

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

February 24, 2008

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

*Let the first note of the prelude be a call for
personal meditation in preparation for worship*

THE APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE Oh, How I Love Jesus arr. by Linda R. Lamb, USA

INTROIT Rudolf Lagi, Finland

I lift my eyes to you, God on high, in prayer my hands now are folded.

O God of life, friend of every child, receive my love and uphold it.

—Psalm 121, transliteration by John L. Runeberg, Finland

VOTUM

SENTENCES (*responsively*)

Come to the Lord, who is rich in grace;
approach our God, who is full of mercy.

**We will praise God with all our heart
and glorify the name of the Most High forever.**

SALUTATION

+*HYMN OF PRAISE *Hymns, Songs & Spiritual Songs* 464

For the Beauty of the Earth

Tune: DIX

*PRAYER (*responsively*)

O Christ, Savior, like the seed fallen to the ground,
you suffered death.

United to you, our lives will bear much fruit.

We praise you, Lord.

O Christ, you went down to the lowest point of human condition;
you remain close to all who are abandoned.

We praise you, Lord.

In your love you took upon yourself our sins;
innocent, you accepted death to free us from death.

We praise you, Lord.

By your love you conquered evil and hatred,
and you live forever at the Father's side.

We praise you, Lord.

You listen to us in your goodness,
and you visit us in our misfortune;
fill our hearts to overflowing by revealing
to us the light of your face.

We praise you, Lord. Amen

*PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

(congregation may exchange the Peace)

SOLO Adagio from Concerto in C minor Benedetto Marcello, Italy

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*responsively*)

O Lord, you desire truth in our inward being;

teach us wisdom in our secret heart.

Send out your light, send out your truth,

and let them lead us to our home.

Take from us the weight of our sin,
that room might be made for the spirit of truth.
If we prepare a dwelling place, that spirit will abide within us,
and the truth will set our spirits free.
Then shall we love not only in word or in speech;
then shall we love in deed and in truth,
and by this know that our service is faithful.
O Lord, you desire truth in our inward being;
teach us wisdom in our secret heart. Amen.

KYRIE *Sing! A New Creation 54*

Kyrie. **Kyrie.** Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Christe. **Christe.** Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Kyrie! **Kyrie.** Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Kyrie, **Kyrie,** eleison. **eleison.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE *Sing! A New Creation 68* Your Mercy Flows

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS AND THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION (11:00)

VOWS

*CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed (*in unison*)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

WELCOME AND PRAYER FOR BLESSING

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (*responsively*)

Do you promise to instruct these children
in the truth of God's word,
in the way of salvation through Christ;
to pray for them and their families, and to teach them to pray;
and to train them in Christ's way
through worship and service in the church?

We do.

Do you promise to demonstrate
Christian faith to these children:
through your work and play;
by the words you say;
in practicing hope, justice, and peace;
and in the education and nurture of the church?

We do.

Will you seek to learn from Jacob, Jack, Timothy, and Jonah and all children in our church:
How to look at the world through new eyes,

How to confidently and completely trust someone,
How to cry in God's presence, and
How to give forth perfect praise to God?
Yes, with the help of God.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CALL TO NEW OBEDIENCE

CHILDREN'S GATHERING AND DISMISSAL TO WORSHIP CENTERS

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Exodus 17:1-7 p. 64
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON: John 4:1-15 p. 94
This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

*HYMN OF PREPARATION *Hymns, Psalms, & Spiritual Songs* 76
My Song Is Love Unknown Tune: LOVE UNKNOWN

SERMON "The Character of Christ"

SILENT PRAYER AND REFLECTION

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *(in unison)*

**During his whole life on earth,
but especially at the end,
Christ sustained
in body and soul
the anger of God against the sin of the whole human race.
This he did in order that,
by his suffering as the only atoning sacrifice,
he might set us free, body and soul,
from eternal condemnation,
and gain for us God's grace,
righteousness, and eternal life.**

—Heidelberg Catechism, Q & A 37

*GLORIA PATRI *Hymns, Psalms, & Spiritual Songs* 579 Gloria Patri

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY AND FELLOWSHIP

SIGNING OF THE FRIENDSHIP FOLDER

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY Ah, Holy Jesus Susan Ullom Hungerford, USA

ANTHEM

Robert Buckley Farlee, USA

O blessed spring, where Word and sign
Embrace us into Christ the Vine,
Here Christ enjoins each one to be
A branch of this life giving Tree.

