

SERMON NOTES:

Scripture: Jeremiah 23:1-8 Pew Bible Pg. #1114

Message: "The Days Are Coming"



Contact Us:

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ALLEN AVENUE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy;
they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest.

—Isaiah 9:3



Advent Week 3 | Photo: MarioEppinger on Pixabay

PASTOR MARK HOFMAN
3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 14, 2025 --10:00AM



Come...Now is the Time to Worship!

3rd Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 14, 2025

Pastor Mark Hofman

GATHERED TO WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome and announcements

Invitation to Quiet

Advent Prayer and Candle-lighting (Joy)

John and Sue Sytsema

Call To Worship

Leader: I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

**People: Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you;
he is Christ the Lord.**

—Luke 2:10-11, NIV

Advent Carol *Angels We Have Heard on High*

LUYH 82

*God's Greeting

*We Greet One Another

Nativity Drama Allen Avenue Children & Youth

Song *He Shall Reign Forevermore (Chris Tomlin)*

Children's Blessing (in unison):

***May the story of God's love
when he gave the baby Jesus
bring joy to each one of you.
Worship the Christ child with all your heart.
Go with his blessing.***

Prayers of the People

Peg Rop

LISTENING TO GOD SPEAK

Song of Preparation *O Shepherd, Hear and Lead Your Flock* LUYH 64:1,3

Scripture Passage: Jeremiah 23:1-8 Pew Bible Page #1114

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

Message: *"The Days are Coming"*

Prayer of Application

*Advent Carol *How Great Our Joy* LUYH 90:1,2,4

SENT OUT

Offering: General Fund

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

*Parting Song of Praise *Joy to the World* LUYH 92:1,2

*Postlude



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

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



NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



12/14: Nursery: Renee Vlasma & Sherrie Wolffis
Children's Sunday School Christmas Program
Coffee Fellowship: Jim & Barb Malda
12/21: Nursery: Sue Sytsema & August Hofman
Children in Worship: Kristen Vlasma & Laurie DeJonge
Coffee Fellowship: Scott & Toni Schuitema
12/28: Nursery: Barb Malda & Violet & Hope
Children in Worship: Bob & Susan Vanderlaan, Denise Kanaar
Coffee Fellowship: Russ & Deb Vlasma, Sue Secord
1/4: Nursery: Stephanie Hofman & Beth VanRees
Sunday School/Catechism
Coffee Fellowship: ???

ALLEN AVENUE MISSIONARIES



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

Eric & Judith Tuls – Operation Mobilization
Rev. Jerry An – Back to God Ministries
***Pastor Jeffery Hough – Angel Community Church**
Paul & Charlotte Mpindi–Mission French Africa
Charles & Hensel Oh – Japan



ALLEN AVENUE CARE LIST

- 1) **Betty TenBrink**
- 2) Joel Stefanits
- 3) Wilma Doctor
- 4) Ro VerHeul
- 5) Jim Doornbos

*Please call or send a card to Care List Member, Betty!
1350 W. Hackley, Apt. 113, Muskegon, MI 49441

*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 during Advent time and always!*



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

We are rejoicing that you have come to join us on this third Sunday of Advent. For Advent at Allen Avenue this year, we will be hearing God's promises through the prophet Jeremiah. The hope, peace, joy, and love that we long for and experience comes from the LORD, who is faithful to his people through their sins and sorrows. He is the one who uproots and plants, who rescues and redeems - he is **Prophecy Fulfilled!** Jesus was born into a world with danger and distress, and he knows that we long for his coming as well. Jeremiah gives us words to cling to this Advent as we look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus and his faithfulness to us. After the service, join us downstairs for a time of fellowship with the family of God here at Allen Avenue!

Advent Series in Jeremiah titled "Do Not Weep For Me"

December 14 – Jeremiah 23:1-8 "The Days Are Coming"

December 21 – Jeremiah 30:18-22 & 33:14-16 "I Will Fulfill the Good Promise"

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

After Coffee Fellowship time Sunday at 12noon, AACRC Council will share a meal and a short meeting for all present, outgoing, and new members.

Thank you, Allen Avenue, for your generosity with our Thanksgiving offering. We were able to raise \$2,560 this year:

- ♥ Angel Church: \$752.00
- ♥ Love INC: \$702.00
- ♥ Muskegon Rescue Mission: \$557.00
- ♥ WMCHS: \$317.00
- ♥ MCS: \$232.00

From Council: We want everyone to be safe during inclement weather.

