

Second Sunday of Advent

December 9, 2018 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Christ, God's Promised One, as we celebrate the preparations for your birth so long ago, move in us to prepare ourselves by surrendering more fully to you, and to never stop looking for how you are moving with love and power in us, and in the world. Amen.

COMING INTO THE LORD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE Of the Father's Love Begotten Wilbur Held

INTROIT

Behold, O Zion, see the Lord
who comes to see the nations free.
The Lord will sound his glorious voice;
Your heart will hear him joyfully.
(Come, let us go to the house of the Lord.
Zion, sing; sing out your peace and joy.)
—Kathleen Pluth

LITANY & CANDLE LIGHTING *(responsively)*

Today is the second Sunday of Advent. Why do we celebrate Advent?

It reminds us that Jesus is coming to make everything right.

Mary waited for Jesus to be born.

We wait for Christ to come again.

We depend on Jesus to make us well and whole.

Jesus is the light that shines in the darkness

HYMN *Lift Up Your Hearts* 57 (vs. 3)

All Earth Is Waiting Tune: TODO LA TIERRA

The second candle is the candle of salvation.
What is salvation?

**Salvation is the forgiveness of our sin, healing of our brokenness,
and the restoring of our relationship as children of God.**

It is a gift, not something we earn.

Because of salvation through Jesus, we have eternal life.

Who brings salvation?

Jesus, the Anointed One, the Son of God

is the only one who brings salvation,

and he offers it freely to all who believe in him.

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:68-70

+* HYMN OF PRAISE *Lift Up Your Hearts* 61 (vs. 1, 2 & 7)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Tune: VENI EMMANUEL

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND LAMENT *Lift Up Your Hearts* 62

WORDS OF ASSURANCE from Luke 1

PIANO DUET Angels We Have Heard on High

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS (11:00)

*SHARING THE PEACE OF THE RISEN CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(The congregation may exchange the Peace.)

DISMISSAL TO WORSHIP CENTERS

SONG *(see insert)* (vs. 4)

When a Prophet Sings of Justice Tune: FREU DICH SEHR

LISTENING TO THE LORD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Malachi 3:1-4 p. 889

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 3:1-10 p. 60

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

*HYMN OF ILLUMINATION *Lift Up Your Hearts* 61 (vs. 5)
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Tune: VENI EMMANUEL

SERMON "How Do You Prepare the Way of the Lord?"

PRAYER FOR BLESSING ON THE WORD

LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

TESTIMONY OF FAITH

MOMENT FOR MISSION AND SHARING THE GIFT OF FELLOWSHIP

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY arr. by Han Van Koert

Behold a Virgin bearing Him
Who comes to save us from our sin,
The prophets cry: prepare His way!
Make straight His paths to Christmas Day!

Behold our Hope and Life and Light
the promise of the holy night;
We lift our prayer and bend our knee
To His great Love and majesty.
—Michael Gannon

*DOXOLOGY *Lift Up Your Hearts* 965 Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION & 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.

*HYMN OF DEDICATION *Lift Up Your Hearts* 92 (vs. 1, 3 & 4)
Joy to the World Tune: ANTIOCH

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Basque Carol James Biery

+Latecomers will be seated. *You may stand.

Worship Leaders: Rev. Janelle Lopez-Koolbaas, preaching; Rev. Kent Fry, Rev. Kama Jongerius, liturgists; Barb Folkert, prayer of illumination; Tim & Deb DuMez (8:30), Schoon-Tanis & Van Duinen families, candle lighters; Nora Frens, Matt DeJongh, piano duet; Matins Choir; Sanctuary Choir; Linda Strouf, Minister of Music.

Third Reformed Church
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CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILY

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM AND OPEN HOUSE CELEBRATION: Please plan to join the children and youth NEXT Sunday, December 16, during the Sunday School Hour (9:45-10:45), as we celebrate the joy of Christmas, together. The Young Levites will be presenting a short Christmas play, and the children and youth of our Sunday School programs will be participating. Following the program in the Fellowship Hall, the congregation will be invited to "tour" the Sunday School rooms and enjoy treats in the education area downstairs.

