



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

23455 Novi Road
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Pastor: Dr. James N. McGuire
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Welcome to Worship

JANUARY 31, 2021

Gathering Song: Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

† Call to Worship (from Psalm 130)

Pastor: Out of the depths I cry to you, LORD; Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.

People: If you, LORD, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

Pastor: I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope.

Unison: Put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption. He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

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† Hymn: Crown Him with Many Crowns (page 8)

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

First Scripture Readings

(Reader: Brenda Cook)

Deuteronomy 18:14-22 Responsive

¹⁴The nations you will dispossess listen to those who practice sorcery or divination. But as for you, the LORD your God has not permitted you to do so.

¹⁵**The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him.**

¹⁶For this is what you asked of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, "Let us not hear the voice of the LORD our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die."

¹⁷**The LORD said to me: "What they say is good. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him.**

¹⁹I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name. ²⁰But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death.

²¹**You may say to yourselves, "How can we know when a message has not been spoken by the LORD?"**

²²If what a prophet proclaims in the name of the LORD does not take place or come true, that is a message the LORD has not spoken. That prophet has spoken presumptuously, so do not be alarmed.

Psalms 111 Responsive

¹Praise the LORD.

I will extol the LORD with all my heart
in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

²**Great are the works of the LORD;
they are pondered by all who delight in them.**

³Glorious and majestic are his deeds,
and his righteousness endures forever.

⁴He has caused his wonders to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and compassionate.

⁵**He provides food for those who fear him;
he remembers his covenant forever.**

⁶He has shown his people the power of his works,
giving them the lands of other nations.

⁷**The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy.**

⁸**They are established for ever and ever,
enacted in faithfulness and uprightness.**

⁷But not everyone possesses this knowledge. Some people are still so accustomed to idols that when they eat sacrificial food they think of it as having been sacrificed to a god, and since their conscience is weak, it is defiled.

⁸But food does not bring us near to God; we are no worse if we do not eat, and no better if we do.

⁹Be careful, however, that the exercise of your rights does not become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if someone with a weak conscience sees you, with all your knowledge, eating in an idol's temple, won't that person be emboldened to eat what is sacrificed to idols?

¹¹So this weak brother or sister, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge. ¹²When you sin against them in this way and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ.

¹³Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother or sister to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause them to fall.

Mark 1:9-34 Responsive

⁹At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

¹²At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, ¹³and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

¹⁴After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵"The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

¹⁶As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." ¹⁸At once they left their nets and followed him.

¹⁹When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. ²⁰Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

²¹They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. ²²The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law.

²³Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, ²⁴"What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!"

²⁵"Be quiet!" said Jesus sternly. "Come out of him!" ²⁶The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

²⁷The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him." ²⁸News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

²⁹As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. ³⁰Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they immediately told Jesus about her. ³¹So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them.

³²That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. ³³The whole town gathered at the door, ³⁴and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Sermon: The Absolute Adequacy of Jesus to be the Christ

Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: Satisfied

† Responsive Litany (Philippians 2:8-11; Revelation 5:13b ESV)

Pastor: And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

People: Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the Name that is above every name,

Pastor: so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

People: and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Unison: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever." Amen.

† 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

Bert Schwab
Bill Rector
Brenda Cook, health
Cindy Taaffee
Jen Freese, health, Maya's health,
Dennis & Ellen Dorman
Cindy Bemis
Kent's sister, Lori
George Donoian and family
Gail Nastwold
John Dellinger's sister, Nancy
Don Rende's brother, Bob
David, friend of Cindy Taaffee
Mark, cousin of Elaine Clay, heart surgery
Jim, Gary, Marion, friends of Szczepaneks
Linda Szczepanek
Cody, grandson of Carolyn Krueger
Colleen, friend of Kelly Rende
Kelly Rende's friend, Paul whose wife died

Yvonne Ray, assisted living
Alberta Weaver, at home
John Dellinger's friend with Parkinson's
Chet Doak, surgery last Friday
Anastasia, for continuing pregnancy
Alanna, daughter of Bruce Terras's manager
Marie Johnson, Linda & Ray Johnson's daughter
Keely & Josh, daughter/son-in-law of Linda Johnson
Julie, dear friend of Chernenkoffs
Nicki, Donna's neighbor, new cancer
Avery, niece of Teresa Lisowki
Brenda's sister, Joyce, eye surgery 2.25.21
Kelly Rende's co-worker, new cancer
Grieving families with recent loss of loved ones: Kelly Rende, Linda Szczepanek, Sam Hutson, Dormans
Kristen, Clay family friend, for successful pregnancy
April's friend Kristen, Kristen's mom with brain cancer---for comfort, salvation
Judy Carr, successful decision from insurance co.

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: \$3,875
Giving to general fund in January: \$13,605
Giving to mortgage in January: \$785

Heidelberg Catechism: 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. Our sworn enemies—the devil, the world, and our own flesh—never stop attacking us. And so, Lord, 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 finally win the complete victory.

Pray for the persecuted church around the world.



Stories abound about the restrictions and physical persecution of our Christian brothers and sisters in many places throughout the world. They need the strength of our prayers. Check it out!

- The most oppressive country in the world for Christians is North Korea. Please pray especially for those in prison camps, suffering from Covid-19 and a dire shortage of food. It is estimated that there are 300,000 believers in N. Korea.
- Churches in China, India, and Nigeria continue to be under increasing stress and persecution, especially pastors.
- African and South American countries are experiencing severe pandemic effects with limited resources.

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Pray for those we support: the Fogelbachs, Tim North, Marcus Liew, Enrique Cepeda, CDC, Open Door, Methodist Children's Home, and more.

Pray for a local ministry, **Central Detroit Christian Community Development (CDC)** serving the poor in Zip code 48202. Fikre Prince is the new director; Lisa Johanan is now housing director. This is a wonderful ministry to little ones, all ages of children, as well as adults, providing tutoring, a medical clinic, help with housing, training teens in job skills, a laundromat, fresh produce, and more.

Open Door is a ministry to homeless and hungry centered at Fort Street Presbyterian. They serve hundreds of meals, a place for a shower, and warm clean clothes for destitute in the area.