



Haslett Community Church
United Church of Christ

Ash Wednesday
February 22, 2023
6:00 PM



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.*

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

Welcome

Prelude

“Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life”

Herbert
Vaughan Williams

Call to Worship

For just such a time as this,
we were made.
In the image of God,
loving, grace-giving, and wise,
we are created to be the hands,
hearts, and feet of divinity.

**We gather on this Ash Wednesday,
not because we must,
not to puff ourselves up,
but to start out on the trail
leading to the resurrection.**

**We commit to learning to live faithfully,
embracing the royal divinity within each of us.**

***Hymn #331**

“Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life”

Herbert
Vaughan Williams

First Scripture Reading

Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

“Beware of practicing your righteousness before others in order to be seen by them, for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

² “So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you,

they have received their reward. ³ But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your alms may be done in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵ “And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶ “And whenever you fast, do not look somber, like the hypocrites, for they mark their faces to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹ “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Prayer of Confession

**We confess we sin individually against others,
we confess we repeat our mistakes, even though we know better.
We allow our actions to make it harder for others to reach you.
Release us from our flawed ideas and the desires that trip us up causing our fall into sin.
Move us closer to you and away from that which tempts us.**

**We confess we are also a part of the world’s systems of sin.
We are all twisted up in that which we barely understand.
We claim our success is of our own doing and anyone can do as we do,
even as our kindred struggle in poverty or other injustices that we never face.**

**Release us from our ignorance and arrogance so we can live in your beloved community.
In the name of those with whom we are connected yet do not know,
In the name of the children who come to Jesus and are blessed,
In the name of the humble,
In the name of our Triune God of Grace we pray. Amen.**

Time for Quiet Reflection and Confession

Imposition of Ashes

Assurance of Pardon

Though you and I are imperfect, we are loved. Though we hurt one another, we are embraced. In our human frailties, we are God's object of extravagant love. Be assured that despite what we can change and what we see no way to change, God never forgets us, ever beckoning us toward hope and the beloved community.

*Hymn Response

"Sign Us With Ashes"

Bringle/Rowan

All

Sign us with ash - es, mer - ci - ful God, chil - dren of

dust, as to dust we re - turn. Sign us with ash - es,

mer - ci - ful God. Mark us and make us your own. *Fine*

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 18: 1-5

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"² He called a child, whom he put among them,³ and said, "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

⁴Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

⁵Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

Message

The Lord's Prayer from the Church of New Zealand Book of Prayer:

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your justice be

followed by the peoples of the world! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever. Amen.

***Benediction**



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 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!



Ministry Connections
Reaching Out to Each Other and Our Community
February 22-26



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 (February 22 - February 26)

Wednesday 2/22/2023 Ash Wednesday	11:30 AM - 1PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Pastor Betsy Office Hours (Ofc) Ash Wednesday Service (S) Choir Rehearsal (S)
Thursday 2/23/2023	9:00 AM 10:30 AM - 1PM	Pastor Betsy Bible Study (Z) Onsite Office Hours (Ofc)
Saturday 2/25/2023	9:00 AM 9:30 AM-1 PM	Men's Grp Meets (Z) Council Retreat (FH?)
Sunday 2/26/2023 1st Sunday of Lent	10:00 AM 11:00 AM 5:00-6:30 PM 7:00 - 9:00 PM	Worship (S, PL, Online) <i>Communion & Joyful Offering</i> Coffee Fellowship (Fr) YOUTH: MS Youth Grp (YR) YOUTH: HS Olympics (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



This Sunday, the 1st Sunday in Lent, our children will be collecting their Joyful Offering during Worship. Please consider bringing your change for them to collect.

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.



Bible Study Group with Addy Stuever,
Environmental Justice Fellow,
HCC & Edgewood UCC

**Tuesdays, 7-9 pm,
through Mar 28**

Grand Traverse Pie Co., East Lansing.
Community Room, 1403 E. Grand River Ave

Speak with the Earth and It Will Teach You: A Field Guide to the Bible by D. Cooperrider
(Available from Pilgrim Press and Amazon)

**Pastor Betsy Bible Study
(Sermon Preview) Group**

Thursdays, 9-9:45am, via Zoom,

Join Pastor Betsy for a weekly Bible Study based on the Scripture passages for the upcoming Sunday Sermon. The discussion is appropriate for those new to Bible study and those who've been at it for years - come when it's convenient for you.

Meeting ID: 879 0122 4109
Passcode: 48840

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 special thanks to:

Audio/Visual Tech: Rich Newport

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.

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Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life

331

George Herbert, 1633; alt.

John 8:12; 14:1-7; 15:11

Unison



1 Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a way as gives us
2 Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a light as shows a
3 Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a joy as none can



breath; Such a truth as ends all strife;
feast; Such a feast as mends in length;
move; Such a love as none can part;



such a life as con - - - quers death.
such a strength as makes a guest.
such a heart as joys in love.

Shortly before his death, the poet George Herbert entrusted his manuscript of *The Temple* (including this hymn) to a friend for publication. The musical setting by English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams is from *Five Mystical Songs* from George Herbert.

Tune: THE CALL 7.7.7.7.
Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1911

(Back)