

Gracious God, we have fallen in love with the world we live in. We subscribe to its standards of success, power, and wealth, and seldom do we leave room for you. By the standards of this world even our church is a failure because we don't possess the numbers or the success we should achieve. Forgive us for failing to trust you and the way you measure our lives. Forgive us for seeking after misguided goals, for expecting too much of ourselves and not enough of you, and for berating your church. Give us the courage to be faithful to you and to value the church as Christ's body here on earth. In Jesus' name. Amen.

RESPONSE *Sing! A New Creation* 68

Your Mercy Flows

WORDS OF ASSURANCE Romans 8:28-30

CALL TO NEW OBEDIENCE Exodus 20:1-17, Matthew 22:37-39

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL TO WORSHIP CENTERS

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Genesis 29:15-28 p. 26

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 p. 14

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

*HYMN OF PREPARATION *Hymns, Psalms, & Spiritual Songs* 333

Seek Ye First

Tune: LAFFERTY

SERMON "The Kingdom of Heaven Is Like...a Shrub"

PRAYER FOR BLESSING ON THE WORD

SILENT PRAYER AND REFLECTION

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *(in unison)*

**We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together for good
for those who love God,
who are called according to God's purpose.
We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus, our Lord.**

—from Romans 8:1, 28, 38-39

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

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY AND SHARING THE GIFT OF FELLOWSHIP

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Draw Near in Faith

Malcolm Archer

VOCAL SOLO

Ferdinand Hummel

O Lord, my God, early did I seek Thee out,
My soul for Thee was thirsting, Lord,
It longed for Thee in a land of draught!
O Thou didst lead me by Thy hand—
Who languished in a barren land,
Thy mercy, Thy mercy, I sing with joy devout! Alleluia!
O Thou, dear Lord, Thou art my shepherd,
Thy mercy doth my soul restore;
Thy rod and staff they are my comfort,
My cup of joy, behold it runneth o'er!
Beside the waters still me leading,
In pastures green Thou bad'st me live,
My soul exalts Thee, my voice shall rise,—
Thy mercy praising to the sky.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

*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 *Hymns, Psalms, & Spiritual Songs* 418

God, Bless Your Church with Strength!

Tune: ICH HALTE TREULICH STILL

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Minuet Finale

George Handel

+Latecomers will be seated.

*Those who are able may stand.

Worship Leaders: Rev. Kent Fry, preaching; Rev. Kama Jongerius, liturgist; Carl Stegink, prayer for illumination; Mark Walvoord, prayer for thanksgiving and intercession; Pam Van Tol, minute for mission; Evelyn Rietberg, soloist; Roger J. Rietberg, organist.

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.

The flowers at the chancel today are given by Al and Jane Osman.

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

ASSISTING TODAY: Greeters – Ron and Gloria South, Dale Dykema and Cathy Morgan, Bill and Charlotte Garlough; Ushers – Elliot and Elaine Tanis; Deacons – Tom Ten Hoeve, Steve Bulthuis, Andy Mulder, Jim Hensley; Refreshment Servers – Doug and Kay Walvoord.

CHILD CARE is available in the nurseries during the worship service. Attendants: Susie Vander Kolk, Andy Zoerman, Peg Van Grouw, Elly Muiderman.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: Children 4 years through 2nd grade will be ushered from the sanctuary during the worship service to continue worship in **room 7**.

THIS WEEK

MONDAY

12:00-6:00 p.m. Blood Drive

TUESDAY

9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
8:30 p.m. Women's Softball Game at South Olive

WEDNESDAY

6:15 a.m. Men's Bible Study
8:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Prayers
6:00 p.m. Middle School Picnic at Millens
(846 Harvard Dr.)

FRIDAY

10:30 a.m. Women's Prayer Group at Renske Karsen's
(1501 Jerome)

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.

CAMPER'S CORNER

Young Life Timberwolf Lake July 27-31

Connor Heidenreich
Alex Knowles
Nate Schipper

Camp Geneva July 28-August 1

Gabe Millen
Brent Paarlberg

Abbie Palmateer
Kyle Stam
McKenna Stam
Anna Wolterink

CONGRATULATIONS to John and JoAnn Bremer who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 25.

CONGRATULATIONS to Michael De Young and Allison Rich who were married yesterday.

