

SERMON NOTES:

Scripture: Jeremiah 14:17-22 Pew Bible Pg. #1101

Message: "We Hoped for Peace"



Contact Us:

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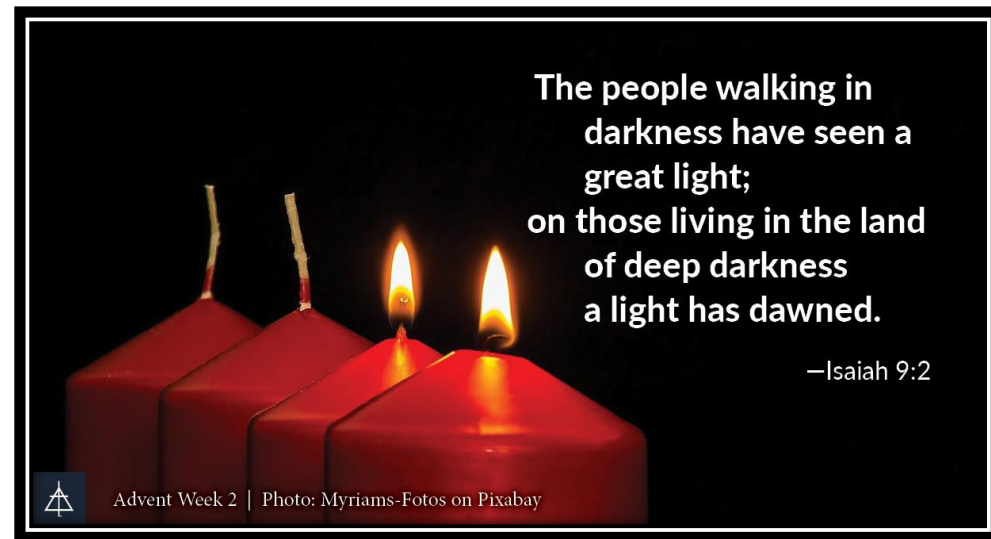
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ALLEN AVENUE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH



PASTOR MARK HOFMAN
2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 7, 2025 --10:00AM



Come...Now is the Time to Worship!

2nd Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 7, 2025

Pastor Mark Hofman

GATHERED TO WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome and announcements

Invitation to Quiet

Advent Prayer and Candle-lighting (Hope) Travis and Jasmine Snyder

Call To Worship

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord always.

People: I will say it again: Rejoice!

Leader: Let your gentleness be evident to all.

People: The Lord is near.

Leader: We rejoice in the hope of Christ's coming.

People: Let us worship God!

—based on Philippians 4:4-5, NIV

Advent Carols *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* LUYH 56

Hark, the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes LUYH 60:1,4

*God's Greeting

*We Greet One Another

Children's Message Kelly Dauser

Song *Away in a Manger* LUYH 86

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

Bob Vanderlaan

LISTENING TO GOD SPEAK

Scripture Passage Jeremiah 14:17-22 Pew Bible Pg. #1101

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

Message "We Hoped for Peace"

Prayer of Application

Advent Carol *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* LUYH 61:1,4

GATHERED AROUND GOD'S TABLE

*The congregation is invited forward in groups
for the celebration of the Lord's Supper*

SENT OUT

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

Advent Prayer and Candle-lighting (Peace) Jack & Sherrie Wolffis

*Advent Carol *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* LUYH 61:7

*Postlude

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

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



NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



12/7: Nursery: Dale Johnson & Kristen Vlasma
Sunday School/Catechism

Coffee Fellowship: Bob & Susan Vanderlaan

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

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, 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 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 second 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 7 – Jeremiah 14:17-22 "We Hoped for Peace"

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

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.

Advanced Notice: Council meal and meeting for all present and new members - Sunday lunch at 12noon, December 14.

As we enter the Christmas season, World Renew's Gift Catalog is a meaningful way to give gifts and share Christ's love with those in need. From seeds to clean water, to a goat to disaster recovery supplies (and much more), each gift brings hope and makes a lasting difference for families around the world. Explore the catalog at worldrenew.net/gift-catalog.

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Advent is a season of waiting for Jesus. This week bring awareness to moments in your daily life when you are waiting. Instead of pulling out your phone or passing time with another distraction, use that time to connect with God in prayer. For example, if you're in a doctor's office waiting room, try praying with your eyes open, talking to God about the people who work there and those who come for care. If you have children, invite them to point out things you can pray for as you are waiting and then pray for them together. Whether you are in the school pick-up line, sitting in traffic, or waiting for vegetables to roast, embrace the opportunity to spend time with God.

Kids' Corner Devotions: Advent at Home: Silent Night - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Advent at Home: Silent Night" at www.kidscorner.net. Do your worries ever feel really loud? You can tell them, "Shhhhhh! Jesus is here," and remember that He loves you and gives you peace. Explore all the great content at kidscorner.net, including the Kids Corner Christmas Collection of devotions, Bible stories, crafts, and activities.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

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!)

Men's Bible study will meet on Monday, December 8 at 6:15pm. Please come prepared to discuss Lesson 1 of our study of Hebrews. If you still need a book, please see Brian Schuitema today. Please note this date change and note that we will not be meeting next Monday the 15th as previously scheduled.

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

New Address for Pastor Mark, Stephanie, the Triple AAAs, & Po the dog is: 3894 Norton Hills Rd., Norton Shores, MI 49441. Blessings on your new home!

Gord Peterman has retired this week from Health West and joins the rewarding and fun "Retired Peoples' Club!" Gord and Carol, we wish you many blessings and gratifying adventures in this new phase you are entering. Gord, may you feel God's gratitude and approval of a job well-done for all the years you made such a difference in His Kingdom. Excited to see where God will use you next!

"Bob and I are so thankful for the faithful prayers during my recent knee injury. It's so amazing to see God's healing touch every single day."

-- **Bob & Elaine Holwerda**

Charry Snyder will be having her third foot surgery on Thursday, December 11. Please remember to pray for a positive, successful outcome this time and that the problems she is experiencing will be corrected once and for all.

Ron Vlasma: We continue to lift Ron and his family up as he undergoes chemo-therapy treatments. Here is the Meal Train link to volunteer to bring them a meal on some open dates in December: <https://mealtrain.com/r0oo5l> Please check your email for a link to sign-up for daily prayer for him, too. "Thanks for all the prayers and gifts of meals!" --Ron & Kristen Vlasma

Ron Bol is grateful to God for the healing in his legs after a fall and wishes to thank the congregation for all your prayers, visits, and cards he received with his fall, his recent hospitalization, and the homegoing of his brother-in-law. For safety issues and concern over the winter weather, Ron will be worshipping with us online during the next few months. Know you are loved, Ron!

Rusty Palmer's mom, Jo Palmer, who lives in Alabama, has been diagnosed with Stage 2 cancer. Doctors are looking a surgical treatment. Please pray for an effective treatment and quick recovery for her.

Pastor Mark's Uncle Jim Hofman was hospitalized recently for a embolism, and he continues chemo for his esophageal cancer and is in need of prayer.

Megan Secord—Jim and Sue's daughter is home after being in the hospital for severe headaches with no relief. Continue to pray for the cause to be found.