



a feast to
enjoy



CHRIST
CHURCH

October 16, 2022



Welcome to worship at Christ Church!

Our aim is to enjoy the goodness of our triune God in fellowship within the community he has formed, lifting our hearts as an offering to the Lord using the varied and unique gifts of this local congregation. We await his transformative word in our lives.

We are glad that you have joined us.

Young children are an important part of our community as well. We are very happy to be part of this very significant stage in their lives — learning to worship together in the community of believers. You are welcome to keep your children with you throughout the service, or you may choose to use one of our nurseries for children ages 3 years and younger, and Christ Kids Worship for 4- to 6-year olds during the sermon. If you have a baby and would like a quiet space, you are welcome to use the nursery or the library.

Prelude *God Himself Is with Us* congregation Trinity Hymnal 382

Welcome & Announcements

Elder Jim Visser
Executive Director

Silent meditation Exodus 33:14-15

And he [the LORD] said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” And he [Moses] said to him, “If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here.

G O D C A L L S U S T O W O R S H I P

Call to worship Psalm 100

Elder Shingi Yasugi

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

Know that the Lord, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

For the Lord is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

I'm So Wonderfully Made children's choir

by Rob Evans

I'm so wonderfully made. You're so wonderfully made.
God has made us in a special way, and we're so wonderfully made.

I can blink my eyes and I can jump so high
'Cause I'm so wonderfully, you're so wonderfully, we're so wonderfully made.

I can clap my hand for you; I can sneeze my nose, ah-choo
'Cause I'm so wonderfully, you're so wonderfully, we're so wonderfully made.

Even when you could not see me before the day that I was born,
I was so wonderfully, you were so wonderfully, we were so wonderfully made.

I can stomp my feet; touch my head, touch my belly, touch the street
'Cause I'm so wonderfully, you're so wonderfully, we're so wonderfully made.

I can shout, "Yahoo!" 'cause God loves me and you
'Cause I'm so wonderfully, you're so wonderfully, we're so wonderfully made.

Praise the Lord with a Song children's choir & youth ensemble

by Michael R. Nichols

Congregation, please join in singing along with the kids when the song leader indicates.



Praise the Lord with a joy-ful song. Use your voice to sing out strong.

*** Christ Our Hope In Life And Death**

Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Jordan Kauflin
and Matthew Merker, Matt Papa



1. What is our hope in life and death? Christ a-
2. What truth can calm the trou - bled soul? God is
3. Un - to the grave, what will we sing? "Christ, he



lone, Christ a - lone. What is our on - ly con - fi - dence? That our
good, God is good. Where is his grace and good-ness known? In our
lives; Christ, he lives!" And what re - ward will heav - en bring? Ev - er -



souls to him be-long. Who holds our days with - in his
 great Re-deem - er's blood. Who holds our faith when fears a -
 last - ing life with Him. There we will rise to meet the



hand? What comes, a - part from his com - mand? And what will
 rise? Who stands a - bove the storm - y trial? Who sends the
 Lord; then sin and death will be de - stroyed, and we will



keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand. —
 waves that bring us nigh un - to the shore, the rock of Christ?
 feast in end - less joy, when Christ is ours for - ev - er - more. —



—
 — O sing hal - le - lu - jah! Our hope springs e - ter - nal; O sing ha - le -
 —



lu - jah! Now and ev - er we con - fess Christ our hope in life and death.

* Invocation

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 40:9-11; 27-31

*Six readers are needed for the following passage and have not been assigned. Anyone is welcome to read.
Please go to the microphone or ask someone to bring a microphone to you.*

- Reader 1 Go on up to a high mountain,
 O Zion, herald of good news;
lift up your voice with strength,
 O Jerusalem, herald of good news;
lift it up, fear not;
say to the cities of Judah,
 “Behold your God!”
- Reader 2 Behold, the Lord God comes with might,
 and his arm rules for him;
behold, his reward is with him,
 and his recompense before him.
- Reader 3 He will tend his flock like a shepherd;
 he will gather the lambs in his arms;
he will carry them in his bosom,
 and gently lead those that are with young.
- Reader 4 Why do you say, O Jacob,
 and speak, O Israel,
“My way is hidden from the Lord,
 and my right is disregarded by my God”?
- Reader 5 Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
 the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
 his understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint,
 and to him who has no might he increases strength.