YOUNG LEVITES CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICES: Parents please note the following program practice dates and times: TODAY (Young Levites-during the 11:00 service); and this Saturday, December 15 (9:30-11:00 a.m.) Please contact Nella Kennedy, Jane Snyder or Joyce Fry (joycefry@trcholland.org) if you have any questions. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM MUSICIANS NEEDED: This year, as part of our Sunday School Christmas program, we are inviting children and youth to participate by presenting a "Christmas" musical piece. If your child plays an instrument and would like to play during our program, please contact Joyce Fry (joycefry@trcholland.org) TODAY. Please include your child's name, instrument they will be playing, and the name of the piece that they will be sharing. We look forward to celebrating the musical talents of our children during this special season of the year.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING: Next Sunday, December 16 at 4:15 in the afternoon, we will have our annual Christmas caroling event at the homes of shut-ins in our congregation. We encourage families and children to participate. This is one way that your child(ren) can serve in our congregation and bring joy to older members of our congregation. Plan now to join us. Pizza will be served for all carolers at 5:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE: A family friendly Christmas Eve service is planned for Monday, December 24 at 5:00 p.m. We will dress "willing" children in biblical costumes to be the still tableaux while the scripture is being read. We would love for your family to be part of this special service, if you are in town. Try to have your child(ren) here around 4:45 p.m.. to put a costume on and to be told what they are to do. The children will not have to speak.

YOUTH MINISTRY CHRISTMAS PARTIES!

High School Christmas Party will be on Sunday, Dec. 9th at 7:00pm to 8:30pm in the Youth Room!

Middle School Christmas Party will be on Wednesday, Dec. 12th at 6:30pm to 8:00pm in the Youth Room!

Both Middle school and High school will be having a white elephant gift exchange! **Please, if you are able, bring a random gift (something found around the house, etc).** Please do not feel obligated to go out and buy something! If you do go and buy something, please keep it below \$5. The point is to have a random assortment of gifts! The community is more important than the gift giving! There will be a few extra gifts in case anyone forgets one or needs one! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Hunter (hunter.brumels@trcholland.org).

Congregational News

8:30 WORSHIPERS: This month we will not be participating in communion on December 16.

An ad listing our Christmas services was posted on the Third Reformed Church Facebook page. We encourage you to share and invite your friends to experience "The Senses of Christmas."

WORSHIP SCHEDULE: On Sundays, December 24 and 31 there will be only one worship service at 11:00 a.m. There will be no Education classes those days.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS: The church office will be closed all day on December 24, 25, 31 and January 1.

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. Visitors please stop by the Welcome Center and then 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: Bruce and Carol Bassett, Hunter Brumels, Cathy Dykema, Dan and Nancy Lori. There will be a receiving line after the worship service where you may greet these new members.

IF YOU DESIRE PRAYER for yourself and/or others Debbie and Dan Rooks 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: Deacons: (8:30) Susan Formsma, Jim VanderMeer; (11:00)-Mae Pasatta, John Hutchinson, Sue Hutchinson, Sandy Stielstra.

CHILD CARE is available in the nurseries during the worship service. Attendants: Andy & Jane Zoerman.

There will be no education hour Sunday, December 16, 23, & 30. Please join the children next Sunday, December 16 as they present the Christmas program.

EDUCATION HOUR, 9:45-10:45 a.m.,
nursery care available

Preschool/Kindergarten	room 15	1st & 2nd Grades	room 6
3rd Grade	room 10	4th & 5th Grades	room 17
6th-8th grades	room 11	Senior High	Youth Room
TRC Singers & Children's Choir	room 7		
Sunday Morning Live	Youth Room		

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES, 9:40-10:40

Bible Study: "The Presence of the Future-The Book of Revelation and the Life of Discipleship Today" Led by George Hunsberger & Pastor Kent Fry

Spiritual Formation Class: This class follows the lectionary passage of the day, according to "Seasons of the Spirit." Pastor Kama Jongerius, facilitator. Meet in the Centennial Room downstairs.

Chapel Class: "Life as a Bi-Racial Family" led by Ben and Trina Lichtenwalner.

WORSHIP CENTER PROGRAM: Please note the following changes to the program for the fall. During the 8:30 service, Worship Center will be provided on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. During the 11:00 service, there will be only one Worship Center open for all children, aged 4-2nd grade, provided each Sunday. It will take place in Room 2 (Previously the older Worship Center room). If you have any questions about these changes, please contact the church office. Thank you.

