



Haslett Community Church
United Church of Christ

Sunday, January 7, 2024
10:00 AM

We strive joyfully and prayerfully to warmly welcome all, freely share our blessings, and humbly explore God's love.

haslettcommunitychurch.org

P.O. Box 217 · 1427 Haslett Rd.
Haslett, MI 48840

517.339.8383

hcc1@att.net

We strive to ensure that all are comfortable worshipping with us. Therefore, we:

- Offer three ways to worship: in our Sanctuary, from your car in our south lot (radio to 88.7 FM - turn up your volume) and via livestream (see website for details).
- Provide large print worship bulletins and hearing assist receivers in the sanctuary upon request – an usher would be happy to help you
- Have a building that is barrier free with accessible restrooms. Gender neutral bathrooms are downstairs and are accessible by stairs and elevator.
- Are an Open & Affirming Church which means we welcome and affirm persons of every gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, ability, age, race, nationality, economic status, faith background, marital status, or family structure.

Three Ways to Worship
Sundays at 10:00 am

1. In person
2. Parking lot (car radio on 88.7FM)
3. Remotely (via YouTube)

The church office is open for On-site Office Hours Tuesday & Thursday 10:30am - 1:00pm.

Pastor Betsy is in the office Tue-Fri. Appointments recommended, or come for her drop-in office hours on Wednesdays from 11:30am - 1:00pm.

We love to see you, so please stop by!

Your staff continues to be available to serve you by email and phone outside these on-site hours as well.

We welcome families and households of every size and age and want children to know they are welcome here. Therefore, we:

- Don't mind when children wiggle and make noise in church-your whole family is welcome here! We also have nursery care downstairs staffed by safety-trained volunteers.
- Have preschool through 5th Graders begin each week in worship, and then offer Sunday School following the Children's Moment most weeks
- Have vibrant and active middle and high school youth groups for 6th-12th graders

Our Vision:

*We strive joyfully and prayerfully to warmly welcome all, freely share our blessings,
and humbly explore God's love.*

Epiphany, Communion, & Joyful Offering
January 7, 2024 10:00 am

*When you see an *, you are invited to stand as you are able. When text is in bold, you are invited to speak aloud.*

For Your Meditation *"A good journey begins with knowing where you are and being willing to go somewhere else." - Richard Rohr*

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

Safety Snippet

Prelude " 'Tis Winter Now; the Fallen Snow" trad. English melody

Call to Worship (by Thom Shuman)

We gather wondering, 'Where will we find the Babe born in Bethlehem?'

We will find the Babe in the laughter of children, in the wisdom of elders.

We gather asking, 'where will we find the Child of Christmas?'

We will find the Child where the needy are gifted with hope, where the oppressed are set free.

We gather wanting to know, 'where will we find the Christ who has come for us?'

We will find our Hope where fear is overwhelmed by grace, where hatred is overwhelmed by love, where all people are overwhelmed by joy. Let us worship together in peace.

* **Hymn #161**

"Amen, Amen"
(verses 1-3)

African-Amer. Spiritual

Prayer of Approach

Emmanuel, God with us,
Give us the perseverance and courage
to seek out and approach you
wherever you are to be found;

Grant us the vision and understanding
to see and recognize you
whenever we might meet you;

Gift us the grace and generosity
to respond freely and fully
whatever you might ask of us.

And when we fail to seek you, to recognize you, to respond to you,
Forgive us.

Your light shines still, and leads us to you again. For that we are grateful. Amen.

Moment of Quiet Reflection

Hymn Response

“Where Shepherds Lately Knelt” (verse 1)

Vajda / Freeman



1. Where shep-herds late - ly knelt and kept the an - gel's
word, I come in half be - lief, a pil - grim strange-ly
stirred, but there is room and wel-comethere for me.

First Scripture Reading

Matthew 2: 1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, ² asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage.” ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to born.

⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah,
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’ ”

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Anthem

“Lo, How A Rose E’er Blooming”
(Regula Arnosti - soloist)

trans. Baker, 1894
arr. Praetorius, 1609

Children’s Moment

Second Scripture Reading

[\(See insert to follow along\)](#)

Mark 2: 1-17

Sermon

“Finding Jesus, Finding Us”

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Communion Prayer

Words of Institution & Invitation to the Table

Partaking of the Elements (gluten-free and alcohol free)

Prayer of Thanksgiving and 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 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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

* Hymn #163

“Many Are the Lightbeams”
(verses 1-3)

LIGHTBEAMS

Invitation to Share Tithes & Offerings and Joyful Offering!

Offertory (see below for digital giving options)

* **Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Christ all creatures here below; One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.

