



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

WELCOME TO THE WORSHIP OF GOD

JANUARY 1, 2023

Gathering Song: We Three Kings

† Call to Worship (Isaiah 60:1-3; 9:2)

Pastor: Arise, shine for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.

People: See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you.

Pastor: Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Unison: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

†Hymn: Sing We Now of Christmas

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

First Scripture Readings

Matthew 2:1-12 Responsive

¹ After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶ “But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.”

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.

¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Galatians 6:7-10 Responsive

⁷ Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. ⁸ Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

⁹ Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. ¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

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: Once in Royal David's City

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: Christmas Chimes

Pianist: Ellen VanNoord

† 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

I John 3:11-21 Responsive

¹¹ For this is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another. ¹² Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous.

¹³ Do not be surprised, my brothers and sisters, if the world hates you. ¹⁴ We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love each other. Anyone who does not love remains in death. ¹⁵ Anyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him.

¹⁶ This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? ¹⁸ Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

¹⁹ This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: ²⁰ If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹ Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God.

Luke 16:19-31 Responsive

¹⁹ “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. ²⁰ At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores ²¹ and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

²² “The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ So he called to him, ‘Father Abraham have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.’

²⁵ “But Abraham replied, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. ²⁶ And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’

²⁷ “He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, ²⁸ for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’

²⁹ “Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.’

³⁰ “No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’

³¹ “He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon: The Man Who Never Noticed

Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

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

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

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

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

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.

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

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

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

† Hymn: As With Gladness Men of Old

† Responsive Litany (from Hebrews 10)

Pastor: Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body,

People: and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

Pastor: Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

Unison: And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as we see the Day approaching.

† Benediction

Welcome, Announcements, and Prayer

Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

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 in the narthex.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

<p>In Need of Prayer</p> <p>Alberta Weaver, in rehab facility Reginia Higgs as caregiver to Alberta Jane Kirkpatrick, recent surgery Elaine Clay, recovery from stroke Brenda's brother, Bernard, kidney failure Bunny Rector, transition new residence Brend & Joyce, persistent colds Jen Freese's uncle Skip, training Sasha Janet Young, assisted living Ed Steele for mobility, back pain Jane Kirkpatrick <u>For those who grieve:</u> Bunny Rector, husband Kelly Rende, wife Ellen Dorman, husband Sam Hutson, wife Linda Szczepanek, multiple deaths in family Engebretsons, daughter, sister Hartigs, son Teresa Lisowski, mother Electrica Woods, sister</p>	<p>In Need of Prayer</p> <p>Ray Boone, chemotherapy every 3 weeks Benita Puzzuoli, health, for treatment decisions Joanna, niece of Lucy McGuire, young mom, cancer Darlene Little, heart problems, dialysis Felicia, breast cancer, relative of Sean Murphy Linda Johnson's mother, advanced dementia Dan and Chris, friends of Linda Szczepanek Sue Isles, relative of Ron & Karen, recurrent cancer/chemo Domingo, needs transplants, LaShell, cancer. Emily, friend of Isles, salvation, employment Rachel Hobson, deliverance from worldly ways (Sean) Krystal Murphy, co-worker, Ken for back surgery Krystal's cousin, heart valve surgery Don Rende's brother, Bob, failing health Debbie, Pam Paglino's friend, recurrent ovarian cancer Donna Whiting and family in grief in loss of her sister Cindi Taaffee's godson, Michael, for employment Sheila, Isles family, burns and family care Peggy, Bev's dear friend, first procedure successful Linda and Ray Johnson's son Ryan, for health Travel mercies, Clay family to Africa this week</p>
<p>General Fund giving last week: \$4,446</p> <p>Total giving in December: \$19,440</p> <p><i>If you have not picked up your 2023 offering envelopes, you will find them just inside of Fellowship Hall.</i></p>	<p>For an archive of Pastor McGuire's sermons: church website: http://christ-presbyterianchurch.org</p> <p>On the left of the main page, beneath "Home," click audio sermons and choose the one(s) you wish to hear.</p>
<p>Heidelberg Catechism Q. 93. What does the Lord say in his law? A. God spoke all these words: The Second Commandment. You shall not make yourself a graven image, or any likeness of anything in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: you shall not bow down to them or serve them; for I, the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.</p>	