

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 9, 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

Largo

Giovanni Battista Pergolesi

INTROIT

Welsh folk melody

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear,
Arise, Thou sun so longed for, above this shadowed sphere!
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption, and ever be with Thee!
—Laurentius Laurenti, 1700

VOTUM

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsively*)

Let us speak of the glorious deeds of God and God's might.

**We will not hide them from our children,
we will tell them to the coming generation.**

Let us rise up and tell the children,
so that they should set their hope in God.

**That they should not forget
the words of God but keep God's commandments.**

SALUTATION

+*HYMN OF PRAISE *Hymns, Psalms, & Spiritual Songs* 477

Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim

Tune: HANOVER

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS (11:00)

*PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**
(*congregation may exchange the Peace*)

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

Forgive us our foolishness, O God. We long for you, but we seldom prepare for you. We ignore the scriptures, forsake the discipline of prayer, neglect the encouragement that is found through regular worship. Still we expect you to do all the work to be a part of our lives. Forgive us for thinking we can make you appear if we only do the right thing. Forgive us for imagining we can control you by our actions. Forgive us for thinking we deserve to be rescued by you. We bow before you to acknowledge that you are God, and we are not. Forgive us our demanding nature, our impatience, our belief that we are totally in control of our lives. Hear our prayer of confession in Jesus' name. Amen.

RESPONSE *Hymns, Psalms, & Spiritual Songs* 572

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE I Thessalonians 4:17-18

CALL TO NEW OBEDIENCE

Peter Nardone

I give to you a new commandment.

That you love one another as I have loved you.

Ubi caritas est vera, Deus ibi est.

(Wherever charity and love are, God is there.)

Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.

(Christ's love has gathered us into one.)

Exsultemus et in ipso iucundemur.

(Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.)

Timeamus et a memus Deum vivum.

(Let us fear, and let us love the living God.)

Et ex corde diligamus hos sincerro.

(And may we love each other with a sincere heart.)

—John 13:34 and the *Liber Usualis*

MISSION CELEBRATION WITH JAIME AND MARTHA AMARO

*SONG OF CELEBRATION *Sing! A New Creation* 224

Cantad al Señor

Tune: CANTAD AL SENOR

(verse 1 sung in Spanish and repeated in English)

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL TO WORSHIP CENTERS

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

p. 215

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 25:1-13

p. 28

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

*HYMN OF PREPARATION *Hymns, Psalms, & Spiritual Songs* 17

“Sleepers, Wake!” A Voice Astounds Us (vs. 1&2) Tune: WACHET AUF

SERMON “Sustaining a Relationship with God for the Long Haul”

PRAYER FOR BLESSING ON THE WORD

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

(in unison)

I believe that the Son of God

through his Spirit and Word,

out of the entire human race,

from the beginning of the world to its end,

gathers, protects, and preserves for himself

a community chosen for eternal life

and united in true faith.

And of this community I am and always will be

a living member.

—Heidelberg Catechism Q & A 54

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY AND SHARING THE GIFT OF FELLOWSHIP

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Lento

Frank Bridge

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

Tune: OLD HUNDREDDTH

PRAYERS 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 354*

Guide My Feet

(verses 1-3)

Tune: GUIDE MY FEET

*BENEDICTION *(responsively)*

In your journeys to and fro

God direct you;

in your happiness and pleasure

God bless you;

in care, anxiety, or trouble

God sustain you;

in peril and in danger

God protect you.

The grace of God be with you all, now and always

POSTLUDE

Postlude in G

Arnold Cooke

+Latecomers will be seated.

*Those who are able may stand.

Worship Leaders: Rev. Kent Fry, preaching; Rev. Kama Jongerius, liturgist; Anna Finger, prayer for illumination; 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.

The flowers at the chancel today are given by Harold and Nancy Gazan in loving memory of their son, Daniel Benedict Gazan.

We joyfully welcome the following members into our Christian faith community this morning: William and Betty Baxter, Jason and Adriann Divozzo and baptized daughter Jillian. There will be a receiving line after the worship service where you may greet the new members.

FOR THOSE WHO DESIRE PRAYER for yourself and others, Eleanor Van Dyke and Carl Folkert 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) JoAnn Bremer, Deb Kraai; (11:00) Roger and Evelyn Rietberg, Josie, Grant, and Colton Cheney, Connor and Claudia Heidenreich, Urs, Martha, Benjamin, and Ellie-Rose Waldvogel; Ushers – Bill and Barb Tenpas; Deacons – (8:30) Jon Bechtel, Jeff Beird; (11:00) Jim Vander Meer, Tom Ten Hoeve, Bekah Schipper, Lynne Bonnette; Refreshment Servers – Tony and Elly Muiderman.

CHILD CARE is available in the nurseries during the worship service. Attendants: Susie Vander Kolk, Andy Zoerman, Deb and Grace DuMez.

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

3 year olds	nursery	4 & 5 year olds, K	room 15
1 st & 2 nd grades	room 6	3 rd grade	room 9
4 th grade	room 10	5 th grade	room 11
6 th , 7 th , & 8 th grade	room 22		

LITTLE LAMBS: 3 year olds are invited to meet in room 14 at 9:40 a.m. (**note the new time**).

THE ADULT EDUCATION CLASS for Spiritual Formation is open to all and is experiential, participatory, and practical. Come and go as you are able. Meet in the Centennial Room downstairs. This week's lesson: Spiritual Formation: The Word-Centered Life; Next Week: No Adult Education Class. Plan to attend the Stewardship Brunch.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES, 9:40-10:40 a.m., "Biblical and Historical Foundations of Social Justice: A Personal Journey" led by Harold Gazan in the chapel. Next Week: No Adult Education Class. Plan to attend the Stewardship Brunch.

