



Haslett Community Church  
United Church of Christ

Sunday, June 18, 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](https://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 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 Pentecost**

**June 18, 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**, a breath prayer by Cole Arthur Riley:

*Inhale: God, keep me near to my own soul.*

*Exhale: Let me rest in my selfhood.*

### **Gathering**

### **Welcome**

### **Prelude**

“Heart of Worship”

Redman

**Call to Worship** (The Open & Affirming Covenant of Haslett Community Church, UCC; Adopted by Congregational Vote in 2017)

Striving to warmly welcome all, we, the people of Haslett Community Church, firmly state our conviction that everyone is a beloved child of God and that God loves all people, equally and unconditionally.

**As disciples of Jesus Christ, we devote ourselves to faithfully answering his call to "love the Lord, our God, with all our heart, soul, strength and mind, and our neighbors as ourselves."**

In keeping with that sacred commitment, we seek especially and explicitly to include lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning people in our common life.

**Following Jesus in his example of reaching out to those who have been traditionally marginalized and oppressed, we covenant with one another to invite and welcome into our community persons of every gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, ability, age, race, nationality, economic or social status, faith background, physical, mental or emotional condition, marital standing, or family structure.**

As a safe place for everyone on the journey of faith, we respectfully receive and intentionally nurture the gifts of all, encouraging everyone to fully participate and share their tal-

ents and energy in leadership, whether lay or ordained, and in all of our activities of worship and sacraments, learning, service, mission, and fellowship.

**We commit ourselves to the ongoing work of being an open and affirming congregation. Together, we strive to keep on humbly exploring and growing in the wonders of God's love.**

\* Hymn #471

“What a Covenant”

Showalter

**Prayer of Approach** (by Mak Kneebone, of the UCC Open & Affirming Coalition)

**Holy One of Blessing, eternally we co-create ourselves in your love.**

**All companionship orientations;**

**All gender identities and expressions;**

**All ways of having family.**

**We celebrate LGBTQ+ peoples everywhere**

**Knowing that many are still not safe to come out;**

**To be free;**

**To live life abundantly.**

**Heal all who are ill in body, mind, heart, or spirit.**

**Bind up all wounds and provide adequate care.**

**Extinguish any stigma people are enduring.**

**We celebrate because everyone should be celebrated.**

**We are your body on earth.**

**May our love and hope be**

**sent on the wings of this prayer**

**To all who need refreshing,  
affirmation, and love's embrace.**

**May it be so. Amen.**

**Moment of Quiet Reflection**

**Hymn Response #393**

“Blessed Be the Tie That Binds”  
(verse 3)

Fawcett  
DENNIS S.M.

**First Scripture Reading**

**1 Samuel 18: 1-5**

When David had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was bound to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. <sup>2</sup> Saul took him that day and would not let him return to his father's house. <sup>3</sup> Jonathan, out of his deep love for David, made a covenant with him. <sup>4</sup> He formalized it with solemn gifts: his own royal robe and weapons—armor, sword, bow, and belt. <sup>5</sup> Whatever Saul gave David to do, he did it—and did it well. So well that Saul put him in charge of his military operations. Everybody, both the people in general and Saul's servants, approved of and admired David's leadership.

## Special Music

## Favorite Hymns!

### \* Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you;  
**And also with you.**

*Preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to Sunday School.*

### Second Scripture Reading

**Acts 8: 26-39**

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) <sup>27</sup> So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, the queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup> and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup> Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." <sup>30</sup> So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" <sup>31</sup> He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup> Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

<sup>33</sup> In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

<sup>34</sup> The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" <sup>35</sup> Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup> As they were going along the road, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" <sup>38</sup> He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.

<sup>39</sup> When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more and went on his way rejoicing.

