



September 12, 2021



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 room 102.

Prelude *Establish the Work of Our Hands*

by Porter's Gate

If You don't build it we labor in vain
 Without Your Spirit we stand with no strength
 I know my time is passing away
 But the works of Your hands are what will remain

 Let the favor of the Lord rest upon us
 O Lord establish the work of our hands
 O Lord establish the work of our hands

Teach us to number the length of our days
 Pour out Your power we'll pour out Your praise
 Teach us to run to finish the race
 For only what's done in love will remain

 Alleluia alleluia alleluia
 Alleluia alleluia alleluia

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Andrew Vander Maas

Moment of silent meditation Micah 6:8

He has told you, O man, what is good;
 and what does the Lord require of you
 but to do justice, and to love kindness,
 and to walk humbly with your God?

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP



Call to worship Psalm 90:1-2, 12-17 responsively

Congregation reads bold type.

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

...teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.

Return, O Lord! How long? Have pity on your servants!

Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, and for as many years as we have seen evil. Let your work be shown to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!

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



* *Patient Kingdom*

by Gareth Davies-Jones, Sandra McCracken, Sarah Masen

Congregation, join in singing the Chorus.



CCLI 332344

Solo When's the last time you felt steady in the chaos
Hear the sound when the seed falls to earth
Is it time to give up your destination
Slow me down let love do its work

Chorus

Solo As the trees and hummingbirds lead the chorus
They work so hard in their center so still
Is it time for a change in direction
Slow me down where I bend to Your will

Chorus

Solo Slow me down
Slow me down let love do its work

Chorus



* *Praise to the Lord*

Trinity Hymnal 53



* *Prayer of adoration*

GOD CALLS US TO RENEWAL

Call to confession Ephesians 4:1-3

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.



Prayer of confession followed by a time of silent confession

Declaration of forgiveness II Timothy 1:8-10

Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

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



*** God, All Nature Sings Thy Glory**

Trinity Hymnal 122

GOD'S WORD GIVEN TO US



* Scripture reading

I Corinthians 7:17-24

¹⁷ Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him. This is my rule in all the churches. ¹⁸ Was anyone at the time of his call already circumcised? Let him not seek to remove the marks of circumcision. Was anyone at the time of his call uncircumcised? Let him not seek circumcision. ¹⁹ For neither circumcision counts for anything nor uncircumcision, but keeping the commandments of God. ²⁰ Each one should remain in the condition in which he was called. ²¹ Were you a bondservant when called? Do not be concerned about it. (But if you can gain your freedom, avail yourself of the opportunity.) ²² For he who was called in the Lord as a bondservant is a freedman of the Lord. Likewise he who was free when called is a bondservant of Christ. ²³ You were bought with a price; do not become bondservants of men. ²⁴ So, brothers, in whatever condition each was called, there let him remain with God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!



* Prayer



1. The Experience of Calling

2. God's Callings for His People

3. To Work in our God-Given place may feel right - or wrong

4. Living Wisely in all our Callings

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD



* ***Take My Life, and Let It Be***

Trinity Hymnal 585



Prayers of the People



Offertory *Your Labor Is Not in Vain*

Isaac Wardell, Paul Zach, Wendell Kimbrough

Give online at christchurchgr.org or by texting (616) 208-2820.

Your labor is not in vain
Though the ground underneath you
Is cursed and stained
Your planting and reaping are never the same
Your labor is not in vain

Your labor is not unknown
Though the rocks they cry out
And the sea it may groan
The place of your toil may not seem like a home
But your labor is not unknown

For I am with you I am with you
I am with you I am with you
For I have called you
Called you by name
Your labor is not in vain

The vineyards you plant will bear fruit
The fields will sing out and rejoice with the truth
For all that is old will at last be made new
The vineyards you plant will bear fruit

The houses you labored to build
Will finally with laughter and joy be filled
The serpent that hurts and destroys will be killed
And all that is broken be healed



* ***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**

* **Postlude**

Worship musicians
Betsy Bray, song leader

Will Mouw, song leader/ violin/ guitar
Susan Guerra, piano

Mark Lundell, bass
John Bratt, drums

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 301 (in atrium) |
| Preschool | room 201 | 7th – 8th grade | room 302 (in atrium) |
| Kindergarten | room 205 | 9th –10th grade | room 303 (in atrium) |
| 1st grade | room 203 | 11th - 12th grade | room 304 (in atrium) |
| 2nd grade | library | | |
| 3rd grade | room 204 | | |
| 4th grade | room 202 | | |

ADULT INSTITUTE in the Sanctuary

| | |
|----------------|---|
| September 12th | Dr Daniel Doriani on Faith in the Workplace |
| September 19th | Jon Medlock on Healthy Church Ecosystem |
| September 26th | a group of new classes will begin |

What questions do you have?



