



**Being human,
Being love**

225 East Exchange Street
Spring Lake, Michigan 49456

616 842 1985 p
616 842 3476 f

www.christ-community.net

Christ Community Church is an open and affirming spiritual community. We are grateful to have you with us today. We invite you to introduce yourself to a staff member or Ministry Council host or fill out a pew card. Welcome!

Ian Lawton
Executive Minister, Teaching and Theological Inquiry

Bob Kleinheksel
Minister of Care and Social Justice

Ted Poulton
Director of Administration

Allison Rockey
Communications and Outreach Ministry

Brad Vander Ark
Audio/Visual and Online Ministry

Andrea Dumbrell
Office Manager

Roger Schuring
Facility Maintenance

Jacqueline Rose Fisher
Director of Fine Arts

Kim Bazzy
Children's Ministry

Chad Beyer
Youth Ministry

Barb Kelly
Nursery Care

Brian Drabczyk
Sound Technician

Office Reception Hours
Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Building Hours
Monday - Thursday 7:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.

A Celebration of the Source of Life

Sunday, May 10, 2009

Christ Community Church

Prelude

Prelude in Classic Style

Jacqueline Rose Fisher

Gordon Young

Welcome and news of the community

Inspiration through movement

[Dance] Spring has Sprung!

[Music] Spring (La Primavera)

C³ Kids

Shannon Connell

Antonio Vivaldi

NOTE: Following the dance, children in the 3 and 4 year old classroom will go downstairs to begin their morning program. All other participants will remain in the gathering to participate in the baptism and kids concert and then will head downstairs for their program following the concert.

Celebration of baptism

To Parents: Will you strive to nurture your child in her own spiritual development; to respect life, to love deeply and to be agents of peace and justice?

Will you, Billy and Marissa, by example, teach your child to respond with optimism rather than react out of fear, to embrace discovery rather than a belief system, and to believe that there is no such thing as failure, only opportunities in disguise?

I baptize you, Gracie Ruth Johnson, in water to signify your connection to all of life. Above you are stars. Beneath you is the earth. Within you is the light of life. Like the stars may your love be constant. Like the earth may your life be grounded. Like the light may your spirit shine. You are embraced by God; within as self-worth, between as the strength in community, and beyond as the endless possibilities that line your future.

To Congregation: As opportunities arise, will you be a source of support for Marissa and Billy? Will you be the village that helps raise this precious one up into the world? Will you affirm Gracie's important place in community and celebrate her life? If so, please respond together by saying, "We will."

Children's concert

Following the concert all children are invited downstairs for their program.

Lisa Chorny

Participants:

Teacher

Ian Lawton

Liturgist

Bob Kleinheksel

Organist/Pianist

Jacqueline Rose Fisher

Musician

Lisa Chorny

Dance choreographer

Shannon Connell

Dancers

Sophia Johnston-Kleinheksel

Seraphino Licastro

Emmeline Wachter

Sound booth

Brian Drabczyk

Video cameras

Brad Vander Ark

Ushers

Kevin Baldus, captain

Steve Alward

Ryan Cotton

Paul Crowell

David Dean

Harvey Hammond

Ted Poulton

Cathy Saurman

Vic Wilhelm

The blue team ushers next Sunday.

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C3 Kids news

Jesus was a man with very little material wealth, yet he possessed a rich spirit of gratitude. Students will explore new ways to appreciate and be thankful for all they enjoy in their lives. Activities will provide various ways to bring a sense of gratitude into clearer focus.

Invitation to prayer and meditation

Come out of the dark earth, here where the minerals glow in their stone cells; deeper than seed or birth. Come into the pure air above all heaviness of storm and cloud to this light-possessed atmosphere. Come into, out of, under the Earth, the wave, the air. Love, touch us everywhere with primeval candor.

— May Sarton

One: Let us reverence Life with our eyes, ears and fingertips.

All: **Let us love the world through heart and mind and body.**

One: We feed our eyes upon the mystery and revelation in the faces of our brothers and sisters, of mothers and fathers and children everywhere.

All: **Let us love those who birthed us into the world and gave us so much of who we are.**

One: On this spring day of celebrating mothers, we seek to understand the shyness behind arrogance, the fear behind pride, the tenderness behind clumsy strength, the anguish behind cruelty.

