

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: Stewardship Sunday

November 15, 2009

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

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

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE Land of Rest Richard Proulx

VOTUM

CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsively)*

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world, those who live in it;

**for he has founded it on the seas,
and established it on the rivers.**

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?
And who shall stand in his holy place?

**Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
who do not lift up their souls to what is false,
and do not swear deceitfully.**

—Psalm 24:1-4, NRSV

SALUTATION

+*HYMN OF PRAISE *Hymns, Psalms, & Spiritual Songs* 473

For the Beauty of the Earth

Tune: DIX

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

CONFESSING

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(responsively)*

Loving God, we gather today, rich in blessing,
somehow believing that we merit the wealth
and comforts we enjoy.

Forgive us, our God, for comfortably closing our eyes
to the faces of the poor that stare blankly in our direction.

Lord, have mercy on us.

With bellies full of grain and meat,
we offer token gestures to the hungry in our world
and we feel we have done enough.

Forgive us, God, for keeping a distance between “us”
and “them,” for closing our ears to the cries of the hungry.

Christ, have mercy on us.

With hands tightly clasping our treasures on earth,
we cannot reach out to our oppressed brothers
and sisters around this world.

Forgive us for clinging to our own possessions rather than to you.
Unite us with hearts of thanksgiving,
that we may work to ensure freedom and justice for all.

Lord, have mercy on us.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE Isaiah 53:4-6

CALL TO NEW OBEDIENCE Mark 10:23-27

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL TO WORSHIP CENTERS

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Deuteronomy 5:1-21 p. 162
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Philippians 3:4b-16 p. 198
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*HYMN OF PREPARATION *Sing! A New Creation* 230
We Are an Offering Tune: OFFERING

SERMON "Reaching Forward"

PRAYER FOR BLESSING ON THE WORD

SILENT PRAYER AND REFLECTION

CELEBRATING AND GIVING

CELEBRATION OF THE 1995 BUILDING PROGRAM

THANK YOU TO THE BUILDING COMMITTEE

*LITURGY OF CELEBRATION (*in unison*)

We praise you, O God, for the resources you have provided, and for the resources your people have shared throughout the building of and payment for the parish life center.

**Although this project is complete,
God's house is always under construction in the world.**

We thank you for neighborhood and community members who have used our facilities to engage in ministry with the developmentally disabled, the children's playgroup, migrant children, Backpack Buddies, Alcoholics Anonymous, and many other kinds of service or outreach.

May our church reflect your glory, and delight the souls of all who enter here.

We thank you for the children, youth, and teachers who fill our nursery and education rooms in the lower level. For the commitment of leaders and teachers in these spaces – not only to teach our children, but to engage us in all of faith and life. We thank you for the opportunities that exist within these walls for fun, games, studying, singing, and praying.

May our education areas touch us at all levels of our life and worship.

We thank you for the library and chapel, reflecting your beauty while facilitating worship, prayer and study. We thank you for the office area in which the staff can easily interact, confer, and play for the purposes of your reign.

May the worship and work within these rooms be to your glory. May this building always be a place where we meet you, a base from which we go forth to serve, and a space for the weak and weary.

*RESPONSE *Hymns, Psalms, & Spiritual Songs* 443
O Christ, the Great Foundation (vs. 1 & 2) Tune: AURELIA

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY AND SHARING THE GIFT OF FELLOWSHIP

Presentation by the Reformed Church in America
General Secretary

ASSISTING TODAY: Greeters (8:30) – Ken and Arloa Koning; (11:00) – Mark, Tracy, Zane, and Zoe Tanis, Bruce and Jane Reynolds, Janet and Austin Rund; Ushers – Doug & Andrea Rasmussen; Deacons – (8:30) Jon Rietberg, Marj Hoekstra; (11:00) Scott Wolterink, Rick Frens, Tom Bos, Jim Vander Meer; Refreshment Servers – Norm and Ellen Rieck.

CHILD CARE is available in the nurseries during the worship service. Attendants: Susie Vander Kolk, Andy Zoerman, Scott and Stacey Van Dyke.

EDUCATION HOUR, 9:40-10:40 a.m., nursery care available

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

LITTLE LAMBS: 3 year olds are invited to meet in room 14 at 9:40 a.m.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES, 9:40-10:40

There will no Adult Education Classes this morning. Please plan to attend one of the Stewardship Brunches at 9:40 a.m. and 12:10 p.m.

