

Haslett Community Church  
United Church of Christ

Sunday, January 15, 2023  
10:00 AM

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

[haslettcommunitychurch.org](http://haslettcommunitychurch.org)

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

517.339.8383

[hcc1@att.net](mailto: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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders

Our Vision:

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

## **Second Sunday after Epiphany**

**January 15, 2023 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:** "Words are never good or bad on their own, context makes them so ."

- Abhijit Naskar

### **Gathering**

### **Welcome**

### **Prelude**

"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"  
(our last hymn this morning)

Chavez-Melo  
RAQUEL

### **Call to Worship** (by Thom Shuman)

**Jesus began his ministry to the world,  
led by the Spirit into the wilderness.**

As we begin our week,  
let us be led by the Spirit,  
even into the uncomfortable places.

**In those forty days, and in that place,  
Jesus was faced with hunger, doubt,  
and temptation.**

As we seek to follow Jesus,  
we would be led,  
even into the uncomfortable choices.

**Jesus left the wilderness,  
faithful to God,  
rejoicing in the One in whom he trusted.**

As we continue on our path to faithfulness,  
we will be led by our Christ,  
rejoicing in the Lord our God.

**\*Hymn #12**

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

Watts  
ELLACOMBE

## Prayer of Approach

God, our Light and Salvation,  
forgive us for those moments when we have walked in darkness,  
stumbling in the wilderness of quarrels, division, and bickering.  
**You have called us to follow you and to fish for people  
but too often we think that our way is the only way to do your will.  
Forgive us, Lord, for the brokenness that we bring upon ourselves.**

God, the Stronghold of our Life,  
hear our cry as we come to you for unity.  
Send your Spirit to gather us as you desire us.  
**Remind us that unity does not mean uniformity.  
Teach us that the “same mind” you call us to have  
is not ours, but the mind of your Beloved, Jesus Christ,  
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

## Moment of Quiet Reflection

### \*Hymn Response

“Christ Beside Me”  
(verse 1 - please see insert)

### First Scripture Reading

**Matthew 4: 1-11**

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. <sup>2</sup> He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” <sup>4</sup> But he answered, “It is written,

‘One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ”

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup> saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,  
‘He will command his angels concerning you,’  
and ‘On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ”

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ”

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, <sup>9</sup> and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.’ ”

<sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

**Anthem**

“Holy”

Fettke

## **Children’s Moment**

### **Second Scripture Reading**

**Matthew 4: 12-17**

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup> so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

<sup>15</sup> “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,  
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—

<sup>16</sup> the people who sat in darkness  
have seen a great light,

and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death  
light has dawned.”

<sup>17</sup> From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

**Sermon**

“War of the Words”

**\*Hymn**

“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”  
(please see insert)

Chavez-Melo  
RAQUEL

## **Invitation to Share our Offerings & Joyful Offering**

### **Offertory**

#### **\*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.

## **Prayers of The People 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.*

## Announcements and Start of Annual Congregational Meeting



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

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documentary & discussion with

### David C. Jones

documentary cinematographer

Sunday · January 15, 2023 · 6-9 p.m.

Haslett Community Church  
1427 Haslett Rd · Haslett, MI

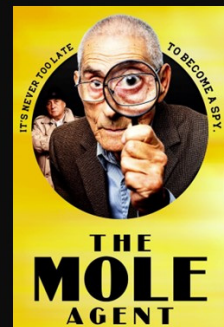
Come Watch: "The Mole Agent"

Then engage in discussion, led by HCC's own David C. Jones, about how we care for the aging members of our families and communities.

Haslett Community Church, United Church of Christ is wheelchair accessible and has gender neutral bathrooms available.



[haslettcommunitychurch.org](http://haslettcommunitychurch.org)

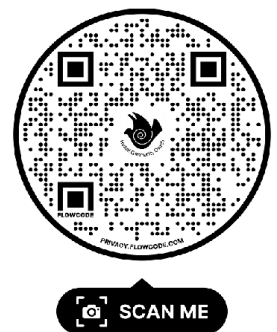


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Thank you for continuing to support Haslett Community Church as you are able. We receive your gifts with gratitude. We have some no-touch options to help make your giving easy and safe:

- 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](mailto:HCCgenerosity@gmail.com)

We are so grateful for your generosity!



**Ministry Connections**  
**Reaching Out to Each Other and Our Community**  
**January 15, 2023**



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.