Reader 6 Even youths shall faint and be weary,
 and young men shall fall exhausted;
 but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;
 they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
 they shall run and not be weary;
 they shall walk and not faint.

GOD CALLS US TO RENEWAL

Call to confession Psalm 27:11a

Teach me your way, O Lord.

Prayer of confession followed by a time of silent confession

Declaration of Forgiveness Psalm 103:10-12

He does not deal with us according to our sins,
 nor repay us according to our iniquities.
For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
 so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
 so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

8:30 service: During the song below, 4- to 6-year-olds are dismissed to the foyer for Christ Kids Worship and will return following the sermon.

11:15 service: Church bags are available in the foyer.

* He Will Hold Me Fast

text, Ada Habershon & Matt Merker
music, Matt Merker



1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me
2. Those He saves are His de - light, Christ will hold me
3. For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me



fast; when the tempt - er would pre - vail,
fast; pre - cious in his ho - ly sight,
fast; just - ice has been sat - is - fied;



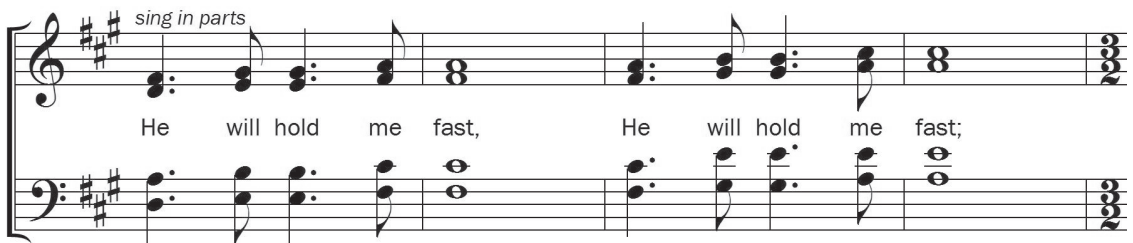
He will hold me fast. I could nev - er keep my
He will hold me fast. He'll not let my soul be
He will hold me fast. Raised with Him to end - less



hold Through life's fear - ful path; for my love is
lost; His prom - is - es shall last; bought by Him at
life, He will hold me fast 'til our faith is



oft - en cold; He must hold me fast.
such a cost, He will hold me fast.
turned to sight, when He comes at last!



sing in parts
He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;

for my Sav-ior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

GOD'S WORD GIVEN TO US

* Scripture reading Psalm 23

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters.

³ He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
forever.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

* Prayer

Sermon God Is With Us

Reverend Nathan Newman

Psalm 23 reminds us that God is with his people even in the shadow of death.

1. God is “with” his people

2. How to respond to trials

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD

* *Shepherd Me, O God* song leaders & congregation text, Psalm 23; music by Marty Haugen

Song leaders Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.

God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,
I walk by the quiet water of peace.

Congregation *Refrain*



Song leaders Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,
you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,
my spirit shall sing the music of your Name. *Refrain*

Though I should wander the valley of death,
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope. *Refrain*

You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred,
crowning me with love beyond my power to hold. *Refrain*

Surely your kindness and mercy follow me
all the days of my life;
I will dwell in the house of God forevermore. *Refrain*

Reception of new members 11:15 service

Pastor Andrew Vander Maas

Paul & Rachel Dallaire, and Wesley Grace

Prayers of the People

*During the offertory please pass the red friendship pads found at the end of the rows.
Give online at christchurchgr.org or by texting (616) 208-2820*

Offertory *The Lord is My Shepherd* duet

Keith Green

The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want
He makes me lie down in green pastures
He leads me beside the still waters
He restoreth my soul
And guides my path in righteousness
For His name's sake

Surely goodness and loving kindness
Shall follow me all the days of my life
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord
Forever and ever and ever

Though I walk through the valley
Of the shadow of death
I will not fear; thou art with me
Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me
Thou preparest a table
Before me in the presence of my enemies

Thou anointest my head with oil
My cup's overflowing

*** Doxology**

Trinity Hymnal 731

*** Benediction**

*Kids and All: You are invited to come forward
and play rhythm instruments as we sing our closing Amen song.*

*** And All the People Said Amen!**

**And all the people said “Amen!”
Oh, and all the people said “Amen.”
Give thanks to the Lord for his love never ends.
And all the people said “Amen!”**

*** Postlude**

Worship musicians

Children's Choir (PreK4-4th grade)
Debbie Bukovietski, director
Rebecca Klamer, piano

Youth Ensemble (5th-8th grade)

Linda Bokma-deJong, song leader
Greg Stawicki, song leader & guitar
Linus Guerra, alto saxophone
Susan Guerra, piano
Rebekah LaPlaca, cajon

Sunday School for all ages 10:00 - 10:50

COVENANT SCHOOL CLASSES

Pre-K through 4th grade students: sign your child in at the multipurpose room; parents sign out children from classrooms (listed below) at 10:50.

