

*Allen Avenue Christian
Reformed Church*



*Pastor Benjamin Oliveira
March 11, 2018*

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements – Deanna

Lent Reading #4: Psalm 107:1-3, John 3:14-21

THE APPROACH TO WORSHIP

Prayer of Preparation and Invitation to Quiet

*Call to Worship:

Leader: The living God calls us into his presence.

The People: He is our God, and we are his people.

Leader: His covenant love is better than our very lives!

The People: We come to worship him with all of our hearts.

*God's Greeting

*Mutual Greeting

*Hymns of Praise

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty PsH #575 vs. 1-4

I Love to Tell the Story PsH #520 vs. 1-3

Children's Message – Steve Morris

RENEWING GOD'S COVENANT IN CHRIST

The Reading of the Law: PsH page 1015

Offering – General Fund & Calvin Seminary

Prayers of the People – Ellie DeKam

THE MINISTRY OF GOD'S WORD AND SPIRIT

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Psalm 63

Sermon: ***The Thirst of My Soul***

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*Hymn of Response

O God, You Are My God Alone LUYH #367 vs. 1-3

OUR DEPARTURE IN THE BLESSING OF GOD

*God's Parting Blessing

*Doxology

I Love You, Lord Red #80 (2x)

*Postlude

*If you are able, please stand

Sermon Outline – Psalm 63

- I. What type of prayer is Psalm 63?

- II. Setting the Scene: vs. 1-2
 - A. v. 1 - “earnestly I seek you”
 - B. v. 1b - “I thirst for you”; “my whole being longs for you”
 - C. v. 2 - “I perceive you as in a vision in the sanctuary”
 - D. What does all this tell about the situation of the Psalmist?

- III. Statement of Faith: v. 3
 - A. Because your love is better than life itself.
 - B. The Hebrew Word is _____. It means _____

- IV. Application: Absence makes the heart grow fonder
 - A. What is the Psalmist longing for?
 - B. Are you longing for the same thing?
 - C. Is the Psalmist confident of God’s deliverance?
 - D. Are you confident in God’s *hesed*?

- V. When is the last time you sang God’s praises like this? When should you sing God’s praises like this?

WELCOME TO ALLEN AVENUE CRC

Welcome to all members and visitors who are worshipping with us today! We encourage any visitors and those who may be seeking a new church home to join us regularly for worship. Please join us for a cup of coffee or cold drink in the fellowship hall after the service.

Visitors – Please fill out one of the “Welcome” cards you will find in the cardholders on the back of the pews. After filling out the card, please place it in the offering plate as it is passed.

Leading us in worship is Pastor Benjamin Oliveira

OUR FAMILY

Please lift up in prayer our missionary of the week –

*** Stan & Bessie Kruis**

Our shut-in of the week is –

***Tressa Lubbers: her contact information: PH: 231.728.6538**

Apt.517, 1077 Jefferson, Muskegon, MI 49440.

Please remember Tressa with prayers, cards, and phone calls.

OFFERING INFORMATION

Today's Offerings – General Fund & Calvin Seminary

March 18th – General Fund

March 25th – General Fund & Christian Schools International

March 29th – General Fund & LOVE Inc.

The offering for the General Fund on March 4th was \$5419.00.

The offering for World Renew on March 4th was \$219.00

Thank you for your faithful support.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jim Malda will be taking pictures of members (individual or family) in the congregation and putting them on the church website. He will include your name and a little information about you (interests/hobbies, etc.). This is a way for visitors to put a face with a name and make them feel welcome. If you have any questions, see Jim or Steve Morris.

All ladies and girls are invited to a **storybook baby shower at 2 pm on Saturday, April 14**. As your gift to Laura Ridings, please bring a favorite book for baby-to-be. Come to enjoy sweet treats and sweet celebration with your Allen Avenue family. RSVP on the poster in the fellowship room.

Pray with us: missionaries Stan and Bessie Kruis are preparing for upcoming mission awareness weeks at Asian Theological Seminary in the Philippines. Stan asks, "Pray that this will be well attended, and effective in informing and inspiring us all for participation locally and globally in God's mission in Christ."

There will be a Food Truck at Calvin CRC on April 14. If you would like to volunteer to help, please arrive at Calvin CRC at 8:30a.m. and enjoy breakfast before helping hand out food.

Dorothy VanDam has an address update- Her temporary new address is at Chestnut Fields is 5425 Chestnut Drive, Apt. 118. Muskegon 49444.

Please join Congregational Life Committee on Easter morning at for a light breakfast in the Fellowship Hall.

The DeWall and Malda families thank Pastor Ben and the congregation for your prayers and acts of kindness shown at the time of Phil's sudden illness and death. Your love and support are truly appreciated.