Through summer heat of youthful years,
Uncertain faith, rebellious tears,
Sustained by Christ's infusing rain,
The boughs will shout for joy again.

When autumn cools and youth is cold,
When limbs their heavy harvest hold,
Then through us, warm, the Christ will move
With gifts of beauty, wisdom, love.

As winter comes, as winters must,
We breathe our last, return to dust;
Still held in Christ, our souls take wing
And trust the promise of the spring.
—Susan Palo Cherwien

*DOXOLOGY *Hymns, Psalms, & Spiritual Songs* 592

Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*in unison*)

**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.**

*HYMN OF DEDICATION *Sing! A New Creation* 238

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters Tune: BEACH SPRING

*SUNG BENEDICTION

Chilean folksong, arr. by John L. Bell, Scotland
(*sung twice by choir and congregation*)

**Sent by the Lord am I; my hands are ready now
to make the earth the place in which the kingdom comes.**

**Sent by the Lord am I; my hands are ready now
to make the earth the place in which the kingdom comes.**

**The angels cannot change a world of hurt and pain
into a world of love, of justice and of peace.**

The task is mine to do, to set it really free.

Oh, help me to obey; help me to do your will.

—Jorge Maldonado, Ecuador
+Latecomers will be seated.

*Those who are able may stand.

Worship Leaders: Dr. Richard Bates, preaching; Rev. Kama Jongerius, liturgist; Gayle Wilson, prayer for illumination; Sarah Southard, oboe; Handbell Choir; Matins Choir; Sanctuary Choir; Linda Strouf, Minister of Music.

TODAY

We welcome all who worship with us and ask visitors and members to sign the Friendship Folders so that we may get to know one another.

Please join us in the Gathering Place for refreshments and fellowship after the worship service.

We joyfully welcome the following members into our Christian faith community this morning: Lorene Duin; Robert and Edna Gallup; John Green; Mark, Becky, Olivia, Elliot, and Ethan Husbands; Robert and MaryAlice Ritsema; and Joe, Jane, Jonah, and Timothy Vandermeer. There will be a receiving line after the worship service where you may greet these new members.

Receiving the sacrament of baptism this morning are Jack Richard, son of Dan and Kate Bolt; Jacob Justus Vriend, son of Jon and Deb Van Duinen; and Jonah David and Timothy James, sons of Joe and Jane Vandermeer. We welcome them with joy into our covenant community.

FOR THOSE WHO DESIRE PRAYER for yourself and others, Lee and Milly Ten Brink will be available to pray with you following today's worship services. Please make your way to the Place of Prayer following the service (located in the south hallway on the main level).

ASSISTING TODAY: Greeters – (8:30) Edgar Lampen, George Lievense; (11:00) Ryan, Leslie, Emma, William, and Caroline Baker, Dennis and Nancy Gebben, Brett, Karen, Sam, Annika, and Owen Holleman; Ushers – Charles and Lois Hunt; Deacons – (8:30) John Ruiter, Jeff Beird; (11:00) Lynne Bonnette, Bekah Schipper, Linda Jacobs, Jay Mosterd; Refreshment Servers – Ron and Gloria South.

CHILD CARE is available in the nurseries during the worship service. Attendants: Susie Vander Kolk, Andy Zoerman, Karin Ashcroft.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 9:40-10:40 a.m., nursery care available

3 year olds	nursery	4 & 5 year olds	room 15
Kindergarten & 1 st	room 6	2 nd grade	room 8
3 rd grade	room 9	4 th grade	room 10
5 th grade	room 7	6 th , 7 th , & 8 th grade	room 11

HIGH SCHOOL/ADULT CLASS, 9:40-10:40 a.m., Nooma Video Series, Youth Room.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES, 9:40-10:40 a.m., "Jeremiah and Christians Today" led by Mark Walvoord in the chapel. Next Week: "Our Song of Hope" led by Gene Heideman.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: Children 4 years through 2nd grade will be ushered from the sanctuary during the worship service to continue worship in the Worship Centers on the lower level.

