

SERMON NOTES:

Scripture: Mark 3:7-35 Pew Bible Page #1427

Message: *Family in Charge*

**ALLEN AVENUE
CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCH**



Contact Us:

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



(231) 722-6411

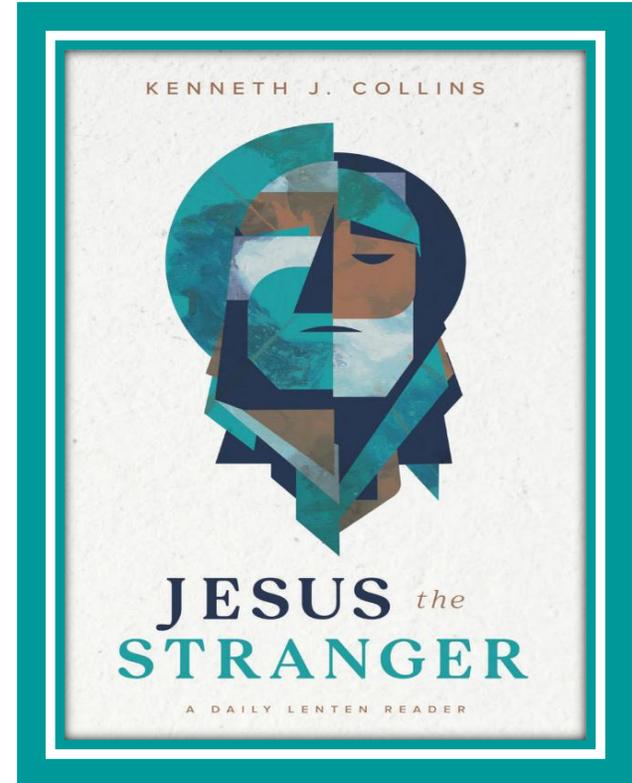


www.allenavechurch.org

pastor@allenavechurch.org



susan.vanderlaan@allenavechurch.org



Pastor Mark Hofman
Second Sunday in Lent
March 1, 2026--10:00am

Come...Now is the Time to Worship!

Second Sunday in Lent--March 1, 2026
Pastor Mark Hofman

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude
Welcome and Announcements
Invitation to Quiet

Call to Worship (based on John 3:16-17)

Leader: This is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. On this day of remembrance and hope, we declare with joy:

People: God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world but to save it.

*Opening Hymn of Praise *There is a Redeemer* LUYH 833

*God's Greeting
*We Greet One Another

RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

Call to Confession —based on Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 37

Leader: During his whole life on earth, but especially at the end, Christ sustained in body and soul the anger of God against the sin of the whole human race.

People: This he did in order that, by his suffering as the only atoning sacrifice, he might deliver us, body and soul, from eternal condemnation, and gain for us God's grace, righteousness, and eternal life.

Prayer of Confession

Leader: God, forgive our doubting, questioning hearts. Like the scribes who witnessed Jesus' miracles of healing and heard his proclamation, yet spurned belief, we too have seen wonders yet have hardened our hearts. We confess the times that our pessimism has caused others to doubt themselves and your

Spirit, the times that our criticism has wounded others, the times that our dejection has dampened the enthusiasm of those inspired by your Word & work. **All: O God, forgive us and in your mercy renew us, that with open hearts we may believe and never hinder the faith of others. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Song *My Jesus, I Love Thee* LUYH 366

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 Bob Holwerda

GOD SPEAKS TO US

*Song *Throughout These Lenten Days & Nights* LUYH 134:1,3,4,5

Scripture Passage Mark 3:7-35 Pew Bible Page #1427

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

Message *Family in Charge*

Prayer of Application

Song of Response *Who is My Mother, Who is My Brother* stanzas 1,3,4

WE ARE SENT OUT

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

*God's Parting Blessing

*Parting Song of Praise *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* LUYH 825

*Postlude

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

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



NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



3/1: Nursery: Susan Vanderlaan & Tayla Vlasma
Sunday School/Catechism
Coffee Fellowship: Carolyn & Justin Wilson
3/8: Nursery: Nancy Rop & Mary Maat
Children in Worship: Amber Johnson, Bob & Susan Vanderlaan
Coffee Fellowship: Dean & Amber Johnson
3/15: Nursery: Beth VanRees & Aethan Hofman
Sunday School/Catechism
Coffee Fellowship: Randy & Becki Fisher
3/22: Nursery: Becky Schout & Melissa Vlasma
Children in Worship:
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 *Please call or send a card
- 2) **Ro VerHeul** to Care List Member, Ro!
- 3) Joel Stefanits 1249 Lakeshore Dr., Apt. 339
- 4) Wilma Doctor Muskegon, MI 49441

Dear Care List Members, This season is not wasted. Quiet moments can be powerful times for reflection, creativity, and connection with God and others in new ways. Hope is still alive. Even in stillness, life can surprise you with joy, beauty, and blessings. Remember today & always, you are loved!

