



Haslett Community Church
United Church of Christ

Sunday, December 4, 2022
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.*

**Second Sunday of Advent
December 4, 2022 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: "I truly believe the only way we can create global peace is through not only educating our minds, but our hearts and our souls." - Malala Yousafzai

Gathering

Welcome

Prelude

"My Heart Sings Out With Joyful Praise"

MARIAS LOVSÅNG

Call to Worship (based on Isaiah 2: 1-4, 52:7)

Children of God, lay down your defenses and find peace in the community of faith.

Let the Church be a safe refuge where peace reigns over fear and violence.

Children of God, examine your ways and prepare to yield to the gentle way of Christ.

We let go of the harshness and pettiness keeping us from peace with God and neighbor.

Children of God, come to worship and proclaim this peace to all the world.

We gather in the spirit of Christ himself. Let us worship in peace together.

***Opening Hymn #101**

"Comfort, Comfort O My People"

Olearius
Psalm 42

Lighting the Advent Candle:

The season of Advent reminds us of the hope we have in the humanity of Jesus. God came to us, leaving behind the glory of heaven to be a person feeling pain, joy, loss, and love.

Today, we light the candle of hope, because in Jesus, heaven came to earth.

Light the first candle.

Advent reminds us the Prince of Peace came and lived among us. He felt stress within himself and conflict with other people, yet he chose his path of peace—peace within himself, and peace with humankind.

Today, we light the candle of peace because Jesus showed us how to live in peace.

Light the second candle.

Prayer:

**God of peaceful presence,
the earth is not always a peaceful place.
Nations struggle against each other,
weapons of war are used upon the innocent,
and bullies gain power through force and cruelty.
Grant wisdom to our leaders to seek peace instead of war
and community resources instead of weapons.
Embolden the powerful and privileged to resist bullies
and to choose the side of the weak and the poor.
Make us into a band of peacemakers,
rejecting all forms of violence wherever we go.
Renew our minds to pursue peace, even at great cost,
for this is the way of Jesus. Amen.**

Moment of Quiet Reflection

Hymn Response #769

“Hear Our Prayer”

from Psalm 134
Whelpton

First Scripture Reading

Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king’s son.
² May he judge your people with righteousness
and your poor with justice.
³ May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
⁴ May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy,
and crush the oppressor.
⁵ May he live while the sun endures
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19

⁶ May he be like rain that falls on the
mown grass,
like showers that water the earth.
⁷ In his days may righteousness flourish
and peace abound, until the moon
is no more.
Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.
¹⁹ Blessed be his glorious name forever;
may his glory fill the whole earth.
Amen and Amen.

Anthem

“No Wind at the Window”
(Regula Arnosti & Becky Leefers, soloists)

Ionia Community
COLUMCILLE

Children’s Moment

Second Scripture Reading

Isaiah 11: 1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

²The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

³His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear,

⁴but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed together,
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall
inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Sermon

"Peace"

Hymn

"Christmas Hallelujah"

Eberlein
Cohen

(Jim Gornick-guitar, Dave Jones-drums, and
Regula Arnosti, Becky Leefers, Helen Jones, and Mary Trebilcock - singers)
(please see insert)

Invitation to Share Our Offering & Joyful Offering

Offertory

“With Joy Draw Water”

ST COLUMBA/ arr. BFF

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ all creatures here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.

Affirmation of Peace

Siblings in Christ, let us proclaim the peace of our faith:

Jesus came as a helpless baby to bring down the powerful from their thrones and lift up the lowly.

We are made strong, even in our weakness. This is our peace.

Jesus grew to be a curious child, trading wisdom with the teachers at the temple.

We are welcome in God’s house, even with all of our questions. This is our peace.

Jesus was baptized and called God’s Son, even before he had done any ministry or had any disciples.

We are children of God, no matter where we come from or what we have done. This is our peace.

Jesus worked hard, felt tired, rested, and spent time alone.

We listen to the rhythms of our bodies. We take time to rest. This is our peace.

Jesus was challenged, confronted, accused, and condemned.

We are not alone in our suffering or oppression. This is our peace.

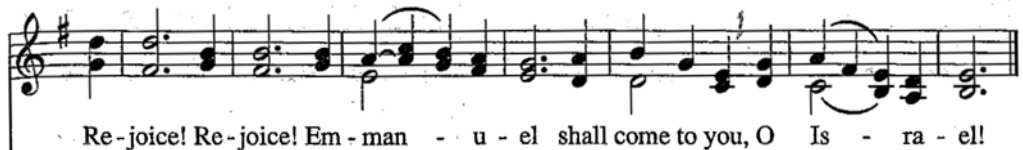
Jesus promised a kingdom of justice, where he has built everyone a home and where there is no more pain.

