



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

23455 Novi Road
Novi MI 48375
Pastor: Dr. James N. McGuire
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Welcome to Worship

MARCH 21, 2021

Gathering Song: How Deep the Father's Love for Us

† Call to Worship (from Psalm 116)

Pastor: I love the LORD, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy.

People: **Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.**

Pastor: The LORD is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion.

People: **The LORD protects the unwary; when I was brought low, he saved me.**

Unison: **Return to your rest, my soul, for the LORD has been good to you.**

† Hymn: My Savior's Love

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

First Scripture Readings

(Reader: Justin Isles)

Jeremiah 31:31-34 Responsive

³¹“The days are coming,” declares the LORD,
“when I will make a new covenant
with the people of Israel
and with the people of Judah.

³²**It will not be like the covenant
I made with their ancestors
when I took them by the hand
to lead them out of Egypt,
because they broke my covenant,
though I was a husband to them,”
declares the LORD.**

³³“This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel
after that time,” declares the LORD.
“I will put my law in their minds
and write it on their hearts.
I will be their God,
and they will be my people.

³⁴**No longer will they teach their neighbor,
or say to one another, ‘Know the LORD,’
because they will all know me,
from the least of them to the greatest,”
declares the LORD.**

“For I will forgive their wickedness
and will remember their sins no more.”

Psalms 51:1-12 Responsive

¹Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions.

²**Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.**

³For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.

⁴**Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are right in your verdict
and justified when you judge.**

⁵Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

⁶Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;
you taught me wisdom in that secret place.

⁷**Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.**

⁸Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

⁹Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquity.

¹⁰**Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

¹¹**Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.**

¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

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: In the Cross of Christ I Glory

Offertory

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings
Were You There?**

arr: Lloyd Larson

† 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

(Reader: Justin Isles)

Hebrews 5:5-10 Responsive

⁵In the same way, Christ did not take on himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father.”

⁶And he says in another place,

**“You are a priest forever,
in the order of Melchizedek.”**

⁷During the days of Jesus’ life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.

⁸Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered ⁹and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him ¹⁰and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.

John 12:20-33 Responsive

²⁰Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. “Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

²³Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.

²⁵Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

²⁷“Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name!”

Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

³⁰Jesus said, “This voice was for your benefit, not mine. ³¹Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.”

³³He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

Sermon: Sir, We Would See Jesus

Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: I Will Sing of My Redeemer

† Responsive Litany (Philippians 2:6-11)

Pastor: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

People: And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by being obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Pastor: Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

Unison: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

† Benediction

Welcome, Announcements and Prayer

Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

Dr. Eric Roth, Director of Music



Spring is coming!
And with it are new opportunities at CPC.

Tenebrae Service

We plan to have a Maundy Thursday Service, our first since 2019. The Tenebrae Service is always a meaningful time of reflection on Christ's suffering as He approached the Cross. Come, if you can, on Thursday, April 1, at 6:00 pm EDT. We will still need to observe the Covid precautions of masks and distance seating.

Palm Sunday

You might want to know that Palm Sunday, March 28th, is also the fifth anniversary of our first service in this church building. What a blessing this place to worship has been to us.

Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021

What a joyous celebration of our Lord's Resurrection!

Typically we use Easter Lilies to decorate the front of the sanctuary. We have ordered a limited number of plants from the florist. If you are interested in purchasing a lily, the order forms will be available for two weeks. It is helpful if you are prepared to use cash (\$10). Cheri Boone will receive your order.

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 the guest book in the narthex and allow us to greet you. Our normal fellowship time after the service has been postponed due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

In Need of Prayer

Charlie Wilson, surgery Friday 3/26
Sam Hutson, Covid 19
Bert Schwab
Bill Rector
Brenda Cook, health
Cindy Taaffee
Jen Freese, health, grief, training of new therapy dog
Dennis & Ellen Dorman
Kent's sister, Lori
George Donoian and family
Gail Nastwold's family with Covid & Ray dying, cancer
John Dellinger's sister, Nancy
Don Rende's brother, Bob
David, friend of Cindy Taaffee
Mark, cousin of Elaine Clay, cardiac rehab
Jim, Gary, Marion, friends of Szczepaneks
Linda Szczepanek
Cody, grandson of Carolyn Krueger
Janet Evans

Yvonne Ray, assisted living
Alberta Weaver for stability
Ken, Bev's son-in-law, back pain
Anastasia, for continuing pregnancy
Alanna, auto accident, more surgeries, rehab
Marie Johnson, Linda & Ray Johnson's daughter
Keely & Josh, daughter/son-in-law of Linda Johnson
Julie, dear friend of Chernenkoffs
Nicki, Donna's neighbor, new cancer
Brenda's sister, Joyce, surgery 2.25.21
Kelly Rende's co-worker, new cancer
Grieving families with recent loss of loved ones: Kelly Rende, Linda Szczepanek, Sam Hutson, Dormans
April's friend Kristen, Kristen's mom with brain cancer---for comfort, salvation
Baby Jase, mom Lindsay, friends of Linda Johnson
Cindy Bemis (Engebretsons'daughter)
Tony, co-worker of Bruce, with bladder cancer
Lyndsey Sharpe
Suzanne with depression, friend of Clay family

Healthcare Workers: Ray Johnson, Angie O'Dell, Karen Isles, Krystal Murphy, Claudine Sordyl—for protection from Covid; strength for the long hours, and opportunities for sharing Christ.

Please also pray for people who are struggling over mental health issues, particularly brought on by the stresses of Covid-19, unemployment, etc.

Audio Sermons can be heard on the church website: <http://christ-presbyterianchurch.org>

Our Military; Metzners' grandson Bryan; and relative of Teresa Lisowski, deployed to Iraq.

Pray for God's protection of girls/women and intervention to stop the human sex trafficking in our state.

Monthly need: \$17,083.00
Giving to general fund last week: \$4,752
Giving to general fund in March: \$9,883
Giving to mortgage in March: \$200

Heidelberg Catechism: Q 3. How do you come to know your misery?

A. The law of God tells me.