

SERMON NOTES:

Passage: **John 14 :1-31** Sermon Title: **The Truth of Belonging**

**ALLEN AVENUE
CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCH**



Contact Us:

Allen Avenue Christian Reformed Church
695 Allen Ave. Muskegon, MI 49442



(231) 722-6411



www.allenavechurch.org



susan.vanderlaan@allenavechurch.org



Jesus said to him, I am the
way, the truth, and the
life: no man comes to the
Father, but by me.

—John 14:6

PASTOR MARK HOFMAN
WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00AM
APRIL 21, 2024

Come...Now is the Time to Worship!

Sunday, April 21, 2024 -- Pastor Mark Hofman

We Gather to Worship

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Invitation to Quiet

Call to Worship

Leader: Jesus gave his life for our sins,

People: just as God our Father planned,

Leader: Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.

People: All glory to God forever and ever!

*Opening Songs of Praise

*To God Be the Glory
Bless the Lord, O My Soul
To God Be the Glory*

LUYH 956

LUYH 516

LUYH 604

*God's Greeting

*We Greet One Another

We Are Renewed in God's Grace

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you.

People: We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy.

Leader: We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves.

People: We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God.

Leader: Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.

In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.

People: Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Song

Cornerstone

Children's Blessing

The Lord loves you. He promises to go with you. Praise him for being so good. May he bless you as you worship him.

Prayers of the People

Charry Snyder

God Speaks To Us

*Song of Preparation

Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God

LUYH 746

Scripture Passage

John 14 :1-31

(Leader: "This is the Word of the Lord." **People: "Thanks be to God."**)

Message

The Truth of Belonging

Prayer of Application

*Confession of Faith:

My only comfort in life and in death is that I am not my own, but belong—body and soul,

in life and in death—to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,

and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.

He also watches over me in such a way

that not a hair can fall from my head

without the will of my Father in heaven:

in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit,

assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and

ready from now on to live for him. —from Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 1

*Song

Jesus the Lord Said, "I Am the Bread"

LUYH 125

We Are Sent Out

Our Offerings: General Fund

*[offerings may be given online at allenavechurch.org
or in the baskets at each entrance]*

*God's Parting Blessing

*Parting Song of Praise

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LUYH 964

*Postlude

We Live to B.L.E.S.S.

Believe. Love. Evangelize.

Support Christian Education. Serve.



NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

4/21: Nursery: Laurie DeJonge & Kristen Vlasma

Coffee Fellowship: Jim & Barb Malda

4/28: Nursery: Charry Snyder & Deb Anderson

Coffee Fellowship: Steve & Nancy Rop

5/5: Nursery: Lis Miedema & Karen Alphenaar

Coffee Fellowship: Russ & Deb Vlasma

5/12: Nursery: Sue Sytsema & Tayla Vlasma

Coffee Fellowship: Dean & Amber Johnson



ALLEN AVENUE MISSIONARIES

***Pray for the * Missionary this Week**

***Stephan and Alicia Lutz – Kenya**

Rev. Jerry An – Back to God Ministries

Angel Community Church – Muskegon

Paul & Charlotte Mpindi – Mission French Africa

Charles & Hensel Oh – Philippines



ALLEN AVENUE CARE LIST

Joann Deitz ***Wilma Doctor** Jim Doornbos

Vicky Fisher Lois Grinwis Joel Stefanits

Betty TenBrink Ro Verheul June Walcott

*Please send a card to **“Care List Member” Wilma Doctor!**

3637 Whispering Woods Dr., Muskegon, MI 49444

Dear Beloved Care Members,

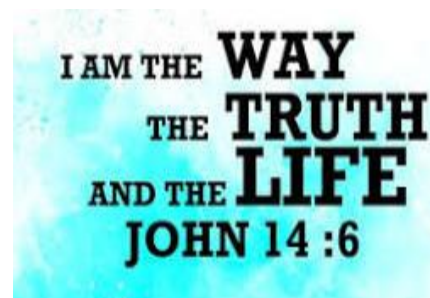
You are so loved. More than you'll ever know.

Adored. Respected. Wanted. Worthy.

Pursued by the One who breathed the stars into existence.

Remember that today and always!

WELCOME TO ALLEN AVENUE CRC



A Warm Welcome to Our Visitors, Our Guests, and Our Members!

We are rejoicing that you have come to join us in worship this Sunday as we celebrate & serve our Risen Savior! After Easter, Christians often remember how Jesus appeared to his disciples and

reminded them of what he taught them. These 50 days of Eastertide invite us to consider what Jesus said in John's gospel about being a disciple. Last Sunday Pastor Mark introduced the **ABC's of Discipleship** from John chapters 14-16, which include how disciples of Jesus **attend, belong, and commit**. Last Sunday, in John 15, Jesus taught his disciples to attend or **ABIDE** in his love by loving one another. This morning, we'll hear how Jesus calls his disciples to know the truth about **BELONGING** to him by believing and trusting in his words. *I am the way, the truth, and the life*, is Jesus' summary of how we can attend or abide in him, belong, and believe in him, and live lives that commit to him. Next week, we'll hear about the third letter, **C** for **COMMITMENT**, based verses from John 16. Please join us downstairs after the morning service to enjoy fellowship together over a cup of coffee and conversation as we do life together at such a time as this. Be blessed & be a blessing!

