



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Welcome to Worship

AUGUST 15, 2021

Gathering Song: O God, Our Help in Ages Past

† Call to Worship (from Psalm 27)

Pastor: The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?

People: One thing I ask of the LORD, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.

Pastor: For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock.

People: I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

Unison: Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

† Hymn: Does Jesus Care?

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

First Scripture Readings

1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14

¹⁰Then David rested with his ancestors and was buried in the City of David. ¹¹He had reigned forty years over Israel—seven years in Hebron and thirty-three in Jerusalem. ¹²So Solomon sat on the throne of his father David, and his rule was firmly established.

³**Solomon showed his love for the LORD by walking according to the instructions given him by his father David, except that he offered sacrifices and burned incense on the high places.**

⁴The king went to Gibeon to offer sacrifices, for that was the most important high place, and Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, “Ask for whatever you want me to give you.”

⁶**Solomon answered, “You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day.**

⁷“Now, LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. ⁸Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number.

⁹**So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?”**

¹⁰The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. ¹¹So God said to him, “Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, ¹²I will do what you have asked.

I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be. ¹³Moreover, I will give you what you have not asked for—both wealth and honor—so that in your lifetime you will have no equal among kings.

¹⁴And if you walk in obedience to me and keep my decrees and commands as David your father did, I will give you a long life.”

Psalm 34:9-14 Unison

⁹**Fear the LORD, you his holy people,
for those who fear him lack nothing.**
¹⁰**The lions may grow weak and hungry,
but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.**
¹¹**Come, my children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.**
¹²**Whoever of you loves life
and desires to see many good days,
¹³keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from telling lies.**
¹⁴**Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.**

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

† Hymn: I Am Not Skilled to Understand

Offertory

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Amazing Grace

arr: Jason Coleman

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

John 6:51-59 Responsive

⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.”

⁵² **Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?”**

⁵³ Jesus said to them, “Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day.

⁵⁵ **For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. ⁵⁶ Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me.**

⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹ He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

Ephesians 5:1-20 Responsive

¹ Follow God’s example, therefore, as dearly loved children ² and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

³ **But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people. ⁴ Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving.**

⁵ For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. ⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God’s wrath comes on those who are disobedient. ⁷ Therefore do not be partners with them.

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⁸ **For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) ¹⁰ and find out what pleases the Lord.**

¹¹ Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. ¹² It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. ¹³ But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. ¹⁴ This is why it is said:

**Wake up, sleeper,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”**

¹⁵ Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is.

¹⁸ Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Sermon: The Highest Standard in the World

Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: He Leadeth Me

† Responsive Litany (Colossians 1:9b-14)

Pastor: We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives,

People: so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God,

Pastor: being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience,

People: and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light.

Unison: For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Benediction

Welcome, Announcements, and Prayers

Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

Dr. Eric Roth, Director of Music

See next page

Community Resources for Seniors

The City of Novi has offered a variety of FREE services for Senior Residents. Most nearby communities offer similar services.

Featured today is the File of Life Program. A 4x5 inch plastic sleeve that you attach to your refrigerator can save your life.

You fill out such things as medical conditions, your medications, your doctor's name, etc. In the event of a call in an emergency, First Responders will look on the Fridge for information.

SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX
(applies to all communities)

The Fire Department offers a free home Fire and Fall Prevention program, to check for electrical and fire hazards, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, and more.

Other free services include:

- Medicare/Medicaid Counselor
- Estate Planning Consultations (30 min.)
- Ask the Lawyer (30 min.)
- Medical Equipment Loan Closet
- Meal on Wheels
- Food Assistance Programs
- Transportation Service (may be a fee beyond city limits)

More information at 248-347-0414

Maybe you don't need these services, but know someone who does.

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

Sue Work
 Stella, 8 years old
 Brenda Cook, health, esp. kidney
 Jen Freese, grief, training of therapy dog
 Dennis (Ellen) Dorman, cancer
 George Donoian
 Don Rende's brother, Bob
 Don Rende's nephew, Chris
 David, friend of Cindy Taaffee
 Gary, Marion, friends of L.Szczepanek
 Alberta Weaver, for stability
 Reginia Higgs, strength caring for Alberta
 Linda Szczepanek
 Linda Szczepanek's grandson, Justin
 Dot, friend of Cheri Boone
 Dan, friend of Chet Doak
 Pam Paglino's friend, recurrence of cancer
 Ken Lindsay's brother, Al
 Leroy, friend of Ray Boone
 Lowell, brother-in-law of Elaine Clay
 Jack Deighton, age 12, elbow injury

In Need of Prayer

Pam Paglino's mother, extensive back surgery
 Val, wife Serena, in hospital, dialysis. Friend of Ray Boone
 Sean Murphy, medical tests
 Patty Bodnar, healing.
 Joanna, niece of Lucy McGuire, a young mom, cancer
 Gail Nastwold, for health
 Katalee Deighton, lymphoma
 Alanna, auto accident, more surgeries & rehab
 Marie Johnson, Linda & Ray's daughter
 Keely & Josh (USN), daughter/son-in-law of Linda Johnson
 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
 Bruce's co-worker, Tony, bladder cancer
 John, friend of Cindy Taaffee, pancreatic cancer
 Nick Isles family, new home delays
 Liz, granddaughter of Carolyn Krueger
 Nick Isles family, new home delays
 First Responders & Border Patrol, safety and wisdom
 Pam's friends, Bill, Sophie, in hospital

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

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

Monthly need: \$17,083.00
 Giving to general fund last week: \$2,215
 Giving to general fund in August: \$7,980
 Giving to mortgage in August: \$300

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. 26: What do you believe when you say: "I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth? **A.** That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth and everything in them, who still upholds them and rules them by his eternal counsel and providence, is my God and Father because of Christ his Son. (continued next week)