Follow us on Facebook  
 Haslett Community Church

**CHURCH CALENDAR (January 15 - January 22)**

<b>Sunday</b> 1/15/2023 <b>Annual HCC Meeting</b>	10:00 AM	Worship (S, PL, Online)
	10:00 AM	Sunday School (SS)
	11:00 AM	Annual HCC Meeting (S)
	11:00 AM	<i>In person; Childcare available</i>
	5:00 - 6:30 PM	MS Youth Group (YR)
	6:00 - 9:00 PM	Documentary & Discuss (S) <i>The Male Agent</i>
	7:00 - 9:00 PM	HS Youth Group (YR)
<b>Monday</b> 1/16/2023	10:00 AM	YOUTH: Day of Service (FP)
<b>Tuesday</b> 1/17/2023		NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE <i>Please email to hcc1@att.net</i>
	10:30 AM - 1PM 6:00 - 7:30 PM	Onsite Office Hours (Ofc) YOUTH: 12 <sup>th</sup> gr Dinner (FH,Z)
<b>Wednesday</b> 1/18/2023		NO Office Hours - <i>Pastor Betsy away</i>
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal (S)
<b>Thursday</b> 1/19/2023	10:30 AM - 1PM After School	Onsite Office Hours (Ofc) YOUTH: HS 1/2 Day Lunch <i>Cancun in Okemos</i>
	Friday - Sunday Noon - 6pm	YOUTH: HS Winter Retreat Red Cross Blood Drive (Fr, S)
<b>Saturday</b> 1/21/2023	9:00 AM	Men's Grp Meets (Z)
<b>Sunday</b> 1/22/2023 <b>Laity Sunday</b>	10:00 AM	Worship (S, PL, Online)
	10:00 AM	Sunday School (SS)
	11:00 AM	Coffee Fellowship (Fr)
	5:00 - 6:30 PM	MS Youth Group (YR)

**Legend:** FH= Fellowship Hall; FP= Food Pantry; Fr = Friendship Hall; L=Library; MM= Mary & Marth's; Ofc=HCC Office; PL=Parking Lot; S=Sanctuary; SS=Sunday School Rooms (downstairs); YR=Youth Rm; Z=Zoom

**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.

**Notice of Annual Congregational Meeting**



The annual Congregational Meeting will take place **TODAY at 11:00 am**, in person.

Childcare will be provided. *(If utilizing childcare, please provide snacks for your child(ren) so we can avoid any allergy complications - Thank You!)*

A full agenda and more information was emailed out last week, and printed copies are available in the Sanctuary today. The main purpose of the meeting is to vote on Council nominees and the 2023 Church Budget.

**There will be a blood drive at HCC on Friday, January 20, from Noon - 6pm**



Donation **by appointment only** (No walk-in appointments). Visit [www.redcrossblood.org/give](http://www.redcrossblood.org/give), then scroll through the Drives listed in the left panel to find Haslett Community Church and an appointment time that works for you.

Please keep our High School Youth in your prayers as they travel and take part in their Winter Retreat this coming Friday, January 20 - Sunday, January 22.

**The Staff:**

Rev. Betsy Aho	Pastor	<a href="mailto:aho.betsy@att.net">aho.betsy@att.net</a>	517.339.8383 x11
Rev. Erin Heisler	Minister for Youth & Children	<a href="mailto:erin.heisler@att.net">erin.heisler@att.net</a>	517.339.8383 x19
Barbara Freeman	Church Musician		517.881.9976
Michele Booher	Office Manager	<a href="mailto:hcc1@att.net">hcc1@att.net</a>	517.339.8383 x10
Sally Sanchez	Custodian		

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**Our thanks this morning to:**

<b>Reader:</b>	Fred Schmidt
<b>Greeters:</b>	Malinda Barr & Ann McGrath
<b>Ushers:</b>	Carol & Dan Reid
<b>Coffee Hosts:</b>	Ron & Cathy Rowe
<b>Audio/Visual Techs:</b>	Jon Lineberry
<b>Tellers</b>	Don Flagg & Rich Baumgartner

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**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.



Ps. 136:5-9; James 1:17

Isaac Watts, 1715; alt.

*Descant*

3 On earth there's not a plant or flower but makes your glo - ry known.

1 I sing the might-y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,  
 2 I sing the good-ness of our God that filled the earth with food;  
 3 On earth there's not a plant or flower but makes your glo - ry known.

The clouds a - rise and spread their showers by or - der from your throne.

