



GOD IN OUR MIDST



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.

Small children are part of our community as well, wiggles and whispers and all. We are very happy to be part of this very important stage in their lives — learning to worship together in the community of believers. If you would like a quiet space to care for your baby, you are welcome to use the nursery or room 102.

Prelude *Jesus, What a Friend for Sinners* instrumental text, Chapman; music, Pritchard

Jesus! what a Friend for sinners!
Jesus! lover of my soul;
friends may fail me, foes assail me,
he, my Savior, makes me whole.

Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah, what a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end.

Jesus! what a strength in weakness!
Let me hide myself in him;
tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,
he, my strength, my victory wins.

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Andrew Vander Maas

Moment of silent meditation Ezekiel 22:30

And I sought for a man among them who should build up the wall and stand in the breach before me for the land, that I should not destroy it, but I found none.

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP



Call to worship

Hebrews 12:18-24

Elder Dick Friedrich

...you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned." Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear." But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

** Please rise in body and/or in spirit.*



* *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

Trinity Hymnal 345



* *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

Trinity Hymnal 629



* **Prayer of adoration**

GOD CALLS US TO RENEWAL

Call to confession

Isaiah 59:1-2, 10

Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save,
or his ear dull, that it cannot hear;
but your iniquities have made a separation
between you and your God,
and your sins have hidden his face from you
so that he does not hear.

We grope for the wall like the blind;
we grope like those who have no eyes;
we stumble at noon as in the twilight,
among those in full vigor we are like dead men.



Prayer of confession

Declaration of forgiveness

Isaiah 59:15b-20

The Lord saw it, and it displeased him
that there was no justice.
He saw that there was no man,
and wondered that there was no one to intercede;
then his own arm brought him salvation,
and his righteousness upheld him.
He put on righteousness as a breastplate,
and a helmet of salvation on his head;
he put on garments of vengeance for clothing,
and wrapped himself in zeal as a cloak.
According to their deeds, so will he repay,
wrath to his adversaries, repayment to his enemies;
to the coastlands he will render repayment.
So they shall fear the name of the Lord from the west,
and his glory from the rising of the sun;
for he will come like a rushing stream,
which the wind of the Lord drives.
“And a Redeemer will come to Zion,
to those in Jacob who turn from transgression,” declares the Lord.

On the final verse of the song below, 4- to 6-year-olds are dismissed to the foyer for Christ Kids Worship and will return following the sermon.



* Arise, My Soul, Arise

text, C. Wesley; music, K. Twit



1. A - rise my soul, a - rise shake off your guil - ty fears;
2. He ev - er lives a - bove for me to in - ter - cede,
- (Men) 3. Five bleeding wounds he bears, re - ceived on Cal - va - ry
4. My God is re - con - ciled, his par - d'ning voice I hear;



- the bleed - ing sac - ri - fice on my be - half ap - pears.
his all - re - deem - ing love his pre - cious blood to plead.
(Women) they pour ef - fec - tual prayers they strong - ly plead for me.
he owns me for his child, I can no long - er fear;



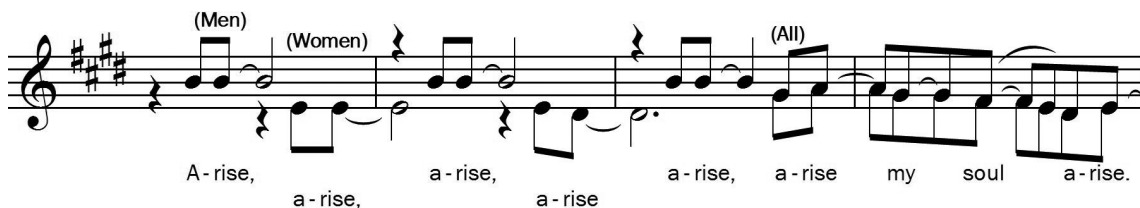
- Be - fore the throne my Su - re - ty stands,
His blood a - toned for ev - er - y race
(Men) "For - give him, O for - give" they cry,
with con - fi - dence I now draw nigh,



- be - fore the throne my Su - re - ty stands
his blood a - toned for ev - er - y race
(Women) "For - give her, O for - give" they cry,
with con - fi - dence I now draw nigh,



my name is writ - ten on his hands.
and sprin - kles now the throne of grace.
(All) "don't let that ran - somed sin - ner die."
and "Fa - ther, Ab - ba, Fa - ther" cry.



