



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP

JANUARY 8, 2023

Gathering Song: How Firm a Foundation

† Call to Worship (Psalm 9:1,2,7-10)

Pastor I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

People: I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High.

Pastor: The LORD reigns forever; he has established his throne for judgement. He rules the world in righteousness and judges the peoples with equity.

People: The LORD is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.

Unison: Those who know your name trust in you, for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you.

†Hymn: Thanks to God Whose Word was Spoken

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

First Scripture Readings

Psalm 103:8-19 Responsive

⁸The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, abounding in love.

⁹**He will not always accuse,
nor will he harbor his anger forever;
¹⁰he does not treat us as our sins deserve
or repay us according to our iniquities.**

¹¹For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his love for those who fear him;

¹²as far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our transgressions from us

¹³**As a father has compassion on his children,
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;
¹⁴for he knows how we are formed,
he remembers that we are dust.**

¹⁵The life of mortals is like grass,
they flourish like a flower of the field;

¹⁶the wind blows over it and it is gone,
and its place remembers it no more.

¹⁷**But from everlasting to everlasting
the LORD's love is with those who fear him,
and his righteousness with their children's children—
¹⁸with those who keep his covenant
and remember to obey his precepts.**

¹⁹The LORD has established his throne in heaven,
and his kingdom rules over all.

Ecclesiastes 12:1-7

¹Remember your Creator
in the days of your youth,
before the days of trouble come
and the years approach when you will say,
"I find no pleasure in them"—

²**before the sun and the light
and the moon and the stars grow dark,
and the clouds return after the rain;
³when the keepers of the house tremble,
and the strong men stoop**

when the grinders cease because they are few,
and those looking through the windows grow dim;
⁴ when the doors to the street are closed
and the sound of grinding fades;
when people rise up at the sound of birds,
but all their songs grow faint;

⁵ **when people are afraid of heights
and of dangers in the streets;
when the almond tree blossoms
and the grasshopper drags itself along
and desire no longer is stirred.
Then people go to their eternal home
and mourners go about the streets.**

⁶ Remember him—before the silver cord is severed,
and the golden bowl is broken;
before the pitcher is shattered at the spring,
and the wheel broken at the well,
⁷ and the dust returns to the ground it came from,
and the spirit returns to God who gave it.

This is the Word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

† Gloria Patri

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.

† Hymn: Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: How Can I Keep from Singing

Pianist: John Beresford

† 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.

Second Scripture Readings

Romans 8:28-31 Responsive

²⁸And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

²⁹**For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.**

³⁰And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

³¹**What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?**

Luke 16:19-31 Responsive

¹⁹“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. ²⁰At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores ²¹and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

²²“**The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴So he called to him, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.’**

²⁵“But Abraham replied, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. ²⁶And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’

²⁷“**He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, ²⁸for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’**

²⁹“Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.’

³⁰“**‘No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’**

³¹“He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon: The Place of Memory in the World to Come

Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn: Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Responsive Litany (2 Corinthians 4:4-6, 18)

Pastor: The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

People: **For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servant for Jesus’ sake.**

Pastor: For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God’s glory displayed in the face of Christ.

Unison: **So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.**

† Benediction

Welcome, Announcements, and Prayers

Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

To our visitors: We hope our worship enables you to draw near to God through Christ Jesus, and that you feel welcome here among us. Please sign our guest book in the narthex.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

In Need of Prayer

Alberta Weaver, home, confused
Reginia Higgs as caregiver to Alberta
Elaine Clay, recovery from stroke
Brenda’s brother, Bernard, kidney failure
Bunny Rector, transition new residence
Brenda & Joyce, persistent colds
Jen Freese’s uncle Skip, training Sasha
Janet Young, assisted living
Ed Steele for mobility, back pain
Jane Kirkpatrick
For those who grieve:
Bunny Rector, husband
Kelly Rende, wife
Ellen Dorman, husband
Sam Hutson, wife
Linda Szczepanek, multiple deaths in family
Engebretsons, daughter, sister
Hartigs, son
Teresa Lisowski, mother
Electrica Woods, sister
Bill Sackett, grief for Marylyn

In Need of Prayer

Ray Boone, chemotherapy every 3 weeks, side effects
Benita Puzzuoli, health, beginning treatment
Jack Engebretson, for healing, decrease in pain
Joanna, niece of Lucy McGuire, young mom, cancer
Darlene Little, heart problems, dialysis
Felicia, breast cancer, relative of Sean Murphy
Linda Johnson’s mother, advanced dementia. Covid
Dan and Chris, friends of Linda Szczepanek
Sue Isles, relative of Ron & Karen, recurrent cancer/chemo
Domingo, needs transplants, LaShell, cancer.
Emily, friend of Isles, salvation, employment
Rachel Hobson, deliverance from worldly ways (Sean)
Krystal Murphy, co-worker, Ken for back surgery
Don Rende’s brother, Bob, failing health
Debbie, Pam Paglino’s friend, recurrent ovarian cancer
Donna Whiting and family in grief in loss of her sister
Cindi Taaffee’s godson, Michael, for employment
Sheila, Isles family, burns and family care
Linda and Ray Johnson’s son Ryan, for health
Isles’ aunt Rose, fracture and confusion, family care
Travel mercies, Clay family from Africa on Jan. 9

General Fund giving last week: \$2,025
Total giving in January: \$2,025

If you have not picked up your 2023 offering envelopes, please ask Bev.

For an archive of Pastor McGuire’s sermons: go to the church website: <http://christ-presbyterianchurch.org> On the left of the main page, beneath “Home,” click audio sermons and choose the one(s) you wish to hear.

Heidelberg Catechism Q. 92. God spoke all these words.

The Third Commandment You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.