* **Benediction**

Postlude

“Hark, the Herald Angels Sing”

ELDERKIN
arr. BFF



You are invited to join us for Coffee Fellowship after worship in Friendship Hall.

We worship every Sunday at 10:00 am, and you are welcome to join us.

Thank you for continuing to support Haslett Community Church as you are able. We receive your gifts with gratitude. We have some secure electronic options to help make your giving easy and safe:

- Use your phone camera to scan the QR code to the right to access our Online Giving.
- Text GIVE to our secure giving number: 517-200-3995
- PayPal us at: HCCgenerosity@gmail.com



We are so grateful for your generosity!

Ministry Connections
Reaching Out to Each Other and Our Community
January 7, 2024



We heartily welcome all to our service of worship.

May the comfort and challenge of God's loving presence renew and inspire you this morning and throughout the coming week.

Haslett Community Church welcomes You!

If you are visiting, please take a purple dove cup with a sweet treat and helpful information on your way out!

We worship every Sunday at 10:00 am.



Follow us on Facebook
 Haslett Community Church



TODAY, SUNDAY, January 7, 2024, is Epiphany, which means our children will stay in worship with us and collect their **Joyful Offering**. **Please ready your change/coins to contribute.**

CHURCH CALENDAR (January 7 - January 14)

Sunday 1/7/2024 Epiphany	10:00 AM	Worship (S, Online) <i>Communion & Joyful Offering</i>
	11:00 AM	Coffee Fellowship (Fr) YOUTH: MS Youth Grp (YR) YOUTH: HS Youth Grp (YR) HCC SKI TRIP THRU JAN 8
Monday 1/8/2024	6:00 PM	Property Committee Meets (Z)
	7:00 PM	Green Team Meets (Z)
	7:30 PM	Social Committee Meets (FR)
Tuesday 1/9/2024	10:30 AM - 1PM	Onsite Office Hours (Ofc)
	7:15 PM	Church Council Meets (FH)
Wednesday 1/10/2024	11:30 AM - 1PM	Betsy Office Hours (Ofc)
	1:00 PM	Spiritual Life Meets (L)
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal (CR)
Thursday 1/11/2024	9:00 AM	Sermon Preview Grp (Z)
	10:30 AM	HCC Onsite Office Hours (Ofc)
	1:30 PM	Mission Outreach Meets (FH)
Saturday 1/13/2024	9:00 AM	Men's Group Meets (Z)
Sunday 1/14/2024 Annual Meeting	10:00 AM	Worship (S, Online)
	10:00 AM	Sunday School (SS)
	11:00 AM	Congregational Meeting (S)
	11:45 AM	Knitters, Crocheters, etc. (L)
	5:00 - 6:30 PM	YOUTH: MS Youth Grp (YR)
	7:00 - 9:00 PM	YOUTH: HS Youth Grp (YR)



Please pray for our HCC Ski Trippers as they finalize their trip and travel back Jan. 8.



With a New Year upon us, the Safety Team reminds us that January

has been identified as HCC's Safety Month. To that end, members of the Safety Team will be elevating specific Safety and Security Initiatives each week in January via short comments during the Announcements portion of the service. Remember, part of loving everyone in our Congregation is protecting everyone... ensuring church safety begins with each and every one of us!

Legend: CR=Choir Rm; DS = downstairs; FH= Fellowship Hall; Fr = Friendship Hall; K =Kitchen; L=Library; Ofc=HCC Office; MM = Mary & Martha Rm DS; N = Nursery DS; S=Sanctuary; SS=Sunday School Rooms (downstairs); YR=Youth Rm; Z=Zoom

The Staff:

Rev. Betsy Aho	Pastor	aho.betsy@att.net	517.339.8383 x11
Rev. Erin Heisler	Minister for Youth & Children	erin.heisler@att.net	517.339.8383 x19
Barbara Freeman	Church Musician		517.881.9976
Landon Black	Choral Conductor Intern		
Michele Booher	Office Manager	hcc1@att.net	517.339.8383 x10
Sally Sanchez	Custodian		

Our thanks this morning to:

Reader:	Cheryl Edwards
Greeters:	Bob & Sally Heisler
Ushers:	Don & Kelly Flagg
Coffee Hosts:	Steve & Barb Decker
Audio/Visual Tech:	Jim Gornick
Tellers	Don Flagg & Jim Gornick (Train Kris Belonge)



To donate Sanctuary flowers for a future Sunday , please sign up on the sheet on the wall outside the HCC office or online [HERE](#).

Permission to reprint music and words from sources other than The New Century Hymnal is granted under CCLI License # 1340749 or by special permission.

