

SERMON NOTES:

Scripture: John 20:11-18 Pew Bible Page #1545

Message: « God's Appearing to Us »

**ALLEN AVENUE
CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCH**



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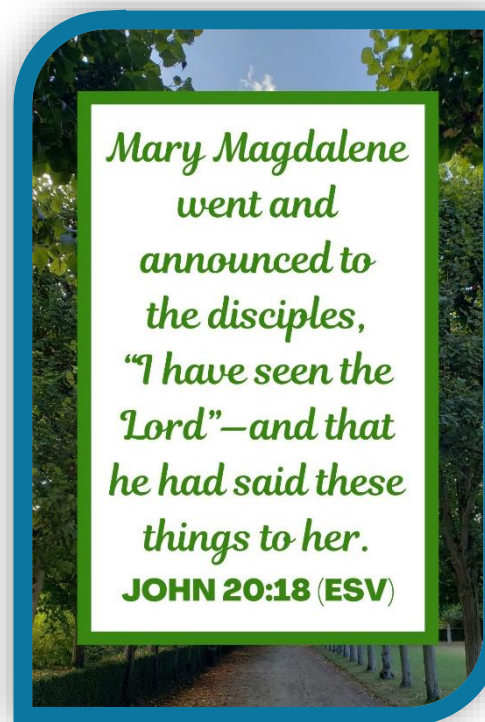


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*Mary Magdalene
went and
announced to
the disciples,
“I have seen the
Lord”—and that
he had said these
things to her.*

JOHN 20:18 (ESV)

Pastor Mark Hofman

April 12, 2026

Worship 10:00am

Come...Now is the Time to Worship!

April 12, 2026
Pastor Mark Hofman

We Gather to Worship

Prelude ~ Graves into Gardens
Welcome and Announcements
Invitation to Quiet

Call to Worship ((Is. 55:1-3)

Leader: Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness and who seek the Lord:
Look to the rock from which you were cut and to the quarry from which you
were hewn; look to Abraham, your father, and to Sarah, who gave you birth.
When I called him he was but one, and I blessed him and made him many.

**All: The Lord will surely comfort Zion
and will look with compassion on all her ruins;
he will make her deserts like Eden,
her wastelands like the garden of the Lord.
Joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the sound of singing.**

*Opening Hymn of Praise *In Christ Alone* *LUYH 770*

*God's Greeting

*We Greet One Another

Renewed in God's Grace

Call to Confession Isaiah 55:6-7 Pew Bible Page #1056

Song *Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling* *LUYH 615:1*

Prayer of Confession

Song *Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling* *LUYH 615:2*

Prayer of Confession

Song *Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling* *LUYH 615:3*

Assurance of Pardon Titus 2:11-14 Pew Bible Page #1700

*Sung Confession of Faith *Christ Our Hope in Life and Death* *stanzas 1 & 3*

Children's Message Deb Vlasma

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.

Worship the Lord with praise and thanksgiving.

Prayers of the People Tim Maat

God Speaks To Us

*Song of Preparation *In the Garden* *Stanzas 1 & 2*

Scripture Passage John 20:11-18 Pew Bible Page #1545

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

Message « God's Appearing to Us »

Prayer of Application

*Song of Response *See, What Morning* *LUYH 181:1,2*

We Are Sent Out

Our Offerings General Fund of AACRC
*[offerings may be given online at allenavechurch.org
or in the baskets at each entrance]*

*God's Parting Blessing

*Parting Song of Praise *See, What Morning* *LUYH 181:3*

*Postlude

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

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



NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



4/12: Nursery: Sue Sytsema & Tayla Vlasma
Children in Worship: Kelly Dauser & Jill Schuitema
Coffee Fellowship: Jack & Laurie DeJonge
4/19: Nursery: Carol Peterman & Melissa Vlasma
Children in Worship: Barb Malda & Kristen Vlasma
Coffee Fellowship: Dave & Joanne Bishop
4/26: Nursery: Amber Johnson & Maelin Vlasma
Sunday School/Catechism
Coffee Fellowship: Scott & Toni Schuitema
5/3: Nursery: Karen Alphenaar & Serenity Alphenaar
Children in Worship: Denise Kanaar, Bob & Susan VDL
Coffee Fellowship: Brian & Jill Schuitema

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, Wilma!
- 3) Joel Stefanits 3637 Whispering Woods Dr.
- 4) **Wilma Doctor** Muskegon, MI 49444

Heavenly Father, thank you for your great care for our loved ones on the care list. Today, we come to you and ask you to shine Your light into the lives of these dear people. Reveal Yourself as their Protector, Provider, & King. You overcame sin and death on the cross, and we pray that your victory will surround our loved ones and offer them hope and peace and Your love! Amen!



A Warm Welcome to Our Visitors, Guests & Members!

We are so blessed to have you worshipping the King of Kings and Lord of Lords with us!