There will be a memorial service to celebrate the life of Esther Lage Janssen, Kit Janssen Leggett's mother, this Saturday, August 2, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT: Holland Hospital – Alma Holkeboer; Spectrum Hospital – Mark Ver Hulst, Del Glass. Hospice House – Lois Van Oosterhout. Resthaven Care Center – Louise Brackett, Arnolda Otting, Joe Otting, Marie Van Eerden, Helen Van Zanden, Ada Ver Hulst. In the Military – Mark South, Christine Loman, David Mummert, Tom Piaget.

GENERAL ITEMS

THE TRC GREEN TEAM is promoting July as “Go Green to Third” month. If you walk, bike, bus or carpool to church on a Sunday in July, please pick up a green ribbon by the display board. Wearing it might give you an opportunity to start a conversation with someone about Third Reformed Church or energy use.

ELECTRONIC RECYCLING EVENT to safely dispose of any item that has an electrical cord or uses batteries. Items may be dropped off for free (\$10 for TVs) at Hope Church parking lot on Saturday, August 9, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. You can help to keep dangerous materials out of landfills and support Comprenew Environmental, a division of World Wide Christian Schools. Thanks from the Green Team.

Join us at our three “Backyard Bash” parties in August! Please come, have fun, and talk with our neighbors. Sign up to help at one of our three “bashes,” August 6, August 13, and August 20. Hope to see you there!

Sign up continues today for the Blood Drive on Monday, July 28, 12:00-6:00 p.m. If you would be willing to bring cookies or bars for the blood drive please pick up a container at the table in the Gathering Place.

ADULT SENIORS: Mark your calendars for a Beach Party on Wednesday, August 6 at 5:00 p.m. at Carol Cox's place, 4067 Lakeridge Dr., on Lake Michigan. Please call Betty Balk at 772-2472 if you will be coming.

Garden Tour and Ice Cream Social: Join your friends for a time to enjoy flowers and food at the Osmans' Garden at 1081 W. 27th St. from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on Sunday night August 10, 2008. Should it be raining, the event (minus the flowers) will be held in the Fellowship Hall at Third. Bring your chairs or blankets if you can. If you need transportation, call the church office at 392-1459. This event is being planned by the Fellowship Committee.

SPECIAL SERVICES: Everyone is invited to the installation service this afternoon for Rev. Jason Semans as Associate Pastor at Maplewood Church, 133 E. 34th St., at 4:00 p.m.

Crossroads Chapel will be having a fundraiser to raise money for a down payment on a building. They are having a Mexican takeout dinner (chicken fajitas, rice, beans, and fruit - \$6.50). Call Keren Fuentes at 392-4535 by Thursday, July 31 to order. Pick up your order on Tuesday, August 5, 4:00-6:00 p.m. at Crossroad Chapel side door. (If you would like, you can eat with the Van Duinens and others at Kollen Park at 5:45 p.m.)

THIRD REFORMED CHURCH

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(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

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

THE CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor	Kent Fry
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 Interns	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

MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT

Jaime Amaro, Monterrey, Mexico
Martha Amaro, Monterrey, Mexico
Roger De Young, Mission Stewardship and Coordinator
for Mexico and Venezuela
Ruth Estell, China
Linn Gann, India
IRM Community Development, Mozambique
Wayne and Miho Jansen, Japan
Rowland, Jr. and Jane Van Es, Kenya
Nakajima/Ministry with Japanese People

THE CONSISTORY

PROGRAM ELDERS

Jerry Bakker	Mark Hiskes
Lorna Cook	Kristen Johnson
Deb DuMez	John Lunn
Greg Dykhouse	Cal Rynbrandt

PARISH ELDERS

Kathy Miedema (1)
Eleanor Van Dyke (2)
Peg Van Grouw (3)
Marilyn Norman (4)
Sarah Unzicker (5)
Jane Dykstra (6)
Tom Ter Haar (7)
Marilyn Brown (8)
Betty Balk (9)
Carol Cox (10)
Elly Muiderman (11)
Wayne Westenbroek (12)

Lynne Caskey (13)
Milly Ten Brink (14)
Bill Doezema (15)
Martin Keller (16)
Jeff Maatman (17)
Alan Beagley (18)
Elaine Tanis (19)
Ruby Steketee (20)
Phyllis Brown (21)
Barb Moreau (22)
Lucille Schroeder (23)
Kate Bolt (24)

DEACONS

Jon Bechtel
Jeff Beird
Lynne Bonnette
Steve Bulthuis
Rick Frens
Laura Halsey
Jim Hensley
Andy Mulder

Jay Mosterd
Jon Rietberg
Bekah Schipper
Tom Ten Hoeve
Jim Vander Meer
Jeff Voskuil
Scott Wolterink