Thank you for worshipping with us! If you are visiting, or would like to know more about Haslett Community Church, you are invited to:

- Take a “Purple Dove Cup” for your household on your way out – it has some helpful info and a treat inside.
- Fill out a “Welcome!” card available in the seat in front of you, and drop it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher so that we might be in touch with you in the ways you indicate would be helpful.
- Ask questions if you have them; our Pastors, ushers, and the people sitting around you are great sources of information and are happy to help you feel comfortable here.

No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome at Haslett Community Church where we strive to welcome everyone with the same unconditional hospitality demonstrated by the love of God in Christ for all people.

Amen, Amen

African-American spiritual

Mark 3:7-10; Luke 2:7, 46-47; Rom. 6:6-10

Congregation/choir

A - men, a - men, a - men, a - men,

Solo

1 O see the lit-tle ba-by
 2 See Je-sus in the tem-ple
 3 See Je-sus at the sea-shore
 4 See Je-sus on the cross . . .
 5 Yes, Je-sus died to save us,
 6 We're sing-ing Al-le-lu-ia!

ly-ing in a man-ger
 talk-ing to the el-ders;
 preach-ing to the peo-ple,
 bear-ing all my sins . . .
 rose on Eas-ter morn-ing,
 Je-sus is my Sav-ior,

(Congregation/choir)

a - men! A - men,

on Christ - mas morn-ing,
 how they all mar-veled!
 heal-ing all the sick ones!
 in bit-ter ag-o-ny!
 and lives for-ev-er!
 who lives for-ev-er!

(2 See)

(3 See)

(4 See)

(5 Yes,)

(6 We're)

a - men, a - men, a - men, a - men!

This is one of the many spirituals that found fame during the civil rights movement of the 1960s. Its pattern of call-and-response allowed the lead singer to create new verses while those gathered sang the response of "Amen."

(Back)

Tune: AMEN Irr.
African-American spiritual
Arr. Nelsie T. Johnson, 1988

When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. ² So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door, and he was speaking the word to them. ³ Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. ⁴ And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. ⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Child, your sins are forgiven." ⁶ Now some of the scribes were sitting there questioning in their hearts, ⁷ "Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" ⁸ At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves, and he said to them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? ⁹ Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up and take your mat and walk'? ¹⁰ But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the paralytic— ¹¹ "I say to you, stand up, take your mat, and go to your home." ¹² And he stood up and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

¹³ Jesus went out again beside the sea; the whole crowd gathered around him, and he taught them. ¹⁴ As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. ¹⁵ And as he sat at dinner in Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were also sitting with Jesus and his disciples, for there were many who followed him. ¹⁶ When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, they said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹⁷ When Jesus heard this, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician but those who are sick; I have not come to call the righteous but sinners." (Back)

Many Are the Lightbeams

163

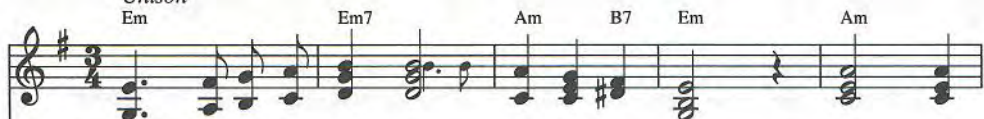
Cyprian of Carthage, "De unitate ecclesiae," 252 C.E.

John 8:12; 9:5; 15:1-5; 1 Cor. 12:4-27; Gal. 3:28

Swedish paraphr. by Anders Frostenson (b. 1906)

Transl. David Lewis, 1983

Unison



1 Man - y are the light-beams from the one light. Our one
2 Man - y are the branch-es of the one tree. Our one
3 Man - y are the gifts given, love is all one. Love's the
4 Man - y ways to serve God, the Spir - it is one; ser - vant
5 Man - y are the mem - bers, the bod - y is one; mem - bers



light is Je - sus. Man - y are the light-beams
tree is Je - sus. Man - y are the branch-es
gift of Je - sus. Man - y are the gifts given,
spir - it of Je - sus. Man - y ways to serve God, the
all of Je - sus. Man - y are the mem - bers, the



from the one light; we are one in Christ.
of the one tree; we are one in Christ.
love is all one; we are one in Christ.
Spir - it is one; we are one in Christ.
bod - y is one; we are one in Christ.



The text upon which this hymn is based is by a bishop of the early church, Cyprian of Carthage. It was paraphrased from his 252 C.E. work, "De unitate ecclesiae" (Of church unity). He was martyred in Carthage c. 258.

(Back)

Tune: LIGHTBEAMS Irr.
Olle Widstrand (b. 1906)
Arr. Darryl Nixon, 1987