

SERMON NOTES:

Sermon: **"Happy, But Rootless: Scorched and Shallow"**

Scripture: **Mark 4:1-25**

ALLEN AVENUE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH



Contact Us:

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



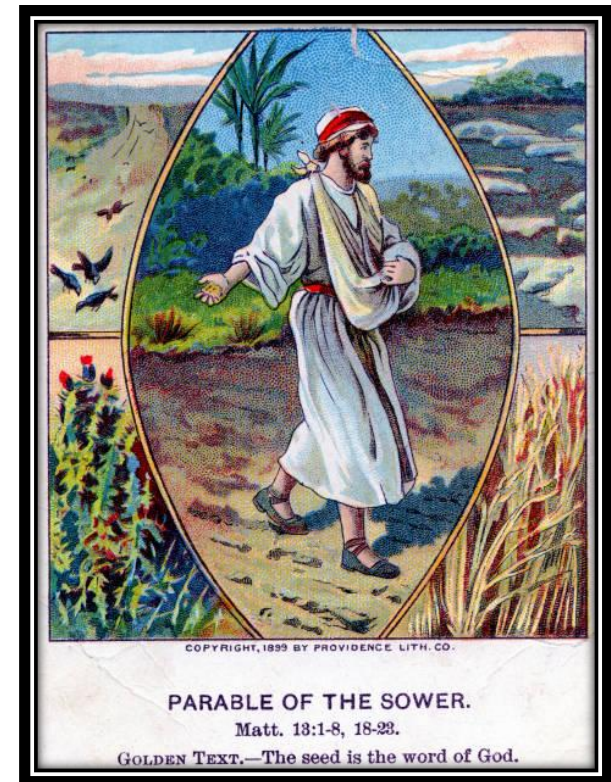
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PASTOR MARK HOFMAN
AUGUST 17, 2025
WORSHIP 10:00AM

Come...Now is the Time to Worship!

Sunday, August 17, 2025

Pastor Mark Hofman

We Gather to Worship

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Invitation to Quiet

A Parable

Mark 4:1-9

A Prayer

Leader: May our hearts be places of peace,

All: and our minds be open to God's Word.

Leader: May our souls shine with true love for God and one another,

All: and may our lives be rooted deeply God's beloved Son, Jesus Christ.

*Song

In Christ Alone

*God's Greeting

*We Greet One Another

We Are Renewed in God's Grace

Call to Confession ~ Matthew 7:24-27

Song

Build Your Faith

Singing the New Testament 25

Children's Message

Stephanie Hofman

Children's Blessing

Jesus loves the little children of the world.

May his blessing be upon you.

May his love surround you.

May his joy fill you.

Go in Peace

Prayers of the People

Tim Maat

We Listen to God Speak

Song of Preparation

A Sower's Seed Fell on a Path

LUYH 124

Scripture

Mark 4:10-25

Pew Bible Page #1429

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

Message

"Happy, But Rootless: Scorched and Shallow" (Rocky Soil)"

Prayer

Song

O Be Careful Little Eyes What You See (Let Youth Praise Him)

We Are Sent Out to Serve

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 Dedication

More Precious Than Silver

Celebration Hymnal 88

*Postlude

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

*Believe. Love. Evangelize.
Support Christian Instruction. Serve.*

NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

8/17: Nursery: Toni Schuitema & Addie Maat
Children in Worship: Judy Vaandering and Kristen Vlasma
Coffee Fellowship: Jack & Sherrie Wolffis
8/24: Nursery: Mary Maat & Renee Vlasma
Children in Worship: Deb Anderson & Dale Johnson
Coffee Fellowship: Sue Secord and Russ & Deb Vlasma
8/31: Nursery: Kristen Vlasma & Beth VanRees
Children in Worship: Stephanie Hofman & Carol Peterman
Coffee Fellowship: John & Sue Sytsema
9/7: Nursery: Sherrie Wolffis & Dale Johnson
Children in Worship: Bob & Susan Vanderlaan
Coffee Fellowship: ???



ALLEN AVENUE MISSIONARIES

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

Rev. Jerry An – Back to God Ministries
Angel Community Church – Muskegon
Paul & Charlotte Mpindi–Mission French Africa
**Charles & Hensel Oh – Japan*



ALLEN AVENUE CARE LIST

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1) Betty TenBrink | 4) Lois Grinwis |
| 2) Joel Stefanits | 5) Ro VerHeul |
| 3) Wilma Doctor | 6) Jim Doornbos |

*Please call or send a card to **"Care List Member," Jim!**
1900 Surrey Place, Apt. 11, Muskegon, MI 49442

Dear Care List Members, Every time we think of you, we say a prayer that the day will be a gentle one for you...a day that brings you plenty of comfort, reasons to smile, and lots & lots of reminders how very loved you are!

A Warm Welcome to Our Visitors, Guests, Members!

We are rejoicing that you have come to join us in worship on this beautiful summer Sunday as we continue our series on **"Spiritual Composting"** (The Parable of the Sower, Seed & Soils).

