

Christ in the City Wednesdays, June 14- August 9 from 6-8pm

Join us this Wednesday evening as Dr. Suzanne McDonald leads us in a conversation about hope through her presentation: "It's Not the End of the World: The Christian Hope for All Creation." In Revelation, John sees "a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away" (Rev 21:1). Such passages can seem distant. What, if anything, do the new heaven and earth tell us concerning how to live on this earth? Join us for thought and discussion as Dr. McDonald guides our exploration of this mystery of the faith and helps us to navigate from hope for the new creation to care and concern for this present one. Starting at 6:00-6:30pm with a light supper on the lawn, we will move to the sanctuary by 7:00pm to be led to explore how all things truly hold together in Christ Jesus as a witness to a watching and dividing world.

Starting at 6:45 "Kids in the City" will give your children up-close-and-personal experiences to learn more about their Creator.

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Ordinary Time
June 11, 2017

"The Spirit is the Lord in person."

-Karl Barth, from Commentary on Philippians

Welcome

Welcome to Pillar Church this morning. We're glad that you're here. If you've been worshipping here for a long time or you're entering the doors of a church for the first time today it is our hope that you'll experience a kind welcome, a sense of genuine community and the grace and truth of Jesus Christ that the Christian Church has celebrated for centuries.

Note on Communion

We celebrate Communion via intinction, that is, we dip the bread in the cup before partaking in the sacrament. During the 9:00 service there are three stations up front (with one gluten-free & vegan-friendly station by the timpani available at both services) During the 10:30 service, there are five stations in the front and one in the lobby. A communion server will be available to serve you if you are in need of assistance.

Liturgical Notes

Today we begin the season of Ordinary Time. In this context, ordinary comes from the latin ordinalis, which means ordered or numbered. In this time of the Christian year, we look for and seek out God's direction to order and number our days. You may notice on the cover of the worship folder a visual "hint" of Pentecost. As we hear Jesus' words about the Advocate who he foretold, we continue our Pentecost celebrations and explore the inspiration of the Holy Spirit in the church and in our lives.

The song during communion, "Holy Spirit, Come" may be unfamiliar to you. It is a contemporary hymn written by songwriter and friend of Pillar Church, Wendell Kimbrough. It connects our prayers for the Spirit to come and deliver us now all the way back through the story of scripture, from the Jews entering the promised land to the church in its mission today. Please join in singing as you learn the song.

We like to think of Pillar as a creative liturgical church. One of the ways we embody that is by using the historic Christian liturgy in ways that come from the soil of this congregation. Several Pillar members wrote settings of the Sanctus earlier this year and we will sing those refrains throughout the year. We enjoyed singing Nate Haveman's setting during Lent. This Sunday's setting was written by Jonathan Gabhart.

Approach to God

Gathering Music

Welcome

Call to Worship

Hymn of Praise

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

The Lord be with you,
and also with you.

#551 *All Creatures of Our God and King*

*Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you
with our whole heart and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.
Through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.*

Assurance of Pardon

Song of Assurance

Love Divine All Loves Excelling

Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;
Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing spi - rit in - to ev - ery troub - led breast;

fix in us thy hum - ble dwell ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
let us all in thee in - her - it; let us find thy promised rest.

Je - sus thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;
Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;

vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
end of faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.

Peace

During the 10:30 service, kids may be dismissed for Children & Worship at this time.

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all crea - tures here be - low;
praise him a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Offering

Testimony

Apostles Creed

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended to hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand
of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come
to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body*

Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er, let us all thy life_ re-ceive;

sud - den - ly_ re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er-more thy tem - ples leave.

Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee with thy hosts a - bove,

pray and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in_ thy per - fect love.

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

Sermon Notes and Drawings

I'll Be There in Spirit

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sanctus

Ho ly, ho ly, ho ly, — Lord, God of hosts, hea ven and earth are full of glo ry; —
 Bless-ed is the one, the one who comes, in the name of the Lord; —
 Ho - san - na in the high est! — Ho - san - na in the high est! —

Most righteous God we remember in this meal...
Together we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

*Christ has died. Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.*

So, send your Holy Spirit upon us, we pray...
Even so, come Lord Jesus!

