



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

23455 Novi Road
Novi, MI 48375
Dr. James N. McGuire

Welcome to Worship

MAY 1, 2022

Gathering Song: Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God

†Call to Worship (Psalm 145:17-21)

Pastor: The LORD is righteous in all his ways and faithful in all he does.

People: **The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.**

Pastor: He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them.

People: **The LORD watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy.**

Unison: **My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD. Let every creature praise his holy name forever and ever.**

†Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

First Scripture Readings Genesis 4:1-15 Responsive

¹ Adam made love to his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, “With the help of the LORD I have brought forth a man.” ² Later she gave birth to his brother Abel.

Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. ³ In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD. ⁴ And Abel also brought an offering—fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, ⁵ but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.

⁶ Then the LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? ⁷ If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.”

⁸ Now Cain said to his brother Abel, “Let’s go out to the field.” While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

⁹ Then the LORD said to Cain, “Where is your brother Abel?”

“I don’t know,” he replied. “Am I my brother’s keeper?”

¹⁰ The LORD said, “What have you done? Listen! Your brother’s blood cries out to me from the ground. ¹¹ Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. ¹² When you work the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth.”

¹³ Cain said to the LORD, “My punishment is more than I can bear. ¹⁴ Today you are driving me from the land, and I will be hidden from your presence; I will be a restless wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me.”

¹⁵ But the LORD said to him, “Not so; anyone who kills Cain will suffer vengeance seven times over.” Then the LORD put a mark on Cain so that no one who found him would kill him.

Galatians 3:7-14 Responsive

⁷ Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham. ⁸ Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: “All nations will be blessed through you.” ⁹ So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

¹⁰ For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse, as it is written: “Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law.”

¹¹ Clearly no one who relies on the law is justified before God, because “the righteous will live by faith.” ¹² The law is not based on faith; on the contrary, it says, “The person who does these things will live by them.”

¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole.”

¹⁴ He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

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 Thanksgiving Let Us Praise Him

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Pianist: Linda Johnson

† 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

1 John 3:11-24 Responsive

¹¹ For this is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another.

¹² **Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous.**

¹³ Do not be surprised, my brothers and sisters, if the world hates you. ¹⁴ We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love each other. Anyone who does not love remains in death.

¹⁵ **Anyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him.**

¹⁶ This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? ¹⁸ Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

¹⁹ **This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence:** ²⁰ **If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.**

²¹ Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²² and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him.

²³ **And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us.** ²⁴ **The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.**

Hebrews 11:1-4 Responsive

¹ Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. ² This is what the ancients were commended for.

³ **By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.**

⁴ By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings.

And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Sermon: Dead Man Talking

Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

† The Apostles Creed Unison

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

† Prayer of Confession (Psalm 51:1-7) Unison

- ¹ Have 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.
- ³ For 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 that you are proved right when you speak
and justified when you judge.
- ⁵ Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
- ⁶ Surely you desire truth in the inward parts;
you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.
- ⁷ Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

Receiving the Elements of the Lord's Supper

† Hymn: Man of Sorrows, What a Name

† Responsive Litany (Romans 5:1-5)

Pastor: Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

People: **through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand.**

Pastor: And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

People: **Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.**

Unison: **And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.**

Benediction

Welcome, Announcements, and Prayers

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. Our normal fellowship time after the service has been postponed due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Romans 12:12

In Need of Prayer

Janet Young, in rehab after falls
 Linda Szczepanek, multiple family deaths
 Janet Evans, adjustment to move to AZ
 Jen Freese, pain
 Patty Bodnar
 Alberta Weaver, home
 Reginia Higgs as caregiver to Alberta
 Brenda Cook, blood pressure, poor kidney
 Brenda's siblings, Bernard and Joyce
 Don Rende's brother, Bob, poor health
 David, friend of Cindy Taaffee
 Gary, Marion, Dan, friends of L.Szczepanek
 Cheri Boone's friend, Dot, fall w/injuries
 Grace, injuries, per Gail N.
 Ed Steele for mobility, back pain
 Al Lindsay, chemotherapy for lung cancer
 Sue Work, full healing while in FL
 Karen Isles, hip pain
 Boone's friend caring for invalid, age 102

Pray for the Persecuted Church

Pray for the war in Ukraine

In Need of Prayer

Judy Dellinger, surgery Tuesday, 5/3
 Linda Davis, sudden death of sister-in-law
 Lauren, niece of Ron Lisowski
 Katalee Deighton, recovering from surgery
 Joanna, niece of Lucy McGuire, a young mom, cancer
 Richard Abraham, son-in-law of Hartigs, improving
 Margaret, Wilsons' friend, brain tumor
 Keely, daughter of Linda Johnson, husband at sea 6 months
 Gail Nastwold, for health
 Darlene Little, heart health
 John, friend of Cindy Taaffee, pancreatic cancer
 Scott MacKenzie, son of Jim & Patty MacKenzie
 Rose, friend of Boone's, COVID complications
 First responders & Border Patrol for safety & wisdom
 Karen Isles' brother-in-law, Lance, anxiety, loss of job
 Karen Isles, sister-in-law, beginning chemo for cancer
 Delilah, young relative of the Isles family
 Linda Johnson's mother, advanced dementia
 Pam Paglino's friend, relatives in Ukraine
 Pray for your elders and deacons
 Salvation for Edward, Laura, Nick

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

Our Military: Metzner's grandson; Bryan, relative of Teresa Lisowski, deployed to Iraq. William, co-worker of Krystal Murphy, recently deployed overseas.

Monthly Budget Need: \$18,333
Giving to General Fund last week: \$4,660
Giving to General Fund in April: \$20,492
Giving to Mortgage in April: \$660

Please pray for those who have had recent losses in their family, for God's comfort and peace.

Heidelberg Catechism: Q. 62. Why can't the good we do make us right with God, or at least help make us right with him? **A.** Because the righteousness which can pass God's scrutiny must be entirely perfect and must in every way measure up to the divine law. Even the very best we do in this life is imperfect and stained with sin.

Upcoming Events:

Covid-19 was hard on our Church Life, but we are now happy to resume important activities that **encourage** us in the knowledge of the scriptures and in **fellowship** with one another. You will find again that it is worth the effort.

Adult Sunday School: Begins each Sunday Morning at 9:30 am. Pastor McGuire is teaching from the book of Genesis. Discussion encouraged.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study: Do you know the riches in the book of Malachi? Come at 6 pm each Wednesday and get to know Malachi.

Remain after today's service for light refreshment and fellowship.

Clean the Church Day: We are a volunteer-driven church, but you know the old saying, only 20% do all the work. We are thankful for those who come faithfully each week, but it is time for some Spring Cleaning!

We need people to dust, vacuum, clean fingerprints, bathrooms, etc., and several to re-open the kitchen.

Save the day: **May 21 from 9-12 noon. Please sign up in the Narthex.**