



Haslett Community Church
United Church of Christ

Sunday, December 31, 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 88.7 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.*

**First Sunday after Christmas
December 31, 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 *“Many men go fishing all their lives without knowing it is not fish they are after.”*

Meditation *“Not until we are lost do we begin to understand ourselves. - Henry David Thoreau*

Gathering Music “Where Shepherds Lately Knelt”

Vajda
Freeman

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship (adapted from a Call to Worship by Rev. Kathleen Sheets)

To the fisherman Jesus said:

“Follow me and I will make you fish for people.”

To the tax collector Jesus said:

Follow me.

To the rich man Jesus said:

**“Go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor,
and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.”**

At the last supper Jesus said:

“Follow me.”

To you and to me and to all of us Jesus says:

Follow me!

* **Hymn #504**

“You Walk Along Our Shoreline”

Dunstan
SALLEY GARDENS

Prayer of Approach (by Rev. Scott Cervas)

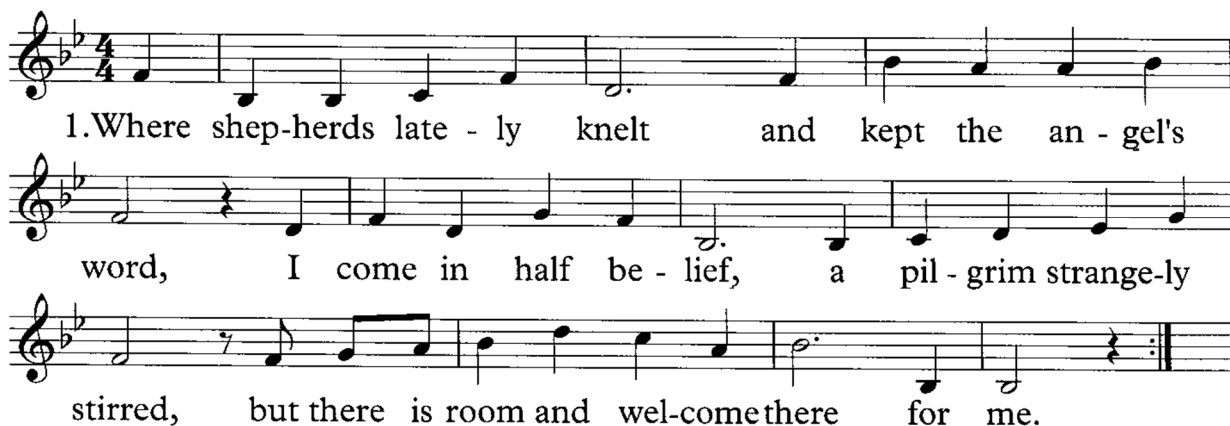
God...you call us...and sometimes...we duck under the table...
hoping you didn't notice us when you walked into the room.
You call us...and sometimes...we grab a stapler and a stack of papers...
trying to look too busy to be bothered at the moment.
You call us...and sometimes we just say, "No!"
We know that we aren't expected to do everything...
but we often forget that you call us to be our selves
in the places where our very self is what is most needed.
So give us the grace to say "Yes" to your call...
even now...Amen.

Moment of Quiet Reflection

Hymn Response

"Where Shepherds Lately Knelt" (verse 1)

Vajda / Freeman



1. Where shep-herds late - ly knelt and kept the an - gel's
word, I come in half be - lief, a pil - grim strange-ly
stirred, but there is room and wel-comethere for me.

First Scripture Reading

Mark 1: 1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ.

² As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,

who will prepare your way,

³ the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord;

make his paths straight,' "

⁴ so John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And the whole Judean region and all the people of Jerusalem were

(continued...)

going out to him and were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. ⁸ I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

***Pass the Peace**

May the Peace of Christ be with you;

And also with you.

Preschool through 5th graders are invited to Sunday School.

Special Music

Favorite Hymns

Second Scripture Reading

Mark 1: 9-20

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

¹⁰ And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove upon him. ¹¹ And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Testing of Jesus

¹² And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³ He was in the wilderness forty days, tested by Satan, and he was with the wild beasts, and the angels waited on him.

The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

¹⁶ As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea, for they were fishers. ¹⁷ And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." ¹⁸ And immediately they left their nets and followed him.

¹⁹ As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰ Immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him."

Sermon

"On Your Mark, Get Set, Go(spell)!"

* Hymn #153

“Who Would Think That What Was Needed”
(verses 1-3)

Bell & Maule
SCARLET RIBBONS

Invitation to Share Titles & Offerings (see below for digital giving options)

Offertory

“Born in the Night, Mary’s Child”

Ainger

* **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.

* **Benediction**

Postlude

“Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child”

WONDERFUL CHILD

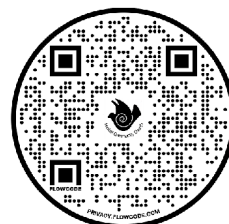


You are invited to join us for Coffee Fellowship after worship in Friendship Hall.

