



Haslett Community Church
United Church of Christ

Laity Sunday
Sunday, January 22, 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

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 88.7 FM)
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.*

**Third Sunday after Epiphany & Laity Sunday
Celebrating the Stories of Us
January 22, 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: "Each of us is a story. We were created by God as a story—waiting to be told, and each of us has to find a way to tell our story." - Richard Rohr

"Too many of us believe we don't matter and that what we do doesn't really matter." - from *I Will Not Live an Unlived Life* by Dawna Markova

Gathering

Welcome

Don Flagg

Prelude

"Spirit, I Have Heard You Calling"

Elliot

***Call to Worship** (from *Transforming Worship Center*)

Jon Lineberry

Creator of the world, eternal God,

**WE HAVE COME HERE FROM MANY PLACES
FOR A LITTLE WHILE.**

Redeemer of humanity, God-with-us,

**WE HAVE COME WITH ALL OUR DIFFERENCES, ALL OF OUR STORIES AND EXPERIENCES
SEEKING COMMON GROUND.**

Spirit of unity, go-between God,

**WE HAVE COME ON JOURNEYS OF OUR OWN,
TO A PLACE WHERE JOURNEYS MEET.**

So here, in this time of worship,

**LET US ANSWER THE INVITATION TO OPEN OURSELVES
TO MAKING SACRED CONNECTIONS**

For when paths cross and pilgrims gather,

There is much to celebrate.

**IN YOUR NAME, THREE-IN-ONE GOD,
PATTERN OF COMMUNITY**

AMEN

***Hymn**

“Gather Us In / Here In This Place”
(please see insert - verses 1,2, & 4)

Haugen

Prayer of Approach

Cambria Decker-Larkin

(Center for Transforming Worship, paraphrased from Phil Porter & Cynthia Winton Henry in *Having It All*)

Jesus, Lover of our Souls, we come with hearts full of gratitude and joy for this community You have built, where love in Christ is revealed and shared. Where You gather in and welcome not only all people but also all parts of ourselves, all parts of our stories.

Hear our prayers for the parts of ourselves, the stories that are painful to acknowledge to You, to ourselves, to others, the pieces of ourselves that we quietly keep under wraps.

**WE ASK YOU TO OPEN UNTO US LIGHT FOR OUR DARKNESS,
COURAGE FOR OUR FEAR, HOPE FOR OUR DESPAIR.**

**O LOVING GOD, OPEN US UNTO WISDOM FOR OUR CONFUSION,
FORGIVENESS FOR OUR SINS, LOVE FOR OUR HATE.**

**O GOD OF PEACE, OPEN UNTO US PEACE FOR OUR TURMOIL,
JOY FOR OUR SORROW, STRENGTH FOR OUR WEAKNESS.**

**O GENEROUS GOD, OPEN OUR HEARTS TO RECEIVE
ALL YOUR GIFTS.**

Thank you for the growing awareness of the need to be known in all our “incongruous entirety,” for the growing experience of happiness and belonging as we risk the many sides of ourselves being known.

Help us to know “deep down inside that all the parts of us fit together into one whole. The conflict I or others see between the parts is externally imposed and that I need all of me wherever I am, even if I can’t fully acknowledge that with the ones I am with.

AMEN

***Hymn Response**

“Come, Come Whoever You Are”
(please see insert)

Rumi

First Scripture Reading *(from The Message)*

Psalms 105: 1-6

¹ Hallelujah!

Thank God! Pray to him by name!

Tell everyone you meet what he has done!

² Sing him songs, belt out hymns, translate his wonders into music!

³ Honor his holy name with Hallelujahs, you who seek God. Live a happy Life!

⁴ Keep your eyes open for God, watch for his works; be alert for signs of his presence.

⁵ Remember the world of wonders he has made, his miracles, and the verdicts he’s rendered—

⁶ O seed of Abraham, his servant, O child of Jacob, his chosen.

Reflection

Carolyn Lucas

Passing of the Peace

May the Peace of Christ be with you;
And also with you.

Anthem

“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”

St. Francis
Temple/ arr. Barnard

(After this, children, 4 years old and up, are invited to go downstairs for Sunday School.)

Second Scripture Reading *(The Message)*

Psalms 119: 25-32

- ²⁵ I'm feeling terrible - I couldn't feel worse!
Get me on my feet again. You promised, remember?
- ²⁶ When I told my story, you responded;
train me well in your deep wisdom.
- ²⁷ Help me understand these things inside and out
so I can ponder your miracle-wonders.
- ²⁸ My sad life's dilapidated, a falling-down barn;
build me up again by your Word.
- ²⁹ Barricade the road that goes Nowhere;
grace me with your clear revelation.
- ³⁰ I choose the true road to Somewhere,
I post your road signs at every curve and corner.
- ³¹ I grasp and cling to whatever you tell me;
God, don't let me down!
- ³² I'll run the course you lay out for me
if you'll just show me how.

Sermon

“On a journey together: This is my story, this is my song”

Carolyn Lucas

***Hymn #286**

“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”
(verses 1,3, & 4)

Manley

Prayers of The People and the Lord's Prayer

Becky Leefers

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.

Invitation to Share our Offerings

Don Flagg

Offertory

“I Will Come To You”

Haas

***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.

Announcements

Don Flagg

Congregation

Response #391

“In the Midst of New Dimensions”
(chorus only)

Rush

***Benediction**

Postlude

“We Are Marching in the Light of God”

S. African song



You are welcome to join us after Worship for Coffee Fellowship in Friendship Hall.

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

Connect & Reflect:

A Retreat for All Ages

Saturday, February 4, 2023
2:30 pm

Join us for a time of connecting, small Spiritual learning, and activity groups, & activities for kids!
 At the end of the afternoon, we'll share in a singalong, simple supper, & enjoy an evening of games.

