

**SERMON NOTES:**

Scripture: Philippians 4:8,9  
Message: Some Final Thoughts

# ALLEN AVENUE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH



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**Contact Us:**

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**PASTOR STAN STURING  
WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00AM  
FEBRUARY 19, 2023**

# Come...Now is the Time to Worship

## WE GATHER

Prelude

Invitation to Quiet

Call to Worship

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God;  
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

**People: Day to day pours forth speech,  
and night to night declares knowledge.**

Leader: There is no speech, nor are there words;  
their voice is not heard;

**People: yet their voice goes out through all the earth,  
and their words to the end of the world.**

Leader: The glory of God echoes throughout the world.

**People: Let us praise the name of the Lord.**

—based on Psalm 19:1-4, NRSV

\*Hymn of Praise

*The Heavens Declare Your Glory*

LUYH 3

\*God's Greeting

\*We Greet One Another

## WE CONFESS

Leader: The law of the LORD is perfect.

It gives us new strength.

**People: The laws of the LORD can be trusted.**

**They make childish people wise.**

Leader: The rules of the LORD are right.

They give joy to our hearts.

**People: The commands of the LORD shine brightly.**

**They give light to our minds.**

Leader: The law that brings respect for the LORD is pure.

It lasts forever.

**People: The commands the LORD gives are true.**

**All of them are completely right.**

Leader: They are more priceless than gold.

They have greater value than huge amounts of pure gold.

**People: They are sweeter than honey  
that is taken from the honeycomb.**

Leader: Your servant is warned by them.

**People: When people obey them, they are greatly rewarded.**

Leader: But who can know their own mistakes?

Forgive my hidden faults.

**People: Also keep me from the sins I want to commit.**

**May they not be my master.**

Leader: Then I will be without blame.

I will not be guilty of any great sin against your law.

**PEOPLE: LORD, may these words of my mouth please you.**

**And may these thoughts of my heart please you also.**

**You are my Rock and my Redeemer.**

Song of Response

*May the Words of My Mouth*

Time of Prayer with *Breathe on Me, Breath of God (LUYH 747)*

*Pastor Stan*

Children's Blessing (in unison)

**May God go with you.**

**Love him with all your heart.**

**Serve him with gladness.**

**Sing to him with joy.**

**Bring him the glory.**

## WE LISTEN

\*Song of Preparation

*Speak, O Lord*

LUYH 755

Scripture Passage

Philippians 4 :8-9

« *The Word of the Lord* » « **Thanks be to God** »

Message:

Some Final Thoughts

Prayer of Application

## WE RESPOND

Offering: General Fund & Reach the Forgotten

*[offerings may be given online at [allenavechurch.org](http://allenavechurch.org)  
or in the baskets at each entrance]*

\*Song of Response

*I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

LUYH 854

\*God's Parting Blessing

\*Song of Dedication

*O God, You Are My God*

LUYH 743

\*Postlude

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



### NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

02/19: Nursery: Sue Sytsema and Tayla Vlasma  
Coffee Fellowship: Jack & Sherrie Wolffis  
02/26: Nursery: Carol Peterman and Becki Fisher  
Coffee Fellowship: Rog & Laurie Slorf  
03/05: Nursery: Sherrie Wolffis and Lily  
Coffee Fellowship: Brian & Jill Schuitema  
03/12: Nursery: Amber Johnson/Dale Johnson  
Coffee Fellowship: Congregational Life

### ALLEN AVENUE MISSIONARIES



Stephan and Alicia – Kenya  
Rev. Jerry – Back to God Ministries  
Angel Community Church – Muskegon  
Zuni Christian School – Zuni, New Mexico  
Stan & Bessie – Philippines  
Eric and Judith – Western Asia  
Paul & Charlotte – Mission French Africa



### ALLEN AVENUE CARE LIST

Nella B	Joann D	Wilma D	Jim D
Vicky F	Lois G	Pearl K	Joel S
Betty T	Ro V	June W	Tillie W
John W			

**-We love and pray for all the families on our care list** and for their care givers who so lovingly serve and help them...Bless them! Amen!

## WELCOME TO ALLEN AVENUE CRC

**A Warm Welcome to Our Visitors, Guests, Members, & that Pastor Stan & Melody are back!** We are so glad you have come to join us in worship today! If you are visiting, please fill out the Welcome card located in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate as you leave the sanctuary. Join us in the Fellowship Hall in the lower level for a time of refreshments immediately following today's worship.

**Live streaming** of our worship service is slated to begin at 9:55am on Sunday morning. The live stream will be located under the videos section of the YouTube page. The worship videos will continue to be available as a recording if you are unable to watch the service live.

### COUNCIL NEWS

**Our special offering Sunday, February 19, is for Reach the Forgotten.** Reach the Forgotten Jail Ministry is a biblically based, chaplain-led, volunteer ministry providing hope in Michigan county jails by teaching, preaching and showing the love of Jesus Christ. RTF believes that every inmate that returns home can start a new life, become a productive citizen, & never return to jail.