THE CHURCH STAFF

Interim Pastor	Richard Bates
Minister of Congregational Life	Kama Jongerius
Calling Pastor	William Unzicker*
Coordinator of Congregational Care	Delores Bechtel*
Minister of Music	Linda K. Strouf*
Director of Children's Ministries	Marcia Floding*
Youth Director	Nate Schipper
Young Disciples Director	Michelle Millen*
Seminary Intern	Mark Reynoso, David Ryder*
Children's Choir Director	Mary Van Voorst*

Secretaries	Kristen Beckner, Carol Ter Beek*
Custodian	Mark Faga
Kitchen Coordinator	Judy Bosch*
Treasurer/Interim Administrator	Harvey J. Buter*
Recording Treasurer	Delwyn Van Dyke*
Archivist/Historian	Elton J. Bruins*
Minister of Music Emeritus	Roger J. Rietberg

*indicates part time staff

THIRD REFORMED CHURCH

111 West 13th Street, Holland, Michigan 49423
 (616) 392-1459 - Fax (616) 392-8412

E-mail: HYPERLINK "mailto:trc@freenet.macatawa.org" trc@macatawa.org

Website: www.trcholland.org

CareLine: (616) 393-5574 or (800) 937-5774

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. Matins Choir
 9:15 a.m. Youth Choir
 9:40 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Children's Choir
 12:15 p.m. College Group
 6:00 p.m. L.I.F.T. Groups

MONDAY

7:00 p.m. Women's Ministries Board

TUESDAY

9:15 a.m. Staff Meeting
 5:45 p.m. Parish Elders
 7:00 p.m. Consistory
 7:15 p.m. Singles Outing at Dimnent Chapel
 8:15 p.m. Elders
 8:15 p.m. Deacons

WEDNESDAY

6:15 a.m. Men's Bible Study
 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Saints
 8:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Prayers
 5:50 p.m. TASC Dinner
 6:45 p.m. TASC Classes
 6:45 p.m. Middle School Youth Group
 6:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. Special Education Ministry

FRIDAY

9:00 a.m. Newsletter Assembly

PERSONAL

Share your prayer concerns by using the prayer request cards found in the Friendship Folders. Place the requests in the offering plate or prayer box at the back of the sanctuary. Please remember in prayer those in the hospital and in care facilities.

SYMPATHY is extended to Sue and Tom Ten Hoeve in the death of Sue's brother, Rev. James Underwood, on February 10 in Chenoa, Illinois.

SYMPATHY is extended to Norm and Sherrill Ball in the death of Norm's mother, Jane Ball, on February 14 in Grand Rapids.

CONGRATULATIONS to Lois Van Oosterhout whose 96th birthday is today.

CONGRATULATIONS to Dick and Jean Walvoord whose 67th wedding anniversary is Thursday.

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT: Holland Hospital – Marian Vande Bunte, Bill Segrist; Spectrum Downtown – Lois Van Oosterhout. Out of Town – Jo Rediger, 2304 Versailles Ct., Rockwall, TX 75032; Elisabeth Ten Zythoff, 1750 W. Bennett St. #3A, Springfield, MO 65807; Home – Jan Bosch, Gerry Tillema. In the Military – Christine Loman, David Mummert, Tom Piaget, Mark South, Joel Zuidema.

GENERAL ITEMS

Please join us in Fellowship Hall following both services for a reception in honor of the ministry of Dr. Bates at Third Reformed Church for the past two years.

The Bolt, Vandermeer, and Van Duinen families would like to thank you for the roles you play in the lives of their children. Please enjoy cake and coffee immediately following the 11:00 a.m. service.

Be sure to pick up your copy of this week's "Taking Faith Home" bulletin. They can be found at the West entrance to the sanctuary and on the literature table in the Gathering Place.

Consistory has issued a call to the Reverend Kent Fry to be our Senior Pastor and he has accepted. It would be encouraging to Kent and Joyce if you would send them a note and let them know we are looking forward to their coming to share our life together. Kent and Joyce Fry, 2000 Michigan St. NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503, kfry@thirdreformedchurchgr.org.