That spread the flow-ing seas a - broad, and built the loft - y skies.  
 God formed the crea-tures with a word, and then pro - nounced them good.  
 The clouds a - rise and spread their showers by or - der from your throne.

All life is but a gift from you and ev - er in your care;

I sing the wis-dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;  
 Oh, how your won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er I turn my eye:  
 All life is but a gift from you and ev - er in your care;

Wher - ev - er peo-ple gath - er, you, O God, are pres - ent there.

The moon shines full at God's com-mand, and all the stars o - bey.  
 If I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!  
 Wher - ev - er peo-ple gath - er, you, O God, are pres-ent there.

The tune Ellacombe was named for a place in Devonshire, England. It was first published in a collection of tunes used in the private chapel of the Duke of Wirtemberg, and was possibly sung with the text "Ave Maria, klärer."

Tune: ELLACOMBE C.M.D.  
 Gesangbuch der herzoglichen  
 Wirtembergischen katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784  
 Descant, The New Century Hymnal, 1993

# Christ Beside Me



1. Christ be - side me, Christ be - fore me, Christ be -  
2. Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all a -  
3. Christ be in all hearts think - ing a - bout me, Christ be on



hind me, Love of my heart. Christ with - in me,  
round me, shield in the strife. Christ in my sleep - ing,  
all tongues tell - ing of me. Christ be the vi - sion



Christ be - low me, Christ a - bove me, nev - er to part.  
Christ in my sit - ting, Christ in my ris - ing, Light of my life.  
in eyes that see me, in ears that hear me, Christ ev - er be.

WORDS: James Quinn, 1969, alt.

MUSIC: Traditional Gaelic melody, harm. David Evans, *Revised Church Hymnary*, 1927

BUNESSAN  
55.54D

BUNESSAN is a Gaelic melody, first published in *Songs and Hymns of the Gael* in 1888. In that book it was paired with a Christmas text.

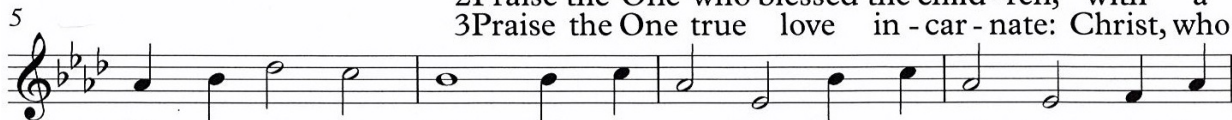
Words © James Quinn, by permission of  
Selah Publishing Co., Inc.  
Harm. © 1927, by permission of  
Oxford University Press,

# Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

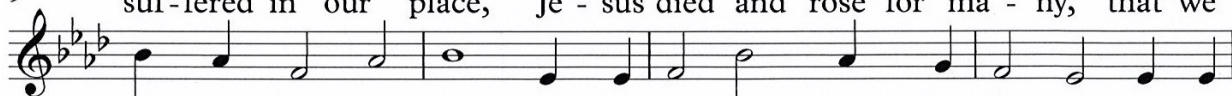
Chavez-Melo  
RAQUEL



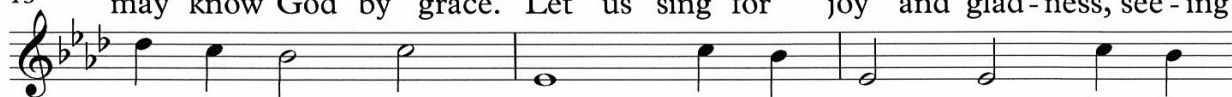
1 Praise the One who breaks the dark ness with a  
2 Praise the One who blessed the child- ren, with a  
3 Praise the One true love in - car - nate: Christ, who



lib - er - a - ting light, praise the one who frees the pris-oners, turn-ing  
strong yet gen - tle word, praise the one who drove out de - mons with a  
9 suf-fered in our place, Je - sus died and rose for ma - ny, that we



blind-ness in - to sight. Praise the one who preached the gos - pel, heal-ing  
pierc-ing two-edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the  
13 may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and glad-ness, see-ing



ev' - ry dread dis - ease, calm-ing storms and heal-ing  
des - ert's burn - ing sand, from this well comes liv - ing  
16 what our God has done; Praise the one re - deem-ing



thou - sands with the ve - ry bread of peace.  
wa - ter, quench-ing thirst in ev' - ry land.  
glo - ry, praise the One who makes us one.

(Back)