



Haslett Community Church  
United Church of Christ

Sunday, September 24, 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.*

**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 24, 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** *“God is still breathing. The Bible is both inspired and inspiring. Our job is to ready the sails and gather the embers, to discuss and debate, and like the biblical character Jacob, to wrestle with the mystery until God gives us a blessing.” – Rachel Held Evans, Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again*

**Gathering Music**

**Welcome**

**Prelude**

“Praise to Our God, Sing Praises”

Nigeria

**Call to Worship**

We gather here in anticipation,  
**seeking an encounter with our Holy God,**  
who comes among us when we least expect it,  
**who invites us to wrestle with our questions and doubts,**  
who richly blesses us, and calls us each by name.  
**Let us worship together!**

**\* Hymn #436**

“God of Grace and God of Glory”  
(verses 1-3)

Fosdick  
CWM RHONDDA

**Prayer of Approach**

**God, you have called us into a whole-hearted relationship with You.  
You've asked us to leave behind all we possess,  
and live out our faith with passion and integrity.**

**Give us strength to hold on to You no matter what comes our way.  
Give us courage to wrestle honestly with the things we don't understand;  
to continually work out our relationship with you and one another,  
to grapple daily with what it means to faithfully follow You.**

**We are Your people, as we seek to live as Your disciples in the world.  
we ask for your patience and grace, Amen.**

## Moment of Quiet Reflection

Hymn Response #286

“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”

Manley

6 Spir - it, spir - it of gen - tle-ness, blow through the  
14 wil-der-ness call ing and free. Spir - it, spir-it of rest-less-ness  
stir me from pla - cid-ness, wind, wind on the sea.

## First Scripture Reading

Genesis 32: 9-12

Jacob said, “O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, O Lord who said to me, ‘Return to your country and to your kindred, and I will do you good,’<sup>10</sup> I am not worthy of the least of all the steadfast love and all the faithfulness that you have shown to your servant, for with only my staff I crossed this Jordan, and now I have become two companies.<sup>11</sup> Deliver me, please, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau, for I am afraid of him; he may come and kill us all, the mothers with the children.<sup>12</sup> Yet you have said, ‘I will surely do you good and make your offspring as the sand of the sea, which cannot be counted because of their number.’ ”

## Anthem

“Spirit, I Have Heard You Calling”

Thew Elliott

*Spirit I have heard you calling, like a mem’ry long grown dim,  
Crying from creation’s moment, seeking voice from deep within.  
I have heard you in my longing, I have heard you in my pain.  
Now I feel you moving in me, feel you burning like a flame.*

*Now I see you all around me, now I hear you call my name.  
Now I speak the words you give me, now I feed creation’s flame.  
You are speaking through my longing, You are speaking through my pain.  
Now I feel you moving in me, and I’ll never be the same.*

*Since you moved upon my waters, since you spoke and set me free,  
I have yearned for this communion, for your fire inside of me!  
Now your love defines my longing, now your love shines through my pain.  
Now we dance in endless union, singing out creation’s name.*

## Children's Moment

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

### Second Scripture Reading

**Genesis 32: 22-32**

The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. <sup>23</sup> He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. <sup>24</sup> Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. <sup>25</sup> When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. <sup>26</sup> Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." <sup>27</sup> So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." <sup>28</sup> Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." <sup>29</sup> Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. <sup>30</sup> So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." <sup>31</sup> The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip. <sup>32</sup> Therefore to this day the Israelites do not eat the thigh muscle that is on the hip socket, because he struck Jacob on the hip socket at the thigh muscle.

### Sermon

"The Struggles, The Blessings"

### \* Hymn #433

"In the Bulb There Is a Flower"

Sleeth

## Announcements

### Invitation to Fully Fund the Church We Love

#### 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.*

### Choral Benediction

"The Peace of the Earth"

arr. Bell

## \* Benediction

## Postlude



*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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**Holy Ground Festival!**  
**Sunday, October 1, 2023**  
**From World Communion Sunday at 10 a.m.**  
**to a celebration for all after worship**

**Holy Ground Festival Includes:**

- Inflatable climbing & slide fun for kids
- One big Church Family photograph
- Hot dog roast around the "burning bush"
- Refreshments and fellowship
- Recognizing what makes HCC Holy Ground!