ALL CHURCH RETREAT: March 7-9, at Timberwolf Lake Resort. The theme this year is, "We're all in this together." Mark Reynoso is our camp speaker and a couple seminary students will lead music. As always, the camp has activities for all ages: sledding hill, gym, game room, climbing wall, and plenty of space to relax. Cost is \$75/adult, \$37.50/child (4-12), 3 and under free, with maximum family cost of \$200. The adult guest lodge is \$150 per person. Come join us for a great weekend and don't forget to check out the bus info. Sign ups end soon, so see us today or bring your reservation to the church office.

BUS RIDE to the retreat! We've rented a comfortable 55 passenger bus. No worries about the weather or pit stops (the bus has a bathroom!) so pack some supper, grab a book, your family, your friends, a headset, or a pillow and get on board. If the fun and fellowship isn't enough how about the great price of only \$10.00 a person (cheaper than filling up the minivan!). The bus will leave church at 4:30 p.m. on Friday and return around 2:00 p.m. on Sunday. We've got plenty of room, so sign up today!

BOOK CLUB at the retreat: Mark Hiskes will be holding a book discussion Saturday at the retreat. The book is called "The Book Thief" by Markus Zusak. The book is about some of the tragedies of WWII. Pick up the book from the library or bookstore and join Mark at the retreat. If you have any questions, give Mark or the planning team a call.

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES continues this Wednesday, February 27 at 12:10 p.m. at Pillar Church (corner of 9th St. and College Ave.). On the Campaign Road with Jesus: "You have heard it said, but I say to you... About Status and Simplicity" led by Father Charlie Brown of St. Francis de Sales. Following the service, a soup and bread lunch will be served.

ATTENTION SINGLES: Do you enjoy going to events such as concerts, ball games, plays, etc...but not attending alone? Here's your chance to get together with a group from Third who enjoy the same things. Our first outing will be to go to a recital given by Andrew Le on Tuesday, February 26 at Dimnent Chapel. Plan to meet at 7:15 p.m. at the back of Dimnent Chapel. The recital begins at 7:30 p.m. Following the recital we will go to Russ' on East 8th Street for coffee and fellowship. Any questions contact Mike Van Doornik, 786-9155 or Kit Leggett, 335-2678.

Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, & Chapel
wired with an Induction Hearing Loop.
A Stephen Ministry Congregation

MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT

Jaime Amaro, Monterrey, Mexico
Martha Amaro, Monterrey, Mexico
Roger De Young, Mission Stewardship and Coordinator
for Mexico and Venezuela
Lance and Elizabeth Edwards, Mozambique
James and Sharon Heneveld, Chiapas, Mexico
Wayne and Miho Jansen, Japan
Rowland, Jr. and Jane Van Es, Kenya
Betty Voskuil, Coordinator, Reformed Church World Service and
Diaconal Ministries
Japanese Ministry in West Michigan

THE CONSISTORY

PROGRAM ELDERS

Irwin Brink
Lorna Cook

Mark Hiskes
Kristen Johnson

Deb DuMez
Greg Dykhouse

John Nordstrom
Ed Stielstra

PARISH ELDERS

Kathy Miedema (1)
Renske Karsen (2)
Charles Hunt (3)
Marilyn Norman (4)
Sarah Unzicker (5)
Katherine Hunsberger (6)
Anna Ritsema (7)
Sherrill Ball (8)
Jan Benningfield (9)
Mike Van Doornik (10)
Roger Rietberg (11)
Wayne Westenbroek (12)

Lynne Caskey (13)
Milly Ten Brink (14)
Bill Doezema (15)
Scott Millen (16)
Jeff Maatman (17)
John Hoekstra (18)
Elaine Tanis (19)
(20)
Phyllis Brown (21)
Barb Moreau (22)
Lucille Schroeder (23)
Kate Bolt (24)

DEACONS

Karin Ashcroft
Habeeb Awad
Jeff Beird
Lynne Bonnette
Steve Bulthuis
Rick Frens
Laura Halsey
Linda Jacobs

Kim McDonough
Jay Mosterd
Jon Rietberg
John Ruiten
Bekah Schipper
Tom Ten Hoeve
Jeff Voskuil