Chapel Presentation Class: Next Week: “Getting to Know You: Why You Should Love John Calvin, or at Least His Theology” led by John Hesselink.

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. worship service.

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

“Building Programs at Third Reformed Church to Enhance the
Congregation’s Ministry 1868-2008”

Worship Leaders: Elton Bruins and Elaine Tanis

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. Matins Choir
9:15 a.m. Youth Choir
9:40 a.m. Education Hour
9:45 a.m. Stewardship Brunch
10:30 a.m. Children’s Choir
12:10 p.m. Stewardship Brunch
3:00 p.m. Japanese Worship
5:00 p.m. Handbell Choir
6:00 p.m. Vesper Service
6:30 p.m. Pathfinders (H.S.)

MONDAY

3:30 p.m. Monday Fun Day

TUESDAY

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting

WEDNESDAY

6:15 a.m. Men’s Bible Study
6:30 a.m. Sunrise Saints
8:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Prayers
4:00 p.m. Worship Committee
5:45 p.m. TASC Pot-luck Dinner

6:30 p.m. TASC Classes
6:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group
6:30 p.m. Passage (High School)
6:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

THURSDAY

8:30 a.m. Gifts & Memorials Committee
6:30 p.m. AA Meeting
7:00 p.m. Special Education Ministry

FRIDAY

9:30 a.m. Playgroup
10:00 a.m. Women's Prayer Group

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: Holland Hospital – Vesta Speet. Pray for – Bob Brinks, Bob Kuiper, Leslie Piaget, Ruth Ter Beek. Resthaven Care Center – Alma Kuiper, Arnolda Otting, Joe Otting. Maple Woods – Vesta Speet. In the Military – Sam Bonnette, Mark South, Christine Munoz.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY

The last TASC (Third's After Supper Club) for this semester will be this Wednesday, November 18. The meal that night will be pot-luck. If you are able please bring a dish to share.

SIGN UP TODAY FOR THE JOURNEY our Family Advent Workshop scheduled for next Sunday, November 22 at 4:30 p.m. (please be prompt). Come journey with us as we prepare our hearts and our home for the coming of the Christ Child. Cost is \$10.00 per family. Please bring a "finger food" to share with your fellow "travelers."

The Children's Christmas program is coming! The children will be working on their "play" (3rd-5th graders) and the music (preschool-2nd grades) during the Education Hour. Parents, please try to have your children here each week to prepare for this special event. The program is scheduled for Sunday, December 20 at 9:40 a.m. If your child is not going to participate, please let Joyce Fry or Bruce Reynolds know as soon as possible.

Thank you to the congregation for your support of the "Operation Christmas Child," shoebox mission project completed on Wednesday by the TASC children. We were able to complete and ship 42 boxes with your generous contributions!

GENERAL ITEMS

THIRD SUNDAY FOR HUNGER: Non-perishable food and other necessities will be collected today for our monthly food drive. Donated items can be placed in the designated box in the Gathering place.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: The December newsletter will be assembled on Tuesday, November 24. The deadline, for the *Third Generation*, remains Sunday, November 15. Due to the shortened time, if submissions for the newsletter are not received by Monday, November 16 they will not be included.

MINDINGS SUNDAY this year is Sunday, November 22. 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.

Our Thanksgiving offering is specified toward our pledge to support the Dennis and Betty Lou Voskuil Chair in Old Testament at Western Theological Seminary.

THANKSGIVING DAY SERVICE: There will be a Thanksgiving Day Service on Thursday, November 26 at 10:00 a.m. Rev. Kent Fry will present the message “Give Thanks Always.”

WOMEN’S MINISTRIES: You won’t want to miss “Christmas in Bethlehem – Past and Present,” a program presented by Elaine Tanis and Habeeb Awad at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, November 30 in the chapel. Through music, readings and visual arts, we will learn of Christmas celebrations in the place where Jesus was born. All are invited – men and women.

ATTENTION KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS: There will be a mitten, hat, scarf tree in the Gathering Place during Advent. Your donations of mittens, hats, and scarves will be given to a local agency.

THIRD REFORMED CHURCH

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