Our sins, struggles, and sorrows will cease, and we will be at home with Jesus. This is the peace of our faith.

Announcements

*Benediction

Choral Response “Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall Come To You, O Israel!”



Postlude

“Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child”

Afr. Amer. trad.

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

Ministry Connections
Reaching Out to Each Other and Our Community
December 4, 2022

 **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST** 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 (December 4 - December 11)

Sunday 12/4/2022	10:00 AM	Worship (S, PL, Online)
	10:00 AM	Sunday School (SS)
	11:00 AM	Coffee Fellowship (Fr)
	11:00 AM	Member Caring Meets (L)
	11:15 AM	Gingerbrd House Decorate-(FH)
	5:00-6:30 PM 7:00 - 9:00 PM	YOUTH: MS Youth Grp (YR) YOUTH: HS Youth Gr (YR)
Monday 12/5/2022	6:00 PM	YOUTH: 8 th Gr Dinner (FH,K)
	7:00 PM	Mission Outreach (Fr)
Tuesday 12/6/2022	10:30 AM - 1PM	Onsite Office Hours (Ofc)
	7:00 PM	Spiritual Life Meeting (FH)
Wednesday 12/7/2022	11:30 AM - 1PM	Betsy Office Hours (Ofc)
	5:30 - 7:00 PM	ADVENTure Club (FH)
	5:30 - 7:00 PM	ADVENTure Club - Adults (MM)
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal (S)
Thursday 12/8/2022	9:00 AM	Sermon Preview Grp (Z)
	10:30 AM	HCC Onsite Office Hours (Ofc)
Saturday 12/10/2022	9:00 AM	Men's Grp Meets (Z)
	11 AM - Noon	Christmas Giving Pickup
Sunday 12/11/2022 Songfest	10:00 AM	Worship (S, PL, Online)
	10:00 AM	Sunday School (SS)
	11:00 AM	Coffee Fellowship (Fr)
	11:15 AM	Knitters, Crocheters... (L)
	1:00 - 5:00 PM	Beeswax Candle Making -the Barrn @ Ralya House
	5:00-6:30 PM 7:00 - 9:00 PM	YOUTH: MS Youth Grp (YR) YOUTH: HS Youth Gr (YR)

Legend: FH= Fellowship Hall; FP= Food Pantry; Fr = Friendship Hall; L=Library; MM= Mary & Marth's; Ofc=HCC Office; PL=Parking Lot ; S=Sanctuary; SS=Sunday School Rooms (downstairs); YR=Youth Rm; Z=Zoom

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.



Knitters,
 Crocheters,
 and

Wannabees meet
 NEXT SUNDAY, Dec. 11,
 after worship in the
 Library.

Join us for
 beeswax
 candle making



NEXT Sunday
 Dec. 11, 1:00 - 5:00 pm
 at The Barrn at Ralya
 House in Haslett.

You can help sponsor the poinsettias that will decorate our Sanctuary for Christmas this year by filling out the attached order form or ordering online [HERE](#) by Dec. 18.

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 below 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!

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
Michele Booher	Office Manager	hcc1@att.net	517.339.8383 x10
Sally Sanchez	Custodian		

Our thanks this morning to:

Reader:	Carolyn Lucas
Greeters:	Bob & Sally Heisler
Ushers:	Russ & Lynn Wilson
Coffee Hosts:	Russ & Lynn Wilson
Audio/Visual Techs:	Rich Newport & Jon Lineberry
Tellers	Barb Szkotnicki & Bob Heisler

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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.

Isa. 40:1-8

Johannes Olearius, 1671

Transl. Catherine Winkworth, 1863; alt.

1 "Com - fort, com - fort O my peo - ple, tell of peace," thus says our God;
 2 For the her - ald's voice is call - ing in the des - ert far and near,
 3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er pla - ces plain!

Com - fort those whose hearts are shroud - ed, mourn - ing un - der sor - row's load.
 Bid - ding us to make re - pen - tance since the realm of God is here.
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, for Mes - si - ah's ho - ly reign.

Speak un - to Je - ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
 Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
 For God's glo - ry ev - er - more shall be known o'er all the world;

Tell them that their sins I cov - er, and their war - fare now is o - ver.
 Let the val - leys rise in meet - ing and the hills bow down in greet - ing.
 And all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

Written for John the Baptist's Day, June 24, this hymn clearly reflects the Isaiah text. Johannes Olearius, a Lutheran pastor, held a faculty appointment at Wittenberg University as well as church administration positions in his region.