Sign up on the clipboard outside the HCC Office or e-mail hcc1@att.net to sign up.



- Households of Every Size and Age Welcome!**
- Walk a Labyrinth
 - Explore New Ways to Pray
 - Discussion Groups on Various Topics
 - Children's Activities
 - Sing Along
 - Simple Supper
 - Games & Fun

Ministry Connections
Reaching Out to Each Other and Our Community
January 22, 2023



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

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 22 - January 29)

Sunday 1/22/2023	10:00 AM	Worship (S, PL, Online)
	10:00 AM	Sunday School (SS)
	11:00 AM	Coffee Fellowship (Fr)
	Laity Sunday 5:00 - 6:30 PM	MS Youth Group (YR)
Tuesday 1/24/2023	10:30 AM - 1PM	Onsite Office Hours (Ofc)
	6:00 - 7:30 PM	YOUTH: 6 th gr Dinner (YR)
	7:00 PM	Song of Welcome Event - (Fr,S) <i>Fundraiser for Refugee Center</i>
Wednesday 1/25/2023		NO Office Hours - <i>Pastor Betsy away</i>
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal (S)
Thursday 1/26/2023	10:30 AM - 1PM	Onsite Office Hours (Ofc)
Saturday 1/28/2023	9:00 AM	Men's Grp Meets (Z)
Sunday 1/29/2023	10:00 AM	Worship (S, PL, Online)
	10:00 AM	Sunday School (SS)
	11:00 AM	Coffee Fellowship (Fr)
	11:15 AM	Coffee With Jesus (MM)
	5:00 - 6:30 PM	MS Youth Group (YR)
	7:00 - 9:00 PM	HS 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.

Song of Welcome

A Refugee Development Center Fundraiser

Tuesday, January 24, 2023 · 7:00 p.m.

Haslett Community Church

1427 Haslett Rd · Haslett, MI
haslettcommunitychurch.org



An evening of music, story, poetry and photography in support of refugees who are making Lansing their home.

Program is open to the public
Free will offering collected
All donations go to the
Refugee Development Center of Lansing



Haslett Community Church
United Church of Christ



**refugee
development center**

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

We are so grateful for your generosity!



SCAN ME

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
Michele Booher	Office Manager	hcc1@att.net	517.339.8383 x10
Sally Sanchez	Custodian		

Our thanks this morning to:

Reader:	Dudasik family
Greeters:	Dudasik family
Ushers:	Sylvia Davis & Lucretia Hildabridle
Coffee Hosts:	Russ & Lynn Wilson
Audio/Visual Techs:	Helen & David Jones
Tellers	Rich Baumgartner & Dave Ferguson

A very special thank you to each of the lay people who participated in leading today's service: Cambria Decker-Larkin, Don Flagg, Becky Leefers, Jon Lineberry, and Carolyn Lucas

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 worshiping 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.

Here in This Place

401

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter; here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his - tory,
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a - way: here in this place the new light is shin - ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en; gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion; give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en;
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly;
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.

1.

2.

Come, come who - ev - er you are, wan - der - er, wor - ship - er,

3.

lov - er of leav - ing. Our's is no car - a - van

4.

of des - pair. Come, yet a - gain, come. (Back)

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

James K. Manley, 1978; alt.

Unison, brightly
Refrain

D G A Dsus4 D

Spir - it, spir - it of gen - tle-ness, blow through the

Bm E7 Asus7 A7

wil - der-ness, call - ing and free,

D G A Dsus4 D

Spir - it, spir - it of rest - less-ness, stir me from

Bm G A7 D G D Last time, end

plac - id-ness, wind, wind on the sea.

D G A G

1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the
2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the
3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a
4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient

*Reduced-size notes may be played with organ pedals in lieu of or in combination with the other notes.

D A7 D Bm

deep, then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the
sand, and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a
hill, then you whis-pered in si - lence when the
schemes, from the bond - age of sor - row the

E7 Asus7 A7 D G A

val - leys of sleep; And o - ver the e - ons you
law and a land; When they were con-found - ed by their
whole world was still; And down in the cit - y you
cap - tives dream dreams; Our wom-en see vi - sions, our

G D A7 D Bm

called to each thing, "A - wake from your slum -
i - dols and lies, then you spoke through your proph -
(Back) called once a - gain, when you blew through your peo -
men clear their eyes. With bold new de - ci -

G A7 D G D A7 to Refrain

bers and rise on your wings."
ets to o - pen their eyes.
ple on the rush of the wind.
sions your peo-ple a - rise.

This popular hymn by songwriter James K. Manley grew out of a sabbatical leave at the School of Theology at Claremont, California. It was first sung at Waiiokeola Congregational Church in Honolulu, after which Manley added the fourth stanza at the suggestion of a church member.

Tune: SPIRIT Irr.
James K. Manley, 1978
Arr. The New Century Hymnal, 1993

(Back)

In the Midst of New Dimensions

391

Julian Rush, 1985; alt.

Gen. 9:12-16; Exod. 13:21-22; Num. 14:14

Refrain

Am Em F C F C G7 C Dsus4 D7 G7sus4 G7 Am

God of rain-bow, fier - y pil - lar, lead-ing where the ea-gles soar, We your

Em F C F C/E F C/E F C/E Dm7 G7 C
peo-ple, ours the jour-ney now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.

Julian Rush, an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church, has spent more than a decade as director of the Colorado AIDS Project. He wrote this hymn on the theme of "diversity."

Tune: NEW DIMENSIONS 8.7.8.7. with refrain
Julian Rush, 1985
Arr. The New Century Hymnal, 1994