



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Welcome to Worship

DECEMBER 5, 2021
The Second Sunday of Advent

Gathering Song: O Little Town of Bethlehem

† 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 cry and saves them.

People: The LORD watches over all who love him, but all 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.

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

†Hymn: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing)

Lighting the Second Advent Candle

The Bethlehem Candle

Ray & Cheri Boone

First Scripture Readings

(Reader: O'Dell)

Matthew 1:18-25 Responsive

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.

¹⁹ **Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.**

²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

²¹ **She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."**

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

²⁴ **When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.**

John 1:14-18 Responsive

¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

¹⁵ **(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, "This is the one I spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'")**

¹⁶ Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ **No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.**

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: See, Amid the Winter's Snow

Offertory

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings
Good Christians All, Rejoice

arr: Bill Wolaver

† 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.

Ordination and Installation of Church Officers

Ronald Lisowski, Elder: Ordination & Installation

Lloyd O'Dell, Elder: Installation

Elaine Clay, Deacon: Installation

Second Scripture Readings

Romans 15:4-13 Responsive

⁴ For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

⁵ **May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, ⁶ so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

⁷ Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, so that the promises made to the patriarchs might be confirmed ⁹ and, moreover, that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written:

**"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles;
I will sing the praises of your name."**

¹⁰ Again, it says,

"Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people."

¹¹ **And again,**

**"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles;
let all the peoples extol him."**

¹² And again, Isaiah says,

**"The Root of Jesse will spring up,
one who will arise to rule over the nations;
In him the Gentiles will hope."**

¹³ **May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Luke 1: 26-38 Responsive

²⁶ In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

²⁸ **The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.”**

²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.

³² **He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.”**

³⁴ “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?”

³⁵ **The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷ For no word from God will ever fail.”**

³⁸ “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.

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

Sermon: Saying Yes to God
Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper (see page 5)

† Hymn: What Child is This?

Responsive Litany (Galatians 4:4-7)

Pastor: But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law.

People: to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.

Pastor: Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out “Abba! Father.”

Unison: So you are no longer a slave, but God’s child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

Benediction

Welcome, Announcements, and Prayers

Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

Dr. Eric Roth, Director of Music

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

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

² Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.

³ For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.

⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are proved right when you speak
and justified when you judge.

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

⁶ Surely you desire truth in the inward parts;
you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.

⁷ Cleanse 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

Announcements



Angel Tree

REMEMBER THE
CHILDREN

It is not too late to provide a gift for a child sent by their incarcerated parent. They will also receive age-appropriate Christian literature. The base price is just \$25 to make this happen through Prison Fellowship. **Call Cheri Boone for assistance with the on-line giving.**

If you would like to purchase a lovely poinsettia for decorating the sanctuary for Christmas, please call Donna Whiting or the office. You can give it in honor or memory of someone and take it home after the Christmas service. Cost is \$10 (cash preferred). **Deadline is December 12.**



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
 Alberta Weaver, home
 Regina Higgs as caregiver to Alberta
 Brenda Cook, blood pressure, kidney
 Jen Freese, training therapy dog, illness
 Cheryl Stevenson, Covid
 Don Rende's brother, Bob, nephew Chris
 David, friend of Cindy Taaffee
 Gary, Marion, Dan, friends of L.Szczepanek
 Linda Szczepanek, health, grief
 Dot, friend of Cheri Boone
 Dennis, friend of Puzzuolis, hard times
 Carmen, friend of Gail, fall with injuries
 Ed Steele for mobility, back pain
 Kelly Vincent, daughter of Bert Schwab
 The Metzner Family, many stressors, and multiple Covid illnesses
 Al Lindsay, chemotherapy for lung cancer
 Lindsay neighbors, Armand w/Covid
 Chrisopher, neighbor of Linda S, cancer
 Kelly's friends, Tammy & Kevin, grieving

In Need of Prayer

Richard Abraham, son-in-law of Hartigs, very ill
 Bill Howard, pastor's brother-in-law, heart valve surgery
 Judy Carr, foot, plus sister's long term care decisions
 Margaret, Wilsons' friend, brain tumor
 Joanna, niece of Lucy McGuire, a young mom, cancer/Covid
 Norman John, Guilian-Barre, cousin of Cathie Cheslak
 Gail Nastwold, for health, wound healing
 Katalee Deighton, lymphoma
 Darlene Little, heart health.
 Nancy, friend of Doaks, recurrence of cancer
 John, friend of Cindy Taaffee, pancreatic cancer
 Liz, granddaughter of Carolyn Krueger
 Scott MacKenzie, son of Jim & Patty MacKenzie
 Suzanne, friend of Clay family, for wholeness
 Rose, friend of Boones, Covid complications
 First Responders & Border Patrol, safety & wisdom
 Friend of Tracy Hoff, Debbie Routin, brain/bone cancer
 Cassandra, friend of Elaine, cancer
 Jeremy, needs a liver transplant
 Persecuted Christians, esp. Afghanistan
 Family of Talon, 15 y/o, death of cancer

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

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the loved one of George Donoian who died on November 21. Please pray for Janet Evans, and his son, John. Memorial Service will be on December 6 at 3 pm at the church.

Monthly need: \$17,083.00
Giving to general fund last week: \$2,885
Giving to general fund in Nov: \$15,945
Giving to mortgage in Nov: \$1,076

Our Military: Metzner's grandson; and Bryan, relative of Teresa Lisowski, deployed to Iraq. *William, co-worker of Krystal Murphy, recently deployed overseas.*

Heidelberg Catechism Q 42. Since Christ has died for us, why do we still have to die?
A. Our death does not pay the debt of our sins and is our inheritance into eternal life.