5th-12th grade students do not need to be signed in or out

2 & 3 year olds	2/3 nursery	5th – 6th grade	room 302
Preschool	room 201	7th – 8th grade	room 303
Kindergarten	room 205	9th –10th grade	room 304
1st grade	room 203	11th - 12th grade	room 301
2nd grade	room 204		
3rd grade	Library		
4th grade	room 202		

ADULT INSTITUTE *Classes will resume next week.*

Join us in the sanctuary to hear from Associate Pastor Candidate Nathan Newman

Reading Biblical Narrative

This class will help us to explore biblical stories by providing methods for a richer reading of the narrative. We will look at characterization, authorial intent, setting the scene and other tools. This will be a hands on class as we put these ideas into practice.

*North Overflow
Jerry Stutzman*

First Things

Interested in learning more about Christ Church? Participating in this class doesn't in any way obligate you to become a member of Christ Church, but hopefully will help prepare those who do wish to become members.

*Lounge
Pastor Andrew VanderMaas*

Walking With God Through Pain and Suffering

Suffering is everywhere, unavoidable, and it often overwhelms us. At a deeper level we all deal with the experience of suffering—how to make sense of it, how to respond to it, how to persevere in it. What is the faith response, the biblical response to pain and suffering? What is our culture's response to suffering? We will use Tim Keller's book, *Walking With God Through Pain and Suffering*, as a guide, along with other authors, Philip Yancey, C.S. Lewis, Joni Eareckson Tada, Ann Voskamp, and of course, the Scripture.

*Sanctuary
Dan Denk*

Associate Pastor Candidating Visit



OCTOBER 14-16

Nathan Newman

Today, October 16
10:00 - 10:50am
Q&A time with
Nathan Newman
in the sanctuary.

Friday and Saturday
Rev. Nathan Newman
engaged in meetings
with the search committee,
Session, staff, and others.

was born and raised in Huntsville, AL. He attended Covenant College where he met his wife Jess. After graduation, Jess and Nathan reconnected in Washington, DC, and were married in 2014. Nathan was commissioned to the Air Force Reserve in 2013, and his assignments as a chaplain include the United States Air Force Academy and presently Arlington National Cemetery. He holds a Master of Divinity degree from Reformed Theological Seminary and has served on the pastoral staff of McLean Presbyterian Church for nearly a decade in various roles from young adult to congregational care. One of Nathan's greatest joys in pastoral ministry is equipping followers of Christ for the work of ministry through life-together discipleship.

Jess is a native of Holland, MI, daughter of Drew & Jane Jelgerhuis and sister to Keeley (& David) Tenney who are part of our Christ Church community. She has lived and worked on-and-off Capitol Hill in DC since 2008 and currently manages the day-to-day operations for a United States Senator. Nathan and Jess are having the time of their lives raising their daughters Della (4) and Pippa (2).

Nathan has been shaped by growing up in a close-knit family, playing a lot of baseball across northern Alabama, the painful loss of his younger brother to cancer and a handful of mentors through the years. Gospel courage (Dt 31:6) and vulnerability (2 Cor 12:9-10) are themes that have animated his life and ministry. In his free time, you might find him playing golf, cooking for friends, reading the news or - at his happiest - enjoying his family.

The Youth Director Search Team will be facilitating a visit on October 20-23 with Roger Qi, his wife LeAnn, and their two young children, who will be traveling from Madison, WI. Roger will be meeting with staff, youth volunteers, the search team, and session members over the course of the weekend. The Qi family will join us for worship on Sunday the 23rd.