### Sermon

"Open and Affirming: More Than a Statement"

### \* Hymn #274

"Womb of Life and Source of Being"  
(to the tune of Ode to Joy)

Duck  
Beethoven

## Announcements

### Invitation to Share Tithes & Offerings

#### 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.

### Joys and Concerns

#### 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.*

#### \* Benediction

#### Postlude

“O Day of Peace”

Parry



*After worship, you are invited to join us for Coffee Hour in Friendship Hall.*

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

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**Summer Concert Series 2023!!**  
**Thursdays, 7-8 pm;**  
**June 29 - July 20**  
**Free for everyone!**

Back for a third summer!  
Bring a chair, your favorite beverage,  
& snack to relax on the lawn at HCC  
and enjoy some great entertainment!

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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



We are so grateful for your generosity!

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**Ministry Connections**  
**Reaching Out to Each Other and Our Community**  
**June 18, 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 (June 18 - June 25)**

<b>Sunday</b> 6/18/2023	6/17 - 6/24 10:00 AM 11:00 AM 11:15 AM	Mission Trip (Nashville, TN) Worship (S, PL, Online) Coffee Fellowship (Fr) Coffee With Jesus (MM)
Father's Day		
<b>Tuesday</b> 6/20/2023	10:30AM - 1PM	NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE <i>please email hcc1@att.net</i> Onsite Office Hours (Ofc)
<b>Wednesday</b> 6/21/2023	11:30AM - 1 PM	Betsy Office Hours (Ofc)
<b>Thursday</b> 6/22/2023	10:30 AM - 1PM	Onsite Office Hours (Ofc)
<b>Saturday</b> 6/24/2023	9:00 AM	Men's Group Meets (Z)
<b>Sunday</b> 6/25/2023	10:00 AM 11:00 AM Noon - 2PM	Worship (S, PL, Online) <i>Mission Trip Sunday</i> Ice Cream Sundae Sunday (Fr) MI PRIDE Rally at the Capitol <i>Lansing, MI Capitol lawn</i>
Mission Trip & Sundae Sunday		

**Legend:** CR=Choir Rm; Edge=Edgewood UCC; FH= Fellowship Hall; Fr = Friendship Hall; L=Library; OD1= Door1; Ofc=HCC Office; K =Kitchen; PL=Parking Lot ; S=Sanctuary; SS=Sunday School Rooms (downstairs); YR=Youth Rm; Z=Zoom

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

Information for the July 2023 Newsletter is due to Michele THIS Tuesday - June 20, 2023

Please send to: [hcc1@att.net](mailto:hcc1@att.net)

**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.

Please pray for all of our Mission Trippers as they spend the week serving in Nashville, TN.



Then join us NEXT SUNDAY, June 25, Mission Trip Sunday, to hear about their experiences!



Stay after worship NEXT SUNDAY as Social Committee hosts a celebration of the Mission Trippers with Sundae Sunday!

Come enjoy ice cream from the MSU Dairy Store with all the Sundae Toppings!



HCC will again participate in the Michigan PRIDE Rally at the Capitol this year! NEXT Sunday, June 25, Noon - 2PM! We can carpool from church, or you can meet us on the Capitol Lawn! Also, help yourself to a Pride pin (courtesy of the Youngquists) to show support. Available today and next Sunday in Friendship Hall. We will also hand them out at the Pride rally!

**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>Readers:</b>	Jim Linnemann
<b>Greeters:</b>	Sylvia Davis & Ann McGrath
<b>Ushers:</b>	Ruth & Jim Linnemann
<b>Coffee Hosts:</b>	Katie & Kirk Riley
<b>Audio/Visual Techs:</b>	Ambrose Meteyer & Jon Lineberry
<b>Tellers</b>	Rich Newport & Sylvia Davis

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**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.



Deut. 33:27

Elisha A. Hoffman, 1887; alt.