We're here to help! Email the retreat committee (allchurchretreat@christchurchgr.org) with any questions about our upcoming All Church Retreat. Committee members will also be available between services each Sunday and following the second service. Let us know how we can help with cost, accommodations, or anything else so you don't miss the retreat.

Register by September 26 with this QR code.



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 meals are included?

Snacks Friday, 3 group meals Saturday, and breakfast Sunday are all included. List medically relevant food allergies when you register so we can provide alternative food options for you.

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. Saturday afternoon from 1-5pm 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 the QR code above 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.

Is this event for me?

Absolutely! You are part of our body, and the retreat would not be the same without YOU!

Life of the church

As we continue to monitor Kent County's higher than desirable COVID positivity rate we are still recommending but not requiring masking in our larger corporate gatherings where the greatest risk of spread exists. We recognize that there are many factors to navigating our life together (spiritual, emotional, social, as well as physical) so let us continue to be patient, humble and accommodating to one another as we work out our life together.

The next stated session meeting is Tuesday, September 14 at 6:30pm. Be in prayer for our pastors and elders.

Elder & Deacon Nominations: We are grateful for the service of our elders and deacons and seek nominations for the 2022 officer training program. Nomination forms are available in the church office. Nominations are due September 26, 2021.

C-Groups are a way to connect, care and challenge one another in community. Learn more about C-Groups and connect with current C-Group facilitators at our Fall Launch on September 19 & 26 or you can find information on our website at <http://christchurchgr.org/connect/c-groups/>

Service of Lament. September 26 at 6:30 PM. Join for a time to lament to God about the brokenness in our lives, in our community, and in the world. Hear the refreshing good news of Jesus, who gives us hope in the dark places and who is making all things new.

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.

Senior luncheon (55+) Tuesday, Sept 14th at noon. We will meet at the church under the pines so bring your lawn chairs. In the event of rain, we will meet in the Atrium. Salads (pasta, vegetable or fruit), bread and cookies. Sign up at the welcome center with Nina Gortmaker.

New in the Library

Suffering is Never for Nothing
by Elisabeth Elliot

Why I Don't Desire God by John Piper

The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self
by Carl Trueman

Jesus by Devon Provencher

A New Systematic Theology of the Christian Faith
by Robert Reymond

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>

COLLEGE AGE

Bible Studies

- **Men**

Sundays at 2:30pm

Tuesdays at 8:00pm

- **Women**

Sundays at 7:00pm

F.I.S.H.

Fridays 5:00- 9:30pm at church

Food. Intermingle. Study. Hangout.

Come & leave whenever!

... did we mention dinner is free?!

YOUTH

All Youth (5th-12th)

If you did not receive the ministry year calendar of events and meetings, contact Scott (scottg@christchurchgr.org)

56ers

Our first event is coming up on Sep. 24, 6:30-8:00... it's a Porch Party at Scott and Leah's; games, grilling supper, hanging out- it will be a blast!

Sr High

Our fall retreat at Cran-Hill is this weekend, be sure to check your email for details and then sign up ASAP.

WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP

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

Fall Bible Studies

Tuesday Morning Study of Acts
begins September 20.

7 Feasts by Erin Davis.

Books are available in the welcome area.

Begins Monday at 6:45pm over Zoom
Contact Nichole (nplammers@sbcglobal.net) or Kay (kmpanaggio@gmail.com) if you'd like to join

Wednesdays at 9:00am in person
contact Cheryl (lafleur1@comcast.net) to join the study.

October 14, 7:00-8:30pm, a meeting co-sponsored by Women's Discipleship and Advocates for the Wounded & Abused (AWA). Last year we discussed Rachel denHollander's book, *What is a Girl Worth*. We will look further into her insights through the lens of Scripture to wrestle with some big questions. More information to come.

Fellowship Night: Have you recently started worshipping at Christ Church or have you been attending for awhile but feel like you keep seeing new faces and want an opportunity to get to know and welcome others? Join us at the church Thursday, September 16th from 7:00pm-9:00pm for a night of games & fellowship. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Beverages will be provided.