All: **Let us be open to our full and emerging humanity.**

One: We gather, not in bowing down, not with closed eyes and stopped ears, but with the opening of all windows of our beings, with the full outstretching of our spirits.

All: **Let us gather in meditation and singing, as those who have fallen in love with life.**

— Adapted from Kenneth L. Patton

Prayer

Bob Kleinheksel

***Congregational song**

Lisa Chorny

Om Namah Shivaya

Om Namah Shivay

Om Namah Shivay

Om Namah Shivaya

Shivaya Namah Om

Reading

And his (Jesus) mother and his brothers came; and standing outside they sent to him and called him. A crowd was gathered about him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside asking for you." And Jesus replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers and sisters?" And looking around on those who sat about him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers and sisters! Whoever does the will of God is my brother, and sister and mother."

— Mark 3:31-35

Readings

From the Hebrew understanding of God's rule for the people of Israel as contained in the ten commandments:

You shall honor your father and mother, that your days may be long in the land which the Lord your God gives you.

— Exodus 20:12

And a woman who held a babe against her bosom said, Speak to us of Children. And he (the Prophet Almustafa) said: Your children are not your children. They are the sons and daughters of Life. They come through you but not from you, and though they are with you yet they belong not to you. You may give them your love but not your thoughts. For they have their own thoughts. You may house their bodies but not their souls. You may strive to be like them, but seek not to make them like you. You (mothers and fathers) are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth. The archer sees the mark upon the path of the infinite, and He bends you with His might that His arrows may go swift and far. Let your bending in the archer's hand be for gladness. For even as He loves the arrow that flies, so He loves also the bow that is stable.

— Kahlil Gibran

Sermon

Celebrating the Source of Life

Ian Lawton

Offertory

What's Up?

Lisa Chorny & Bob Kleinheksel

4 Non Blondes

*Blessing

Love is the spirit and reality of this church, and service its great commitment. This is our covenant:

To dwell in peace,

To seek truth in love,

To help one another.

To honor our parents, families and children.

Go from this place with greater confidence, candor and commitment with those near and far. May the realities of comfort, challenge, inclusion, learning, love and justice fill your lives. Amen.

— Lauralyn Bellamy

*Postlude

Intermezzo I

Jacqueline Rose Fisher

Hermann Schroeder

Upcoming Gatherings

Sunday, May 17

9:00 a.m. Awakening

Awakening your Divine center

Our contemplative session this morning will use the tones of crystal bowls to guide us to a deep experience of God within. All are welcome to this session, no previous meditation experience is needed.

10:00 a.m. Gathering

Diversity: A beautiful path to peace

Wars rage the world over, communities are in conflict, and families are divided. So much conflict results from seemingly irreconcilable differences, and religion is often leading the divide. How do we change this situation? Is it possible for diversity to unite us rather than divide us?

Ian Lawton will be speaking this morning as we explore the many ways the celebration of diversity can lead to peace among nations, religions, and even families. Music will be provided by our walk-in choir. All are welcome to participate.

Sunday, May 24

10:00 a.m. Gathering

Death: The secret to a life well lived

Join us for this Memorial weekend gathering as Ian Lawton looks to death and remembering as guides on how to live today. We will honor those lost by this community in the last year, as well as honoring the spirit of life in us all.

Sunday, May 31

10:00 a.m. Gathering — Ian Lawton

11:30 a.m. Brunch & lecture — Michael Dowd

Monday, June 1

7:00 p.m. Class — Michael Dowd

Christ Community is an alternative to church as usual.

We live together in awe of Life,
connected by a sense of mystery that many call God.

Inclusive grace moves us to embrace all
with unconditional love and gracious acceptance,
celebrating ethnicity, gender, age, and sexual orientation.

Christ Community is a diverse, creative community
in background,
in faith perspective,
in public expression;
a blending of all the great spiritual traditions.

Christ Community finds a window to God in the face of Jesus
and also in the quest and insight of other faiths;
seeking dialogue and mutual enrichment in our pluralistic world.

We strive for greater justice and peace in the world
inspired by Jesus and social activists through the centuries
who challenged the status quo,

We seek to be the change we wish to see in the world,
respecting earth's patterns, and honoring wellness in its many forms.

Christ Community is a community of open mind and warm heart,
valuing the progressive unfolding of theology,
where all are encouraged
to honor their minds,
live their questions,
and embrace inner peace.

We invite all to join us in this exciting adventure of humanity.



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