A - rise, a - rise, a - rise, a - rise, a - rise my soul a - rise.



A - rise, a - rise, a - rise, a - rise, a - rise my soul, a - rise,



shake of your guil - ty fears and rise.

c 1996 Kevin Twit Music

GOD'S WORD GIVEN TO US



* Scripture reading

Exodus 32:11-14, 30-34; 33:1-6, 12-18

^{32:11} But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, “O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, ‘With evil intent did he bring them out, to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth?’ Turn from your burning anger and relent from this disaster against your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, to whom you swore by your own self, and said to them, ‘I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your offspring, and they shall inherit it forever.’” ¹⁴ And the LORD relented from the disaster that he had spoken of bringing on his people.

³⁰ The next day Moses said to the people, “You have sinned a great sin. And now I will go up to the LORD; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin.” ³¹ So Moses returned to the LORD and said, “Alas, this people has sinned a great sin. They have made for themselves gods of gold. ³² But now, if you will forgive their sin—but if not, please blot me out of your book that you have written.” ³³ But the LORD said to Moses, “Whoever has sinned against me, I will blot out of my book. ³⁴ But now go, lead the people to the place about which I have spoken to you; behold, my angel shall go before you. Nevertheless, in the day when I visit, I will visit their sin upon them.”

^{33:1} The LORD said to Moses, “Depart; go up from here, you and the people whom you have brought up out of the land of Egypt, to the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, ‘To your offspring I will give it.’

² I will send an angel before you, and I will drive out the Canaanites, the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ³ Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey; but I will not go up among you, lest I consume you on the way, for you are a stiff-necked people.”

⁴ When the people heard this disastrous word, they mourned, and no one put on his ornaments. ⁵ For the LORD had said to Moses, “Say to the people of Israel, ‘You are a stiff-necked people; if for a single moment I should go up among you, I would consume you. So now take off your ornaments, that I may know what to do with you.’”

⁶ Therefore the people of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments, from Mount Horeb onward.

¹² Moses said to the LORD, “See, you say to me, ‘Bring up this people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.’” ¹³ Now therefore, if I have found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.” ¹⁴ And he said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” ¹⁵ And he said to him, “If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here. ¹⁶ For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?”

¹⁷ And the LORD said to Moses, “This very thing that you have spoken I will do, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.” ¹⁸ Moses said, “Please show me your glory.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God!



* Prayer



Sermon

Take Me

Pastor Andrew VanderMaas

One Overarching Framework

Two Tempting Propositions

Three Passionate Prayers

Further discussion/questions? andrewvandermaas@christchurchgr.org
Sermons are available online at www.christchurchgr.org

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD



** Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* Trinity Hymnal 38



Prayers of the People



Offertory *Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord*
Give online at christchurchgr.org or by texting (616) 208-2820.

Be still for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One, is here.
Come, bow before Him now
with reverence and fear.
In Him no sin is found;
we stand on holy ground.
Be still for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.
He burns with holy fire,
with splendor He is crowned.
How awesome is the sight,
our radiant King of Light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.
He comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister His grace.
No work too hard for Him,
in faith receive from Him,
Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.



* Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him, all creatures here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.



* Benediction

Ephesians 3:16–19

[May the Lord] according to the riches of his glory .. grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

* Postlude

WORSHIP MUSICIANS

Onsite

Benjamin Scofield, song leader
Samuel Wakeman, bari saxophone
Nate LeFebre, guitar
Mark Lundell, bass
Susan Guerra, piano
Moses Vander Maas, drums

Online additional musicians

Salome Neele (*Jesus, What a Friend for Sinners!*)
Salome Neele, Joël Neele, Isaac Lundell &
Judah Guerra, Moses VanderMaas (*Arise, My Soul, Arise*)
Sarah Griffioen (*Immortal, Invisible*)
Guerra family (*Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord*)
Scofield family (*Doxology*)



What activities will be available?

Plan on fellowship & fun during the All Church Retreat, October 1-3!

Saturday afternoon from 1:00 – 5:00 is reserved for activities—some free, some with fees.

Horses & ponies, disc golf & sports courts, rock climbing, zip line, canoeing/kayaking/rowboats, crafts, slingshots, and more! When you register, indicate the amount of people in your party with serious interest in each activity in order to help us prepare as paid activities are not guaranteed to be available unless there is interest. Payment for paid activities will be collected at CranHill. Detailed information is available on the registration form or at the Welcome Center.

