



Haslett Community Church
United Church of Christ

Sunday, October 29, 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 88.7FM)
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.*

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost & Generosity Sunday
October 29, 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 *“we are miracles
insightful and creative
Spirit-inspired, generosity-filled
children of love and life
giving from the abundance of who we are
giving to build the whole church
giving to strengthen the Church
together” !”*

– Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ, from her poem, *Together*

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

Choral Call to Worship “Surely the Lord Is In This Place” Colvin

Call to Worship

In the name of God,
who created us,
who holds us and the whole world in care;

In the name of the Son
who came into the world,
who reconciles us with God;

In the name of the Holy Spirit
who fills us with eternal life,
who connects us with all people
and incites us to peace,
we come together to offer our
thanks and praise.

*** Hymn #70** “God Is Here! As We Your People Meet” Green
Taylor

Prayer of Approach

O God, we yearn to be a community of believers, united in your Spirit.
And yet we are fraught with divisions: denominational, political, theological.
The world is weighed down by tensions and violence and the things that break us apart.
Forgive us, great God, for this great brokenness.
Help your children around the world to learn to live in community together,
loving one another, seeking justice for one another,
and learning to live as neighbors.
Help us to be as you call us, one in heart and mind.
Help us turn to the Prince of Peace to learn how to sow seeds of understanding in the world. Amen.

Moment of Quiet Reflection

Hymn Response

“Sanctuary”

Scruggs /Thompson

Lord pre- pare me to be a sanc- tu - ar - y, Pure and ho - ly,
7 tried and true. With thanks giv - ing I'll be a
12 liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - ry for You.

First Scripture Reading

I Kings 12: 1-7 (The Message)

¹⁻² Rehoboam traveled to Shechem where all Israel had gathered to inaugurate him as king. Jeroboam had been in Egypt, where he had taken asylum from King Solomon; when he got the report of Solomon's death he had come back.

³⁻⁴ Rehoboam assembled Jeroboam and all the people. They said to Rehoboam, "Your father made life hard for us—worked our fingers to the bone. Give us a break; lighten up on us and we'll willingly serve you."

⁵ "Give me three days to think it over, then come back," Rehoboam said.

⁶ King Rehoboam talked it over with the elders who had advised his father when he was alive: "What's your counsel? How do you suggest that I answer the people?"

⁷ They said, "If you will be a servant to this people, be considerate of their needs and respond with compassion, work things out with them, they'll end up doing anything for you."

Anthem "Look At the World" Rutter

*** Passing the Peace**

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

Preschool through 5th graders are invited to Sunday School.

Second Scripture Reading **1 Kings 12: 8-17, 25-29 (The Message)**
(See insert if you'd like to follow along.)

Sermon "Worth It"

*** Hymn** "Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples" Carmichael
(Please see insert) KINGSFOLD

Presentation by Larry Conover from Church World Service

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.

Dedication of our 2024 Pledges

The Lord's Prayer Landon Black, soloist

*** Benediction**

*** Choral Benediction** "Oh Spirit, Who Dost Bind" Tucker
Edwards

Postlude "Come Ye Weary, Poor and Needy" Freeman



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

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



Throughout October, we have discovered, celebrated, and given voice to the all the good that God is doing at Haslett Community Church, United Church of Christ! We have to invest in that good in order to keep our church thriving and sustainable. **TODAY, October 29, is Generosity Sunday and the conclusion of the campaign to fully fund the church in 2024!** See below for how you can participate. You are the church!

We continue what we started a year ago - daring to believe we can fully fund the church we love!

This means we pause not only to intentionally bring to mind what we love about Haslett Community Church, but also to directly connect our love to the money we invest in the life, mission, and ministry of this congregation. The love that is shared among the people of HCC, the love we have for what happens within these walls, and the love we have for caring for our wider community are treasures that we hang on to.

Today is the day to pledge to fully fund our church in 2024. We are only 9% away from a fully funded budget. This time last year, the gap was twice that size! So we are asking that all of us consider a 9% increase from the money we spent on the church this year, pledged or otherwise. And if you've never contributed your money to HCC before, try considering your offering as a weekly expense, and thank you for jumping in! **Pledge cards are available in the seats in front of you and only take a few moments to fill out.** You can then place the card in the offering plate this morning.

Let's fully fund this church. It's time. HCC is a unique place of belonging and goodness, theological compassion and hope, and it makes sense that we invest our personal labor and earnings into it. The love of God is real in this place! Not only for ourselves, but for everyone who holds on to it. Your contributions are extremely valuable.

Thank you for continuing to support Haslett Community Church as you are able. We receive your gifts with gratitude. We have some secure electronic 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
October 29, 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.

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.