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**Wednesday Wisdom and Wondering Presents**

**Mortal and Marvelous:  
real talk about dying**

**Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m.**

**September 13 – October 11, 2023**

**We love to have you in person.**

Let's talk about death and dying in a safe, comfortable, faithful way. Some topics include:

- Hospice, A Closer Look
- Conversations to Have Before You Die
- Leaving Behind "Left Behind": Scripture and What's Next
- And more.

This 5-week series is for adults of all ages and stages.

**For Zoom option use:**  
**Meeting ID:** 832 2757 3032  
**Passcode:** 48840



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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

We are so grateful for your generosity!

**Ministry Connections**  
**Reaching Out to Each Other and Our Community**  
**September 24, 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 (September 24 - October 1)**

<b>Sunday</b> 9/24/2023	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	YOUTH: MS Youth Grp (YR)
	7:00 - 9:00 PM	YOUTH: HS Youth Grp (YR)
<b>Monday</b> 9/25/2023	10:00 AM	YOUTH: All Youth Breakfast - <i>Blondie's Restaurant - Haslett</i>
<b>Tuesday</b> 9/26/2023	10:30 AM - 1PM	Onsite Office Hours (Ofc)
	7:00 PM	Safety Team Meets (L)
<b>Wednesday</b> 9/27/2023	11:30 AM - 1PM	Betsy Onsite Ofc Hours (Ofc)
	6:00 - 7:00 PM	Wisdom & Wondering (FH)
	7:00 - 8:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal (CR,S)
<b>Thursday</b> 9/28/2023	9:00 - 9:45 AM	Sermon Preview Bible Study (Z)
	10:30 AM - 1PM	Onsite Office Hours (Ofc)
<b>Saturday</b> 9/30/2023	9:00 AM	Men's Group Meets (Z)
<b>Sunday</b> 10/1/2023	10:00 AM	Worship (S, PL, Online) <i>World Communion Day</i>
	11:00 AM	Holy Ground Festival (Fr)
	5:00 - 6:30 PM	YOUTH: MS Youth Grp (YR)
	7:00 - 9:00 PM	YOUTH: HS Youth Grp (YR)

**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

Choir meets Wednesdays at 7pm in the Sanctuary. We're a fun group and would love to welcome new voices. Please consider dropping by to sing a bit with us!

**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.



**Next Sunday, October 1, our children will collect a Joyful Offering during Worship!**

Please bring your change for that offering, which will go to support **Nyaka Global**. They provide community-based solutions to address the needs of orphaned and vulnerable children in rural southwestern Uganda by surrounding each child with a comprehensive support system. This is comprised of inter-related programs developed and led by their community, where children are nurtured and protected so they can learn, grow, and thrive. earn more [HERE](#).

**On Sunday October 8, 2023, at 5pm. at Malinda Barr's Barn at 1867 Lake Lansing Rd, Haslett**



Social Committee is hosting an all-HCC Bonfire. Music will be furnished by Mark Garrod and friends. Social Committee will furnish hot dogs, buns and fixing's, marshmallows, chocolate, and graham crackers. We ask that you bring a chair, beverage and your appetite!! This will be a fun event **for everyone** in the church. Sign up is online [HERE](#) and on the wall by the church office.



We are hoping to add one team of two to our team of nursery volunteers this year! Teams work on a ro-

tating basis from October-May, serving for two Sundays, then off for 8. Please let Erin know if you are interested please contact Pastor Erin ([erin.heisler@att.net](mailto:erin.heisler@att.net))

**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
Landon Black	Choral Conductor Intern		
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>	Kim Carnes
<b>Greeters:</b>	Ron & Cathy Rowe
<b>Ushers:</b>	Bob & Sally Heisler
<b>Coffee Hosts:</b>	Tim & Laura Roumpz
<b>Audio/Visual Techs:</b>	Jon Lineberry, Helen, David Jones
<b>Tellers</b>	Rich Newport & Bob Heisler

*Sanctuary flowers today are donated by Carol Cramer, in memory of Marlene Cramer.*

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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.

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

[hcc1@att.net](mailto:hcc1@att.net)

517.339.8383



# God of Grace and God of Glory

436

Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930; alt.