Stop by between services or following the second service today!

What is the All Church Retreat?

A weekend of fellowship, rest, worship, and equipping for the continuance of God's story in our community. The All Church Retreat is for everyone. Plan to join your church family at Cranhill Ranch as together we focus on *Extending & Enabling: God's Growing Kingdom*. God continues to be at work in our community.

Where is the Retreat?

CranHill Ranch, near Big Rapids, is a fun Christian camp offering an unforgettable experience for young and old. Lodging will be available in a variety of formats, including camping!

What will we do?

We'll use the weekend to connect and grow as we look to the future as a church family. We'll gather for meals and three large group sessions led by Pastor Andrew. We'll have fun with group activities as well as free time for hiking, canoeing and kayaking, sports courts, crafts, horses and ponies, rock climbing, zip lining, and more! We'll even have live music by the *Band of Breton* featuring some of our fellow Christ Church members.

How do I register?



Register with this QR code or at the welcome center on ipads or with paper and pay with a check. If you have concerns about cost or have a special need, email the committee at allchurchretreat@christchurchgr.org.

Life of the church

Dedication of the Atrium will be Sunday, August 29 at 10:00am. We'll offer prayers and songs to consecrate the space together. Plan to attend!

Let's worship outside once more this summer at 10:30 on Sept 5. Set up chairs in the grass facing the church building.

Opportunities to Serve!

Thank you to all who have used the Volunteer form to commit to serving at Christ Church. Highlighted below are some of the pressing needs that remain. We also still need more volunteers for the nursery. Thank you.

Ushers - 10 more

Sunday school *Not all of these are weekly commitments; see the schedule on the form.*

2nd-4th - 4 teachers & 4 assistants

5th-6th - 3 teachers

7th-8th - 1 teacher

9th-10th - 1 teacher

11th-12th - 1 teacher

Together in Prayer will begin meeting at a new time, starting August 18: Wednesdays 6-7pm. In person or via Zoom (get link from praying hands slide on our website)

We are happy to say that we plan to have choir again this fall! You are invited to two rehearsals/get-togethers that are both for returning choir members and those exploring interest on Wednesdays, August 18 & 25, at 7:00pm. We are excited to bring back this ministry after a long time without it, and we hope to see you there!

In Depth Theological Study. Are you interested in diving deeper into God's word and growing in your understanding of it? Pastor Andrew and Shinji Yasugi are exploring a Bible study to start this fall using curriculum from Third Millennium and running for 16 weeks. For more information sign up at <https://christchurchgr.breezechms.com/form/study>

Interested in learning more about Christ Church? Currently you can participate in the First Things class online and then either meet with an elder or pastor or wait for the in person offering coming this fall in our Adult Institutes. 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. If you'd like to sign up, contact the office at office@christchurchgr.org.

The city of GR will be holding an info meeting in our parking lot at 6pm on Wed, Aug 18th on a streambank stabilization project in the ravine behind the church and between Alger St and Golfridge Drive. You are invited to learn more about the work to be completed, the schedule and access during construction. For questions, contact Greg @ gregmeibeyer@christchurchgr.org

FAITHFULLY WORKING

Lunch: *Workplace 2.0*, Friday, August 27th
from 11:30-1:00pm - COVID transformed many of our working lives, presenting us with new challenges and opportunities. Dan Churchwell and a panel of workers representing several industries will talk about this new era of work, the value of human connection, and how we can pursue the flourishing of our peers. Sign up online or at the Welcome Center.

We are hosting Daniel Doriani, MDiv, PhD, on Saturday, Sept 11, for a presentation and discussion of his newly published book, *Work That Makes A Difference*. The Faithfully Working team is hosting group discussions of the book on August 19 and 26 (7pm) or August 22 and 29 (noon / after second service). Purchase a book (\$5 for congregants) and sign up at <https://christchurchgr.breezechms.com/form/fwbook>

Check out our **Faithfully Working podcast**. We release bi-weekly episodes designed to bridge the gap between faith and work by providing opportunities for God's people to learn about God's vision for work and apply it to your vocations. You can find it on podcasting platforms including Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, Spotify and more. You can also find us on our church website under the resources tab.

COLLEGE AGE

River Tubing

Float down the river on Sunday, August 29th from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm. We'll leave together after the second service and return to church in the afternoon. You won't need your own tube, but you'll want to pack a lunch. Cost is \$5 per person, and sign up details are coming soon. Hope to see you there!