Follow us on Facebook
 Haslett Community Church

CHURCH CALENDAR (October 29 - November 5)

Sunday 10/29/2023	10:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM 5:00 - 6:30 PM 7:00 - 9:00 PM	Worship (S, PL, Online) Sunday School (SS) Coffee Fellowship (Fr) YOUTH: MS Youth Group (YR) YOUTH: HS Youth Group (YR)
Generosity Sunday		
Tuesday 10/31/2023	10:30 AM - 1PM	Onsite Office Hours (Ofc)
Wednesday 11/1/2023	11:30 AM - 1PM 7:00 - 8:30 PM	Betsy Onsite Ofc Hours (Ofc) Choir Rehearsal (CR)
Thursday 11/2/2023	9:00 - 9:45 AM 10:30 AM - 1PM 7:00 PM	Sermon Preview Bible Study (Z) Onsite Office Hours (Ofc) Haslett Women's Club (FH)
Saturday 11/3/2023	9:00 AM	Men's Group Meets (Z)
Sunday 11/5/2023	10:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM 5:00 - 6:30 PM 7:00 - 9:00 PM	Worship (S, PL, Online) Sunday School (SS) Coffee Fellowship (Fr) YOUTH: MS Youth Group (YR) YOUTH: HS Youth Group (YR)
Daylight Saving Time ENDS		

Legend: CR=Choir Rm; D3= Door3; FH= Fellowship Hall; Fr = Friendship Hall; L=Library; Ofc=HCC Office; K =Kitchen; PL=Parking Lot; S=Sanctuary; SS=Sunday School Rooms (downstairs); YR=Youth Rm; Z=Zoom



Sermon Preview Bible Study
Shining a Light on Scripture
Thursdays, 9-9:45am, via Zoom,

Join Pastor Betsy for a weekly Bible Study based on the Scripture passages for the upcoming Sunday.

Meeting ID: 879 0122 4109
 Passcode: 48840

No preparation required. Join when you can.



Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m.

NEXT SUNDAY, November 5, 2023.

Remember to set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night before you go to sleep.

Choir meets Wednesdays, 7-8:30 pm in the Choir Room downstairs. We're a fun group and would love to welcome new voices. Please consider dropping by to check it out and sing with us!

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
Landon Black	Choral Conductor Intern		
Michele Booher	Office Manager	hcc1@att.net	517.339.8383 x10
Sally Sanchez	Custodian		

Our thanks this morning to:

Reader:	Cindy Meteyer
Greeters:	Brett & Cindy Meteyer
Ushers:	Rich Baumgartner & Ann Pierce
Coffee Hosts:	Laura Belisle & Family
Audio/Visual Techs:	Rich Newport
Tellers	Bob Heisler & Cheryl Edwards



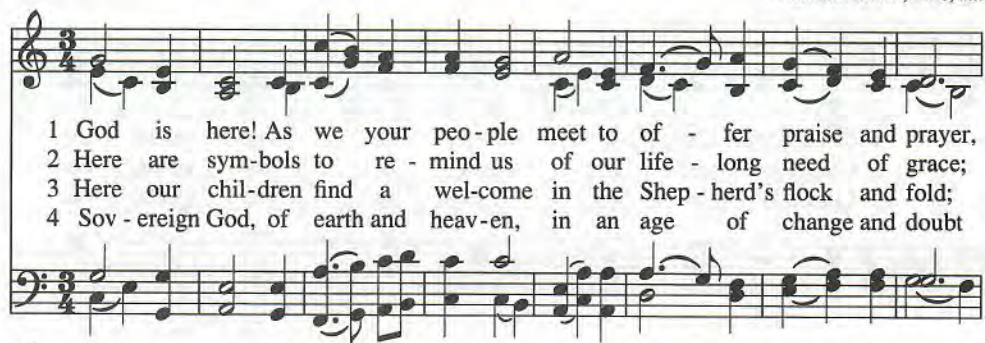
If you'd like to help by donating Sanctuary flowers for Sunday Worship, please sign up on the sheet on the wall outside the HCC office or online [HERE](#).

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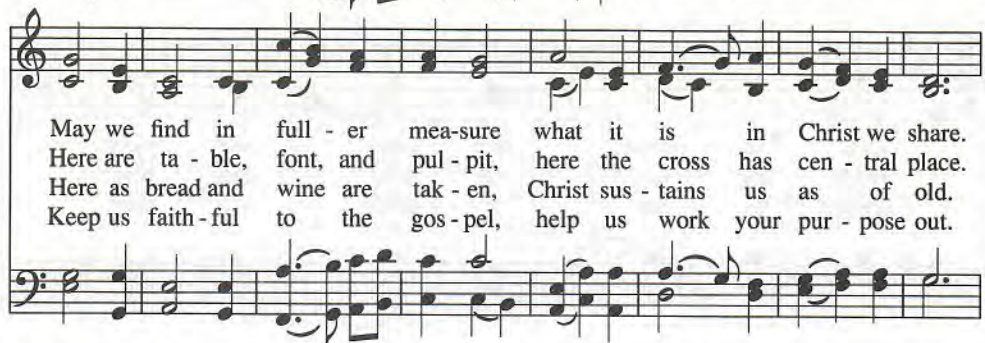
Thank you for worshipping with us! If you are visiting, or would like to know more about Haslett Community Church, you are invited to:

- 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.