If you would like to send **a note of encouragement and support to Pastor Mark and Stephanie Hofman** in the weeks ahead, their email is: [hofmaster@gmail.com](mailto:hofmaster@gmail.com).

**Focus on the Cross** - Lent is a season to focus on the hope of Jesus Christ. Receive a free Today devotional email series to help you refresh, refocus, and renew your faith during Lent. Or download the eBook! Subscribe at: [todaydevotional.com/lent](http://todaydevotional.com/lent).

**February is National Heart Month!** Our heart health and mental health are more connected than previously thought. Having chronic stress, anxiety or depression can negatively affect your cardiovascular system, and heart disease can negatively affect your mental health. That's why taking care of both is important. Remember to eat healthily, quit smoking, and keep checking your blood pressure. And if you're feeling depressed, burned out or having difficulties that you need to talk to someone about, call 1.800.442.0809 (press 1) and say you are a **CAP** (Church Assistance Program) member with Allen Ave to schedule a **free** appointment with a licensed clinician through **Pine Rest**.

## COUNCIL NEWS (cont...)

**Remember our Council Daily in Your Prayers** - Brian S, Bob V, Sherrie W, Stan R, Gabe V, Kelly D, Karen A, Jean B, Judy, Scott, Dave, Charry, and Pastor Stan. For **joy in their journey** and knowing that **God chose them** to be in leadership at such an exciting time in Allen Avenue's history! May God be honored by their service.

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

**Congregational member, Denise Koetje**, has sold her house across from church and will be moving to Hudsonville to take care of her aging parents. She has a beautiful Hammond #333172 Colonade Organ that she would like to sell. If you are interested or need more information, please contact Denise at 231.375.9417. We will miss you, Denise. Blessings!

**At-Home Faith Formation Tip** - Wearing ashes on one's forehead on Ash Wednesday is a symbol of repentance. At home, invite each person to write an action for which they want forgiveness on a slip of paper. Burn the papers, saving the ashes. Talk with kids about the fact that repentance is more than saying "I'm sorry"—it means asking God to change our heart and mind. (Tip from Faith Formation; bit.ly/CRCFaithFormation)

**Prayer Changes Things** - We know prayer is powerful; it can change hearts, relationships, and circumstances. In the "Prayer Guide" you'll find daily items of thanks, praise, request, and lament that can remind you and your fellow church members that God is in control, and cares for his world and all people. Sign up or print PDF pages to share at [crcna.org/get-involved/pray](http://crcna.org/get-involved/pray)

**Pastor Stan's Gospel Love: Grace, Relationships, and Everything that Gets in the Way** study will resume on February 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30. We plan to have a bite to eat together at 6:30 and then start the study. There is still time to join, so sign up in the church office!

**Allen Avenue Prayer Ministry Prayer Time** is every Tuesday, from 7-8PM.

Join us by selecting this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81035650227?pwd=cUhpVTdzTVlUUbEMyVGs3UTBLWE5pQT09> Passcode: 573272 Meeting ID: 810 3565 0227

## PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

-Pray for Our Care List Member of the week – **Tillie Witt**

-Allen Avenue Missionaries of the week – **Angel Community Church**

-We give thanks that **Pastor Mark, Stephanie, Asher, August, and Aethan** are coming to Allen Avenue very soon. Ready or not...here they come!!! 🍷

-**Pearl Kitchen** has pneumonia. Her lungs were not fully healed from the RSV yet and the doctor is worried about dehydration.

"Thank you for your prayers, cards and words of encouragement over the past few weeks. God has answered prayers as I continue to get very good results back on the tests. I really felt the support from our Allen Avenue family." --**Nancy Rop**

"Dear Allen Avenue Family, Thank you so much for the beautiful crystal cross and floral bouquet in memory of our mom, **Joyce Vanderlaan**. She loved her church family so much! We appreciate the many prayers lifted up on her and our behalf." **Love, Joyce's Family**

-**Tayla Vlasma**-we lift Tayla, Gabe, Renee, and Maelin up in our prayers. Tayla fainted last Sunday during worship. Tayla was feeling well enough to be able to go to school on Monday. They so appreciate our support and the outpouring of love and BLESSINGS! Thanks for praying, Allen Avenue.

-Continued prayers for those whose lives have changed through loss:

- \* **Judy, Eric and Stacy Vaandering** in the homegoing of **Case**
- \* **Vanderlaan families** in the loss of **Joyce**
- \* **Jim and Sue Secord** in the passing of Jim's brother, **George**

-**Carol Schuitema** asks for continued prayers for her breathing problems and for keeping her from more clotting. Thanks for praying.

-**Nella Boeve's** family has called in at-home hospice care for her, and **Norm** continues to suffer from COVID and pneumonia. This is a very difficult time for their entire family, so please continue to pray for them daily.

-**Carla Kieft** - Continued prayers for healing of throat and swallowing problems.