

Third Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2022

10:00 a.m.

The Approach to God

PRELUDE

Prepare the Royal Highway

Sondra K. Tucker

VOTUM

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING Scripture paraphrased from Luke 1: 26-33, 46- 47

The story of Jesus coming to the world is one full of surprises!...We light these candles because they are reminders to help us wait and to watch.

(in unison)

Dear God,

we are waiting for your Son, Jesus.

As we wait;

help us be patient.

Help us be still.

Help us be full of your light.

Fill us with your Holy Spirit.

Make us more like you--hopeful, peaceful, joyful, loving.

We love you Lord.

Amen.

SALUTATION

*+HYMN OF PRAISE 61 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vs. 1, 5-7)
Tune: VENI EMMANUEL

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

(The congregation may exchange the Peace.)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

Lord, God, our lives are filled with sin.

We ignore our neighbor's needs

and do not love you above all else.

We need a Savior.

Make us ready for Jesus in our own hearts,

and shape the path of our life together to follow Him.

O come, O come, Lord Jesus.

Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

HYMN 480 Wait for the Lord (sung 3 times)
Tune: WAIT FOR THE LORD

CHILDREN'S TIME

The Word of God

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 35:1-10

p. 663

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

SERMON “Echoes: They Shall See the Glory of the Lord”

The Response to God

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: 57 Todo la Tierra/All Earth Is Waiting
(v. 1 Spanish, v. 1 English, v. 2 English)
Tune: TODO LA TIERRA

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SHARING THE GIFT OF FELLOWSHIP

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING

OFFERTORY Comfort, Comfort These My People Sondra K. Tucker

*DOXOLOGY 965 Tune: OLD HUNDREDDTH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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 69 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout
Tune: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Hark the Glad Sound! John Leavitt

+Latecomers will be seated. *You may stand.

Worship Leaders: Rev. Janelle Lopez-Koolhaas, preaching; Rev. Dr. Ryan Boes, Rev. Angel Lopez, liturgists; Beatrix Schoon-Tanis, Elliot Boes, Grace Lunn, candle lighting; Curtis Pierce, Kate Bolt, musicians; Carillon 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.

ASSISTING TODAY: Deacons/Ushers: Jon VanDuinen, Willis Weymon, Jane Johnson Keeter

IF YOU DESIRE PRAYER for yourself and/or others Katherine and George Hunsberger will be available to pray with you following today's worship service. Please make your way to the Place of Prayer located in the south hallway on the main level.

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP: Our Children and Worship Program for children aged 4 through the 2nd grade continues today during the 10:00 service. Our Worship Center program takes place in Room 2. (Downstairs: Take the Northwest staircase down to the lower level. The room is the first door to your right.)

EDUCATION HOUR, 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

nursery care available

Preschool-First Grade room 2 Second-Fifth Grade room 1
6th-8th grades room 11 Senior High Youth Room

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES, 11:15-12:15

Mosaic: "Messiah" led by Carol Bechtel. This class meets in the sanctuary.

The Cross Changes Everything" meets in room 22. Class led by George Hunsberger

This week's classes are the last of the semester. Please plan to attend the Children's Christmas Program next week at 4:00 p.m.

EL ENCUENTRO (EN ESPAÑOL): Les invitamos a las 11:30 a.m. a reunirnos en la presencia del Señor, escuchar su Palabra y orar juntos. Favor de invitar a sus familiares y vecinos-- ¡Todos son bienvenidos! Nos reuniremos en **Fellowship Hall**. (gimnasio). ¡Nos vemos!

*[Translation] **EL ENCUENTRO** (SPANISH GATHERING) We invite you to join us at 11:30 a.m. to spend time in the presence of God through his Word, and to pray together. Feel free to invite your family and friends-- everyone is welcome! We meet in the **Fellowship Hall**. See you! English translation via headset is available.*

The Week Ahead

Sunday

11:15 a.m. Education Hour
11:30 a.m. Spanish Worship Ministry/El Encuentro
6:00 p.m. Choir Carol Service
7:00 p.m. High School Youth Group

Monday

1:30 p.m. Miriam Bible Study
7:00 p.m. Martha Bible Study

Tuesday

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
10:00 a.m. Hannah/Elizabeth Bible Study
12:00 p.m. Lydia Bible Study
7:30 p.m. Deacons' Meeting

Wednesday

6:15 a.m. Men's Bible Study
8:30 a.m. Wednesday Morning Prayers (zoom)
9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (zoom)
1:30 p.m. Rachel Bible Study
6:15 p.m. Middle School Christmas Party

Thursday

8:00 a.m. Sunrise Saints

Congregational News

Please remember in prayer those in the hospital and in care facilities.

Please remember to have someone notify the church office when you are in the hospital so you can receive spiritual care by the pastoral staff. Call 392-1459.