The Week Ahead

Sunday

- 8:00 a.m. Matins Choir
- 9:25 a.m. TRC Singers
- 9:45 a.m. Children's Choir
- 9:45 a.m. Adult Education Classes
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Live
- 10:00 a.m. Children/Youth Education Classes
- 6:00 p.m. Choir Carol Service
- 7:00 p.m. Senior High Youth Group Christmas Party

Monday

- 1:30 p.m. Miriam Bible Study

Tuesday

- 8:30 a.m. Ruth Bible Study at Phyllis Brown's-297 Winter Oaks W
- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 10:00 a.m. Hannah/Elizabeth Bible Study
- 11:00 p.m. Lydia Bible Study
- 5:15 p.m. Christian Education Committee
- 7:30 p.m. Outreach Committee

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 Bible Study
- 6:20 p.m. Sanctuary Choir
- 6:30 p.m. Middle School Christmas Party

Thursday

- 7:30 p.m. Personnel Team

Saturday

- 9:30 a.m. Christmas Program Rehearsal

Congregational News

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

Please let the church staff know when you are in the hospital so you can receive spiritual care by the pastoral staff. Call 392-1459.

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT: Jill Slenk has moved to Resthaven Care Center from the hospital. Hospice Care-Frank Pettinga. Appledorn-P.J. Booi, Marv & Lois Jalving, Roger Rietberg; Maple Woods-Phyllis Mahy. Missionaries-Wayne & Miho Jansen (Japan), Rowland Jr. & Jane Van Es (Kenya).

Please pick up your giving envelopes for 2019. They are on the tables near the north windows of the Gathering Place. Envelopes for members participating in EFT are on the right side. To avoid confusion, please do not use new envelopes until January 6, 2019.

CHOIR CAROL SERVICE: Come and hear the glorious sounds of the season at the annual Choirs Carol Service today at 6:00 p.m. The Sanctuary Choir and the TRC Singers will present "The Promised Messiah." A reception will follow the program. Come hear the sounds of Advent!

GIVING TREE: The Women's Ministries Giving Tree is up for the holiday season, and we're hoping it will be dressed well with contributions of scarves, hats, gloves, and mittens as well as packaged underwear and socks for neighbors in need.

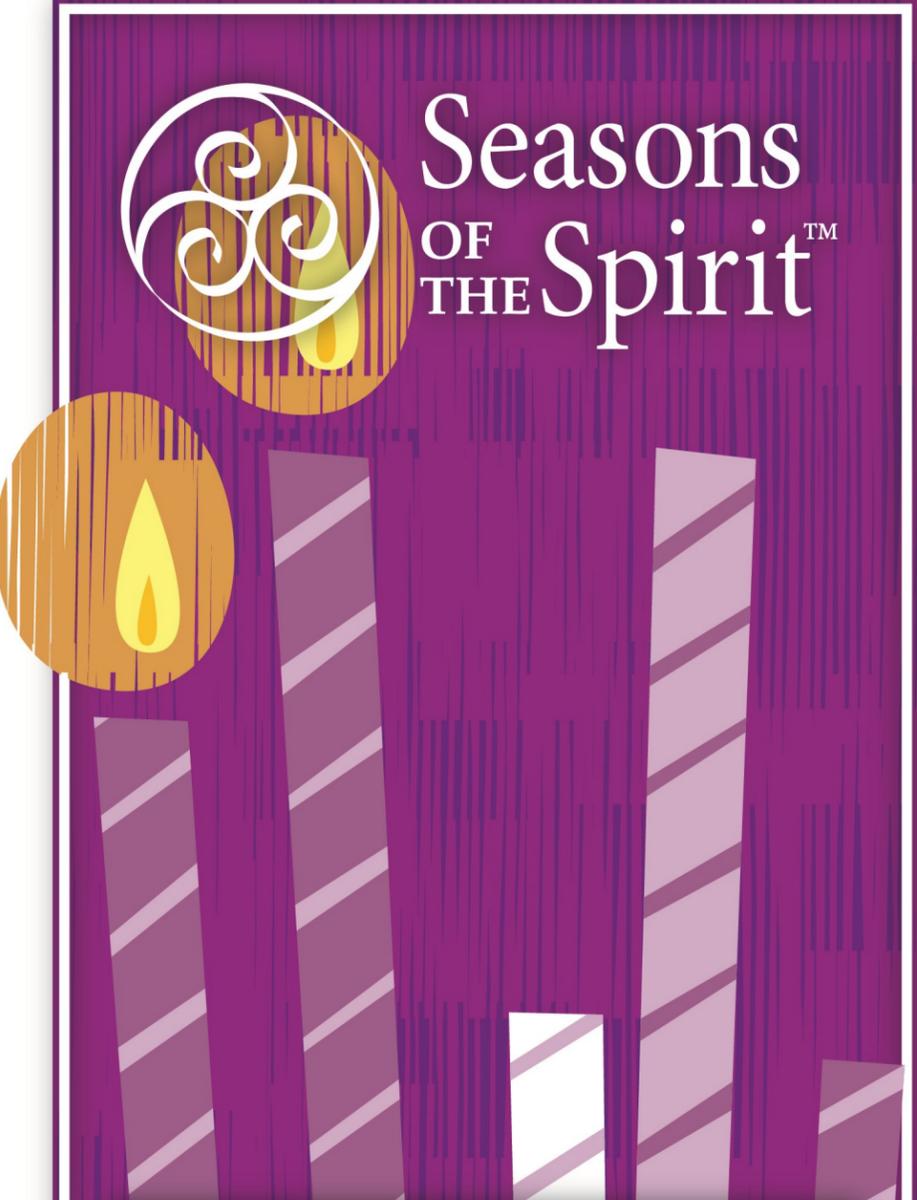
JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS CAROLING on Sunday, December 16. Meet in the Fellowship Hall at 4:10 p.m. to get organized. Groups will leave to carol at 4:45 p.m. and return to church at 5:45 p.m. for pizza. Nursery will be provided during the caroling.

