



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

23455 Novi Road
Novi MI 48375
Pastor: Dr. James N. McGuire
248-719-7787

Welcome to Worship

JULY 19, 2020

† **Gathering Hymn: How Deep the Father's Love for Us**

† **Call to Worship** (Psalm 100 ESV)

Pastor: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

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

Pastor: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name

Unison: For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

† **Hymn: My Savior's Love**

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

First Scripture Readings

(Reader: Jack Engebretson)

Genesis 28:10-22 Responsive

¹⁰ Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. ¹¹ When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep.

¹² He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ There above it stood the LORD, and he said: "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying.

¹⁴ Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring.

¹⁵ I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

¹⁶ When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it." ¹⁷ He was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven."

¹⁸ Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it. ¹⁹ He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz.

²⁰ Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will watch over me on this journey I am taking and will give me food to eat and clothes to wear ²¹ so that I return safely to my father's household, then the LORD will be my God ²² and this stone that I have set up as a pillar will be God's house, and of all that you give me I will give you a tenth."

Romans 8:12-27

¹² Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴ For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ¹⁵ The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."

¹⁶The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. ¹⁷Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

¹⁸I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.

²⁰For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies.

²⁴For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

²⁶In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. ²⁷And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God’s people in accordance with the will of God.

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: Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens Adore Him

Offertory	Presentation of Tithes and Offerings Jesus is All the World to Me Prayer of Thanksgiving	arr: Mark Hayes
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† 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: Patty Bodnar)

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 Responsive

²⁴ Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵ But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. ²⁶ When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

²⁷ **“The owner’s servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?’**

²⁸ “‘An enemy did this,’ he replied.

“The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’

²⁹ **“‘No,’ he answered, ‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.’”**

³⁶ Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.”

³⁷ **He answered, “The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸ The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom.**

The weeds are the people of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

⁴⁰ **“As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. ⁴² They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**

⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.

Isaiah 44:6-11 Responsive

⁶ “This is what the LORD says—
Israel’s King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty:
I am the first and I am the last;
apart from me there is no God.

⁷ **Who then is like me? Let him proclaim it.
Let him declare and lay out before me
what has happened since I established my ancient people,
and what is yet to come—
yes, let them foretell what will come.**

⁸ Do not tremble, do not be afraid.
Did I not proclaim this and foretell it long ago?
You are my witnesses. Is there any God besides me?
No, there is no other Rock; I know not one.”

⁹ **All who make idols are nothing,
and the things they treasure are worthless.**

Those who would speak up for them are blind;
they are ignorant, to their own shame.

¹⁰ Who shapes a god and casts an idol,
which can profit nothing?

¹¹ **People who do that will be put to shame;
such craftsmen are only human beings.
Let them all come together and take their stand;
they will be brought down to terror and shame.**

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

Sermon: The Awesome Power of God, Our Redeemer

Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer

† Responsive Litany (Romans 8:31-34)

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

People: He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

Pastor: Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies.

Unison: Christ Jesus who died---more than that, who was raised to life--- is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

†Benediction

Welcome, Announcements and Prayers

Pastor: Dr. James N. McGuire

Music Director: Dr. Eric Roth

To our visitors: We hope our worship enables you to draw near to God through Christ Jesus, and that you are blessed to share this time with us. We would be happy to hear from you.

In Need of Prayer

Cindy Bemis, Engebretson's daughter, surgery 7/23
Kelly, Pat Grad's daughter
Priscilla Smith, Pat's sister
George Donoian and family
Carolyn Krueger's son, Chuck
Yvonne Ray
Pat Grad's grandson, Luke age 12
Gail Nastwold
Jen Freese's family
Jen's 100 y/o friend, Adele
Brett Johnson, Nancy's son
Lyndsay, daughter of the Sharpes
Don Rende's brother, Bob
David, friend of Cindy Taaffee
Bruce, friend of the Clay family
Jim, Gary, Marion, friends of Szczepaneks
Linda Szczepanek
Cody, grandson of Carolyn Krueger
Cheri Boone's sister's family
Bruce Hartley, employment
Colleen, friend of Kelly Rende
Dr. Belinda Williams, beginning her internship in NY

In Need of Prayer

Julia Rende, hospital
Julie, dear friend of Chernenkoffs
Gloria, sister of Bev Thompson
Alberta Weaver, at home
Reginia Higgs
Avery, niece of Teresa Lisowki
Carol, Bev Thompson's cousin
Tracy, friend of Bunny Rector
Andrew, friend of Bodnars, Guillain-Barré syndrome
Randy, friend of Bodnars
Tim, cancer, nephew of Janet Young
Lauren, niece of Ron Lisowski
Kelly Rende's friend Rich, family care burden
Unbelieving children in our families
Jim Paglino
Sam Hutson, grief
Carolyn Schmierer, assisted living
Ella, age 10, diabetes. friend of Metzners

Karen Isles, Ray Johnson, Krystal Murphy, Angie O'Dell, Claudine Sordyl, Manuel & Astrid Valdivieso, and all healthcare and first responders

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

Monthly need: \$17,083.00

Giving to general fund last week: \$2,635

Giving to General Fund in July to date: \$5,445

Our Military: Justin, deployed to Qatar; Metzners' grandson; 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.

Heidelberg Catechism: Q 102. May we swear by saints or other creatures? **A.** No. A legitimate oath means calling upon God as the one who knows my heart to witness to my truthfulness and to punish me if I swear falsely. No creature is worthy of such honor.

Pray for Missions

- The church in China is under increasing stress and persecution.
- Central African and South American countries are experiencing severe pandemic effects w/limited resources.
- CDC (Central Detroit Christian) ministry to this neighborhood has been deeply limited, yet the needs have increased. Unemployment means no ability to pay rent, feed their children, etc. Pray for Lisa and her team.



We had planned to resume worshipping together in person on July 5. However, there were concerns about the safety of our people in view of some increases in infections. Be assured that the Session will continue to monitor the situation, and we will notify you of the new date as soon as possible.

Meanwhile we can still worship together on-line: YouTube or Facebook.

The **new church directories** were delivered just about the time the lockdown began. They will be distributed as soon as we can meet together in person. You may instead pick yours up at the church. Call Bev for new office hours.

Included with our directory is the use of an online directory for your PC and/or smart phone. If you did not receive your personal code and instructions, or if you need assistance please call Bev Thompson @ 734-664-2033.