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



We are so blessed to have you worshipping with us. During Lent at Allen Avenue, we'll be reading stories of Jesus in the Gospels where he encounters disciples, family members, fellow Jews and religious leaders who all fail to understand who he really, truly is – the Messiah. Our own ways of being familiar with Jesus will be challenged, so that we might once again meet him as he greets us. We'll be reminded that to follow him takes a willingness to bear our cross; to put the sin in our flesh to death (Romans 8:13). We will be invited to once again be led toward the grace and power of Jesus' death and resurrection. And when we encounter Jesus in his resurrection appearances, we will meet him once again as the God who makes himself known in Jesus' face (2 Cor. 4:6). Some inspiration for our sermon series includes the pictured devotional, *Jesus the Stranger*, by Kenneth J. Collins. Please join us downstairs after the service for a time of reconnecting with the family of God here at AACRC!

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

The special offering for Sunday, March 8, is for **Muskegon Christian School**. Muskegon Christian School exists to equip minds and hearts to Love, Learn, and Lead for Christ. Your gift impacts faith integration through Spanish Immersion and Outdoor Education.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

CONNECT small group has started up again. We will meet every other week in the lounge off the kitchen from 11:30-12:30 on 3/1, 3/15, 3/29. This is a relationship Bible study, so come as you are. We are your first step in connecting with others. Come check things out...our first discussion series is from the Sermon on the Mount from Matthew 5 – "Changing from the Inside Out." Have questions? Talk with Charry Snyder or Denise Koetje.

The Men's Bible Study will meet on Monday, March 2 at 6:15 at church. A meal will be provided tonight. Come hungry and ready to discuss Lesson 15 in our study book on Hebrews.

GEMS will meet in the church basement on Wednesday, March 4, at 6:15-8pm. We will continue our lessons on God's faithfulness. Hope to see all of you there!

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

ADVANCE NOTICE: The GEMS will be holding their annual BAKE SALE after church on Sunday, March 22. Please put this on your calendars. You don't want to miss out on some yummy baked goods! Your support of the GEMS ministry is greatly appreciated!

Cadets will meet on Wednesday, March 4, at 6:15pm for Bible study and Pinewood Derby Car Prep #2! Derby car race is March 18. See you then!

"Hearts on Fire" Women's Bible Study will meet on Thursday, March 5, from 1:30-3pm. Prepare Session Seven in our personal Bible study on pg. 173-201.

It's Allen Avenue's turn to assist the residents of Christian Care with their worship and Lord's Supper on Wednesday, March 19, at 1:00pm. If you are able to serve with Pastor Mark, please talk to him today.

Looking for AACRC's 50th Anniversary pamphlet...was last seen in the library. If you know its whereabouts, please talk to Dave Bishop so he can return it to the rightful owner!

Muskegon Christian School has been very blessed with members from AACRC watching staff kids during Monday staff meetings and faith integration training. We are prayerfully looking for volunteers on the following dates from 2:50-4:30pm: March 2 & 9, April 13, and May 4 & 11.

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

Jasmine Snyder's phone number was printed wrong in the new church directory and is 231-563-8882. Please make corrections in your copy!

Thank you to my AACRC family for all of the thoughtful cards and goodies in my Valentines basket. I am so beyond blessed and thankful for all of you!
With Love, **Emma Peklar...Go Green!**

A Big Thanks to everyone who supported me and the Big Freeze to raise money for my tuition. I was able to raise over \$2400.00 and survived the freezing water for over 8 seconds. **Love, Emily Snyder**

Continued prayers for my father Steve Brinks as he has had some pretty rough days lately...so much pain and further complicated health concerns. We are so appreciative of the prayers being offered. **-Melisa Vlasma**

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

Ron Vlasma had a scan done on Monday, February 16, which showed his cancerous esophageal tumor is shrinking! Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Continue to lift the family up in the days ahead and for a complete healing.

AACRC hosted the spring Classis meeting at our church on Thursday, February 26. Heartfelt thanks and appreciation to everyone who planned the entire day and worked effortlessly allowing this event to be warm, inviting, organized, and productive as we carry on this important part of our denomination's work and vision for the future.

On Tuesday, February 17, the Lord called **Jim Doornbos** home. We as his church family extend our deepest, heartfelt sympathy to Ed, Mary, their children and the whole Doornbos/Hager family. The funeral will be held on Saturday, March 14, at 1:00pm at the Sytsema Chapel on Apple Avenue followed by a luncheon back here at the church afterwards.

Please continue to lift our dear sister, **Charry Snyder**, up as she continues to heal from her third foot surgery. There is much nerve damage and pain due to these three intense procedures in an eight month time span. Please pray that the doctors can prescribe the proper medications to alleviate her daily discomfort.

Mary Kortman received a prayer request from Pastor Bruce Ballast who is preaching for us on March 8. His son Jonathan, (47-years-old from Seattle, WA) has a cancerous tumor in the middle of his brain which was found in November 2025. Surgery is not an option. Radiation has helped and Chemotherapy is planned. Please pray for a miracle for him and for peace for his wife and five children. They appreciate all the prayers.

Praises from Jim & Barb Malda: Thank you to everyone who was praying for Jim's brother Bob. His back surgery went very well...let the healing begin!

From Mike Fongers: Bladder procedure and ultrasounds are all good for which we give thanks.

Dave & Beth VanRees: Give praise for a safe and joy-filled get away with all their children and grandchildren...family picture confirmed this! 😊

Please check your emails for the Lenten devotionals based on the Screw-tape Letters written by C.S. Lewis. You will receive a weekly devotional each Sunday via email during this special season of Lent.