

SERMON NOTES:

Passage: John 8 :31-59 **Sermon Title:** Free Indeed

**ALLEN AVENUE
CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCH**



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**PASTOR MARK HOFMAN
WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00AM
NOVEMBER 3, 2024**

Come...Now is the Time to Worship!

Sunday, November 3, 2024 -- Pastor Mark Hofman

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Welcome and Announcements
Invitation to Quiet

Call To Worship

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
People: His love endures forever.

Leader: In our anguish, we cried to the Lord,
People: and He answered by setting us free.

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
People: His love endures forever.

Leader: The Lord is our strength and our song;
People: He has become our salvation.

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
People: His love endures forever.

—from Psalm 118, NIV

*Songs of Praise *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)* LUYH 693

*God's Greeting

*We Greet One Another

Children's Message

Stephanie Hofman

Children's Blessing

***As you worship the Lord, may he go with you, may his Spirit live in you,
and may his love fill you. Praise him with your whole heart.***

Prayers of the People

Lis Miedema

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

*Song of Preparation *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* LUYH 825

Scripture Passage John 8 :31-59

(Leader: "This is the Word of the Lord.")

People: Thanks be to God.")

Message

Free Indeed

Prayer of Application

Song

Who You Say I Am

WE CELEBRATE THE FEAST

Affirmation

Leader: Our Lord commands all believers to eat this broken bread and to drink this cup in true faith and in the confident hope of His return in glory.

People: In this supper, God declares to us that our sins have been completely forgiven through the one sacrifice of Jesus Christ, which he himself finished on the cross once for all.

Leader: He also declares to us that the Holy Spirit grafts us into Christ, who with his very body is now in heaven at the right hand of the Father where he wants us to worship him.

People: Alleluia! Amen.

Institution

Memorial Acclamation

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again!

*Song

Lift Up Your Hearts Unto the Lord

LUYH 844:1-4

WE GO OUT

Our Offerings: General Fund & World Renew

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

Prayer

*God's Parting Blessing

*Parting Song of Praise *For Freedom Christ Has Set Us Free*

LUYH 679

*Postlude

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

Believe. Love. Evangelize.

Support Christian Instruction. Serve.



NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

11/3: Nursery: Toni Schuitema & Asher Hofman

Coffee Fellowship: Bob & Susan Vanderlaan

11/10: Nursery: Nancy Rop & Deb Anderson

Coffee Fellowship: Russ & Deb Vlasma

11/17: Nursery: Charry Snyder & Addie Maat

Coffee Fellowship: Jack & Laurie DeJonge

11/24: Nursery: Karen Alphenaar & Mary Maat

Coffee Fellowship: John & Sue Sytsema

ALLEN AVENUE MISSIONARIES



***Pray for the * Missionary this Week**

Stephan and Alicia Lutz – Kenya

***Rev. Jerry An – Back to God Ministries**

Angel Community Church – Muskegon

Paul & Charlotte Mpindi–Mission French Africa

Charles & Hensel Oh – Philippines



ALLEN AVENUE CARE LIST

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1) Betty TenBrink | 4) Lois Grinwis | 7) Joel Stefanits |
| 2) June Walcott | 5) Ro VerHeul | |
| 3) Wilma Doctor | 6) Jim Doornbos | |

*Please call or send a card to “**Care List Member,**” **Jim!**
1900 Surrey Place, Apt. 11, Muskegon, MI 49442

*We pray for you, our Care List Members,
and thank God for each one of you.
No matter what you face,
Jesus is present and each one of you matters
and is never forgotten. You are LOVED!*

*A Warm Welcome to
Our Visitors,
Guests,
& Members!*



*We are rejoicing that you have come to
worship with us on this beautiful fall day!
May the Creator who made you and loves
you and calls you by name be very real to
each of us as we give Him all the honor,
glory, and praise as He is the Only One who
deserves it! Please join us in the lower level
after worship for a time of gathering with our brothers and sisters in Christ to
catch up on our busy weeks and be a blessing to one another. Shalom, friends!*

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

The special offering for this Sunday, November 3, is for World Renew.

World Renew is compelled by God’s deep passion for justice and mercy to join communities around the world to renew hope, reconcile lives, and restore creation.

