



**Being human,
Being love**

225 East Exchange Street
Spring Lake, Michigan 49456

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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. 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 Bazy
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.

Spiritual Diversity and a Common Source

Sunday, July 26, 2009

Christ Community Church

Prelude

Just a Closer Walk

Jacqueline Rose Fisher
arr. Melody Bober

Welcome and News of the Community

Bob Kleinheksel

Musical Inspiration

I'm Going on a Journey

Walk-in Choir

Text: Kenneth D. Larkin

Tune: Wet Saints, arr. Mark Hayes

*I'm going on a journey, and I'm starting today.
My head is wet, and I'm on my way,
God's mark is on me; it's on you, too.
God says he loves me, and he loves you, too!*

*I'm becoming this day a saint of God.
It really doesn't matter what roads I trod.
Wherever I go he's been there, too.
God's love has touched me and will carry me through.*

*There are other saints who have said "Amen."
They'll keep me faithful to my journey's end.
Along the way I want to be
The kind of person that God set free.*

Gathered in Community

Ian Lawton

I live my life in growing orbits which move out over the things of the world.
Perhaps I can never achieve the last, but that will be my desire.
I am circling around God, around the ancient tower,
and I have been circling for a thousand years,
and I still don't know if I am a falcon, or a storm, or an unfinished song

— Rainer Maria Rilke

One: Imagine a community that is inclusive and open rather than separatist and closed.

All: Preferring personal discovery to orthodox beliefs.

One: Imagine being free to be on a journey of growth rather than being told how to think.

All: United by shared values such as love and peace.

One: Imagine a God more defined by mystery than certainty.

All: A community defined more by wondering than knowing.

One: Celebrate the joy of being community in this moment. It's not where we will be tomorrow, but it is perfect for today. As we find the joy of acceptance, the community that we are becoming will unfold effortlessly like a rising sun.

Participants:

Teacher

Ian Lawton

Liturgist

Bob Kleinheksel

Organist

Jacqueline Rose Fisher

Musicians

Summer Choir

Sally Rowe

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Sound booth

Brian Drabczyk

Video cameras

Brad Vander Ark

Ushers

Randy Ray, captain

Steve Platt

GayMaria Ray

Cheryl VanAbbema

Rod VanAbbema

Marti Youngdahl

Mike Youngdahl

Char Zoet

Ron Zoet

The green team ushers next Sunday.

C3 Kids news

This morning kids are invited downstairs for our Summer Kids program beginning at 10:00 a.m. Children should be picked up by 11:30 a.m.

Church family news

We extend our care and respect to Gloria Klinger as she processes the death of her dear 93 year old father.

*Congregational Song

The Power of One

Text: Barb Post

Tune: Lancashire

***The power of one in this world can lead to greater grace;
One hope of peace unites us past tribes, and creeds, and race.
Why wait for fate to choose the course this world will take?
Why let the past take over? The choice is yours to make.***

***We are God's hands in this world, we need to be aware,
Because our words and actions reflect the power that's there,
The choices of today, weave into time and space
Restructuring the future, the whole of human race.***

***One step begins the journey, so build your life with care.
Believe in strength not weakness, move on in mindful prayer.
Give freely of yourself, expect naught in return.
Make someone else's wholeness the heart of your concern.***

Readings

Bob Kleinheksel

My friends, you were chosen to be free. So don't use your freedom as an excuse to do anything you want. Use it as an opportunity to serve each other with love. All that the law says can be summed up in the command to love one another as you love yourself. —Galatians 5:13-14

I think people are leaving organized religion in massive numbers and one of the reasons that they are doing it is because if you measure organized religion on the Hawkins scale of whether it weakens or strengthens you, when you ask people questions about organized religion and what impact it has on their life and you do kinesthesiological tests, you'll see that it weakens you because organized religion divides people up. It compartmentalizes people and makes some people eligible and some people not, whereas spirituality is something that unites people. Anything that unites us as a people strengthens us and anything that divides us weakens us. We have to look at what are the things out there that divide us and carve us up. Our political organizations, our sense of nationalism, our patriotism, our religion, our organizations – so much of that stuff is designed to pit one of us against the other. There is not enough out there that really looks at how we are all connected and come from the same source. — Wayne Dyer, *Excuses Begone!*

Prayer

Bob Kleinheksel

Musical Inspiration

Be Thou My Vision

*Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.*

*Light of my soul after victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.*

Walk-in Choir

*Ancient Irish text and tune,
arr. Marie Pooler*

Sermon

No More Second Hand God

Ian Lawton

Offertory

Trees

*I think that I shall never see a poem lovely as a tree.
A tree whose hungry mouth is prest against the earth's sweet flowing breast;
A tree that looks at God all day, and lifts her leafy arms to pray;
A tree that may in summer wear a nest of robins in her hair'
Upon whose bosom snow has lain; who intimately lives with rain.
Poems are made by fools like me, but only God can make a tree.*

Sally Rowe

*Poem by Joyce Kilmer,
music by Oscar Rasbach*

*Blessing

If, here, you have found freedom, take it with you into the world.
If you have found comfort, go and share it with others.
If you have dreamed dreams, help one another, that they may come true!
If you have known love, give some back to a bruised and hurting world.
Go in peace.

— Lauralyn Bellamy

*Postlude

Trumpet Tune

Jacqueline Rose Fisher

by Telemann

Offering

This is a community-led organization that relies primarily on the support of individuals. Donation envelopes are available in the pews. For your convenience, we invite you to join the vast majority of our members who give regularly via automatic checking withdrawal, credit card, and online donations. Indicate your interest on a white pew card and place it in the offering plate and our office will contact you. Your generosity makes the work of this community possible.

Upcoming events and gatherings

Sunday, August 2

9:00 a.m.—Coffee and Conversation

9:00 a.m.—Awakenings Gathering

10:00 a.m.—Gathering: Led by

Bob Kleinheksel with music by our own
(wildly popular) Sweet Harmony!

11:15 a.m.—Sermon Talk-Back

10:00 a.m. Gathering: Bob Kleinheksel will be exploring and celebrating the realities, challenges and benefits of community here at C3. Please join others in affirming again the wide array of opportunities for involvement and the place and purpose of community in our larger world.

Sunday, August 9

9:00 a.m.—Coffee and Conversation

9:00 a.m.—Awakenings Gathering

10:00 a.m.—Gathering: Led by

Bob Kleinheksel with music by Miami band,
Here ii Here, formerly known as Inner
Voices, featuring lead singer Ashley Ruiz,
formerly with Menudo.

11:15 a.m.—Sermon Talk-Back

10:00 a.m. Gathering: Bob Kleinheksel will build upon the theme of community, exploring how a progressive community of warm heart and open mind works with all active and involved. Come prepared to be inspired, encouraged and renewed in your orientation to this distinct spiritual community.

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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