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.

YOUNG DISCIPLES, for children 3rd-5th grades, will meet in the chapel during the 8:30 a.m. service.

VESPER SERVICE
6:00 p.m. in the chapel

"Hymnsing"

Worship Leader: Mike Van Doornik

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m.	Matins Choir
9:15 a.m.	Youth Choir
9:15 a.m.	Reading and Drama Group
9:30 a.m.	Blood Pressure Clinic
9:40 a.m.	Sunday School

	10:30 a.m.	Children's Choir
	3:00 p.m.	Japanese Worship – Western Seminary
	4:30 p.m.	Handbell Choir
	6:00 p.m.	Vesper Service
	6:30 p.m.	Pathfinders (High School)
MONDAY		
	7:00 p.m.	Miriam Circle
TUESDAY		
	8:00 a.m.	Ruth Circle at Judi Smit's (9538 Trillium Lake Dr. – Zeeland)
	9:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
	9:30 a.m.	Elizabeth and Hannah Circles
WEDNESDAY		
	6:15 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
	6:30 a.m.	Sunrise Saints
	8:00 a.m.	Wednesday Morning Prayers
	1:30 p.m.	Rachel Circle
	5:50 p.m.	TASC Dinner
	6:45 p.m.	TASC Classes
	6:45 p.m.	Middle School Youth Group
	6:45 p.m.	Passage (High School)
	6:45 p.m.	Sanctuary Choir
THURSDAY		
	7:00 p.m.	Special Education Ministry
FRIDAY		
	7:00 a.m.	S & A Ministry Group
	9:30 a.m.	Play Group
SATURDAY		
		Newsletter Deadline

PERSONAL

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

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT: Pray for – Bob Brinks, Roger Prins. Lakeside Vista – Bob Brinks, Don Ihrman, Rosey Maatman; Heartland of Holland – Elizabeth Bennett, Bernice Lievense; Appledorn Living Center – Lousie Brackett. In the Military – Mark South, Christine Loman, David Mummert, Tom Piaget.

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY

PLAYGROUP EVENT: On Friday, November 14, Mary De Young will be sharing some of her math teaching expertise and talking with the playgroup about how to introduce mathematical concepts to our children. The group meets in the Fellowship Hall and begins gathering at 9:30 a.m. All are invited!

The last TASC (Third's After Supper Club) for this semester will be Wednesday, November 19. The meal that night will be a pot-luck. Please bring a dish to share. Be sure to thank our wonderful chefs for the meals they prepared this semester. TASC will begin again on January 14.

ADVENT WORKSHOP: Please sign up in the Gathering Place today for our Annual Advent Workshop on Sunday, November 23 at 4:30 p.m.

ANNUAL YOUTH WREATH SALE: Starting next week you will be able to purchase a holiday wreath through the TRC Youth Ministries. These wreaths are made by our own Al Osman and are offered at the same price he sells downtown with a portion given to the youth ministry. We have appreciated your generosity in purchasing through us in the past and we look forward to another great year. Wreath pick-up and payment will be on Wednesday, December 3. Look next week for the flyer in the bulletin.

GENERAL ITEMS

THIRD SUNDAY FOR HUNGER: The Community Action House contacted the Deacons with a plea for food donations to replenish their pantry that has been nearly cleaned out by the highest levels of requests for food assistance the agency has ever experienced. The Deacons are asking for your continued participation in our monthly food drive to help address this critical need.

Remember that some members have severe allergic reactions to perfume. Please refrain from using perfume or other scented cosmetics when you know you will be sitting in a large group. Thank you.

BLOOD PRESSURE: You will have the chance to have your blood pressure checked this morning beginning at 9:30 a.m.

WHAT'S FOR DINNER? Sign up for this fun evening of fellowship and dinner with a group of seven or eight at a Third Reformed Church member's home on Friday, November 14. Sign up continues today in the Gathering Place.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: The December newsletter will be assembled on Tuesday, November 25. The deadline for articles for the *Third Generation* remains Saturday, November 15. Due to the shortened time if submissions for the newsletter are not received by Monday, November 17 they will not be included.

The congregation is invited to Stewardship Brunch in Fellowship Hall next Sunday, November 16, with the cost covered by a family in the congregation. There will be a serving after the first service, approximately 9:40 a.m. and a second serving after the second service, approximately 12:10 p.m.

Adult Sunday School will not meet on the 16th, but there will be Sunday School for children 4 years through Middle School. Nursery will be offered during the 12:10 p.m. serving.

MINDINGS SUNDAY this year is Sunday, November 23. This is an annual Third Reformed Church event when we remember those who have experienced a significant event in their lives during the past year (birth, death, baptism, marriage, confirmation, etc.). Members are asked to bring an unwrapped gift to either of the worship services. It could be a food item, a plant, a craft item, anything you think would be special.

THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE: There will be a Thanksgiving Day Service on Thursday, November 27 at 10:00 a.m.

GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRIES will need to replace the home owned by Third Reformed Church that was lost last week in the fire. If you have a three bedroom rental property that you would consider leasing to Good Samaritan Ministries for transitional housing, please contact Linda Jacobs at 392-7159 or ljacobs@goodsamministries.com.

THIRD REFORMED CHURCH

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Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, & Chapel

wired with an Induction Hearing Loop.

A Stephen Ministry Congregation