Campus Outreach's ministry update Sunday, October 23, 10:00am. The entire congregation is invited to attend this interactive event to meet the Campus Outreach staff, see many pictures, and hear the personal stories of WMU students. The hope is to create an oncampus feel that members of Christ Church from all age ranges can enjoy. *We will not be having regular Sunday school or nursery during the Sunday school hour.*

Service of Lament. October 30 at 6:30pm. God offers us himself as we go through this world that is full of trouble. He does not call us to endure our trials with stoicism or to grieve alone. God invites us to lay our complaints before him, and to trust in him. In this service, we will use psalms, Lamentations, music, silence, and prayer to lament together. *You have kept count of my tossings; put my tears in your bottle.... This I know, that God is for me....in God I trust; I shall not be afraid.* Ps 56

You're invited to the **installation service of Hudsonville Reformed Church to the Great Lakes Presbytery on October 23 at 5:30pm.** Reception following the service.

The Yasugi/Gortmaker fold will be having a potluck luncheon on Sunday, November 6th after the second service in the Atrium. If you live in any of these zip codes (49418, 49423, 49426, 49428, 49464, 49509, 49519, 49548) join us for fellowship and prayer together.

Help us keep our online directory up to date with photos. This is a helpful tool for new (and not-so-new) members alike. If you received an email this past week, we are missing your photo. Joy Jurries (wearing a name tag) will be waiting to take your photo by the alcove nestled between the front entrance and the coffee bar between the 8:30 service and Sunday School for the next three Sundays. Thank you for your help making our directory more complete!

Coffee House is back on November 11! Perform, bring snacks and/or help decorate. If you've never experienced Coffee House at Christ Church, ask around! Sign up here: <https://christchurchgr.breezechms.com/form/CH>

COLLEGE AGE

Girls' Bible Study
7 pm on Sundays at Church

Guys' Bible Study
8 pm on Tuesdays at Church

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Christ Kids Worship

October Theme -- Prayer

Catechism

Q.98: What is prayer?

A: Prayer is offering our desires to God in the name of Christ for things that agree with his will, confessing our sins, and thankfully recognizing his mercies.

Q.99: How does God direct us to pray?

A: The whole word of God, but especially the Lord's Prayer, which Christ taught his disciples, directs our prayers.

YOUTH

Jr & Sr High

Jr high meeting at 4:30-6:00

Pizza and Salad for all 6:00-6:30

Sr High 6:30-8:00

One way you can come alongside our ministry is by joining in on bringing a meal! Please get in touch with Dustie Smithers if you are interested in making a meal for our gatherings!

High School Music Hang. Stay after youth group on the first Sundays of the month to play music together. Starts in Nov! Questions? talk with Susan Guerra.



Meal Ministry: Help Peggy West who has lost vision in one of her eyes. Sign up to provide her a meal through this QR code.

WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP

Steadfast & Sanctified Retreat: November 4-5. Join us at Pine Ridge Bible Camp where we'll look at what it means to be *Steadfast & Sanctified* in light of God's mercy in a broken world. Hear **Michelle Suwyn, Katie Blakeslee and Cathy Campbell share their stories** of God's faithfulness and deliverance through trials and suffering. Get to know one another better, or get to know someone new, as we enjoy this time together. *Scan the QR code to sign up.*



WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

5:00 Children's Choir *PreK4-4th graders*
Sing in a worship service in October and at the Christmas Program December 11.

Youth Ensemble *5th-8th graders*
Play instruments of all kinds to prepare for a worship service in October and the Christmas Program. Bring your own instrument or learn a new one with us.

Prayer Meeting *room 202*

5:45 Dinner

6:30 Watch & Pray
Love & Sex *(week 1)*

7:30 Adult Choir



As Jesus entered the garden of Gethsemane he invited his disciples to watch and pray with him. Watch for the wiles of the evil one that were surely lurking in the garden waiting to derail God's good plan. Pray that truth would triumph over falseness and grace would reign in the place of sin. We are similarly called to watch and pray. Our current cultural moment has increased the voices speaking into so many issues in God's good creation like: Abortion. Race. Gender. Sex. Body Image. So how do we listen well, think straight and articulate Gospel persuasively? Join your Christ Church community for multi-generational conversations on these topics.

Conversations take place in two week blocks.

The first week of each topic will be a conversation facilitated by Lisa & Andrew VanderMaas with a diverse swath of CC folks aimed at uncovering current challenges and seeking Biblical foundations.

Week two will offer a chance to follow up with questions that may have occurred during the week with time for corporate prayer. It is our hope to engage this together: singles, families, adults and youth 5th grade and higher.