On April 13-14, 2018, Covenant Life Church in Grand Haven will be hosting a simulcast, Empowered to Connect Conference, to better equip families, churches and professionals to minister to children impacted by adoption and foster care. Feel free to contact Nicole Brummel at Covenant Life Church with any questions

ANNOUNCEMENTS CON'T

Fellowship Breakfast is Wednesday, March 14 at Mr. B's at 8:30. Please place your reservation with Howard or Carol Dirkse before Monday evening, March 12. Dirkse's phone # 616-842-6728. Hope to see you there.

Mary-Martha will meet this Thursday, March 15 and March 22 since our meeting was cancelled on March 8. The lesson for March 15 is "The Seven Bowls" from Revelation 15-16. Joann Deitz will serve on the 15th and Lois Grinwis on the 22nd. All ladies are welcome.

Thank you for all the love and concern shown to our family in the loss our mom. Thank you for prayers, cards, food from Freezer Ministry, meat platter and flowers. Also a big thank you to Pastor Ben, those who played or helped during the service and the awesome ladies who served the luncheon afterwards. We are truly blessed!! Donna Fongers Family

West Michigan Prayer Summit.

The Spiritual Growth and Prayer Committee of Classis Grand Rapids South invites you to participate in the West Michigan Prayer Summit to be held April 20-21 at Hillside Community Church in Grand Rapids. This prayer event is prepared in partnership with Resonate Global Mission's Great Lakes Regional Team and Mission Innovation Team. Modeled after the California Prayer Summits, this will be an opportunity for the people of West Michigan to gather in prayer for our lives, churches, communities, and country. Featured presenters include Dr. Richard Mouw, Dr. Mary Vandenberg, Dr. Pildo Joung, Dr. Joseph Stowell, Pastor Jeffery Hough, and Mr. Jim Engen. Area pastors and prayer leaders will also help lead prayer sessions. Not only will people have a chance to participate in various prayer opportunities, but they will also be led in worship by a wide variety of different musicians including Calvin College Gospel Choir, the Grace Korean Church Student Choir. The vision of the Spiritual Growth and Prayer Committee is to promote and empower a tangible expression of our oneness in Christ in Classis Grand Rapids South. It is our prayer that you and your congregation will join us as we gather in unity and in prayer. "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." (James 5:16b) Let's join together to use this powerful and effective weapon to make a difference for God's kingdom. If you would like to know more about this exciting opportunity, go to joinprayersummit.org for a preview. If you are interested in attending this conference, please contact Charlie Vander Ploeg, clerk of Council by March 15. Allen Ave. will cover the admission cost to attend this conference.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday -

*Sunday school and Catechism – 11:20 a.m.

*District I Potluck – 12:00 noon

Wednesday -

*Prayer Meeting – 5:15 p.m.

Thursday :

*Mary Martha – 2:00 p.m.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Administrative Assistant--aaacrcsecretary@gmail.com

Council President – Dave Bishop: 231.206.3454

Outdoor Custodian - Phil Snyder: 231.728.5170

Indoor Custodian – Deanna Vander Ploeg: 231.683.3946

Ushers – Sandy Volkers: 231.750.7517

Children in Worship – Amber Johnson: 231.670.4865

Nursery – Sue Sytsema: 231.750.7331

Coffee & Cookies– Deanna Vander Ploeg

Greeters – secretary

GEMS – Jill Schuitema: 231.733.1430

Cadets – Dale Johnson: 231.286.3404

Freezer Ministry – Kellie Cavanaugh: 231.638.3506

Hearts to Hands Ministry – Vicky Fisher: 231.740.6323

IN SERVICE AT AACRC

Nursery Today: Kristen VanderStelt, Taylor Johnson

March 18: Karen Alphenaar, Takalegn Vlasma

March 25: Molly Patton, Carlie Vander Ploeg

March 29: Sue Sytsema, Daniel Vander Ploeg

Children In Worship Today: Beth VanRees, Deb Vlasma

March 18: Sherrie Wolffis, Marcia Breuker

March 25: Sue Sytsema, Zoe Sytsema

March 29: No children in worship

Greeters Today: Ro VerHeul & Lois Grinwis

March 18: Bob & Jean Botting

March 25: Jack & Laurie DeJonge

March 29: Charlie & Deanna Vander Ploeg

Coffee Today: Russ & Deb Vlasma, Sandy Volkers

March 18: Dave & Beth VanRees, Jim & Sue Secord

March 25: Bob & Sue Vanderlaan, Phil & Charry Snyder

April 1: Congregational Life Breakfast

Congregational Prayer Next Sunday: Gord Peterman

Announcements Next Sunday: Steve Morris

Sound Next Sunday: Kyle Morris

Projection Next Sunday: Laura Ridings

Worship Team Next Sunday: Third Sunday Singers

Ushers for March: Ron Vlasma, Joe Vlasma, Gabe Vlasma