GOSPEL pour nership



September 26, 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 Blessed Be Your Name

Blessed be Your name in the land that is plentiful, where Your streams of abundance flow, Blessed be Your name.

Blessed be Your name when I'm found in the desert place, though I walk through the wilderness, Blessed be Your name.

Every blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise. When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say: Blessed be the name of the Lord. Blessed be Your name. Blessed be the name of the Lord. Blessed be Your glorious name.

Blessed be Your name When the sun's shining down on me When the world's all as it should be Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name On the road marked with suffering Though there's pain in the offering Blessed be Your name

You give and take away, You give and take away. My heart will choose to say, "Lord, blessed be Your name."

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Addison Hawkins

Silent Meditation Ephesians 6:15

And on your feet wear the Good News of peace to help you stand strong. International Children's Version

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP



II Corinthians 8:9

Elder Jim Visser

...you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

* At the Name of Jesus

Call to worship

Trinity Hymnal 163

* There Is a Redeemer



* Prayer of adoration

GOD CALLS US TO RENEWAL

Call to confession Psalm 51:9-10

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

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Prayer of confession followed by a time of silent confession

Declaration of forgiveness Romans 1:16

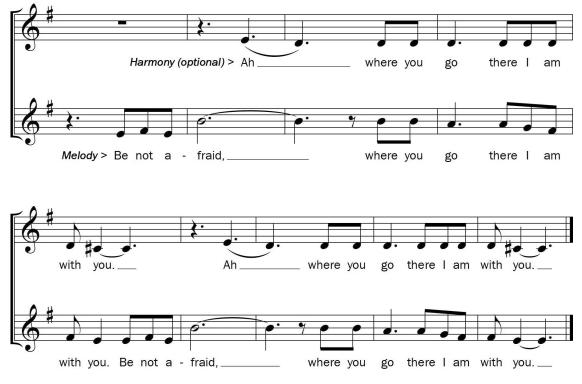
"...I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes...."

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

* Come, Holy Ghost

Bruce Benedict & Ray Mills





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GOD'S WORD GIVEN TO US

Scripture reading Philippians 1:12-18

¹² I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³ so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴ And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

¹⁵ Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. ¹⁶ The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. ¹⁷ The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. ¹⁸ What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.

Yes, and I will rejoice,

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





Sermon Participating in a Story of Joy

Pastor Addison Hawkins

Main point: Jesus is the true source of joy, so we cling to the hope of the gospel.

Cling Amidst Our Situations

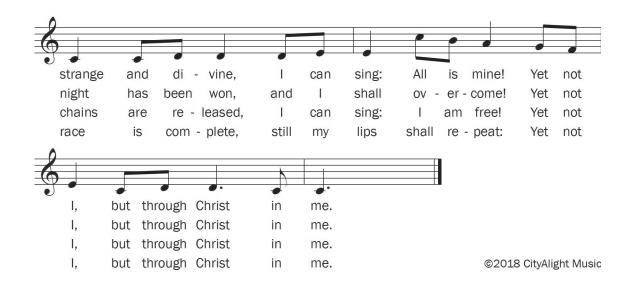
Cling through Our Relationships

Cling as Our Strength

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

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD







Prayers of the People



Offertory Have Mercy on Me Give online at christchurchgr.org or by texting (616) 208-2820.

The goodness of the Lord is the kindness of the Lord With every breath we take, the gift of life and grace The power of the Lord is the meekness of the Lord Who bore humanity with brave humility

Let Your mercy flow through us Your mercy, Your mercy Let Your mercy flow through us Your mercy, Your mercy

The beauty of the Lord is the suffering of the Lord Is Christ upon a tree, stripped of dignity The glory of the Lord is the mercy of the Lord Gives life for us to see a new humanity

When they see us, may they see Your mercy, Your mercy When they know us, may they know Your mercy, Your mercy Bless the hands and feet Of those who serve in need Of the broken and ashamed Bless the weary soul The Lord will make us whole God, speak peace to those afraid May the words we speak Build a bridge for peace Your loving kindness shows the way Open up our doors Giving refuge for All the weary and afraid Let Your mercy flow through us Your mercy, Your mercy