If the weather causes our church services to be cancelled, information will be sent out via text and/or a home phone call. In addition, WZZM TV-13 and WOOD TV-8 will be contacted to publicize the cancellations. If church services are not cancelled, but you do not feel safe getting out on the roads, please choose to stay home and join us online. Thank you.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

Christmas gift bags for members on our care list will be in the basement for the next two Sundays, 12/14 & 12/21. Please help show our love with cards or any other special treats. Thank you! –Your AACRC Deacons

Please remember to **check your mailboxes downstairs during the Christmas season** as many will be filled with Christmas cards & greetings you won't want to miss 😊. (Very cost-effective way to send cards without paying high postage!)



Muskegon Christian School's Christmas Program is Monday, December 15, at 6:00pm, at the Orchard View Performing Arts Center located at 35 S. Sheridan, Muskegon, 49442. A joyful concert fit for a King!



WMC's Christmas Collage—The bands and choirs of Western Michigan Christian High School present the time-honored tradition of the Christmas Collage. Please join us for a special evening of music to celebrate the birth of Jesus and the season of Christmas at the Frauenthal Center, 425 W. Western Ave. on Thursday, December 16, at 7:00 pm. Tickets can be purchased at the Box Office.

The Cadets invite all interested Allen Avenue attendees to join us for a Muskegon Lumberjacks game on **Saturday, January 17th @ 6PM**. Please contact Pastor Mark (510-775-3620) by January 4th with your interest and plan to attend the game. *If the \$15 ticket price is a deterrent, the Cadets will help defray some of the costs.

Calling all Christmas Carolers! On Thursday, December 18 at 12:00pm, you are invited to help lead a Christmas Carol sing-along at Optalis Health (formerly SKLD Muskegon, 1061 W. Hackley Ave.) with Joel Stefanits, one of our care list members. We will join residents and staff at their holiday lunch for a short session of songs and celebration. It will be an informal gathering, with Santa hats appreciated - come join and sing along!

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

Charry Snyder had foot surgery on Thursday, December 11. Many prayers needed for the surgery to be a success and for pain control and healing.

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

Jim & Sue's daughter, Megan Secord-headaches are a touch better, so she is able to work and starting on a new med. Also, for Jim and his breathing issues.

Rusty Palmer's Mom Jo-surgical treatment for stage 2 cancer.

Patty Steigenga-who has been so ill with cancer, developed blood clots, and spent some days in ICU. She was able to come home on Wednesday.

Pastor Mark's Uncle Jim-whose embolism has dissolved thankfully, and as he continues chemo for his esophageal cancer.

Ron Vlasma-for his continued fight for his esophageal cancer. Ron had another infusion on Tuesday....for Kristin, Joe, & Matthew & the extended Vlasma family.

Michelle-Ken and Wilma Doctor's daughter, as she battles MS, recent ankle surgery, and upcoming knee surgery for a torn MCL.

Bob Malda-Jim's brother's severe back pain, Parkinson's and the results of last week's MRI. For his upcoming brain surgery in January for his Parkinson's.

Mike Fongers and Carol from Paul's Place are asking for prayers for Carol's building addition and for the bank funding as it is costing more than predicted.

Heartfelt thanks and continued prayers for:

- ♥ The beautiful seasonal decorations and those who share this gift with us.
- ♥ Pastor Mark, Stephanie, Asher, August, Aethan.
- ♥ Our Church Council and for new members-Bob Botting, Bob Holwerda-Elders, and Karen Alphenaar, Dale Johnson-Deacons.
- ♥ For those whose council service is done and those who continue on...
- ♥ Our Church Staff/Our Congregation/Our Musicians/Our IT "Techies"
- ♥ For each one who walks through our doors to meet and needs Jesus.
- ♥ Prayer Partners & Prayer Warriors
- ♥ Sunday School and Catechism--Students, Teachers, Parents
- ♥ Cadets – for the wonderful pancake breakfast and for their meeting this past week and model making...for the boys to grow to love Jesus more!
- ♥ GEMS- for their meeting this past week and for their Christmas trip to Maranatha for the "Heart of Christmas" Event. May the girls feel so loved by their Savior and by their counselors.