



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Welcome to Worship

JANUARY 10, 2021

Gathering Song: Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed

† Call to Worship (from Psalm 92)

Pastor: It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High.

People: proclaiming your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night.

Pastor: For you make me glad by your deeds, LORD; I sing for joy at what your hands have done,

People: How great are your works, LORD, how profound your thoughts.

Unison: You, LORD, are forever exalted.

† Hymn: I Sing the Mighty Power of God

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

First Scripture Readings

(Reader: Bruce Terras)

Genesis 1:6-13 Responsive

⁶And God said, "Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water."

⁷ **So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so. God called the vault "sky." And there was evening and there was morning—the second day.**

⁹ And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good.

¹¹ **Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so.**

¹² The land produced vegetation: plant bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it, according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening and there was morning—the third day.

Psalm 98 Responsive

¹ Sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things;

**his right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.**

²The LORD has made his salvation known
and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

³ **He has remembered his love
and his faithfulness to Israel;**

all the ends of the earth have seen
the power of our God.

⁴ **Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth,
burst into jubilant song with music;**

⁵ make music to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the sound of singing,

⁶ **with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn—
shout for joy before the LORD, the King.**

⁷ Let the sea resound, and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it.

**⁸ Let the rivers clap their hands,
let the mountains sing together for joy;**

⁹ let them sing before the LORD,
for he comes to judge the earth.

**He will judge the world in righteousness
and the peoples with equity.**

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: Join All the Glorious Names

Offertory **Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**
All the Ends of the Earth Have Seen the Power of God arr: Malcolm Kogut
Prayer of Thanksgiving

† 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

(Reader: Bruce Terras)

Acts 19:1-7 Responsive

¹While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples ²and asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”

They answered, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.”

³So Paul asked, “Then what baptism did you receive?”

“John’s baptism,” they replied.

⁴Paul said, “John’s baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus.”

⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. ⁷There were about twelve men in all.

Luke 3:7-22 Responsive

⁷John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ⁹The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰**“What should we do then?” the crowd asked.**

¹¹John answered, “Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.”

¹²**Even tax collectors came to be baptized. “Teacher,” they asked, “what should we do?”**

¹³“Don’t collect any more than you are required to,” he told them.

¹⁴**Then some soldiers asked him, “And what should we do?”**

He replied, “Don’t extort money and don’t accuse people falsely—be content with your pay.”

¹⁵**The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah.**

¹⁶John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” ¹⁸And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.

¹⁹But when John rebuked Herod the tetrarch because of his marriage to Herodias, his brother’s wife, and all the other evil things he had done, ²⁰Herod added this to them all: He locked John up in prison.

²¹When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened ²²and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

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

Sermon: Why Was Jesus Baptized by John?

Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: The Lord’s My Shepherd

† Responsive Litany (from Ephesians 5)

Pastor: Follow God’s example, therefore, as dearly loved children 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.

People: **For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of the light and find out what pleases the Lord.**

Pastor: Be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit.

Unison: **Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

† Benediction

Welcome, Announcements and Prayers

Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

Dr. Eric Roth, Director of Music

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 the guest book in the narthex and allow us to greet you. Our normal fellowship time after the service has been postponed due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

In Need of Prayer

Bill Rector	Anastasia, grand-daughter of Metzners
Brenda Cook	Alanna, daughter of Bruce Terras's manager. Auto accident, severe injuries
Jen Freese, health, Maya's health, and training of new service dog	CeCe, friend of Elaine Clay, lupus and cancer
Priscilla Smith, Pat's Grad's sister	Brenda's sister, healing from eye surgery
Dennis & Ellen Dorman	Marie Johnson, Linda & Ray Johnson's daughter
Cindy Bemis	Nicki, Donna's neighbor, new cancer
Kent's sister Lori	Keely & Josh, daughter/son-in-law of Linda Johnson
George Donoian and family	Julie, dear friend of Chernenkoffs
Gail Nastwold	Alberta Weaver, at home
Sally Freese, shingles pain	Reginia Higgs
Lyndsay, daughter of the Sharpes	Avery, niece of Teresa Lisowki
Don Rende's brother, Bob	Tracy, friend of Bunny Rector
David, friend of Cindy Taaffee	Randy, friend of Bodnars
Jim, Gary, Marion, friends of Szczepaneks	Tim, cancer, nephew of Janet Young
Linda Szczepanek and other family members	Lauren, niece of Ron Lisowski
Cody, grandson of Carolyn Krueger	Kelly Rende's co-worker, new cancer
Colleen, friend of Kelly Rende	Jim, Kelly Rende's good friend. Loss of mother
Nancy, friend of Doaks	Kelly Rende, Linda Szczepanek, Sam Hutson, and Dormans: grief
Yvonne Ray, assisted living	Kristen, Clay family friend, for successful pregnancy
Mark, cousin of Elaine Clay	Jonathan McGuire, newly named senior pastor in MS
Tina, Pastor McGuire's niece	

Healthcare Workers: Ray Johnson, Angie O'Dell, Karen Isles, Krystal Murphy—for protection from Covid; strength for the long hours, and opportunities for sharing Christ.

Please also pray for people who are struggling over mental health issues, particularly brought on by the stresses of Covid-19, unemployment, etc.

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

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

Pray for God's protection of girls/women and intervention to stop the human sex trafficking in our state.

Monthly need: \$17,083.00

Giving to general fund last week: \$2,135

Giving to general fund in Jan: \$2,135

Giving to mortgage in January: \$110

Heidelberg Catechism: Q 124. What does the third request in the Lord's Prayer mean? A. *Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven* means, help us and all men to reject their own wills and to obey your will without any back talk. Your will alone is good.

Help everyone carry out the work he is called to as willingly and faithfully as the angels in heaven.



Note: There has been a concern expressed during this Covid-19 surge that some people are not using their masks correctly. For the sake of your brothers and sisters, please cover your mouth and nose. It is another way to love one another.

The Ladies' Bible Study will meet again in this new year, practicing social distancing, on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome. A new study of *2 Peter and Jude* will begin **January 10, 2021**. Contact Judy Dellinger for details. In addition, if you are unable to attend the in-person study, Elaine Clay is leading the same study, via Zoom, Wednesday afternoons. If you want to join the group, contact Elaine.

Lost & Found: Did you misplace your light jacket this fall? It appears to belong to a gentleman, is navy blue, Columbia brand, size large. You will find it hanging in the narthex.