

To Our Visitors
We welcome you and hope our worship enables you to draw near to God through Christ Jesus, and that you feel welcome among us. Please sign our guest book in the Narthex.

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

Prayer needs

Brenda, very long work hours, and for improved lab results
Ed, for mobility with less pain
Jen, for healing of ankle, mobility
Sherrie, Jen's friend, kidney tumor
Marcus Liew, for restoration of vision
Kay, continued faith, poor prognosis
Maureen, dear friend of Lisa
Jean, friend of Cheri, breast cancer
Justin, wisdom re: job
Shiv and Nahui for encouragement
Judy Carr's sister-in-law, terminal illness
Linda S: for improved health, joy
Sean's God-daughter, Brittany.
Pastor Scott McKee
Premature twins at 24 weeks, that they will thrive, friends of Bodnar family
All who hate their neighbors to be restrained.
Shiv for employment in Seattle

Thank you for your faithful giving.

Giving on April 7: \$5,894
Giving to date in April: \$9,374

Heidelberg Catechism Q. 21. What is true faith? **A.** True faith is not only a knowledge and conviction that everything God reveals in his Word is true; it is also a deep-rooted assurance, created in me by the Holy Spirit through the gospel, that, our of sheer grace earned for us by Christ, not only others, but I too, have had my sins forgiven, have been made forever right with God, and have been granted salvation.

Prayer need

Mike Mathers, poor health, and Annette strength to help
Elder Ray B, painful legs, disturbed sleep
Benita, for continued normal blood counts
Glad, getting stronger
Bunny, for continued strength
Bryan, nephew of Terras family, cancer diagnosis
Lance, liver failure, and Sue, cancer: concerns for care of son with Downs syndrome.
Krystal's friend, Lolita, esophageal cancer
Noah, age 14, strong faith as he transfers to public school
Lisa, Pastor's niece, multiple cancers
Janet Evans, in AZ, deterioration in health
College students for continuing faith and clear witness
Pray for strength for caregivers in families of the ill
Pray for our military as they serve in dangerous places
Rene, age 53, breast cancer, for surgery soon
Sue Work, continued lung problems
Family (3 members) of Carolyn K, health issues
Dan, local firefighter, rare kidney disease, friend of Nate
Michael, discovery of bladder cancer
Johnny, injury in a fall, not doing well, and wife, Betty
Our children's Sunday school teachers

Pray for faithful Pastors and Christians in Central Asia who are often in danger in these difficult places. Pray for Dave and Carol Fogleboch as they uphold and encourage these believers in the Lord Jesus.



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Welcome to Worship

April 21, 2024

Gathering Song: All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (page 6)

† Call to Worship (selections from Psalm 121 ESV)

Pastor: I will lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

People: My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

People: The Lord is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

Pastor: The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

Unison: The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forever more.

† Hymn: To God Be the Glory (pages 7)

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

†Standing as you are able

First Scripture Readings

Today's Reader: Sean Murphy

Matthew 7:21-29 Responsive

²¹ “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

²² **Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’** ²³ **Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’**

²⁴ “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

²⁶ **But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand.** ²⁷ **The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”**

²⁸ When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching,

²⁹ because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.

Ephesians 4:22-5:7 Responsive

²² You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

²⁵ **Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body.** ²⁶ **“In your anger do not sin.” Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry,** ²⁷ **and do not give the devil a foothold.**

²⁸ Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

²⁹ **Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.** ³⁰ **And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.**

The Tuesday Ladies' Bible Study

This eager group of women has started a new study: The Book of James.

Meeting Tuesday mornings at 10 am at the church, they welcome others who may be interested. If you would like to come to see what it is like, just come. If you want to continue, they can help you secure a guide book to prepare for each week. Learning more of the Word can be an exciting adventure. Contact Judy Dellinger for more information at 734-386-6449.

If you can't come out on Tuesday, there is a comparable study available on Zoom, on Thursdays. Contact Brenda Cook at 248-470-9104.

Spring Is Here!

Do you love to garden? Would you like to help with planting the large standing pots that greet us as we come to worship each week. The pots will be put in place today, weather permitting.

Additional needs include tidying the beds around the building.

If you would like to participate, please contact Karen Isles or Donna Whiting.

³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

⁵⁻¹ **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.**

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 Servant Song (page 8)

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: "You Are My All in All"

Arr. by Mark Hayes

† 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.

Second Scripture Readings

Romans 6:15-23 Responsive

¹⁵ What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means!

¹⁶ Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?

¹⁷ **But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance. ¹⁸ You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.**

¹⁹ I am using an example from everyday life because of your human limitations. Just as you used to offer yourselves as slaves to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer yourselves as slaves to righteousness leading to holiness.

²⁰ **When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. ²¹ What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death!**

²² But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Philippians 2:12-18 Responsive

¹² Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling,

¹³ for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

¹⁴ **Do everything without grumbling or arguing, ¹⁵ so that you may become blameless and pure, “children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.”**

Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky ¹⁶ as you hold firmly to the word of life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain.

¹⁷ **But even if I am being poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service coming from your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you. ¹⁸ So you too should be glad and rejoice with me.**

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

The Servant Song

**Sermon: The Hard Work of Sanctification
Dr. James N. McGuire**

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: All Praise to Our Redeeming Lord (page 9)

Responsive Litany (Romans 15:1-2,4– 6,13)

Pastor: We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please our selves. Each of us should please our neighbors for their good, to build them up.

People: For everything 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.

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

Unison: 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.

Benediction

Welcome, Announcements and Prayers

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

To God Be the Glory