



CHRIST  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Novi MI 48375  
Pastor: Dr. James N. McGuire  
248-719-7787

# Welcome to Worship

**JULY 4, 2021**

**Gathering Song: For Freedom Christ Has Set You Free**

**† Call to Worship** (Psalm 100)

Pastor: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness: come before him with joyful songs.

**People: Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.**

Pastor: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

**Unison: For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.**

**† Hymn: Great is Thy Faithfulness**

**† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer**

## First Scripture Readings

### Ephesians 3:7-12 Responsive

<sup>7</sup>I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power.

<sup>8</sup>**Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup>and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.**

<sup>10</sup>His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, <sup>11</sup>according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.

<sup>12</sup>**In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.**

### Romans 5:1-11 Responsive

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.

<sup>3</sup>**Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup>perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup>And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.**

<sup>6</sup>You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

<sup>9</sup>**Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! <sup>10</sup>For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!**

<sup>11</sup>Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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.



## **Sermon: Our Eternal Freedoms in Christ**

Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

### **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**

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

<sup>2</sup>Wash away all my iniquity  
and cleanse me from my sin.

<sup>3</sup>For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is always before me.

<sup>4</sup>Against you, you only, have I sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are right when you speak  
and justified when you judge.

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

<sup>6</sup>Surely you desire truth in the inner parts;

(Continued)

You teach me wisdom in the inmost place.

ʾCleanse 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: Freely, Freely**

#### **† Responsive Litany (Hebrews 4:14-16)**

Pastor: Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.

**People: For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathized with our weak nesses,**

Pastor: but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

**Unison: Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.**

### **Benediction**

### **Welcome, Announcements, and Prayers**

**Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor**

**Dr. Eric Roth, Director of Music**

## **Pray for these, our brothers and sisters in Christ**

### **Updated Information from Persecution.org**

**June 17, 2021.** Jihadist attacks in West Africa have been on the rise since the beginning of this year, with **Nigeria being consistently targeted more than any other country in the region.** Terrorist groups such as Boko Haram, Fulani Militants, and ISWAP have killed tens of thousands of Christians and displaced millions in an attempt to discard western influence and impose strict Islamic Sharia law. Illia Djadi, Open Doors senior analyst on freedom of religion and belief in sub-Saharan Africa, stated: *“In the northeast of Nigeria, Boko Haram spreads terror with its systematic raids on predominantly Christian communities with abductions, sexual violence, and roadblock killings... Christians have been specifically targeted and disproportionately been affected by this violence... The responses by the government are clearly not enough, since perpetrators of such violence are able to continue attacking Christians, and other Nigerians, with impunity.”*

### **From opendoorsusa.org**

#### **What does persecution look like in India? What is life like for Christians?**

Hindu extremists believe that all Indians should be Hindus, and that the country should be rid of Christianity and Islam. They use extensive violence to achieve this goal, particularly targeting Christians from a Hindu background. Christians are accused of following a “foreign faith” and blamed for bad luck in their communities. These believers are often physically attacked and sometimes killed, as well as being under constant pressure from their family and community to return to Hinduism. If they do not “re-convert,” they may be boycotted by their community, with a devastating effect on their ability to earn income. Many believers are isolated and don’t know any other Christians.

Christians are persecuted in all areas of public and private life, and anti-conversion laws (currently in nine states, with more considering adoption) are abused to harass and intimidate Christians. Few people are actually convicted under these laws, but cases can drag on for years.

***For more information, please see both of these sites.***

**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**

Gail Nastwold, heart surgery on 6/7  
 Stella, 8 years  
 Brenda Cook, health, esp. kidney  
 Cindy Taaffee  
 Jen Freese, grief, training of therapy dog  
 Jen's father, Lymphoma  
 Dennis (Ellen) Dorman, cancer  
 Kent's sister, Lori  
 George Donoian, in rehab  
 Don Rende's brother, Bob  
 Don Rende's nephew, Chris  
 David, friend of Cindy Taaffee  
 Mark, Elaine's cousin, home now  
 Gary, Marion, friends of L.Szczepanek  
 Alberta Weaver, for stability  
 Reginia Higgs, strength caring for Alberta  
 Linda Szczepanek  
 Dot, friend of Cheri Boone  
 Pat Grad's cousin, Christopher, Covid  
 Cheri Boone', brother-in-law, shoulder  
 Justin, 14, grandson of Linda S, knee

**In Need of Prayer**

Kelly, Pat Grad's daughter, surgery 6/29  
 Bill Rector, shoulder surgery, 6/10  
 Sue Work, surgery 6/18  
 Donna Whiting  
 Charlie Wilson  
 Katalee Deighton, lymphoma, recent tests  
 Anastasia, high risk pregnancy,  
 Tom Metzner  
 Alanna, auto accident, more surgeries & rehab  
 Marie Johnson, Linda & Ray's daughter  
 Keely & Josh (USN), daughter/son-in-law of Linda Johnson  
 Nicki, Donna's neighbor, new cancer  
 Grieving families with recent losses of loved ones:  
     Kelly Rende, Linda Szczepanek, Sam Hutson, Dormans  
 Ray Johnson, Karen Isles, Angie O'Dell, Krystal Murphy, Claudine Sordyl, and other healthcare workers to keep well  
 Danny, brother-in-law of Donna Whiting, pain, leg ulcers  
 Joni, Philip, Christian workers in Myanmar, protection  
 India, suffering widespread Covid deaths  
 Dan, friend of Chet Doak  
 Kelly, Pat Grad's daughter, surgery 6/29

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

**Monthly need: \$17,083.00**

**Our Military:** Metzners' grandson; and Bryan, 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.*

Pray for those of our church who worship on-line, that they will sense the love and care we have for each other.

**Heidelberg Catechism: Q. 19.** How do you come to know this? A. The holy gospel tells me. God himself began to reveal the gospel already in Paradise; later he proclaimed it by the holy patriarchs and prophets, and portrayed it by the sacrifices and other ceremonies of the law; finally he fulfilled it through his own dear Son.