Hurricane Helene Response Update - World Renew Disaster Response Services (DRS) is coordinating with officials in Bluefield, West Virginia, to send volunteers to clean up downed trees and remove debris after Hurricane Helene hit Florida and the southeastern US in late September. DRS is committed to helping overlooked, underserved communities like Bluefield recover long-term. Please give generously to World Renew DRS as we help families rebuild and recover their lives. Donate online at worldrenew.net/hurricanehelene, call 1-800-552-7972, or make out your check to World Renew DRS, with Hurricane Helene written in the memo line, and mail to: World Renew, 8970 Byron Commerce Dr., SW, Byron Center, MI, 49315.

AACRC Council was able to do some planning and review as we near the end of the calendar year. The following members names were submitted for the upcoming vote in to elect new council members for 2025:

Elder nominees: Sue Sytsema, Steve Rop, Jack DeJonge, Susan Vanderlaan, Beth Van Rees, Dave Van Rees, and Gord Peterman.

Deacon nominees: Dale Johnson, Ron Vlasma, Don Green, Melissa Vlasma, Cam Vlasma, Debbie Anderson, Becki Fisher, and Denise Koetje.

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

Pray for Our Council. Pray for vision, wisdom, leadership, steadfastness, and unity...for Brian Schuitema Sherrie Wolffis, Gabe Vlasma, Jean Botting, Pastor Mark, Judy Vaandering, Dave Miedema, Scott Schuitema, Charry Snyder. Barb Malda, Mary Kortman, Amber Johnson, & Nate Schout. Also, for the **PVC Team**-- Pastor Mark, Jean Botting, Steve Rop, and Stan Rop.

Today is Reformation Sunday, when churches in a variety of Reformed denominations celebrate the work of Martin Luther and others who influenced generations of Reformed churches like those in the CRCNA. The "five solas" provide a helpful summary of Reformed faith teaching: solo Christus (Christ alone), sola gratia (grace alone), sola fide (faith alone), sola scriptura (Scripture alone), and soli deo gloria (glory to God alone). Spend time reflecting on these solas this week, thinking individually or discussing as a family how important these are in your relationship with Christ. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

All women and girls are invited to a storybook **baby shower at 2:00pm on Sunday, November 3**. As a gift for Lis Miedema, please bring a favorite book(s) for baby-to-be. Please join us to enjoy sweet treats and sweet celebration with our church family.

GEMS will meet in the church basement on Wednesday, November 6, from 6:00-8:00pm. We will be packing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. Bring along your badge book and your Bible.

Thank you to everyone who brought items for the shoeboxes. The GEMS could not do this without your help! Thank you for supporting us in this ministry. We will be sending the shoeboxes out next week. Please pray for all the girls who will be receiving our boxes and for children all over the world who will hear about Jesus' great love for them. May God use these shoeboxes to grow His Kingdom.

Ladies Bible Study will meet next on Thursday, November 7, at 1:30pm.

It is AACRC's turn to lead worship at **Christian Care** on Wednesday, November 20. If you are able to assist Pastor Mark with communion, please let him know.

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

Warmest congrats to **Molly Patton Butkis** who passed her bar exam. "We praise God for his providence and blessing in her life as she pursues God's vocation in her life to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God (Micah 6:8). We also thank Allen Avenue CRC for the years of faithful support of our daughter and we rejoice in God's faithfulness!" Our Allen Avenue church family is invited to attend Molly's "swearing in" ceremony that will occur inside the Muskegon County Building at 3:00pm, Friday, November 8, 2024. The ceremony will last approximately 15 minutes and will be followed by cake and refreshments.

--**Tim and Mary Patton Maat:**

Congrats to WMC's boys soccer team who continue to win and to our two favorite players, **Luke Maat and Tekalegn "T" Vlasma! Go, Warriors!!!**

Dave Bishop had surgery to repair the hip he broke on Thursday morning. Please pray for his healing and pain management and for Joanne as she cares for him in the days ahead.

ONGOING PRAYERS:

Karen Alphenaar's brother, as well as sister Kathy - for clear genetic test results of those who have linked genes, and ongoing treatments for Kathy.

Jim Secord - meeting with the lung transplant team at Corwell on November 19th. Prayers for wisdom in our decision making. Thank You!

Sherrie Wolffis - continued prayers for Faith; **Nancy (Sherrie's sister)** ongoing immunotherapy infusions

Gary Schout: Nate's dad with current test results and wisdom for the future

Al Calderon back from treatments in Battle Creek at the VA Hospital,

Charry Snyder ongoing recovery (foot) from surgery

Mike Fongers – osteoporosis **Alan Wolffis**-bladder condition treatments

Dave & Lis - **baby shower on Sunday and** as they prepare for the new baby

Judy Vaandering's cousin Christine (cancer treatment)