Communion Prayers

Prayers of Meditation for Those Not Communing

If you are not coming forward to receive Communion, please feel free to use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers.

Prayers for Those Searching for Truth

“Lord Jesus, you claimed to be the way, the truth, and the life. As I search for spiritual truth, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the life that you promise. Amen.”

Prayer of Belief

“Lord Jesus, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner. Trusting in God’s love and in your death and resurrection on my behalf, I ask you to forgive me, most merciful Lord, and fill me with your Holy Spirit. Relying on your grace, I promise to confess you publicly before others, to serve you daily and to walk in your way. Amen.”

Prayer of Commitment

“Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.”

Communion

Holy Spirit, Come

When your peo - ple — were bound in op - pres - sion.
 In the pil - lar — of cloud — you led — them,
 In the dark of — the tomb he was bur - ied,
 Age to age you — have anse - red your peo - ple —
 And your child - ren — were slaves in the land, —
 through the waste land — of des - ser by night, —
 A Sav - ior — whose foll - ow - er's fled, —
 — with awe - some dis - plays of your might, —
 When they cried to their Fa - ther — in an - guish,
 When your child - ren cried out in — their hun - ger,
 But their sin and their doubt could not speak a sound,
 Now we call on the same ho - ly Spi - rit,
 You came with sal - va - tion — in hand. —
 You op - pened the sky to — give life. —
 As loud as His tri - umph — o'er death. —
 Give pow - er to be salt — and light. —
 Holy Spi - rit, Ho - ly Spi - rit, — will you come and de - li - ver a - gain? —
 Hdy Spi - rit, — Ho - ly Spi - rit, — will you come and give life a - gain? —

Response to God

Sending Song

#926 *God of Grace and God of Glory vv. 1, 2, & 4*

Benediction

Postlude

Sources and Permissions

“Love divine all loves excelling” Words: Charles Wesley, 1747, P.D. Music (HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7 D): Rowland H. Prichard, 1831, P.D.

“Holy Spirit, Come” words and music: Wendell Kimbrough

“Sanctus” Words: Trad. Music: Jonathan Gabhart, 2017

Worship Leaders Today

Preacher: Jared Ayers
Liturgists: Katie Alley and Alisha Riepma
Ensemble: Katie Bast, Chris Bohle, Anna Gabhart, Jonathan Gabhart, and Rob Housman

Organist: Sheryl Beerens
Sound: Ben Oegema
Communion Bread Baker: Roween Panning

Communion Servers:
9:00 Jared Ayers, Katie Alley, Alisha Riepma, Roween & David Panning

10:30 Cole Watson, Sierra Schultz, Scott, Jill, Kate, Ben, Andrew & Emily Nelson, Jared Ayers, Katie Alley, Alisha Riepma, Beth Anderson

Worship Leader for June 18

Preacher: Jon Brown

Adult Formation

Join a City Group! City Groups are an integral way Pillar Church can be "for the city." They are a place to belong, be discipled, and to serve together. If you would like to join a group, email jenna@pillarchurch.com!

Deacons' Announcements

Please include these people in your prayers: for **Dawn Bredeweg** who is recovering from back surgery. Pray for **Rick VanderZwaag** as he is recovering from a fractured spine after a big fall. Please continue to pray for **Greg Diekema** and his family as he was admitted into hospice care, and for our Student Ministries director, **Lucas Johnson and his wife, Erin** who are serving at an orphanage in China until mid-June. Also pray for **Joan Zuidema** who is recovering from a fall.

June's special offering is designated for My House Ministry in Holland, who seeks to provide stable housing environments for women transitioning from shelter, rehab, or re-entry programs to independent living in environments where residents can expand their life skills and responsibilities while continuing to grow in their faith. The offering will be received on Sunday, June 18, but at any time this month, feel free to give and mark your gift as "MHM." There is a list of things that can be donated to "MHM" that can be placed in the donation box in the back of the church. Items include: Wet Swiffer wipes, Spray Murphy's Oil, toilet paper, paper towel, dish soap, hand soap, shower cleaner, & disinfectant wipes.

Children's announcements

The Infant and Toddler nurseries will be available downstairs during both services.