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple  
 2 From the e - vils that sur - round us and as - sail the  
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to  
 4 Set our feet on loft - y plac - es; gird our lives that  
 5 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your power; crown your an - cient church - 's sto - ry;  
 Sav - ior's ways, from the fears that long have bound us—  
 your con - trol. Shame our reck - less, self - ish glad - ness,  
 they may be ar - mored with all Christ - like grac - es,  
 we de - plore; let the search for your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 free our hearts for faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 in the fight to set us free. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
 make our bro - ken spir - its whole, make our bro - ken spir - its whole.  
 in the quest for lib - er - ty, in the quest for lib - er - ty.  
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Harry Emerson Fosdick, a prophetic preacher and writer, taught at Union Theological Seminary from 1915 to 1946. This hymn was written for the opening service and dedication of Riverside Church, New York City, which he served for twenty years.

Tune: CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.  
 John Hughes, c. 1907

(Back)

Natalie Sleeth, 1985

## Unison

1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;  
 2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;  
 3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!  
 there's a dawn for ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.  
 in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.

In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,  
 From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,  
 In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.  
 un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.  
 un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

Natalie Sleeth composed her "Hymn of Promise" first as a choral anthem and then adapted it to this version for congregational singing. It was dedicated to her husband, Ronald Sleeth, who died shortly after she completed it.

Tune: PROMISE 8.7.8.7.D.  
 Natalie Sleeth, 1985

(Back)



## Happy Heart Helpers Needed!

Have you ever wondered who makes Sunday mornings go so smoothly? YOU DO! Join the Happy Heart Team, and just see what smiles you can bring to people.

Being a Happy Heart volunteer is a great way to serve the church when you're already here on a Sunday morning! We hope to have enough volunteers that you would not need to fulfill a role more than about once a quarter!

See the back of this flyer for descriptions of all roles, and know that we are always happy to train you or have you shadow someone until you are comfortable. Every effort is made to work around your schedule, and if something comes up substitutions can be made.

Fill out the form below and place it in the basket during offering, or give to a Pastor, or email [hcc1@att.net](mailto:hcc1@att.net) to tell us which role(s) you are interested in and we will be in touch.



You are invited to fill out the ways you would be interested in serving the Happy Heart team in 2024. Return it to the HCC office, place in the offering plate, or email the church office at [hcc1@att.net](mailto:hcc1@att.net) to sign up.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in these Happy Heart Team roles (check all that apply):


- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| _____ Greeter | _____ Coffee Host (training video avail.)   |
| _____ Usher   | _____ Audio Visual Tech (training provided) |
| _____ Reader  | _____ Teller (training provided)            |

I would prefer to shadow someone on my first time as \_\_\_\_\_.







# Happy Heart




**Greeters:** Our Greeters are the first to welcome folks into the building. They're encouraged to stand in Friendship Hall, near door #1 and the church office (this prevents too much of a bottle neck where the nametag table is now, near the sanctuary doors).




**Ushers:** Ushers distribute worship bulletins before the service. They also count everyone in attendance, as well as close/open the sanctuary doors. During the offering, they pass the offering plates and a basket for prayer requests, placing the offering plates on the communion table during the Doxology.



**Scripture Reader:** This person will do the first Scripture reading of the Service. The church office emails you the reading for the week so you are able to become familiar with it and practice it prior to Sunday morning.




**A/V Techs:** Our Audio/Video Techs work in pairs to run the livestream camera and sound system during worship. This role requires a little extra training, so our friendly, current A/V techs will work with you until you're comfortable.



**Coffee Hosts:** Coffee Hosts host our time of fellowship following the worship service. The coffee materials and instructions are posted in the kitchenette in Fellowship hall. Hosts are encouraged to arrive 45 minutes prior to worship to get the coffee started. Treats are not a requirement, but are enjoyed by the congregation when offered. Juice or punch (non-red) is nice for the children & non-coffee drinkers. There are also usually GLUTEN FREE options to use in the freezer in the HCC Main Kitchen.

## Two recommended changes that we're making for our coffee hosts:

1. You can now **CHOOSE** which method of making coffee you are most comfortable with: brewers & air pots or the traditional percolators. Directions and supplies will be provided for both.
2. You can also **CHOOSE** whether to use one- time-use cups or washable mugs and cups.



**Tellers:** Tellers are specially-trained to count the offering. They are on a rotating schedule. If this is something you are interested in doing, and aren't already on the team, please contact the office.