Tune: PSALM 42 8.7.8.7.7.8.8.
 (FREU DICH SEHR)

Trente quatre Pseaumes, Geneva, 1551

(Back)

Music: George Whelpton, 1897

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves of music in a treble clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and homophonic, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics: "Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in -". The second staff contains the lyrics: "cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace." The music is written in a style typical of late 19th-century hymnals.

Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in -

cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.

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CHRISTMAS HALLELUJAH

Eberlein

In Bethlehem long years ago
A babe was born in stable low
To common folk who lived in old Judea.
The baby's mother knew he came
From Heav'n to earth to show the way
To Truth, to Light, for ev'ry human being.

CHORUS

Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

Two thousand years have come and gone
And still we seek to find the one
Whose birth and love seem often lost among us.
We seek in vain, if worldly things
Are where we look, to know the wings
Of angels, 'cause the Truth, it is within us.

CHORUS

May we rekindle in our souls
God's simple all abiding love
And share it with the people all around us.
We too are babes sent from above
We, like the Babe, possess God's love
The Truth, the Light, we share from God is boundless.

CHORUS

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*Volunteers
Needed!*

Christmas Giving Project - Gifts

Over seventy families with approximately 220 children will request gifts. You and your friends are invited to purchase gifts. Five gifts for each child are included on a gift list.

Pick up a gift list from the gift table in Friendship Hall Sunday morning after worship, or you can request a gift list remotely by sending an email to hccChristmas@att.net with Gift Request in the subject line. Put **your name, phone number, the number of children you wish to sponsor** (remember there are 5 gifts per child), and **your preference of the child's gender and age**. You will receive a gift list and gift preparation instructions via return email. We also welcome community members to request gift lists via email.

You can pick up a gift list in person from 10 to 11am every Saturday, and on Sundays from 11am to Noon. Wrapped gifts will be accepted at the same times.

Wrapped gifts are due Sunday, December 11.

If you choose to support the project financially, without shopping, you can donate on our website under the Giving tab ([HERE](#)) by choosing Christmas Giving Project in the Fund menu. You can also mail a contribution to HCC, P.O. 217, Haslett, MI 48840. Put Christmas Giving Project in the memo line of the check.

MANY Volunteers Needed for Christmas Giving Project

Gift Helpers – Volunteers are needed each Saturday and Sunday afternoon to distribute gift lists to donors and to collect wrapped gifts. Click the link below to select a day to help: www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48A9A623A4F5C52-gift2

Packing Groceries – Groceries given to families will be packed. It is VERY important to sign up in advance. Click the link below to make a commitment to pack food: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d48a9a623a4f5c52-grocery2>

Distribution – Volunteers are needed in four separate shifts on the day recipients pick up gifts and food. All **distribution will be done on Thursday, December 22**. Descriptions for each role are at the top of the signup page here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d48a9a623a4f5c52-distribution1>

If you wish to volunteer without using the signup links above, you can send an email to hccChristmas@att.net to say how you want to help or call Ruth Linnemann at 517.339.6138 or 517.50.3147.

Boxes, Boxes, Boxes - We need many boxes for the Christmas Giving Project. Copy paper boxes including their covers are ideal; any box approximately 11" by 17" by 10" is helpful. Since the church building is not open daily, please leave boxes outside Door #1 (west entrance) unless weather doesn't permit. If you do leave boxes, please phone Richard Baumgartner to let him know: 517.755.6198.

ORDER YOUR POINSETTIAS NOW!

We plan to decorate our sanctuary with an array of beautiful poinsettias again this year! You can sponsor the 6½" pots of red or white with foil for \$15.00 each, and the larger 8½" pots of red, white, or marbled flowers for \$30. They will be placed around the sanctuary to enhance the joyful atmosphere of the Christmas celebration! The plants you sponsor may be taken home following the last worship service on Christmas Eve, and your dedication will be printed in the 7pm & 9pm Christmas Eve bulletins.



Please attach cash or check to this form and **return to the church office by Dec 18.**

Your name: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

6½" pot @ \$15.00 _____ 8½" pot @ \$21.00 _____

Total number of plants _____ Total check _____ Total Cash _____

_____ I will pick up my plant(s) after the last worship service on Christmas Eve

_____ Please donate my plant(s) to our homebound members

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