Summer will soon be here! Please note the following changes for Summer. Sunday School (9:15am) and Little Lambs (10:30 am) concluded last week and will resume in Sept.

Children and Worship (ages 4-2nd grade) will continue to meet until the end of June during the 10:30 am service. Please bring your children to the back of the Sanctuary during the 'Passing of the Peace' and meet the Children's Ministry greeter who will lead your child downstairs. Please pick up your child downstairs immediately following the service.

Parents of babies! Help support a local arts and culture project by saving your glass baby food jars and lids! If you use these jars please save and bring them to Pillar where we will collect them through July! Pj Maske, mom of Aaron & Eliza, runs an arts organization called Urban Garden Performing Arts. She is planning an event at the Holland Area Arts Council called The Bread Show, in celebration of Anglo European and Latin American bread baking traditions, August 4, 2017. They will use recycled, sanitized baby food jars for a couple of hands-on projects at the event. Our very own Anna Gabhart is also working on this project as a writer. Thanks for your support! For more information about the event feel free to email Pj at pj@urbangardenpa.org.

Children's announcements continued

Families of children ages 0-5th grade are invited to a conversation and information lunch meeting with Jon Brown around opportunities in Children's Ministries today at noon.

A New Community: We will have a designated area for your children to play together on the east lawn of Pillar. This area includes nut free snacks and a few activities until 12:15.

Student Ministries

Middle School Student Ministries

- Girls bible study on Wednesday night from 7:00-8:00pm. This will happen during the teaching part of Christ in the city **starting this week.**
- Guys bible study on Wednesday night from 7:00-8:00pm. This will happen during the teaching part of Christ in the city **starting this week.**
- Christ in the city is on Wednesday nights from 6:00-8:00pm. Share a meal with your family from 6:00 to 7:00pm and then attend the teaching portion of Christ in the City **starting this week.**
- Sunday missional engagement on June 25th, July 23rd and August 20th at Pillar Church from 4:00-5:30pm. Parents are invited to attend with their middle schoolers as we engage missional with the city of Holland.

High School Student Ministries

- High School students come to Pillar Church this summer on **Thursday** nights from **7:00-8:30pm starting June 15th** for a weekly Bible study followed by hanging out in downtown Holland for street performers. Friends are welcome to **JOIN!**
- You are also welcome to attend Christ in the City on Wednesday nights with your family from 6-8pm in the months of June and July at Pillar Church.

General Announcements

Great Lakes Urban is a Holland based Christian community development organization [CCDO] has been asked by Mosaic CCDO, our partner in Benton Harbor, to help them begin a home renovation and resale program. In a city of great need no one has been doing this to create quality, affordable housing. From June 13-26 GLU is organizing a building blitz to get a jump start on our first home. All you need is a heart - any level of skill (or lack there of) is welcome. Contact Dave Kool @ (616)283-0553 or davek.glu@gmail.com.

Renew Therapeutic Riding Center is looking for additional volunteers to support their therapeutic horsemanship programs serving children and adults with disabilities including groups from Benjamin's Hope, Harbor House Ministries, Holland East special education classes, and the Ottawa Area Center. Volunteer opportunities are available on a weekly basis year round on Mondays through Thursdays at various times throughout the day. Contact Melissa Conner at renewriding@gmail.com if you have questions or if you are interested in helping out. Thank you!

General Announcements continued

Summer Bible Club is just around the corner! This ministry of Pillar Church focuses on serving and welcoming those with developmental disabilities. This year it will run from June 20 to July 25 on Tuesday evenings (not meeting July 4). I want to invite you to be part of this ministry. There are a variety of ways you can get involved in this ministry. Opportunities to serve include: leading a craft, hosting an activity, preparing a snack, leading worship, or just being a friend to our sisters and brothers who attend. I know you will be blessed by participating in this ministry. Sign up in lobby for volunteers and participants or email office@pillarchurch.com.

Pillar is eager to welcome to its staff team and congregational life a Children's Ministries Director. This is a full time, salaried position with a benefits allowance. The position focuses on children between the ages of 0 and 5th grade. The primary focus of the position is to create, implement and oversee a space of belonging, a process of discipleship and opportunity for mission. All interested applicants are encouraged to apply. There is more information on our website.