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 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
December 31, 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 (December 31 - January 7)

Sunday 12/31/2023 NEW YEAR'S EVE	10:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM	Worship (S, Online) Sunday School (SS) Special Coffee Fellowship (Fr) <i>Countdown to the New Year (12 noon)</i>
Monday 1/1/2024 NEW YEAR'S DAY		HAPPY NEW YEAR!!
Tuesday 1/2/2024	10:30 AM - 1PM	Onsite Office Hours (Ofc)
Wednesday 1/3/2024	11:30 AM - 1PM 7:00 PM	Betsy Office Hours (Ofc) Choir Rehearsal (CR)
Thursday 1/4/2024	9:00 AM 10:30 AM 6:00 - 7:30 PM	Sermon Preview Grp (Z) HCC Onsite Office Hours (Ofc) YOUTH: 9th Grade Dinner (FH)
Friday 1/5/2024		HCC SKI TRIP Treetops Resort (thru Jan. 8)
Saturday 1/6/2024	10:00 AM	Men's Group Meets (Z)
Sunday 1/7/2024 Epiphany	10:00 AM 11:00 AM	Worship (S, Online) Coffee Fellowship (Fr) YOUTH: MS Youth Grp (YR) YOUTH: HS Youth Grp (YR)

Legend: CR=Choir Rm; DS = downstairs; FH= Fellowship Hall; Fr = Friendship Hall; K =Kitchen; L=Library; Ofc=HCC Office; MM = Mary & Martha Rm DS; N = Nursery DS; S=Sanctuary; SS=Sunday School Rooms (downstairs); YR=Youth Rm; Z=Zoom

Please join us TODAY during Coffee Fellowship after worship for a special Countdown to the New Year! (12 noon)



NEXT SUNDAY, January 7, 2024, is Epiphany, which means we will have Communion, and the children will stay in worship with us and collect their **Joyful Offering**. **Please plan to bring your change/coins to contribute.**



With a New Year upon us, the Safety Team reminds us that January

has been identified as HCC's Safety Month. To that end, members of the Safety Team will be elevating specific Safety and Security Initiatives each week in January via short comments during the Announcements portion of the service. Remember, part of loving everyone in our Congregation is protecting everyone... ensuring church safety begins with each and every one of 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:	Cambria Decker-Larkin
Greeters:	Brett & Cindy Meteyer
Ushers:	Lucretia Hildabridle & Malinda Barr
Coffee Hosts:	N/A - Countdown to the New Year (12 Noon)
Audio/Visual Tech:	Jon Lineberry
Tellers	Dave Ferguson & Bob Heisler



To donate Sanctuary flowers for a future Sunday , please sign up on the sheet on the wall outside the HCC office or online [HERE](#).

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.

You Walk along Our Shoreline

504

Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1984; alt.

Mark 1:16-20; John 17:20-26

1 You walk a - long our shore - line where land meets un - known sea.
2 You call us, Christ, to gath - er the peo - ple of the earth.
3 We cast our net, O Je - sus; we seek your prom - ised reign;

We hear your voice of pow - er, "Now come and fol - low me. And
We can - not fish for on - ly those lives we think have worth. We
We work for love and jus - tice; we learn to hope through pain. You

if you still will fol - low through storm and wave and shoal,
spread your net of gos - pel a - cross the wa - ter's face,
call on us to gath - er God's daugh - ters and God's sons,

Then I will make you fish - ers, but of the hu - man soul."
Our boat a com - mon shel - ter for all found by your grace.
To let your judg - ment heal us so that all may be one.


Hymnwriter Sylvia Dunstan credited an article by Michael Steinhauser in the March 1984 issue of Practice of Ministry in Canada entitled "Fishing: A Metaphor for Ministry" as the inspiration for her text. Dunstan was an ordained minister of the United Church of Canada.

Tune: SALLEY GARDENS 7.6.7.6.D.
Traditional Irish melody
Harm. The New Century Hymnal, 1994



(Back)

Who Would Think That What Was Needed



Bell & Maule
SCARLET RIBBONS





1 Who would think that what was need-ed to trans-form and save the earth
2 Shep-herds watch and sag-es won-der, mon-archs scorn and an-gels sing;
3 Cen-tu-ries of skill and sci-ence span the past from which we move,



might not be a plan or ar-my proud in pur-pose, proved in worth?
such a place as none would reck-on hosts a ho-ly, help-less thing;
yet ex-per-i-ence ques-tions wheth-er with such prog-ress we im-prove.



Who would think, de-spite de-ri-sion, that a child should lead the way?
Sta-bled beasts and pass-ing strang-ers watch a ba-by laid in hay:
In our search for sense and mean-ing, lest our hopes and hu-mor fray,



God sur-pris-es earth with heav-en, com-ing here on Christ-mas Day.
God sur-pris-es earth with heav-en, com-ing here on Christ-mas Day.
God sur-pris-es earth with heav-en, com-ing here on Christ-mas Day.



(Back)