

SERMON NOTES:

Scripture: Jeremiah 30:18-31:6 Pew Bible Page #1127

Message: *Everlasting Love*



Contact Us:

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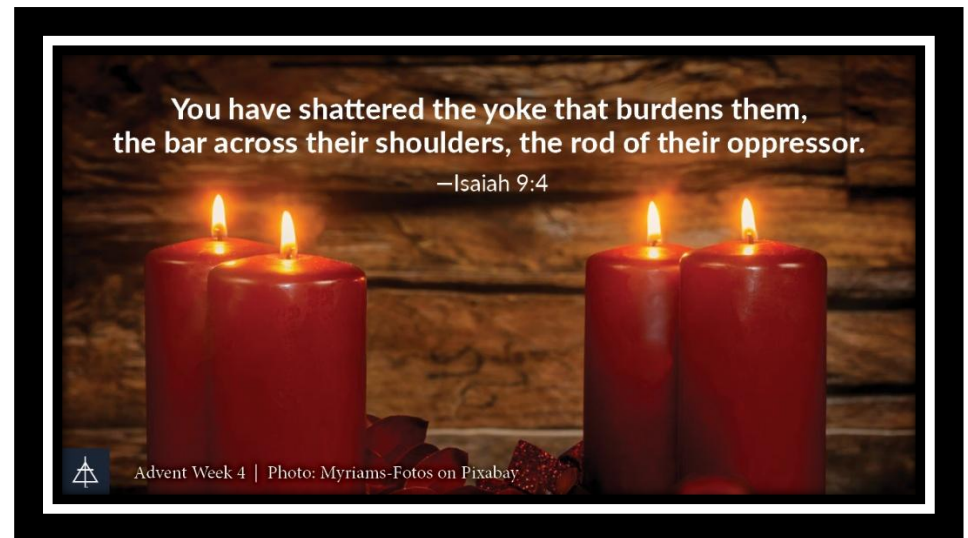
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ALLEN AVENUE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH



PASTOR MARK HOFMAN
4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 21, 2025 --10:00AM



Come...Now is the Time to Worship!

4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 21, 2025

Pastor Mark Hofman

GATHERED TO WORSHIP

Prelude Addy and Danny Maat

Welcome and announcements

Invitation to Quiet

Advent Prayer and Candle-lighting Ron Friday and Sandy Volkers

Sung Call To Worship *Christmas Offering* *Men's Choral Group*

Scripture Reading Luke 2:8-12 Addy Maat

Songs of Praise *Go Tell It on the Mountain* *LUYH 93*
Shout to the North

*God's Greeting

*We Greet One Another

Scripture Reading Luke 2:13-15 Luke Maat

Solo *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day* *Peg Rop*

Children's Message Deb Vlasma

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.***

Offering

General Fund

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

Prayers of the People

Pastor Mark

LISTENING TO GOD SPEAK

Scripture Reading Luke 2:16-20 Emma Peklar

Song *What Child is This* *LUYH 95:1,3*

Scripture Passage Jeremiah 30:18-31:6 Pew Bible Page #1127

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

Message: *Everlasting Love*

Prayer of Application

*Carol *O Holy Night/Holy Forever*

SENT OUT

Scripture Reading Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11 Danny Maat

*Parting Song of Praise *Silent Night, Holy Night* *LUYH 85:1,3,4*

*Postlude



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

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



NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



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: Bob & Susan Vanderlaan & Denise Kanaar
1/11: Nursery: Laurie DeJonge & Deb Anderson
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 | 4) Ro VerHeul |
| 2) Joel Stefanits | 5) Jim Doornbos |
| 3) Wilma Doctor | |

*Please call or send a card to Care List Member, Joel!
OPTALIS--1061 W. Hackley, 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 fourth Sunday of Advent. For Advent at Allen Avenue this year, we have been 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 21 – 4th Sunday of Advent -Jeremiah 30:18-31:6 - "Everlasting Love"

December 25 – Christmas Day Worship at 10:00am – **Special Offering will be for Love, INC** which mobilizes local churches to offer a holistic approach to caring for people in all areas of life: spiritual, mental, emotional, material, and physical.

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

Council notes from December 14:

1. The Council is grateful for Elder Scott Schuitema, Elder Judy Vaandering, and Deacon Charry Snyder, who are now completing their three-year terms of service. You have blessed our church!
2. Elder Bob Botting, Elder Bob Holwerda, Deacon Karen Alphenaar, and Deacon Dale Johnson were welcomed to the Council at our potluck fellowship meal and meeting. These new members will be installed on January 4.
3. Officers were elected for 2026: President- Jack DeJonge, Vice President- Bob Holwerda, Clerk- Barb Malda, Assistant Clerk- Bob Botting, Treasurer- Amber Johnson, Assistant Treasurer- Karen Alphenaar.
4. Assignments were made for district leadership and council representation on each committee.
5. Saturday, January 10, from 9:00-11:00 am was selected for our annual Goal-Setting Breakfast Workshop for all Council and committee members.
6. The Council will meet again on January 28.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

*****Christmas gift bags for members on our care list** are in the basement. This will be the last week to contribute to them. Please help show our love with cards or any other special treats. Thank you! –Your AACRC Deacons

*****The deadline for the next edition of the Allen AveNews is this Sunday.** Please get all your newsworthy items to Sandy Volkers today!

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 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: January 5 & 12, February 2 & 9, March 2 & 9, April 13, and May 4 & 11.

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.

Kids Corner Devotions: Advent at Home: Away in a Manger - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Advent at Home: Away in the Manger" at www.kidscorner.net. Jesus knows what it feels like to be human, just like you. This means He understands when you're tired, hurt, or having a hard day. He loves you so much and always knows how to comfort and care for you! Explore all the great content at kidscorner.net, including the Kids Corner Christmas Collection of devotions, Bible stories, crafts, and activities.

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - It's almost Christmas Day! How many different ways can you think of to say, "Merry Christmas!" to people who know the story of Christmas and to people who don't know the story? And how might you say "Merry Christmas!" to God this week in a way that reflects love back to our Creator?

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

Happy birthday to our wonderful under shepherd, Pastor Mark Hofman!
We celebrated you on Thursday and we celebrate you every day of the year for the gift you are to our congregation and to everyone who knows and loves you...especially your heavenly Father who continues to bless and keep you! 😊

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.

If you would like to send **Patti Steigenga** a card of encouragement during her cancer journey, here is her address: 14705 Lori Lane, Spring Lake, MI 49456.

Bob & Susan Vanderlaan give thanks for answered prayers for their brother-in-law Doug Dornbos who had successful quadruple bypass surgery on Thursday.

Randy & Becki Fisher with an update on their great niece's surgery Thursday at U of M on her unborn baby with spina bifida:



"At the printing of the bulletin, they are both in surgery, halfway through the 8 hours. The neurosurgeon has finished his work and both mom and baby are well. There are so many needs after the surgery: 1) they will be in Ann Arbor for five weeks afterwards 2) needing hotels and food and gas money for family going back and forth 3) for their daughter Kobie (2 yrs.) trying to understand why her life is so different 4) Christmas traditions

changed this year 5) Tatiana will not be able to work due to her surgery and being on complete bedrest. We appreciate your prayers and if there is any other way that you could help please contact Randy or me. Thank you, to our very loving and supportive church family!"