Looking for a Christmas gift? CDs made for the 150th anniversary celebration are available in the church office for \$10 each.

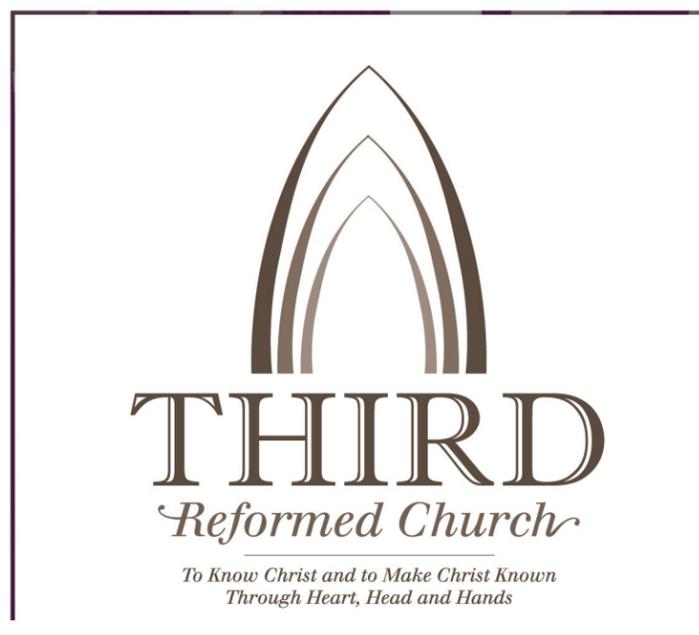
THIRD SUNDAY FOR HUNGER: Next Sunday, December 16 non-perishable food and other necessities will be collected for our monthly food drive. Donated items can be placed in the designated box in the Gathering Place.

There will not be a pizza lunch next Sunday, December 16.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES: There will be two Christmas Eve Services at 5:00 and 11:00 p.m. on Monday, December 24. Nursery will be provided during the 5:00 p.m. service. A reception will follow both services. The outreach offering is designated for Lakeshore Habitat for Humanity: a partnership, home building & home repair Christian ministry serving Ottawa and part of Allegan Counties that has served more than 150 families and 800 individuals since 1990.



Seasons
OF THE Spirit™



THIRD
Reformed Church

To Know Christ and to Make Christ Known
Through Heart, Head and Hands