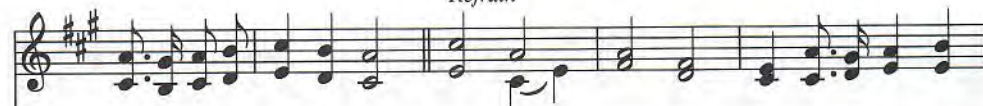
1 What a \*cov - e - nant, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -  
 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -  
 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms. What a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine, lean - ing  
 last - ing arms. Oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, lean - ing  
 last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Sav - ior near, lean - ing



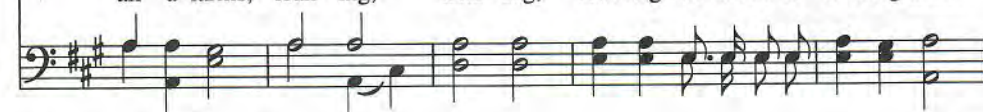
## Refrain



on the ev - er - last - ing arms.  
 on the ev - er - last - ing arms. Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from  
 on the ev - er - last - ing arms.



all a - larms; lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.



\*Or, "fellowship"

In a letter to two grieving friends, A. J. Showalter quoted Deuteronomy 33:27, "... underneath are the everlasting arms." Showalter then wrote this music and the refrain and sent them to E. A. Hoffman to provide the stanzas.

Tune: LEANING 5.5.9.D. with refrain  
 Anthony J. Showalter, 1887

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# Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

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*John Fawcett, 1782; alt.**Gal. 3:28; 6:2; Col. 3:13-15*

1 Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris-tian love;  
2 Be-fore our God we come and pour our ar-dent prayers;  
3 We share each oth-er's woes, each oth-er's bur-dens bear,  
4 When we are called to part it gives us in-ward pain,

The shar-ing of a com-mon life is like to that a-bove.  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com-forts and our cares.  
And of-ten for each oth-er flows a sym-pa-thiz-ing tear.  
But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet a-gain.

*An English Baptist minister, John Fawcett published a number of poetic works. His entire ministry was spent at a church near Hebden Bridge, Yorkshire, where he wrote most of his hymns to follow his sermons.*

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Tune: DENNIS S.M.  
Melody by Johann G. Nügeli (c. 1768-1836)  
Adapt. Lowell Mason, 1845

John 1:14; 20:19-23

Ruth Duck, 1986, 1990

1 Womb of life, and source of be - ing, home of ev -  
 2 Word in flesh, our broth - er Je - sus, born to bring  
 3 Brood - ing Spir - it, move a - mong us; be our part -  
 4 Moth - er, Broth - er, ho - ly Part - ner; Fa - ther, Spir -

- ery rest - less heart, in your arms the worlds a -  
 us sec - ond birth, you have come to stand be -  
 - ner, be our friend. When our mem - ory fails, re -  
 - it, On - ly Son: we would praise your name for -

wak - ened; you have loved us from the start.  
 side us, know - ing weak - ness, know - ing earth.  
 mind us whose we are, what we in - tend.  
 ev - er, one - in - three, and three - in - one.

*This hymn, which mixes old and new metaphors to express faith and praise to God, known to us as Source, Word, and Spirit (and many other names!), borrows a phrase from Charles Wesley: "Born to give us second birth." According to Ruth Duck, Trinitarian theology provides a model for the life of community.*

Tune: LADUE CHAPEL 8.7.8.7.D.

Ronald Arnatt, 1968

Alternate tunes: HYMN TO JOY; CENTRAL

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We, your chil - dren, gath - er 'round you, at the ta -  
Priest who shares our hu - man strug - gles, Life of Life,  
La - bor with us, aid the birth - ing of the new  
We would share your life, your pas - sion, share your word



- ble you pre - pare. Shar - ing stor - ies, tears, and  
and Death of Death, Ris - en Christ, come stand a -  
world yet to be, Free of ser - vant, lord, and  
of world made new, Ev - er sing - ing, ev - er



laugh - ter, we are nur - tured by your care.  
mong us, send the Spir - it by your breath.  
mas - ter, free for love and u - ni - ty.  
prais - ing, one with all, and one with you.



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