



# COMMUNITY

— PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH —

*Him We Proclaim.*

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;  
to all who mourn and long for comfort;  
to all who struggle and desire victory;  
to all who sin and need a Savior;  
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;  
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;  
and to whoever will come--  
this church opens wide her doors and offers  
her welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

**September 9th, 2018**

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Rev. Jonathan Landry Cruse, Pastor

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## MORNING WORSHIP - 10AM

*Pastor Cruse leading and preaching in worship*

Prelude

Preparatory Thought:

*"Whom God loves He never leaves. This promise is sure to all His seed: 'for he has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you' (Heb. 13:5). For Jacob, providence seemed to contradict that promise; he is therefore assured of the performance of it in its season: 'All shall be done that I have spoken to thee of' (Genesis 28:13). Note well: saying and doing are not two things with God." - Matthew Henry*

Welcome and Announcements

### GOD CALLS US

\* Call to Worship: Psalm 36:5-6

\* Invocation

Minister: Our help is in the name of the LORD,

**People: Who made heaven and earth!** (Psalm 124:8)

Minister: Let us pray...

\* God's Greeting

\* The Doxology

**Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\* Psalm of Praise: 139A, *O Lord, You See and Search* (vv.1-4,6)

### GOD CLEANSSES US

Reading of God's Law

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. We ask this through our only mediator and advocate Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Declaration of Pardon: 1 John 2:1

Acclamation of Praise: 1 John 2:2

**"He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world."**

\* Hymn of Assurance: 485, *Like a River Glorious*

GOD CONSECRATES US

Congregational Prayer

**Our Father Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

\* Hymn of Preparation: 526, *He Leadeth Me*

\* Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Genesis 28

**Sermon: *Stairway to Heaven*** | no. 31 in series

Prayer of Application

\* Hymn of Response: 476, *It Is Well*

GOD COMMUNES WITH US

Words of Institution for the Lord's Supper

Exhortation

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

**People: We lift them up to the Lord!**

Distribution of Elements

*Please wait to partake of the elements together. Gluten-free bread is provided in the center cup. Grape juice is on the outer ring and the inner rings are wine.*

Supper Psalm: 23B, *The Lord's My Shepherd*

*A diaconal offering is taken up during this time.*

GOD COMMISSIONS US

\* Benediction

\* Dismissal and Postlude

# SERMON NOTES

## SERMON HELPS - AM SERVICE

Parents, be sure to discuss these questions at home with our young worshippers.

1. What is the title and Bible text of the sermon?
2. Can we ever do something to make God love us?
3. What things would Jacob have been scared of on his journey?
4. What did Jacob use the rock for?
5. How does John 1:51 explain the ladder that Jacob saw?
6. How does Jacob change by the end of this story?

	R	W	A	F	R	Q	N	S	V	S
ANGELS	E	T	I	N	A	A	N	A	C	L
BETHEL	R	B	E	T	H	E	L	P	T	E
CANAANITE	S	E	L	P	S	Q	N	E	K	G
GATE	V	K	D	T	I	E	J	A	Q	N
HEAVEN	C	Y	O	D	V	L	A	C	G	A
LADDER	T	N	R	A	A	E	L	E	S	S
PEACE	E	Y	E	S	G	L	T	A	N	Z
PILLAR	V	H	P	E	E	L	S	A	R	R
SLEEP	T	X	K	J	W	F	R	C	G	C
STONE										



## EVENING WORSHIP - 6PM

Mr. Bob Jackson leading, Pastor Cruse preaching in worship

Prelude

Preparatory Thought:

"As a result of grace, we have been saved from sin's penalty; one day we will be saved from sin's presence; in the meantime, we are being saved from sin's power." - Alistair Begg

Welcome & Announcements

\* Call to Worship: Psalm 122:1

\* Invocation

\* God's Greeting

\* Gloria Patri (572)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen, Amen.**

\* Songs of Praise: 163, *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*

166, *You Who His Temple Throng* (149)

Responsive Reading: Psalm 146

Confession of Faith: The Athanasian Creed 1-14 (853)

Congregational Prayer

Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

\* Hymn of Preparation: 522, *Behold the Throne of Grace!*

\* Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Mark 11:12-25

**Sermon: *Barren Tree, Barren Temple* | no. 34 in series**

\* Hymn of Response: 274, *Jesus, My Great High Priest* (Tune: DARWALL)

\* Benediction

\* Dismissal and Postlude

\*Standing if Possible

# PRAYER REQUESTS

Do you have item of prayer or praise you would like to share with our church family via the bulletin? If so, send them to Pastor Jonathan at [jcruse@kalamazoocpc.org](mailto:jcruse@kalamazoocpc.org), or fill out the prayer card found in the pew rack.

