

December 7, 2025 (Year A: Advent, Week 2: “Peace”)

HEARING GOD’S WORD

Prelude

“In Dulci Jubilo”

F. Liszt

Welcome and Introit

“Andante Religioso”

F. Mendelssohn

Call to Worship

One: We’re waiting for the One who is coming.

Many: **Why wait for someone when we don’t know how long to wait?**

One: We wait in anticipation, for the Coming One is filled with

God’s Spirit:

Many: **A spirit of wisdom and understanding in a confusing world.**

One: A spirit of counsel and knowledge.

Many: **We stand on tip-toe, eager to welcome the One who is coming,**

ALL: for the whole earth will be brimming, knowing God as

ALIVE with us.

* Passing the Peace

* Hymn Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

#244

* Gathering Prayer

God, your servant John the Baptist cries out to us: “Repent; turn and be restored.” Can we hear? Will we respond? Holy God, open the ears of our souls to hear your word of salvation. Holy and peace-inspiring God, on this second Sunday of Advent, open wide our hearts and our minds to see, feel, hear, and know the salvation of our God. Amen.

* Gloria Patri

#813

Welcoming New Members:

Suzanne & Frank Czerwinski

Rebecca McClanahan

Advent Wreath

“Peace”

Edsel Vazquez, Joseph Smith

Advent Song (v. 2 only)

(hymnal, back flap)

Scripture Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10 and Matthew 3:1-12

One: The Word of God for the people of God. | **All: Thanks be to God.**

Homily

Afflict the Comfortable

Rev. Dr. Daniel Schlorff

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

* Hymn of Response

| Extol You

#248

Joys and Concerns

Song Cares Chorus (seated)

#627

I cast all my cares upon you. I lay all of my burdens down at your feet. And anytime that I don’t know what to do, I will cast all my cares upon you.

Pastoral Prayer

One: God, in your mercy...

All: **Hear our prayer.**

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Affirmation

#247

Let’s worship and adore him. Let’s worship and adore him. Let’s worship and adore him. Let’s worship and adore him. Let’s worship and adore him, Christ the Lord.

Offering

Invitation

Offertory “Only Trust Him”

Doxology

#815

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Dedication

Announcements and Stewardship Moment

Hymn of Preparation

Worthy, You Are Worthy (extended)

#260

Communion

* Closing Hymn

The Lord’s Prayer

#631

* Benediction

Postlude “Marche Royale”

Lully

Welcoming Deacons: Alex Gorecki and Chris Tessman

Reading Deacon: Corrine Sternberg

Ushers: Angelica Barratt and Devon Beauregard

Flowers: Given by Janice Drescher in memory of her father, Richard Cassidy

All are warmly invited to enjoy fellowship after the service.

** Please rise in body or spirit.*

Third Congregational Church

Established 1773

Building on 250 years as a vibrant community of Christian Fellowship and service in our modern New England neighborhood...



December 7, 2025
“Afflict the Comfortable”

Ministers: All God's People
Senior Minister: Rev. Dr. Daniel Schlorff
3rd@schlorff.com | (203) 803-3540
Youth Minister: Collin Kennedy
Organist/Director of Music: Corbin Beisner
94 Miner Street, Middletown, CT (860) 632-0733
Website: www.thirdchurchmiddletown.org
Email address: thirdchurch94@gmail.com

WELCOME: Third Church welcomes you to worship on this Sunday morning. If you are visiting with us, please fill out an information card and place it in the offering plate. Please join us for Coffee hour in the Fellowship Hall.

Don't forget the outreach box. Bring a can of food to church each Sunday. Our collection goes to help meet the needs of the food shelves of Amazing Grace. We are also collecting cans of gravy for the Middletown Thanksgiving Project.

12/7 History of Christianity 8:30 am
New Membership Induction 10:00 am

Pack 43 Meeting 2:00 pm

Troop 16 Meeting 4:00 pm

12/9 HSS Meeting 6:00 pm

12/10 Bible Study 10:00 am

Narcotics Anonymous 5:45 pm

12/11 Choir Practice 6:00 pm

12/13 Bible Study 10:00 am

Birthdays: W. Cady 12/8, B. Buchanan 12/8, J. Drescher 12/9, T. Reeves 12/11

Congregational Care

If you know of any concern or a member or friend who needs a visit, please contact the office via email or note.

If you would like special prayers for anyone, please contact Lori Albert.

Prayer shawls can be like hugs from God from all the prayers that go with them as they are knitted, with a blessing added by the pastor when completed. If you would like a shawl or know anyone who would like one, please reach out to a deacon or Pastor Daniel. Recipients need not be a member of Third Church to receive this token of love.

Remember our shut-ins with prayer: Lynda Andrew and Janet Manthay.

Prayers

All prayer concerns will be listed for four weeks. After that time, let us know if you want your request to remain on our list.

*Please pray for:

Margie

Mary Lee Dorflinger

Matt Heard, friend's son of Martha & Jeff Yardis

Dianna Dixey

Arlene Wilson

Craig, friend of Pastor

Daniel

John, brother of Joyce

Pillion

Linda, daughter of Paul and Jane DiMauro

Adelina Vaughn, friend of Phyllis and Dave DeMerchant

Ann, friend of Corrine Sternberg

Austin, Cousin's son of Corrine Sternberg

Cory, friend of Third Church

Linda Rec