Creation Appreciation Opportunity "Have you ever noticed that the Bible begins and ends with rivers and trees?" This simple statement by Dr. Steve Bouma-Prediger reveals God's heart to ultimately redeem Creation. Participate in seeking to celebrate, learn about, and work towards loving our planet better with proper stewardship, effective use of resources, and further educating ourselves both environmentally and biblically. To kick this off, join us for a nature appreciation hike at 2pm on TODAY at Sanctuary Woods, hosted by the Pillar City Group led by Erin Drews!

Womens Ministries Evening Social will be held on Tuesday, June 27 from 7-9pm at the Huffman's Home on 516 Howard Ave. All women welcome, and please bring friends!

Christ in the City- June 14-August 9 (see back page for more info)

Building Update

Meetings with all of those connected to Pillar are being set up with Pastor Jon in order for them "see" the project, as well as to have the opportunity to ask questions, share hopes, and gain clarity as the project proceeds. The last opportunities to meet with Jon will be June 19, 25, 26, & 27th. There is a sign-up sheet located in the lobby. Or feel free to email office@pillarchurch.com.

Why the Rooster?

The rooster sits high atop the steeple of our beautiful church. Of all the ornaments that could have been given that prized place, our church founders decided on the rooster. They chose a rooster because of its rich theological symbolism throughout the history of the church. In the book compiled by our education committee, "The Pillar Church: A book of remembrance," the importance of the rooster is addressed. There, two meanings are offered: 1. To remind us of Peter's denial of Jesus; and 2. To proclaim the coming of the light. Lester Kuyper, prof. emeritus at Western Theological Seminary, argues the latter explanation is the right one. Borrowing from William Duranda in a 13th c. book on church symbology he offers this: "The rooster in the deep watches of the night, divideth the hours thereof with his song; he arouseth the sleepers; he foretelleteth the approach of day... the coming of the light."

As we continue our life and ministry together, it seems good to borrow from our wonderful past and celebrate together what our ancestors knew so well, "the church proclaims the coming of the light." Isaiah proclaimed, "Arise, shine, for your light has come." John's Gospel begins, "The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it." And his vision of eternity includes this: "There will be no need for sun or moon for the Lord God will be its light." Every time you pass by Pillar Church and see our sign or look towards the heavens and see our steeple with its rooster, be reminded the God who made the light, who will be our light for all eternity, who called himself the "light of the world" invites us to proclaim to a world lost in darkness, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Those who live in the land of deep darkness—on them light has shined."



About Pillar Church: The Four R's

Reconciling Divisions

Pillar Church is a dual-affiliation congregation of the Reformed Church in America (RCA) and the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRC). This was the first church established by those who settled the city of Holland in 1847. It was originally established as an RCA congregation by Reverend Albertus Van Raalte, but in 1884, after significant tension and a painful split, became a CRC church. After 130 years of division, in the fall of 2012, Pillar Church re-established itself around a vision of reconciliation. The church where two denominations once divided is now a symbol of unity.

Raising Up Leaders

We are blessed to be on the corner of 9th Street and College, essentially on the campus of Hope College and three blocks from Western Theological Seminary. We consider it a gift and take seriously the opportunity to join the Hope and Western communities in raising up students for leadership in the world. We are excited by the numbers of students who worship with us each Sunday, join us for Bible Study on Wednesday nights, serve in ministry with us and participate in the prayer partner program. Raising up young men and women for leadership in the church is of highest importance to us.

Redeeming the City

Holland is another gift to us. It is our heart's desire and hope that as a church strategically located at the center of our downtown area, we will share in the continued work of restoration in our community so: that those who are hungry might receive food, those who are thirsty might be given something to drink, those who aren't ready for school may be helped and those who don't believe in Jesus Christ would meet him. Collaboratively working towards redeeming the city is a constant focus.

Renewing the Church

With the above things urging us forward, we are excited to experience renewal as a church. We believe God has chosen the Church to carry out his purposes for the world, so the health and vibrancy of the local church is not a selfish endeavor, but God's desire for us. Worship of Father, Son and Spirit is central, a commitment to the Word is foundational and a longing to grow all things into Christ is our objective.