## Our Church

- The weekly pulpit ministry: that Christ would be proclaimed as our only comfort in life and in death. For the leadership of CPC: that they may be granted humility, wisdom, and love in the task given to them. Our witness to the community: that we might bring more people in who do not know Christ, and be a light in this dark world. The effectiveness and growth of our regular ministries (prayer group, Bible studies, Sunday School, etc).
- For our families: for strong marriages, wisdom in parenting, peace in the home, growth in holiness.
- Praise for Mato's safe arrival back home.
- For Seth Verschoof who dislocated his shoulder this week.
- That the Lord would richly bless our "So Long Summer" neighborhood social, and bring us as a church closer together as we work together in reaching our neighbors.
- Continue to pray for Erin Ackley and Benjamin Post as they plan and prepare for their wedding on January 5th.
- Ask that the Lord would provide for the entire Nadeau family as Doug recently lost his job. Praise that Barb has recently found a new job.
- That God would raise up in our congregation volunteers and support for Kids' Hope, and strengthen the volunteers as they go through training.
- Our sister Fran Mejeur, for comfort and clarity in her declining health.
- Expectant mother Hannah Verschoof.
- For our students and teachers who have begun a new school year.

## The Wider Church

- New City Fellowship OPC, Grand Rapids, MI, Pastor Mika Edmondson (Christina)
- Pray for our presbytery meeting this Saturday.
- For our missionary families: The Westervelds in Quebec, the Hopps in Haiti, the Johnsons in Thailand, the Jeromins in South America, and the Boris family in Kazakhstan.
- For our Christian brothers and sisters facing persecution around the world: Eritrea, North Korea, Iraq, Iran, Egypt, China, India, Pakistan, Myanmar, Nigeria, and many other countries.

## The World

- Pray for those affected by the devastating typhoon Jebi in Japan, and the subsequent earthquake.
- Pray for those affected by Hurricane Lane in the Pacific.
- The Indian state of Kerala has been severely damaged by flooding in the past few weeks. Pray for safety for the hundreds of thousands who are without shelter.
- Pray for all of those suffering from oppression, poverty, and injustice.
- Our President and all elected officials.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Welcome to our visitors! We are so pleased to have you with us and hope you are refreshed and encouraged by the good news of the gospel.
- **Today is our Day of Feasting!** All professing members of gospel-preaching churches are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper, and everyone is invited to join us for lunch after the service.
- Our **"So Long Summer"** neighborhood social is THIS Friday evening, **September 14th**. We would love for you all to participate in this event to get to know our neighbors better! Our parking lot will be reserved for our visitors, **so please plan on parking at Hillsdale Middle School**.
- **Sunday School for all ages resumes next week.** The Adult Class will be starting a new series entitled **Hermeneutics: A Guide to Understanding the Bible for Average Joes Like You and Me**.
- Nursery: Might you be interested in helping staff our nursery? Are you in need of a break from being on the nursery rotation? In either case, please see Hannah Verschoof as she creates a new schedule for the upcoming ministry calendar year: hannahv314@gmail.com
- **Ladies:** Community Coffee is next Wednesday, Sept. 19th at 10am at Walnut and Park Cafe: 322 West Walnut
- Reformed Heritage Christian School is having their fall mum fundraising sale again this year! The dates are Saturdays, Sept. 15, 22, & 29, From 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM. The sale will be at the corner of Nichols and Ravine Roads.
- There will be a **Women for Christian Fellowship Gathering** on Oct. 22nd at Calvary Bible Church at 9am. The purpose of this event is to promote widows and singles over 60 to meet for fellowship. Mary Balkema, Kalamazoo County Treasurer will speak on I Timothy 5:9-10. Your RSVP is preferred - call or text Marci or Ed Muller, 269-806-1899 or email him at edmuller1931@gmail.com

### LORD'S DAY

10:00 A.M.      Morning Worship  
 11:15 A.M.      Coffeetime  
 6:00 P.M.      Evening Worship

### SEPT. BIRTHDAYS

2 Harly Marcotte  
 8 Carien Ybema  
 15 Benjamin Nadeau  
 18 Marilyn Marcotte  
 29 Cade Marcotte  
 30 Anja Verschoof

	9/9	9/16	9/23	9/30
Nursery AM:	Ronnie C. & Carien	Renee B.	Sarah G. & Cecile	Hannah V.
Nursery PM:	Kelly Y.	Bethany P.	Michal M.	Mary A.
Coffee Time:	Fellowship Meal: A-G: Side Item & Set Up H-M: Main Dish & Clean Up N-Z: Dessert	Bekius	Berry	Bil

### Session Members

Bob Jackson (269) 569-6455

Perry Westerman (269) 808-1105

Pastor Jonathan Cruse (814) 932-6630