



**CHRIST**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

**October 29, 2023**

**Gathering Song: Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

**† 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 cries and saves them.

**People: The Lord watches over all who love him, but 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: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God**

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

**First Scripture Readings**  
**Acts 4:1-12 Responsive**

<sup>1</sup> The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people. <sup>2</sup> They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people, proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead.

**<sup>3</sup> They seized Peter and John and, because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day. <sup>4</sup> But many who heard the message believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand.**

<sup>5</sup> The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. <sup>7</sup> They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

**<sup>8</sup> Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! <sup>9</sup> If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, <sup>10</sup> then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.**

<sup>11</sup> Jesus is "'the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.'

**<sup>12</sup> Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."**

### **Romans 3:19-31 Responsive**

<sup>19</sup> Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup> Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.

**<sup>21</sup> But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. <sup>22</sup> This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.**

There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

**<sup>25</sup> God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— <sup>26</sup> he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.**

<sup>27</sup> Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. Because of what law? The law that requires works? No, because of the law that requires faith. <sup>28</sup> For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.

**<sup>29</sup> Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too, <sup>30</sup> since there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith. <sup>31</sup> Do we, then, nullify the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law.**

**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: Wonderful Merciful Savior**

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

Offertory: Proclaim the Glory of the Lord by Stan Pethel

Musician: 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 3:13-21 Responsive**

<sup>13</sup> No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up] <sup>15</sup> that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

<sup>16</sup> **For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.** <sup>17</sup> **For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.**

<sup>18</sup> Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. <sup>19</sup> This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

<sup>20</sup> Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. <sup>21</sup> But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

### **Romans 10:1-13 Responsive**

<sup>1</sup> Brothers and sisters, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved. <sup>2</sup> For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge.

<sup>3</sup> Since they did not know the righteousness of God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. <sup>4</sup> Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

<sup>5</sup> Moses writes this about the righteousness that is by the law: "The person who does these things will live by them. <sup>6</sup> But the righteousness that is by faith says: "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup> "or 'Who will descend into the deep?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup> But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim:

<sup>9</sup> If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

<sup>11</sup> As Scripture says, "Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame." <sup>12</sup> For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, <sup>13</sup> for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

**This is the Word of the Lord**

Thanks be to God

**Sermon: What Is Saving Faith?**

Dr. James N. McGuire

**Pastoral Prayer**

**† Hymn: O Worship the King**

**† Responsive Litany (Romans 5:1-2, 6-8)**

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. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.**

Pastor: You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.

**People: Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die.**

**Unison: But God, demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

### **Benediction**

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

**Pastor: Dr. James N. McGuire**

**Musician: Yuta Sugano**

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**

Rosie, Linda's daughter, grieving  
Brenda, for good health  
Ed, for mobility, back pain  
Nancy, health  
Judy C, full healing of her leg  
Maureen, dear friend of Lisa  
Kay, continued faith, poor prognosis  
Raven, child with seizures  
Pray for caregivers of those who are ill  
Brenda's nephew and his friends for  
encouragement and better jobs, and  
For nephew Glenn: serious illness  
Richard, recent stem cell transplant is  
*successful, home and improving!*  
Caroline M's mother, failing  
College students, for continuing faith  
Jennet family, illness and deaths  
Linda S, breathing concerns  
Janet Evans, confusion (in AZ)  
Alicia, niece of Carolyn, cancer  
diagnosis  
Marie, employment and comfort

**In Need of Prayer**

Debbie T, blood clot in leg  
Enrique, continued ICU care in Korea? Plan to fly him home  
Lisa, Pastor's niece, newly discovered cancer  
Gladys, for restored strength  
Benita, improved blood counts and strength  
Jalene, MS flare-up and heart attack, husband caring for her  
Domingo, needs transplants; LaShell, cancer  
Sean's aunt & uncle, heavy caregiving  
Debbie, Pam's friend, improved, more chemo  
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  
Sarah, for strength to carry her load  
Pastor Scott McKee, serious cancer  
Family of Rusty, dear friend of Ron I, sudden death  
Krystal's friend, Lolita, with esophageal cancer  
Please pray for the family and friends of Darlene Little who  
died on October 23, 2023.

General Fund giving last week: \$4,533  
Total giving in October: \$16,974

Thank you for your faithful giving.

As the Middle Eastern war continues, it has spilled over  
to Lebanon. Please pray for Robbie and Joyce who are  
involved in children and family work, feeding children  
and providing care so parents can work.

**Heidelberg Catechism Q. 127.** What does the sixth request mean? **A.** *And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil* means, by ourselves we are too weak to hold our own even for a moment. And our sworn enemies—the devil, the world, and our own flesh—never stop attacking us. And so, Lord, uphold us and make us strong with the strength of your Holy Spirit so that we may not go down to defeat in this spiritual struggle, but may firmly resist our enemies until we win the victory.

### **Prayer Cards**

Don't forget to pick up a bright yellow card in the Narthex. Then pray often the verse on the front for the person whose name is on the back.

### **We have a new roof!**

We are thankful for the Lord's provision for a new roof on the entire church building. It was completed this week.

### **Novi Road**

We eagerly look forward to the completion of the road work in front of the church. Landscaping has been the focus this week, and we look forward to the completion very soon. Thank you for your patience.

### **Ladies' Bible Study**

The Ladies' Bible study continues to meet every Tuesday at 10 am at the church. The current study is the book of Second Corinthians. For more information, you may speak to Judy Dellinger.

### **After Worship Fellowship Time**

Don't rush out after the service. Stay awhile and get to know your church friends over a cup of coffee or tea. The snacks are varied and good. You may encourage someone, or receive care or encouragement.