Fall shower September 21, 7:00pm in the atrium. Join us in sharing the joy of expectant parents Nabiha (& Andy) Adams. If you would like to contribute to a group gift, please Paypal, Venmo @Mandirodenbeck or write a check to Mandi Rodenbeck (labeled for the fall shower group gift)

Saturday, October 16th Come for a **morning hike** in the beautiful woods surrounding Pickerel Lake. We will gather and meet in the parking lot of the park at 9:00am Contact Leah (slgritter@sbcglobal.net)

MEN'S MINISTRY

Bible Studies

Mondays at 7:00pm, starts Monday

Jerry Stutzman will lead a study of Leviticus. We will meet at church, or participate via Zoom. Contact Greg (gregmeibeyer@christchurchgr.org)

Wed, 6:30am - Gospel of John

contact Bob (lafleur1@comcast.net) or 616-988-9285

Fellowship Breakfasts

Tuesdays, 8:30 am

Russ' Restaurant, 2750 28th St

Contact Linn Peterson

(linnap@comcast.net)

Wednesdays, 8:00 am

Rainbow Grill, 4158 Chicago Dr

Contact Dick Malone (rmpmcer@aol.com)

Trail & Ale Sunday, Sept 26. Meet in the church parking lot at 2:30 to carpool to Luton Park Trail in Rockford. We'll stop at Rockford Brewing Company before ending back at church around 7:30pm.

Financial Report

| | ACTUAL | BUDGET |
|--|-------------|------------|
| Jan - August Receipts | \$697,956 | \$ 689,567 |
| Jan - August Expenses | \$658,169 | \$ 689,779 |
| Jan - August Over (Under) | \$ 39,787 | \$ (212) |
| | | |
| Tithes and Offerings | | |
| September 5 | \$ 22,500 | |
| September Total Tithes & Offerings | \$ 22,500 | \$ 82,125 |
| | | |
| EXTENDING COMMUNITY ENABLING MISSION CAMPAIGN | | |
| Total Commitments | \$1,722,987 | |
| Campaign Funds Received | \$1,193,050 | |

This Week's Events

| | | |
|------------------|----------|--|
| Today | 8:30 AM | Worship Service |
| | 10:00 AM | Sunday School for all ages |
| | 11:15 AM | Worship Service |
| Monday | 6:30 PM | We Believe in God Study |
| | 6:45 PM | Women's 7 Feasts Study (<i>over Zoom</i>) |
| | 7:00 PM | Men's Leviticus Bible Study |
| Tuesday | 8:30 AM | Men's Breakfast - <i>Russ'</i> - 2750 28th St |
| | 12:00 PM | Senior (55+) Luncheon |
| | 6:30 PM | Session Meeting |
| Wednesday | 6:30 AM | Men's Gospel of John Study - <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 7 Feasts Study |
| | 6:00 PM | Together in Prayer |
| | 7:00 PM | Adult choir rehearsal |
| Thursday | 7:00 PM | Women's Fellowship |
| Friday | 4:00 PM | GLP Presbytery |
| | 5:00 PM | College-Age F.I.S.H. Friday |
| | 6:15 PM | Sr High Fall Retreat |
| Saturday | 7:30 AM | GLP Presbytery |
| | ALL DAY | Sr High Fall Retreat |



2500 Breton Rd SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546 • 616-949-9630
www.christchurchgr.org • office@christchurchgr.org
Worship Sunday mornings at 8:30 and 10:30 am in the sanctuary.

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

STAFF

Betsy Bray
Administrative Assistant
Debbie Bukovietski
Director of Children's Ministry
Jerry & Nina Gortmaker
Visitation Coordinators
Scott Gritter
Director Youth Ministries
Rick Groggel
Treasurer
Susan Guerra
Director of Music & Arts
Addison Hawkins
Associate Pastor

Greg Meibeyer
Operations Director
Ben Seneker
Pastor of Gracehill Church
Andrew VanderMaas
Lead Pastor
Morgan VanderMaas
Youth Discipleship
Jim Visser
Executive Director
Kimberly Visser
Office & Communications Manager

ELDERS *with fold zip codes*

Bryan Burke & Jim Visser
49301, 49341, 49503, 49504, 49505, 49525, 49538
Mike Buwalda & Bob LaFleur
49506, 49507
David deJong & Jerry Stutzman
49302, 49331, 49546

Dick Friedrich & John Streefkerk
49007, 49508, 49512, 49315, 49323, 49316, 49058
Jerry Gortmaker
49418, 49423, 49426, 49428, 49464, 49509, 49519, 49534, 49535, 49548
Ken Morse
Gracehill

DEACONS

Randy Bosma
Ray Chamberlain
Jon Deur
George Dykstra
Jon Eldersveld
Paul Lammers
Chris Peterson
Greg Stawicki