YOUTH

Jr High

Set aside Sep. 10-12 for our annual start up Fall Retreat at Cran-Hill

Sr High

Our year starts off with our annual Fall Retreat at Cran-Hill, Sep. 17-19

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Families with children, please take a few minutes to fill out our Sunday Morning Children and Youth Ministries Registration page. This will help us plan for nurseries as well as Sunday School which starts with our toddlers and goes up through high school. <https://christchurchgr.breezechms.com/form/e2e121>

Parents, if you are joining us for worship onsite, your infants (6 mos and older) and toddlers up to age 3 are welcome each week in our nursery during the 8:30 and 10:30 services. Please continue to RSVP by Friday each week. Contact Debbie with questions about current protocols. debbiebuko@christchurchgr.org

MEN'S MINISTRY

Bible Studies

Mondays at 7:00pm, starting Sept 13
Jerry Stutzman will lead a study of
Leviticus. We will meet at church, with
an option to participation via Zoom.
Contact Greg: gregmeibeyer@christ-
churchgr.org

Wed, 6:30am - Gospel of John
contact Bob at lafleur1@comcast.net
or 616-988-9285

Fellowship Breakfasts

Tuesdays, 8:30 am
Russ' Restaurant, 2750 28th St
Contact Linn Peterson

Wednesdays, 8:00 am
Rainbow Grill, 4158 Chicago Dr
Contact Dick Malone

Join the Golf League! 5pm Thursdays at
Indian Trails. Contact John at 919-451-8123
or brattjh@live.com.

WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP

10-11:30am Tuesday Bible study on the Holy Spirit. Join us from 10-11:30 at church. contact
Anthoinette Bom.

Lake Night Wednesday, August 18th from 6-9pm at the Den Dulk's (4101 Reeds Lake
Blvd SE). Bring an appetizer, salad, or dessert
to share if you're able but come either way!
Also plan to have athletic clothes as well as
swimwear.

Book Club Tuesday, August 24 at 7pm at
church. Come discuss *War and Turpentine* by
Stefan Hertmans.

Fall Bible Studies

– **Tuesday Morning Study of Acts**
begins September 20.

– **7 Feasts: Finding Christ in the Sacred Cele-**
brations of the Old Testament by Erin Davis.

Mondays at 6:45pm *over Zoom*

Wednesdays at 8:45am *in person with childcare*

Signup at the Welcome Center or through
an email coming this week. Books will be
available next week. Questions? Contact
women@christchurchgr.org

Financial Report

	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Jan - July Receipts	\$591,317	\$ 605,246
Jan - July Expenses	\$574,688	\$ 601,743
Jan - July Over (Under)	\$ 16,629	\$ 3,502
Tithes and Offerings		
August 1	\$ 19,858	
August 8	\$ 20,393	
August Total Tithes & Offerings	\$ 40,251	\$ 82,125

EXTENDING COMMUNITY ENABLING MISSION CAMPAIGN	
Total Commitments	\$1,721,987
Campaign Funds Received	\$1,166,059

Session Summary

*Desiring to keep the congregation updated on some of the discussions & decisions of the Session,
here is a summary of our most recent meeting.*

FROM AUGUST 10

The elders opened their **time praying together** in groups of two or three.

Approved the membership transfer of the Comeaux family to Faith PCA in Jenison and the Kolkman family transfer to Christ the King PCA in Hastings

Provided **updates on fold facilitator recruitment** and discussed plans for an orientation meeting with those women.

Approved the Campus Outreach West Michigan (COWM) policy statement as another key step to that ministry being birthed from Grace PCA's Campus Outreach Central Illinois to become a ministry of Christ Church. COWM campus ministry work has been occurring at WMU.

Discussed and prayed for the many volunteer needs and opportunities for congregants to serve God and each other.

Discussed Session's continued work with the Advocates for the Wounded & Abused committee, together striving to nurture an environment where people experience comfort, healing and accountability.



2500 Breton Rd SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546 • 616-949-9630

www.christchurchgr.org • office@christchurchgr.org

Worship Onsite Sunday mornings at 8:30 in the sanctuary, 10:30 outside as weather permits

Summer office hours: Wednesdays & Fridays 9:00-3:00pm

PRAYER REQUESTS: please submit by 7:30pm Tuesday to prayer@christchurchgr.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS: please submit by 7:30pm Wednesday to announcements@christchurchgr.org