Submit questions with this QR code.



Oct 19 & 26, Nov 2 Love and Sex
Nov 9 & 16 Love thy Body

This Week's Events

Today	8:30 AM	Worship Service	
	10:00 AM	Q&A with pastoral candidate Nathan Newman Sunday School for preschoolers - 12th grade	
	11:15 AM	Worship Service	
	12:30 PM	Harley C-Group Streefkerk C-Group	
	4:30 PM	Jr High Youth Group Yasugi C-Group	
	6:00 PM	Youth Group Dinner	
	6:30 PM	Sr High Youth Group	
	7:00 PM	CAM Women's Bible Study	
	Monday	7:00 PM	Men's Bible Study on Leviticus Women's Bible Study on Romans
	Tuesday	8:30 AM	Men's Breakfast - <i>New Beginnings</i> - 6209 28th Street SE
	10:00 AM	Women's Bible Study on Hebrews	
	8:00 PM	CAM Men's Bible Study	
Wednesday	6:30 AM	Men's Bible Study on Romans - <i>contact Bob 616-915-5477</i>	
	8:00 AM	Men's Breakfast - <i>Rainbow Grill</i> - 4158 Chicago Drive	
	9:00 AM	Women's Bible Study on Romans	
	5:00 PM	Children's Choir Youth Ensemble Prayer Meeting	
	5:45 PM	Watch & Pray	
	7:30 PM	Adult Choir Rehearsal	
Friday	7:00 PM	Burke C-Group	
Saturday		CAM Cedar Point Trip	

Financial Report

	ACTUAL	BUDGET
January - August 2022 Receipts	\$ 643,864	\$ 763,600
January - August 2022 Expenses	\$ 706,024	\$ 761,092
January - August 2022 Over (Under)	\$ (62,159)	\$ 2,508

Tithes & Offerings		
October 2	\$ 27,184	
October 9	\$ 20,590	
October Total Tithes & Offerings	\$ 47,774	\$ 94,700

EXTENDING COMMUNITY ENABLING MISSION CAMPAIGN

Total Commitments	\$1,747,751
Campaign Funds Received	\$1,652,860



CHRIST CHURCH

2500 Breton Rd SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546 • 616-949-9630
www.christchurchgr.org • office@christchurchgr.org
Worship Sunday mornings at 8:30 and 11:15 am

office hours: Monday - Fridays 9:00-2:00pm

PRAYER REQUESTS: please submit by 12:00am Tuesday to prayer@christchurchgr.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS: please submit by 12:00am Thursday to announcements@christchurchgr.org

STAFF

Debbie Bukovietski
Director of Children's Ministry

Jerry & Nina Gortmaker
Visitation Coordinators

Susan Guerra
Director of Music & Arts

Grace Hendrian
Administrative Assistant

Mark Jurries
Bookkeeper

Greg Meibeyer
Operations Director

Ben Seneker
Pastor of Gracehill Church

Andrew VanderMaas
Lead Pastor

Morgan VanderMaas
Youth Discipleship Coordinator

Jim Visser
Executive Director

Kimberly Visser
Office & Communications Manager

FOLD MINISTRY: Elders *, Deacons⁺, Fold Facilitators[~] with fold zip codes

Bryan Burke*
Jacob Lahmann*
David Tenney⁺
Dora Lindgren[~]
Bethany Slusher[~]
49301, 49306, 49319, 49321,
49333, 49341, 49404, 49503,
49504, 49505, 49525

Dan Churchwell*
Bob LaFleur*
Joel Klamer⁺
Greg Stawicki[~]
Cheryl LaFleur[~]
Karen Kooistra[~]
49506, 49507

David deJong*
Jerry Stutzman*
Chad Mosher⁺
Paul Wilhelm*
Amanda Wilhelm[~]
49302, 49331, 49546

Dick Friedrich*
John Streefkerk*
Randy Bosma⁺
Jason Harley⁺
Mim Gustafson[~]
Loggy Laugginger[~]
Donna Friedrich[~]
49315, 49316, 49323, 49348,
49506, 49508, 49512

Jerry Gortmaker*
Shinji Yasugi*
Jon Eldersveld⁺
Rob LaPlaca*
Deanna Meibeyer[~]
Alda Walton[~]
49418, 49423, 49426,
49428, 49464, 49509,
49519, 49548