Trinity Hymnal 731



2 Thess 2: 16-17

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

* Postlude

Worship musicians Cassaundra Wolf, Leah Quinn, song leaders Craig Kooienga, song leader & guitar Susan Guerra, piano Tucker Besch, cajon

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
Preschool	room 201
Kindergarten	room 205
1st grade	room 203
2nd grade	library
3rd grade	room 204
4th grade	room 202

room 304 (in atrium)
room 303 (in atrium)
room 302 (in atrium)
room 301 (in atrium)

No Sunday School next week, October 3

ADULT INSTITUTE

Gospel Vision

Gospel Vision is designed to help God's people live at the intersect of Gospel truth and life's realities. As we strive to to grow in faith, create community with fellow travelers, and declare His glory among the nations, Gospel Vision's design is to help us see how right thinking (orthodoxy) can result right doing (orthopraxis) for daughters and sons of God.

Pastor Andrew VanderMaas

Sermon Response

Filled up with the sermon? Let's assimilate it together. Join us for this discussion-oriented class in which we "talk around the circle," sharing our highlights and possible applications together. Join in or just listen. Haven't heard the sermon yet? Come and get a preview.

Levys and Waters, facilitators

Introduction to the Old Testament

The class is designed to provide a context fo runderstanding the events and commands of the Old Testament. Some of the highlights include how the Hebrew Bible is organized versus the Christian Bible; discuss the impact of the Septuagint translation; show the settlement of the 12 tribes; the division of the nation; discuss the prophets of the Assyrian, Babylonian and Persian periods; discuss the importance of the Dead Sea Scrolls; demonstrate the numerous OT references in the New Testament; and provide a historical reference to people and events of the OT.

Arni Rich



Yes! Campsites and limited lodging options are still available for you. Financial assistance is also still available. Please let the committee know what you need. The registration deadline is TODAY, September 26. Stop by the Welcome Center in the lobby to sign up or use this QR code!

What if I can't come?

You will be missed! Christ Church doors will be open for you, though, with Pastor Addison leading worship at our regular services times of 8:30 and 11:15am. Your prayer support to cover the retreat is welcomed!

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!

Service of Lament. Tonight, 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.

There will be a deacon fund collection next Sunday. Consider giving beyond your regular tithe to serve those in need. Include "deacon fund" in the memo line or give to the fund online by selecting Deacon fund. https://christchurchgr.breezechms.com/give/online

Summer '21 Rewound & Chili Cook-off, Oct. 10, 5:30 - 8:00. Come together for a wonderful and encouraging evening together as a church family and encourage our youth in the process. We will share testimonies of God's blessings from our Jr High mission trip to Cedar Bay, our Sr High mission trip to Chattanooga, our Sr High conference in Baltimore, and we'll sneak in our spring Sr High backpacking trip to Pisgah National Forest. Our evening will start with a chili cook-off, so if you want to enter that read below, otherwise just come and enjoy being the taste testers. Chili Cook-off: Bring a full pot (approx. 2 gallons) of chili (no dessert chilies please) to church at 5:15PM. It does not need to be in a crockpot, but is should be heated through and ready to serve. Prizes awarded to the top 3 placing chilies

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 due by Sept 26 and are available in the church office or http:// christchurchgr.org/connect/nominations/ Volunteer reminders for nursery, AV team, ushering, CKW, coffee service, etc., will be sent via email six days prior to scheduled time slot, and via text & email two days before volunteering spot. If you have any questions, contact the leader of your volunteering group, or the church office. Please add office@christchurchgr.org to your list of contacts.

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/

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.

Dear Christ Church, We would like to thank all our brothers and sisters in Christ who remembered us through their prayers, visits, phone calls and so many beautiful cards during the journey of Else's diagnosis and chemo treatments. God has been good! We pray that the cancer has been eradicated and trust in His goodness. ~Blessings, Else & Bill Boersma

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. **S**tudy. **H**angout. Come & leave whenever! ... did we mention dinner is free?! We still need adults and youth helpers to serve in the nursery and in Christ Kids Worship! Contact Debbie Bukovietski (nursery) or Ginnie Stawicki (CKW) to find out how you can get involved.

