



Haslett Community Church
United Church of Christ

Christmas Eve 2022
5:00 PM

Drive In Service: Turn your car radio to 88.7 FM, and turn up the volume.

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.*

Christmas Eve 2022, 5:00 PM

Welcome! **Please TURN YOUR CAR RADIO TO 88.7 FM AND TURN UP THE VOLUME.**
Thanks for joining us!

*You are invited to **say the bolded phrases with us**, and to sing along to the carols throughout
the service. The carols will have a soloist to guide you.*

Welcome

Call To Worship

Friends and family, siblings in Christ, come and hear the good news!

**The one who was promised will be born this night, a savior born as a human to live among
us!**

Angels proclaim the glory of God, the merciful one who sent us God's Son.

A gift from heaven, sent from God, yet born as a human to show us the way!

Shepherds shout and dance for joy, for the Prince of Peace is alive and well.

A baby wrapped in cloths, lying in a manger, born as a human to understand us!

Mary ponders these things in her heart, imagining his life and calling.

**Immanuel, God with us, yet breathing and sleeping, laughing and crying, born as a human
to seek and save the lost.**

Friends and family, siblings in Christ, come and hear the good news!

Jesus Christ is born. Come, let us worship!

Hymn

“Oh Come, All Ye Faithful”

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold him, born the King of angels

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above
Glory to God, all glory in the highest

REFRAIN:

[REFRAIN]

O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing

[REFRAIN]

Prayer of Approach

Loving God,
we rejoice and celebrate that after the long wait,
Jesus Christ is born.
His birth demonstrates your love for us,
your concern for our daily lives,
and your presence in our earthly experiences.
When Jesus came, the realm of heaven enveloped us,
and your will was done on earth, just as it is in heaven.
Now, we image-bearers of Christ—made like him in flesh, mind, and spirit—
labor for your holy purposes of love and justice.
Hallelujah and glory to God!
We are not alone.
Amen.

Hymn Response

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King:
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"

Scripture Reading

Luke 2: 1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered.
²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Hymn

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see the lie!
Above thy dep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;

yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

(continued...)

For Christ is born of Mary,
and, gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angles keep
their watch of wond'ring love.

O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King
and peace to all the earth.

Scripture Reading

Luke 2: 8-14

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors! "

Sermon

"What Are You Doing Here?"

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Hymn

"Joy To The World"

Joy to the world! The Lord is come
Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
And glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders of His love.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods
Rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Affirmation of the Miracle of Christmas

Siblings in Christ, let us proclaim the power of Christmas. Jesus Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Jesus was born, a newborn infant. He cried, slept, and got hungry, like all of us.

Was he born as a prince in a palace of riches?

He left his wealth of glory in heaven. Jesus was born to a humble, poor family. (cont...)

Did he travel with servants? Did he eat and drink plenty?

Jesus lived as a commoner. He knew hunger and thirst.

Did he surround himself with the powerful few?

Jesus spent his time with the weak and the sick.

Did he use his power to save himself from pain?

Jesus felt all the anger, sadness, pain, and fear that we feel. He knows what it is to suffer.

Why did he come and live as a human? Why did he choose to feel our pain?

Jesus came because God loves us.

Nothing separates us from God's love, not even our humanness.

Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!

Benediction & Silent Night by Candlelight

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Special thanks to Becky Leefers for leading us in song tonight.



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!



Merry Christmas!



We worship every Sunday at 10:00 am, in person and by livestream.

Please note that to offer our staff a holiday sabbath, **our service on January 1, 2023, at 10:00 am will be LIVESTREAM ONLY**, with no in person component. You can find the link on [our website](#), [Facebook Page](#), and [YouTube channel](#).

You are always welcome here.

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
Barbara Freeman	x19 Church Musician		517.881.9976
Michele Booher	Office Manager	hcc1@att.net	517.339.8383 x10
Sally Sanchez	Custodian		

Our thanks this evening to:

Song Leader:	Becky Leefers
Greeters & Ushers:	Ron & Cathy Rowe and Bob Puroskey & Michele Booher-Puroskey

Special thanks to Becky Leefers for leading us in song tonight.

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 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.