenerational gathering of the year is on the second Wednesday of January and will focus on Epiphany. So that we can get a sense of numbers, it is helpful, though not required to RSVP by Monday, January 7 to Becky D'Angelo-Veitch, rveitch@thirdpresbyterian.org.

Christmas in January!

Come and Sing Carols for the Christmas Lessons & Carols recording for 2019 **Saturday, January 12, from 1:00 – 2:30pm in the Sanctuary**. All members and friends of the congregation are invited to participate in a Christmas Lessons and Carols recording that the Chancel Choir and liturgists will be making in collaboration with WXXI. This recording will be broadcast locally on Christmas Eve 2019, and around the nation during the Christmas season! We hope to gather a "congregation" – as many people as possible. We'll sing traditional Christmas carols, and hear the readings we typically do on Christmas Eve. Join us for this event to help share the Good News of Christ's birth in 2019! Invite a friend!

Calvin Guild

Wednesday, January 16, 12:00pm
Johnston Hall

RAIHN: 15 Years of Serving the Homeless in Rochester

Cost is \$8 for a simple soup and sandwich lunch. Please RSVP to Dot Wallace (dpiercewallace@gmail.com) no later than Friday, January 11.

February Break Mission Trip

We are planning a mission trip for youth (ages 14 and older) 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. If you missed the information session on December 16, but are still interested in knowing more, please contact Lynette Sparks at lsparks@thirdpresbyterian.org or 271-6537, ext. 106 as soon as possible.

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 Center. Time Commitment: Two hours once a week on a Tuesday or Thursday morning.

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. Bins are located throughout the church.

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. Cost is \$10.50 each. 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.

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.