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT: Holland Hospital-Mary Boersen. Tom Ten Hoeve has moved to Resthaven Rehab from the hospital. Pray for Lucille Schroeder. Hospice-Lois Jalving, Sue Ten Hoeve. Home-Bill Charlton, Barb Mummert, Ruby Steketee. Out of Town-Don Maatman. Missionaries-Linn G. (Asia), Cheryl Barnes (Malawi), Lubna Y. (Asia).

CHOIR CAROL SERVICE: This special service, TODAY at 6:00 p.m., is designed for the congregation to join in on every carol. Paired with scripture readings, the service is designed to bring us further into the expectant waiting of the Advent Season. We will enjoy a cookies and punch reception after this service.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS: The church office will not have reception hours the week between Christmas and New Years. While staff will be working, it will be both from home and in the office and on varying schedules. If you have need to visit the church the week following Christmas, please make arrangements ahead of time so a staff member can meet you. Also, please note the office is completely closed on Friday, December 23, and Monday, December 26 for the Christmas holiday; as well as Friday, December 30, and Monday, January 2, for the New Year's holiday.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED: We hope you will be willing to show your hospitality to both our congregation and community members by volunteering to help meet our holiday season event needs.

Bakers Needed! We need cookies and/or bars for the receptions after the Choir Carol Service and Christmas Eve 5:00 Service. [Go to](https://tinyurl.com/mrxpr6mn) <https://tinyurl.com/mrxpr6mn> or call the church office to let us know if you're willing to help in this way. Please mark on your container if your dessert has nuts or is gluten-free.

Set Up/Servers/Clean Up Volunteers Needed!

We are also in need of volunteers to set-up, serve, and clean up for these events. [Visit](https://tinyurl.com/3jyzjbjw) <https://tinyurl.com/3jyzjbjw> or call the church office to let us know if you're willing to help in this way.

ATTENTION ALL: Women's Ministries has put up the "giving tree" for the month of December. Please think about what you may like to make or donate for this cause. Some of your gifts will go to Third Reformed Church people, the rest will be distributed by Community Action House free to those in need.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: Come and enjoy, "A Very Mixed Up Christmas Pageant," our children's interpretation of the events of Christmas, on Sunday, December 18 at 4:00 p.m. in this fun yet meaningful pageant that tells again of Christ's coming into this world. This pageant will be followed with a pizza dinner for all. Don't miss it!

CELEBRATION INVITATION: Willis and Ella Weymon's 50th Wedding Anniversary! On behalf of Willis and Ella Weymon, we cordially invite the Congregation to join us on Saturday, December 17th from 1:30-3:30pm to celebrate their Golden 50th Year Wedding Anniversary (officially on December 23rd). The celebration will be open house style, however, if you are able to RSVP, this will help us with refreshment planning. Please contact Trina Lichtenwalner (lichtetw@gmail.com) or access the following link to do so online: link can be found in next week's Third Church News. No gifts, please. Your presence and well wishes are enough of a gift! Note: if you wish, you may make a charitable donation to the 'Willis & Ella Weymon African American Scholarship Fund' at the Community Foundation of the Holland/Zeeland area. We look forward to helping them commemorate this wonderful milestone! Trina (Weymon), Ben, Christian, Gabriel, and Isaiah Lichtenwalner, and Tara Weymon Leonard, Quincey & Nile Leonard

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES: Our 5:00 p.m. service will feature children in a live nativity as the scriptures about the birth of our Savior are read aloud. We will enjoy a cookies and punch reception after this service. At 11:00 p.m. we will enjoy a candlelight Christmas Eve service. The Christmas offering is designated for Lakeshore Habitat for Humanity: a partnership, home building & home repair Christian ministry serving Ottawa and part of Allegan Counties.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES: This year Christmas falls on a Sunday, and we will gather in a combined service, at 10:00 a.m., for worship. Due to this fact, there will be no reception after the 11:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve. Please note: translation will be proved in Spanish.

YOUTH FUNDRAISER: The Youth are going away!!!!...on mission trips and retreats! The Youth of TRC are preparing for middle and high school retreats and mission trips this coming year. On January 20th, 2023 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm, the Youth will be hosting a Student Sponsor-thon! Students have been training hard, honing their skills, and preparing to offer their gifts to the highest bidder! Everyone, and we mean EVERYONE, is invited to this fundraising event to help the youth of TRC! Come join us for a time of hors d'oeuvres (fancy word for appetizers) served by the youth, a program on the various trips youth will take, and.....drum roll, please.....bid on youth provided skills such as babysitting, shoveling, baking, dog walking, and so much more, during the silent auction portion of the event! Our goal is to raise \$6,000! Please consider donating to help the youth of TRC experience the love of God through service, learning, and community, as they take part in the retreats and mission trips both domestically and internationally! Please contact Hunter Brumels, hunter.brumels@trcholland.org, if you would like more information.