No Sunday School next week, Oct. 3.

YOUTH

Jr and Sr High

It's back! Our annual Summer Rewound and Chili Cook-off takes place Oct. 10. We'll be sharing stories from the past summer and putting on the cook-off. Plan to be around from 4:30-8:30 to help set up, run and clean up the event

Youth group meetings will start on the 17th: Jr High from 4:30-6:00 and Sr High from 6:30-8:00, with dinner between for both groups

Jr High

Save the date: Oct. 16, 6:30-TBD. Fall festivities: pumpkin carving, cookie decorating, hayride; starts and ends at church

Sr High

Oct. 15, 5:00-9:00. Corn maze, bonfire, donuts, maybe apple picking, but for sure good times; starts and ends at church

WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP

Tuesday, 10:00am Bible Study on Acts

Our only text book is the Bible. Come join us for a cup of coffee and a great time of lively discussion and prayer.

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.

Saturday, October 16th Come for a morning hike in the beautiful woods surrounding Pickerel Lake (6001 Ramsdell Dr NE, Rockford). 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, 7:00pm - Leviticus led by Jerry Stutzman, in person or participate via Zoom. Contact Greg (gregmeibeyer@christchurchgr.org)

Wednesdays, 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 (rpmpcer@aol.com)

Trail & Ale: Today, Sept 26 at 1:30pm. Meet in the church parking lot to carpool to Luton Park Trail in Rockford. We'll stop at Rockford Brewing Company before ending back in time for the Lament Service at 6:30pm.

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 SEPTEMBER 14

The elders opened their time **praying together** for the church.

Interviewed four deacon candidates who will eventually be voted on at the 12/1/21 annual congregational meeting.

Received an update from women's ministry leaders on activities and plans.

Discussed officer leadership training nominations.

Session has been **addressing church membership rolls** and updated the status of people who have been gone from Christ Church for a long time.

Discussed **plans and appointed commissioners** for Christ Church's hosting of the Great Lakes Presbytery meetings last weekend.

Approved Gracehill Church's request for pastoral interns to work alongside Pastor Ben Seneker.

Today	8:30 AM 10:00 AM 11:15 AM 12:45 PM 2:30 PM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM	Worship Service Sunday School for all ages Worship Service Sr High Youth return from fall retreat College-Age Men's Bible Study Men's Trail & Ale Lament Service College-Age Women's Bible Study
Monday	6:30 PM 6:45 PM 7:00 PM	We Believe in God Study Women's 7 Feasts Study <i>(over Zoom)</i> Men's Leviticus Bible Study
Tuesday	8:30 AM 6:30 PM 8:00 PM	Men's Breakfast - Russ' - 2750 28th St Deacon's Meeting College-Age Men's Bible Study
Wednesday	6:30 AM 8:00 AM 9:00 AM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Men's Gospel of John Study - contact Bob 616-915-5477 Men's Breakfast - Rainbow Grill - 4158 Chicago Drive Women's 7 Feasts Study Together in Prayer - in lounge or via Zoom (click on praying hands slide on website) Adult choir rehearsal
Friday	5:00 PM 6:00 PM	College-Age F.I.S.H. Friday All Church Retreat
Saturday		All Church Retreat

Financial Report

Jan - August Receipts Jan - August Expenses Jan - August Over (Under)	ACTUAL \$697,956 \$658,169 \$ 39,787	BUDGET \$ 689,567 \$ 689,779 \$ (212)
Tithes and Offerings September 5 September 12 September 19 September Total Tithes & Offerings	\$ 22,500 \$ 16,083 \$ 17,631 \$ 56,215	\$ 82,125

EXTENDING COMMUNITY ENABLING MISSION CAMPAIGN

Total Commitments	\$1,723,407
Campaign Funds Received	\$1,196,729



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 in the sanctuary.

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

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

Paul Cha Pastoral Partner

Jerry & Nina Gortmaker Visitation Coordinators

Scott Gritter Director Youth Ministries

Rick Groggel Treasurer

Susan Guerra Director of Music & Arts Kuni Hotta Pastoral Intern

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 Greg Stawicki