

**SERMON NOTES:**

**Passage:** Luke 2:1-7 **Sermon Title:** *Living Bread Since Birth*

ALLEN AVENUE  
CHRISTIAN  
REFORMED CHURCH



**Contact Us:**

Allen Avenue Christian Reformed Church  
695 Allen Ave. Muskegon, MI 49442



(231) 722-6411



[www.allenavechurch.org](http://www.allenavechurch.org)

[pastor@allenavechurch.org](mailto:pastor@allenavechurch.org)



[susan.vanderlaan@allenavechurch.org](mailto:susan.vanderlaan@allenavechurch.org)



PASTOR MARK HOFMAN  
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 1, 2024--10:00AM

# Come...Now is the Time to Worship!

First Sunday of Advent -- December 1, 2024

Pastor Mark Hofman

## GATHERED TO WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome and announcements

Invitation to Quiet

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 Stan Rop

Advent Candle-lighting

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

Pastor Mark

## LISTENING TO GOD SPEAK

\*Song *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* PsH 353

Scripture Passage: Luke 2:1-7 ~ page 1459

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

**People: Thanks be to God."**

Message: *Living Bread Since Birth*

Prayer of Application

## GATHERED AROUND GOD'S TABLE

Song *Come to the Table* Peg Rop

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

## SENT OUT

Offering: General Fund & Resonate Global Missions

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

\*God's Parting Blessing

\*Parting Song of Praise *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* LUYH 821:1,2,4

\*Postlude

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

We are rejoicing that you have come to join us in worship this first Sunday of Advent as we come to prepare for the Babe of Bethlehem. Please join us after this for a time of gathering in the lower level with our brothers and sisters in Christ to catch up and be a blessing to one another during this special season.

### **COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS**

**\*First Sunday of Advent:** Sunday, December 1—10:00am (Communion, too)

**\*Christmas Program:** Sunday, December 22—10:00am

**\*Christmas Day:** Wednesday, December 25—10:00am

**The special offering for this Sunday, December 1,** is for Resonate Global Missions (formerly World/Home Missions). Resonate Global Missions seeks to help congregations explore our community, discover where God is moving, and join God on mission. May you give generously as God prompts you!

**Our Council** was able to review and have discussion over plans and goals for 2025. We are excited by the many good things happening at Allen Ave and the potential for more opportunities as we enter 2025. The Lord has been good and faithful to us! --Dave Miedema, Clerk

**Christmas is soon approaching.** Let's remember our **Care List members** with cards, treats and Christmas joy. Gift bags are on a table in the Fellowship Room. Let's fill them up as we remember these special people--Betty Ten Brink, June Walcott, Wilma Doctor, Lois Grinwis, Ro VerHeul, Jim Doornbos, Joel Stefanits. We also have three additional bags this year for special circumstances--Alan Wolffis, John Baker, Jim Secord.

### **CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES**

**Wednesday, December 4, 6:00-8:00 GEMS** meet in the church basement. Remember to bring your Bibles with you.

**Saturday, December 7, 4:30 GEMS** meet at church to head on out to Maranatha for the Heart of Christmas. Be sure to dress for the weather since we will be outside. Please let Jill know if your plans change so she has an accurate picture of who is coming. We should be returning around 8:15.

**Cadets** will meet at church this Wednesday, December 4, at 6:00pm, for Bible study and a "Law Enforcement" craft.

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

**Women's Bible Study** will finish our *Isaiah* books by concluding with Chapter 7 on Thursday, December 5, at 1:30pm.

Here is a Spotify playlist of Advent & Christmas from music from Pastor

Mark: <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/10WYjaXx5SZcmA7MKk84fW?si=72323475d6fd4b13>

## PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

Please refer to your emailed copy of the prayer thanksgivings and updates that Peg Rop sent out this week.

**Bob & Elaine Holwerda** will soon be transferring their membership to AACRC. Their home address is 2702 Scenic Drive, Muskegon, MI 49445. Their email address is [baehofam99@gmail.com](mailto:baehofam99@gmail.com). Elaine's phone number is 708.280.2898, and Bob's is 630.488.1224. We happily will add you to our directory, friends! 😊

 <b>LUKE MAAT</b> Individual Academic All-State	<b>ALL DISTRICT</b> Tekalegn Vlasma, Cole DeJonge, Mason Bonnema, Tyson Annema, Braedon Hoffman, Carter Heimiller, Luke Maat, Luke Proctor, Dan Minasian Ben Visser, Juan DeJonge, <b>ALL REGION</b> Tekalegn Vlasma, Cole DeJonge Tyson Annema, Braedon Hoffman, Carter Heimiller, Luke Maat, Ben Visser, Dan Minasian <b>ALL STATE</b> 1st team - Tekalegn Vlasma, Cole DeJonge, Luke Maat, Dan Minasian 2nd team - Carter Heimiller Honorable Mention - Tyson Annema, Braedon Hoffman
 <b>BEN VISSER</b> Individual Academic All-State	
 <b>COLE DEJONGE</b> Individual Academic All-State	
 <b>DAN MINASIAN</b> Individual Academic All-State	

**Warmest congrats to Luke Maat and Tekalegn Vlasma for their awards for their outstanding WMC Soccer season!**

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

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



## NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

12/1: Nursery: Lis Miedema & Tayla Vlasma  
Coffee Fellowship: Ron Friday & Sandy Volkers  
12/8: Nursery: Dale Johnson & Kristen Vlasma  
Coffee Fellowship: Justin & Carolyn Wilson  
12/15: Nursery: Renee Vlasma & Sherrie Wolffis  
Coffee Fellowship: Scott & Toni Schuitema  
12/22: Nursery: Sue Sytsema & August Hofman  
Coffee Fellowship: Dean & Amber Johnson  
12/25: Christmas Day Nursery: **??? We need help!**



## 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
- 2) June Walcott
- 3) **Wilma Doctor**
- 4) Lois Grinwis
- 5) Ro VerHeul
- 6) Jim Doornbos
- 7) Joel Stefanits

\*Please call or send a card to “Care List Member,” Wilma!  
3637 Whispering Woods, Muskegon, MI 49444

*Psalms 71:17-19 – “O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds. So even to old age and grey hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to all the generations to come.” We love our Care List Members!*