



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

August 13, 2023

Gathering Song: My Jesus, I Love Thee

† **Call to Worship:** (Psalm 103:8-9, 13-17 ESV)

Pastor: The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

People: He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever.

Pastor: As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

People: As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field,

Pastor: for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.

Unison: But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children.

† **Hymn: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty**

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

First Scripture Readings

Psalm 68:1-6 Responsive

¹ May God arise, may his enemies be scattered;
may his foes flee before him.

² May you blow them away like smoke—
as wax melts before the fire,
may the wicked perish before God.

**³ But may the righteous be glad
and rejoice before God;
may they be happy and joyful.**

⁴ Sing to God, sing in praise of his name,
extol him who rides on the clouds;
rejoice before him—his name is the LORD.

**⁵ A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows,
is God in his holy dwelling.**

**⁶ God sets the lonely in families,
he leads out the prisoners with singing;
but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land.**

Psalm 33 Responsive

¹ Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous;
it is fitting for the upright to praise him.

² Praise the LORD with the harp;
make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre.

³ Sing to him a new song;
play skillfully, and shout for joy.

**⁴ For the word of the LORD is right and true;
he is faithful in all he does.**

**⁵ The LORD loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of his unfailing love.**

⁶ By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,
their starry host by the breath of his mouth.

⁷ He gathers the waters of the sea into jars;
he puts the deep into storehouses.

**⁸ Let all the earth fear the LORD;
let all the people of the world revere him.**

**⁹ For he spoke, and it came to be;
he commanded, and it stood firm.**

¹⁰The LORD foils the plans of the nations;
he thwarts the purposes of the peoples.
¹¹But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever,
the purposes of his heart through all generations.

¹²**Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD,
the people he chose for his inheritance.**

¹³**From heaven the LORD looks down
and sees all mankind;**

¹⁴**from his dwelling place he watches
all who live on earth—**

¹⁵**he who forms the hearts of all,
who considers everything they do.**

¹⁶No king is saved by the size of his army;
no warrior escapes by his great strength.

¹⁷A horse is a vain hope for deliverance;
despite all its great strength it cannot save.

¹⁸**But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him,
on those whose hope is in his unfailing love,**

¹⁹**to deliver them from death
and keep them alive in famine.**

²⁰We wait in hope for the LORD;
he is our help and our shield.

²¹In him our hearts rejoice,
for we trust in his holy name.

²²**May your unfailing love be with us, LORD,
even as we put our hope in you.**

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: The Apostle's Creed (sung)

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: You Are My Hiding Place

Yuta Sugano

by Ledner/arr: Hayes Pianist

† 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

Matthew 6:25-34 Responsive

²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?”

²⁶ **Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?** ²⁷ **Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?**

²⁸ “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. ²⁹ Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ³⁰ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?”

³¹ **So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’** ³² **For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.**

³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Luke 20:45—21:4 Responsive

⁴⁵ While all the people were listening, Jesus said to his disciples, ⁴⁶ “Beware of the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and love to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. ⁴⁷ They devour widows’ houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely.”

²¹ **As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. ² He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins.**

³ “Truly I tell you,” he said, “this poor widow has put in more than all the others. ⁴ All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.”

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

Sermon: Do You Know What the Widow Knew?

Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: Fairest Lord Jesus

† Responsive Litany (Philippians 4:4-7)

Pastor: Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

People: Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.

Pastor: Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Unison: And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Benediction

Welcome, Announcements, and Prayers

Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

Yuta Sugano, Musician

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:17

In Need of Prayer

Brenda, for improved health
Jen's father, chemo treatment
Jen, serious ankle injury
Ed, for mobility, back pain
Nancy, health
Jane, encouragement
Darlene, heart and dialysis
Maureen, dear friend of Lisa
Reagan, child with seizures
Kay, hospice, for peace and pain relief
Kimi, for suffering
Pray for caregivers of those who are ill
Isaiah, age 17, brain injury, improving
Richard, chemo, prep for stem cell transplant
Don's sister, Linda, breast cancer
Liz, treatment for MS

In Need of Prayer

Andy, home, therapies at home
Patty, strength to care for Andy
Glad, for restored strength
Ray, increased recovery of strength
Benita, for improved blood counts
Jalene, MS flare-up and heart attack, husband care
Domingo, needs transplants; LaShell, cancer
Sean's aunt & uncle, heavy caregiving
Debbie, Pam's friend, cancer
Judy V. and family in Florida
Lance, brother-in-law of Isles family
Sue, sister-in-law of Isles family
Ron, age 34, heart failure, needs heart transplant
Lee, breast cancer, mother of small children.
Katalee, for full healing of lymphoma
Nate, firefighter, for safety each day
Relatives of Clay family suffered a house fire
Alicia, niece of Carolyn, cancer diagnosis
Beth, fresh grief over death of husband

General Fund giving last week: \$4,145
Total giving to date August: \$4,145
Thank you for your faithful giving to the Lord.

Our sincere sympathy to Sue Work and her family upon the recent death of her mother, Phyllis Work. She is survived by her husband, Jack, two sons and daughter, Sue. The funeral was held on Friday in Temperance, MI.

Heidelberg Catechism Q. 116. Why do Christians need to pray? **A.** Because prayer is the most important part of the thankfulness God requires of us. And also because God gives his grace and Holy Spirit only to those who pray continually and groan inwardly, asking God for these gifts and thanking him for them.