During Eastertide at Allen Avenue, we will be studying appearances (theophanies) of God in Genesis. God's way of calling and directing his people from the earliest generations included visitations of a variety of forms. We will ponder how our Triune God walked with us on this earth while still being the one whom "no one has ever seen." Jesus remains our post-Easter guide to remembering how the Spirit works to reveal his presence even as he ascends to the Father. We can still learn from Abraham, Hagar, Isaac, & Jacob that the LORD is with us. After the worship service, please join us downstairs in the fellowship hall for a time of refreshments and reconnecting with your brothers and sisters in Christ here at Allen Avenue CRC!

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

Kids' Corner Devotions: Go Outside and Learn About God –

Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Go Outside and Learn About God," at www.kidscorner.net. Come explore God's amazing world like Job did and discover how animals, plants, and stars can teach us about how wise and powerful God is! Grab a friend or family member and go on a fun outdoor adventure with snacks, games, and even a backyard campout to thank God and learn more about Him. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like KC's Earth Day collection.

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - The practice of gratitude, rooted in recognizing and responding to God's constant goodness, moves us to respond fully to God's generosity. Each day this week take some time to write down one thing for which you are grateful. At the end of the week share your list with your family or friends in celebration of God's goodness and provision in your life. For more ways to practice gratitude, see crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject/gratitude.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

Get ready to celebrate with the Snyder family! **All women and girls are invited to a dessert baby shower for the new moms, Annabell and Jasmine, on Sunday, April 26, at 1:45pm.** Please bring storybooks as gifts to bless their precious baby daughters, Alkinna and Kacey. Sign up now on the poster in the fellowship room to enjoy sweet treats and sweet celebration.

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: May 4 & 11.

CONNECT Group meets April 12 and 26 after church in the lounge downstairs.

GEMS and moms meet in the church basement for our Mother-Daughter Night on Wednesday, April 15, at 6:15pm. This is also open to all current first grade girls and their moms so you can get an idea of what GEMS is all about. We'll be eating a meal together (so please come hungry), presenting earned badges, planning for GEMS Sunday, and doing a very special craft together. Please do not miss this final meeting of the year!

All GEMS (and parents) planning to go on the field trip to the Channel, the USS Silversides, and to the Love Café on Saturday, April 18, at 10:00am, please meet in the church parking lot. Remember to call Jill so rides can be arranged.

You know summer is almost here when the UNITY CHRISTIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL tickets go on sale! And that is happening right now! The Festival will be held August 5-8 at the Heritage Landing here in Muskegon. If you have never attended, please consider making this year be the year you take in "Michigan's Premier Christian Event." Christian artists including Tenth Avenue North, Cochren & Co, for King & Country, Josh Wilson, Crowder, Leanna Crawford, and We Are Messengers will be leading us in worship and praise. Tickets are only \$50.00 for a 1-day pass and \$80.00 for a 3-day pass! That's really cheap!! And kids 5 and under are FREE!. The sign-up sheet is in the basement and payment can be made to Jill Schuitema before June 1. You can also see her if you have any questions.

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

Hallelujah! What a Savior! Heartfelt hallelujahs to everyone who contributed to making Holy Week 2026 one of the most moving and memorable ones I can ever remember. Grateful to all who planned the services, the musicians, singers, readers, those audio/visual folks in the sound booth, the breathtaking and meaningful decorations on both levels, for Pastor Mark's life-changing sermons from Lent through Easter Sunday, for all of you who attended the continental breakfast, and for my amazing Congregational Life Committee who "rocked" this event like they do **EVERY** one we are blessed to put on for the congregation! Risen Savior, we trust and pray that You were honored, glorified, and praised throughout this special season! We love and adore You!!! - **Susan Vanderlaan**

Continue to pray for **Judy Vaandering's sister Annette** from Hamilton, ON, who had stints put in this week and should be returning home after a few days.

A huge thank you to the church folks for helping with my tree removal. I can now move forward from the storm. - **Denise Koetje**

May God be very close to **Orvin Nicholes' family** (Charry's dad), as they have decided on no more intervention after meeting with hospice this week.

We met with my dad's oncologist yesterday, and we are going to transition into hospice care. Before we can admit him to hospice though, he needs a drain put into his abdomen/side to help drain the fluid that he's retaining in his abdomen and making him very uncomfortable. We are hoping to get that done asap. My dad has peace with this decision and so do the rest of us. This has been a difficult time for us all, but we feel blessed and grateful for the time we have spent together and being able to have some hard discussions. Thank you for continuing to pray for us, Allen Avenue. - **Melissa Vlasma**

Continued prayers of thanks and healing for **Ron Vlasma, Patti Steigenga, Ron Bol, and Charry Snyder.** Make God continue to bless **Baby Alkinna and Baby Kacey** as they grow healthy and strong and for their parents as they realize a "baby changes everything!" 😊

May God be ever present in our schools and with the staff, students, parents, & boards as they begin winding down the 2025-2026 school year. May all finish with excellence whatever role they play in educating our precious children. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he/she are old, they will not depart from it!" - Proverbs 22:6