August 17 - Mark 4:1-25 "Happy, But Rootless: Scorched and Shallow" (Rocky Soil)
August 24 - Luke 8:1-21 "Wealth & Worry: Choked by Thorns" (Thorny Soil)
August 31 - Matthew 13:16-30 "Fruitful Harvest: 30-60-100 Fold (Good Soil)

Our theme verse for the whole parable series will be **Matthew 13:16 – "But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear."** There are laminated verse cards by each exit for you to take home!

Pastor Mark has made a Spotify playlist for your inspiration and enjoyment:
<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/0OsJ8hB7orBpBzBagtBNYy?si=d538ffe4a0f64884>

After worship, please join us in the lower level for a time of gathering, celebrating, and conversation as we live to B.L.E.S.S. and share life as brothers and sisters in Christ!

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

Last year, the deacons hosted a summer food drive for Love INC. We contacted Love and they said their biggest need is in their baby pantry so we would love to help with that. **The deacons are sponsoring a baby pantry drive on Sunday, September 7, and Sunday, September 14.** The supplies received at church will be brought to Love INC for the need in our community. The following has been suggested by Love INC:

*****Diapers (especially sizes 4, 5 and 6), Baby wipes, and Formula.*****

Let's find all the deals and fill the front of the church with supplies for our neighbors in need.

A "Council Appreciation Picnic" is being planned by the Congregational Life Committee for our council members (& spouses) on Wednesday, August 20. Arrive any after 3:00pm/Supper at 6:00pm. The event will be held at Randy & Becki Fisher's Cottage – 2000 West Lake Rd., Twin Lake, MI 49457. Please sign up on the clipboard in the council room if you are able to attend. We look forward to showing you our heartfelt appreciation and gratitude for your selfless hours of service to our congregation and our Lord!

AACRC Council meets on Wednesday, August 27. We are starting to work on next year's budget and the nomination process. Please pray for the process.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

Just a reminder...**the folks going on the mission trip** are to meet in the lounge in the lower level immediately following the service.

John and Carol Schuitema are re-offering an open invitation for a **pontoon boat ride** up the Grand River (weather permitting) on **Thursday, August 28** (notice change of date), from 11am-2pm or 3pm. Please bring your own lunch or snacks, and we will furnish beverages. We have room for 10 passengers and will leave from Spring Lake. Info as to where to meet will follow. Please call John at 231.557.9829 to put in your reservation by August 24.

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

Sherrie Wolffis-continued prayers for my friend Blythe who continues to suffer from a fracture in her L9 vertebrae. There is also a growth to be biopsied. Pray for relief from spasms and pain.

Denise Koetje-prayers for this short break from the CONNECT Care Group. May they enjoy the rest of the summer and may the folks in the group find relief from the medical issues they are experiencing.

Please pray for **Muskegon High School**. May there be less lock downs this year. We also want to continue to pray this for all our schools and for our city. May there be no murders in **Muskegon County** as well. Protect our families as well as those who protect us and fight for justice. We especially pray for **TJ and Tim**. Also, for our neighborhood safety officers.

Judy Vaandering-met a young woman recently who struggles with dependency of alcohol. Please pray for her as she tries to resist this. We lift all of these dependency struggles that entangles us up to our great God and Savior.

Nate Schout-prayers for welcoming **MCS teachers** back next week **and students** the week after.

Chris Ruiter-WMC We are excited about a new school year, a bunch of new seventh and ninth grade students, and a senior class that will finish well this year. We are fully staffed with teachers, praise the Lord. And still looking for a couple admin staff to fill the gaps.

Deb Vlasma-Prayers for **all of our college kids** as they prepare to start this next chapter...for **Cam, Melissa, and Tekalegn** as they brought T to Florida this week.

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

Laurie Slorf-prayers requested for my sister **Nancy** and her husband **Jeff**. They both are having serious medical issues and are facing surgeries & uncertainties.

John Schuitema-brother Dale had a recent stroke which effects his speech.

Kelly Dauser-my niece **Jennifer's mom** recently passed away at only 55 years of age. Please pray for Jennifer as she deals with this loss.

Jill Schuitema-please ask for God to bring comfort to a **GEMS/King's Kids family** whose caregiver passed away unexpectedly last week.

Charry Synder-please pray for **Anthony** (our special Medical fragile little guy in New Mexico). He is scheduled to move to a new foster family this week. My sister's care for him is no longer needed at this time. May he transition well.

Pastor Mark-my mom **Heidi** is having a kidney biopsy on August 22 as a diagnostic for symptoms of Berger's Disease (IgA nephropathy). It's not currently a critical condition but may take some intervention to prevent kidney failure in the future.

Sandy Volkers and Ron Friday-continued prayers for **Ron's nephew TJ** as his body heals from recent MRSA removal, but now he is suffering from mini strokes.

Elaine & Bob Holwerda-please continue to pray for daughter-in-law **Karyn** who continues to deal with the unknown causes for her intestinal issues. She continues to go about her busy life and never complains. Pray for her constant pain and that a diagnosis may be found.

Pastor Mark-Prayers requested for the needed planning going on for our **CADETS** upcoming year. Pray for new leaders and/or boys to join.

Steve Rop-please continue to pray for the **mission planning trip**.