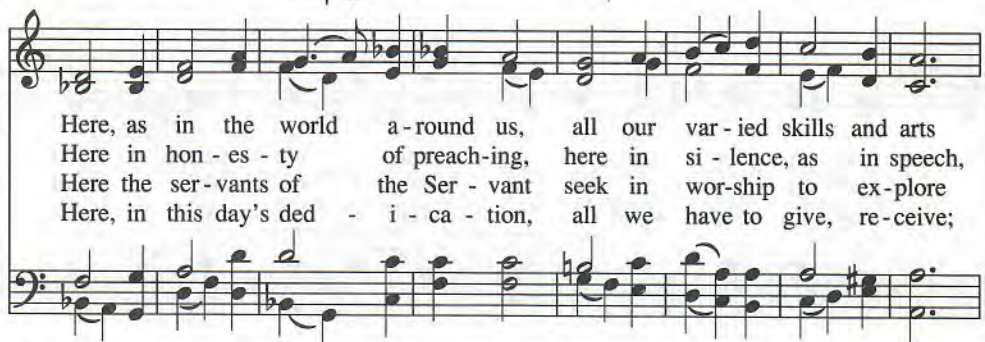
No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at Haslett Community Church where we strive to welcome everyone with the same unconditional hospitality demonstrated by the love of God in Christ for all people.



1 God is here! As we your peo-ple meet to of - fer praise and prayer,
 2 Here are sym-bols to re - mind us of our life - long need of grace;
 3 Here our chil-dren find a wel-come in the Shep - herd's flock and fold;
 4 Sov - ereign God, of earth and heav-en, in an age of change and doubt



May we find in full - er mea-sure what it is in Christ we share.
 Here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit, here the cross has cen - tral place.
 Here as bread and wine are tak - en, Christ sus - tains us as of old.
 Keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel, help us work your pur - pose out.



Here, as in the world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
 Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
 Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
 Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Though he retired in 1969, this distinguished British poet has continued to write hymns. In addition to administering several circuits and local congregations, Fred Pratt Green published plays, translations, and poems. Emory University in Atlanta awarded him an honorary doctorate.

Tune: ABBOT'S LEIGH 8.7.8.7.D.

Cyril V. Taylor, 1941

8-9 But he rejected the counsel of the elders and asked the young men he'd grown up with who were now currying his favor, "What do you think? What should I say to these people who are saying, 'Give us a break from your father's harsh ways—lighten up on us?'"

10-11 The young turks he'd grown up with said, "These people who complain, 'Your father was too hard on us; lighten up'—well, tell them this: 'My little finger is thicker than my father's waist. If you think life under my father was hard, you haven't seen the half of it. My father thrashed you with whips; I'll beat you bloody with chains!'"

12-14 Three days later Jeroboam and the people showed up, just as Rehoboam had directed when he said, "Give me three days to think it over, then come back." The king's answer was harsh and rude. He spurned the counsel of the elders and went with the advice of the younger set, "If you think life under my father was hard, you haven't seen the half of it. My father thrashed you with whips; I'll beat you bloody with chains!"

15 Rehoboam turned a deaf ear to the people. God was behind all this, confirming the message that he had given to Jeroboam son of Nebat through Ahijah of Shiloh.

16-17 When all Israel realized that the king hadn't listened to a word they'd said, they stood up to him and said,

Get lost, David!

We've had it with you, son of Jesse!

Let's get out of here, Israel, and fast!

From now on, David, mind your own business.

And with that, they left. But Rehoboam continued to rule those who lived in the towns of Judah.

25 Jeroboam made a fort at Shechem in the hills of Ephraim, and made that his headquarters. He also built a fort at Penuel.

26-27 But then Jeroboam thought, "It won't be long before the kingdom is reunited under David. As soon as these people resume worship at The Temple of God in Jerusalem, they'll start thinking of Rehoboam king of Judah as their ruler. They'll then kill me and go back to King Rehoboam."

28-29 So the king came up with a plan: He made two golden calves. Then he announced, "It's too much trouble for you to go to Jerusalem to worship. Look at these—the gods who brought you out of Egypt!" He put one calf in Bethel; the other he placed in Dan.

(Back) Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

Carmichael
KINGSFOLD



1 To - day we all are called to be dis - ci - ples of the
2 God made the world and at its birth or - dained our hu - man
3 Pray jus - tice may come roll - ing down as in a might - y
4 May we in ser - vice to our God act out the liv - ing



Lord, to help to set the cap - tive free, make
race to live as stew - ards of the earth, re -
stream, with righ - teous - ness in field and town to
word, and walk the road the saints have trod till



plow - share out of sword, to feed the hun - gry, quench their
spond - ing to God's grace. But we are vain and sad - ly
cleans us and re - deem. For God is long - ing to re -
all have seen and heard. As stew - ards of the earth may



thirst, make love and peace our fast, to serve the
proud; we sow not peace but strife. Our dis - cord
store an earth where con - flicts cease, a world that
we give thanks in one ac - cord to God who



poor and home - less first, our ease and com - fort last.
spreads a dead - ly cloud that threat - ens all of life.
was cre - at - ed for a har - mo - ny of peace.
calls us all to be dis - ci - ples of the Lord.