

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 29, 2023

10:00 a.m.

The Approach to God

PRELUDE

Hyfrydol

setting by Russel Schultz-Widmar

WELCOME

VOTUM

CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 34 (*responsively*)

I will bless the Lord at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

**My soul makes its boast in the Lord;
let the humble hear and be glad.**

O magnify the Lord with me,
and let us exalt his name together.

**I sought the Lord, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.**

Look to him, and be radiant,
so your faces shall never be ashamed.

**O taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are those who take refuge in him.**

SALUTATION

*+HYMN OF PREPARATION 553 How Great Thou Art
Tune: HOW GREAT THOU ART

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*responsively*)

Holy God, you have called us to love one another
as you have loved us. You daily pour love and mercy into our lives.

Forgive us when we do not have such grace for one another.

Stop our mouths and our conversations from meanness.

**Help us to be a people that speak truth in love,
and teach us to resist unkindness from anger.**

**Warn us and guide us when our instinct is to prefer silence
and distance, rather than face the work of forgiving
and continuing in community.**

**Shape our hearts for compassion towards one another,
after your own heart, Lord.**

**Grow in and among us the fruit of your Spirit,
so that our lives point to Christ living in us. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE Ephesians 3:16-19

*HYMN 255 Somos Uno en Cristo/We Are One in Christ
(sung in Spanish, English, Spanish)
Tune: SOMOS UNO

CHILDREN'S TIME

The Word of God

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 1:1-45

p. 56

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

SERMON "The Power of Encouragement"

PRAYER FOR BLESSING ON THE WORD

The Response to God

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: 746 Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God
Tune: HOLY SPIRIT, LIVING BREATH OF GOD

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SHARING THE GIFT OF FELLOWSHIP

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING

OFFERTORY Lead, kindly Light arr. by Robert Lehman

Lead, kindly Light, amid the encircling gloom, lead thou me on;
The night is dark, and I am far from home; lead thou me on;
Keep thou my feet; I do not ask to see the distant scene; one step enough for me.

I was not ever thus, nor prayed that thou shouldst lead me on;
I loved to choose and see my path; but now lead thou me on;
I loved the garish day, and, spite of fears, pride ruled my will: remember not past years.

So long thy power hath blest me, sure it still will lead me on;
Over moor and fen, over crag and torrent, till the night is gone;
And with the morn those angel faces smile which I have loved long since,
and lost awhile. Amen.

—John Henry Newman

*DOXOLOGY 965

Tune: OLD HUNDRETH

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 296 We Are Called

Tune: WE ARE CALLED

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Gigue

Robert Hilf

+Latecomers will be seated.

*You may stand.

Worship Leaders: Rev. Liz Testa, preaching: Rev. Dr. Ryan Boes, Rev. Janelle Lopez-Koolbaas, liturgists; Kamerkoor; 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 Al and Jane Osman.

Today we welcome Rev. Liz Testa as our guest preacher. Rev. Testa is a pastor, artist, visionary leader, innovator, and community builder who is passionate about encouraging and equipping others to live into their God-given gifts and callings. She currently serves the Reformed Church in America (RCA) as the denominational executive leader for Women's Transformation and Leadership.

ASSISTING TODAY: Deacons/Ushers: Lynne Bonnette, Jim Vander Meer, Laura McMullen

IF YOU DESIRE PRAYER for yourself and/or others Jane Dalman and Jeff Munroe 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, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 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: "Living into Our God Given Gifts and Calling" led by Liz Testa This class meets in the sanctuary. Next week: Led by Fred Johnson

"The Corinthian Correspondence: The Cross Changes Everything" meets in room 22.

Class led by George Hunsberger

The Week Ahead

Sunday

8:45 a.m. Kamerkoor

11:15 a.m. Education Hour

11:30 a.m. Spanish Worship Ministry/El Encuentro

7:00 p.m. Senior High Youth Group at Bolts' House

Tuesday

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

7:00 p.m. Special Education Ministries Orientation

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)

5:30 p.m. LIFT Dinner

6:15 p.m. LIFT Classes

6:15 p.m. Middle School Youth Group

Thursday

8:00 a.m. Sunrise Saints

10:00 a.m. Housing Team Meeting

4:30 p.m. Kids Hope

6:30 p.m. Intergroup Dialogue Session

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.

SYMPATHY is extended to Dan Bolhuis in the death of his mother, Muriel Bolhuis, on January 24.

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT: Hospice-Sue Ten Hoeve. Pray for Lucille Schroeder, Alan Beagley. Appledorn-Bob Kuiper, Donna Prins; Vista Springs-Barb Piaget. Missionaries-Jaime & Martha Amaro (Mexico), Albino & Sandy Rodriguez (Peru).

MICRO-PANTRY NEEDS: The Micro Pantry continues to serve a need in our neighborhood. You will notice that it has moved from the church driveway to under the canopy. We are low or out of the following items: canned fruit, baked beans, spaghetti noodles, elbow noodles, rice, diced tomatoes, tomato sauce, tomato paste, canned meat, cereal. Thank you for your faithful support of our Micro Pantry.

KNITTING MINISTRY: We have recently received a donation of yarn. Skeins of yarn are available. Please take some yarn to start a new project. The basket can be found outside the library.

WINTER WEATHER INFORMATION: During the weekdays, Third Reformed Church will follow the Holland Public Schools cancellations to determine whether we will be having daily and evening activities. For Sundays: if inclement weather is impacting travel, we will have 10:00 and 11:30 a.m. walk-in worship services in English and Spanish respectively unless otherwise announced. As per usual, the 10 a.m. service will be on Zoom. If we cancel services, text and email messaging will be used, and it will be announced on the church web site on the home page, on Facebook and Instagram, and on Wood TV 8 as well.

GIFTS & MEMORIAL EXTERIOR INVENTORY: The Gifts and Memorials Committee is updating their inventory list and is hoping you can help. If you know of a plant/tree/other exterior item that was given as a gift commemorating something, or a memorial for someone, please take a moment to call the church office to share any information you have. Thanks!

BREAKFAST WITH BABY: Third Reformed Church is responsible for Breakfast with Baby on February 11 from 9:15-11:15 a.m., at the Boulevard Church. There is a sign up sheet in the Gathering Place for volunteers to help serve, make casseroles muffins or sweet breads, or to provide fruit.

CROP Walk: Thank you for your continued support of the CROP Hunger Walk and its recipient agencies through your collecting of Spartan receipts. Reminder: in order for your SpartanNash receipt to be accepted the whole receipt needs to be turned in. They will not accept the receipts with only the Direct Your Dollars portion. They will, however, accept the whole receipt with your payment information blacked out. Also, be sure to add Sunday, May 21 to your calendars for this year's CROP Hunger Walk, which will start at Centennial Park, at 1:00 p.m.

Sign Up Begins This Week

Third Church Staytreat Friday, March 10-12

We will have registration open for this COMPLETELY FREE 2.5 day enjoyable and educational extravaganza by the end of the month. In that registration form there will be a spot to indicate where you'd like to help out during this fantastically fun fiesta of fellowship and learning weekend.