CRC DENOMINATION & AACRC COUNCIL NEWS

Things to Do This Week: Pray for Our Council. Pray for vision, wisdom, leadership, steadfastness, and unity...for Brian Schuitema Sherrie Wolffis, Gabe Vlasma, Jean Botting, Pastor Mark, Judy Vaandering, Dave Miedema, Scott Schuitema, Charry Snyder. Barb Malda, Mary Kortman, Amber Johnson, & Nate Schout. Heartfelt thanks for serving and leading our church at this very important time in history...may you find “joy in your journey” on our council!

Kids Corner: Earth Day - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. When God created the earth, he made sure to make everything right. After every day of creation, he looked at what he had made and called it good. And then—at the end of creation—God gave it all to us and put us in charge. That is an incredible blessing and a huge task! Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like KC's Earth Day Collection.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

The deadline for The Allen AveNews is this Sunday, April 21. Please get all your newsworthy items to Sandy Volkers by then.

Ladies' Spring Luncheon will be On May 2 at Whitlow's at 11:30am.

All ladies are welcome. Call Marcia Breuker at 231-740-3458 to reserve a space. Also, there will be a signup sheet near the coffee window. Hope you can join us!

Looking for a great reason to get outdoors, boost your exercise routine, and help the local environment? Unity Reformed Church is organizing a run-walk, half-marathon/5K in Montague on Saturday May 4. Check out: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MI/Montague/RedeemMiRun> Proceeds will go to re-wilding land previously used by the city for waste. What a great way to give back, get outdoors, and rejoice in God's good creation!

GEMS and their moms please meet in the church basement on Wednesday, April 24, at 6:00pm for our Mother-Daughter Night. We will be eating supper together, badges will be presented, we will be planning for GEMS Sunday, and we will be doing a craft together. We are excited about this night and hope you all can make it! Also, any girls currently in 1st-7th grade who might like to be a part of GEMS are welcome to come with their moms as well!

Next Sunday, April 28, is GEMS Sunday. All GEMS are asked to be at church at 9:00am that morning to prepare for participating in the service.

Freezer Ministry will meet on Thursday, April 25, at 8:30am to cut, stir, make, and bake some delicious meals for our home-bound friends! If you are able to join in the fun and this important ministry, please consider coming or talking to Sherrie Wolffis to see how you can help or for more information.

It's that time again!! Time to order your tickets for the UNITY CHRISTIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL. The dates this summer are August 7-10 with the 7th being the FREE night. This festival is held every summer at Heritage Landing and is the family friendly affordable event of the summer! Special advance pricing is happening now. Please sign up on the sheet in the basement. Christian artists on the schedule include Brandon Heath and Matt Maher on the FREE night, and Tasha Layton, Matthew West, Mac Powell, Zach Williams, Tenth Ave. North, and We Are Messengers (and others) on the following nights. Tickets are ONLY \$75.00 for a 3-day pass or \$40.00 for a 1-day pass! (That's CHEAP!!! 😊) Sign up today! See Jill Schuitema if you have any questions.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

Nature Challenge - One of the best ways to know our Creator better is to know the creation better. On April 28, 2:00-4:00pm, join with neighbors from around west Michigan to discover and record native plants and wildlife, in the City Nature Challenge at the Calvin Ecosystem Preserve and Native Gardens. No expertise required! Refreshments provided. This is free event.

Summer Camps at Calvin - Make the most of summer! Calvin University offers a variety of camps for kids and youth, ages 4-18, designed to help bridge the gap between school years -- while learning and having fun! Choose from camps themed on chemistry, health, music, nature, and sports. Learn more and register at calvin.edu/offices-services/camps/

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

Praise & thanks to God for the wonderful time forty ladies of the church and **Jasmine Fritz's** family had celebrating the engagement and upcoming wedding of Jasmine to Travis Snyder on Saturday, April 13, with a bridal shower! She appreciated all who came and for the many practical and generous gifts given. Thanks, too, to the Shower Committee with all the love and work they pour into these events from the decorations to the delicious food and drinks! A blessing!!!

Judy Vaandering will have knee replacement on **Tuesday, April 23**, in Muskegon. Please remember Judy as she anticipates surgery and rehab and recovery.

Zoom prayer time will **NOT** meet on **April 23**, but will resume on **April 30**. Lift up **Peg and Stan Rop** this week as they travel back home from Florida!

Please prayerfully consider volunteering to help out at Muskegon Christian School by watching staff kids during the last Monday staff meetings/faith integration training. **Only ONE slot to fill...we are almost there!** Just need volunteers from **2:50-4:30pm on May 13!**

We pray for parents, students, teachers, and all those in education both at Allen Avenue and in private and public schools: **Our Students:** Simon, Nora, Serenity, Yeabsira, Tekalegn, Maelin, Tayla, Taylor, Danny, Luke, Addy, Joel, Kayla, Devin, Asher, August, Aethan, Emily, Lily, Jessica, Molly. **Our Teachers and Principals:** MCS -Nate Schout, Lis Miedema WMC-Chris Ruitter, Dave Miedema Fruitport Public Schools (PE) - Becky Schout