



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP

FEBRUARY 26, 2023

Gathering Song: Children of the Heavenly Father

† 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.

† Hymn: For the Beauty of the Earth

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

Luke 9:46-48 Responsive

⁴⁶An argument started among the disciples as to which of them would be the greatest. ⁴⁷Jesus, knowing their thoughts, took a little child and had him stand beside him.

⁴⁸**Then he said to them, “Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. For it is the one who is least among you all who is the greatest.”**

Mark 10:13-16 Responsive

¹³People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴When Jesus saw this, he was indignant.

He said to them, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.”

¹⁶And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

† 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: Jesus Loves the Little Children

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: Praise the Name of Jesus/All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name

Arr: Mark Hayes

Musician: Yuta Sugano

† 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

Mark 9:35-37 Responsive

³⁵ Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, “Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all.”

³⁶ He took a little child whom he placed among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷ “Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.”

Luke 18:15-17 Responsive

¹⁵ People were also bringing babies to Jesus for him to place his hands on them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them.

¹⁶ But Jesus called the children to him and said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

¹⁷ Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Bring Me the Children

Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: Jesus Loves Me

† 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 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

A rectangular banner with a gradient background transitioning from light green on the left to dark blue on the right. The word "ANNOUNCEMENT" is written in white, bold, uppercase letters in the center.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Outcome of Annual Congregation Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting was held last Sunday for consideration of the budget for 2023. Questions were answered and a ballot vote was taken. The budget was adopted.

Volunteers Needed

Please consider volunteering to work with the children during the time parents are in the worship service. Our goal is to teach them the word of God that they will come to love Jesus. A simple curriculum is available. Sign up in the Narthex. Even once a month would be appreciated. Please see Donna Whiting if interested. If teaching is not your gift, consider being a helper.

We have opened the Baby Nursery, too. Primarily for babies and toddlers, it is a quiet place. Would you be a stand-by person for the times when little ones come with their families? Also sign up in the Narthex.

Ladies Bible Study Meets on Tuesday Mornings

Every week eight or ten ladies meet for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. They meet here at the church at 10 am for about an hour. If you are interested, please see Judy Dellinger, or call her.

Ladies Zoom Bible Study Meets on Wednesday Afternoon

Every week a group of ladies meet for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. They meet via Zoom at 3 pm for about 90 minutes. If you are interested, please see Elaine Clay, or call her.

Working Toward a New Church Directory

You may have noticed that our church directory is out-of-date. Plans are underway to replace it. A pressing need is someone who can photograph people/families who are new or have had significant changes in their family situation. If you are good at this and can help, please let Bev know. We do not plan to engage a directory company.

<p style="color: red; margin: 0;">Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. Luke 18:1ff</p>	
<p>In Need of Prayer Janet Young, hospice, continued peace Jacob Phillips, fractured toe, off work Brenda's brother, Bernard, kidney, hope Brenda for encouragement, health Bunny Rector, transition new residence Jennifer, depression, hope Ed Steele, for mobility, back pain Pat Grad's, sister, Priscilla, health Jane Kirkpatrick, encouragement Darlene Little, heart and dialysis Ron's brother, HIV, needs housing Jacob, toe fracture, off work Maureen, dear friend of Lisa Lochrie Reagan, child with seizures</p> <p><u>For those who grieve:</u> Donna Whiting, sister Bunny Rector, husband Ellen Dorman, husband Kelly Rende, wife Sam Hutson, wife Linda Szczepanek, multiple losses Engebretsons, daughter, brother Hartigs, son Electrica Woods, sister Linda Davis, 4 family members in 2 yrs. Reginia Higgs, mother</p>	<p>In Need of Prayer Ray Boone, completed chemo, pray for strength Benita Puzzuoli, strength, ongoing treatments Linda & Ray Johnson's son Ryan, for health Felicia, breast cancer, relative of Sean Murphy Sean's family in death of Martin Domingo, needs transplants; LaShell cancer Emily, friend of Isles family, salvation and employment Don Rende's brother, Bob, failing health Sean's aunt & uncle, Sonja/Ronnie, heavy caregiving Rob, friend of Jen Freese, in nursing home, for salvation Rachel Hopson, deliverance from worldly ways (Sean) Debbie, Pam Paglino's friend, ovarian cancer returned Krystal's cousin, heart valve surgery, doing well Donna Whiting's sister's family in grief Judy Vershave and family in Florida Cindi Taaffee's godson, Michael, for employment Sheila, Isles family, burns, family care Isles' Aunt Rose has a placement for care, Mar 3 Lance, brother-in-law of Isles, liver failure Sue Isles, sister-in-law of Ron/Karen, on chemo Pray for Nate Lochrie, a fire fighter, for safety each day Pray for the survivors of earthquake in Turkey/Syria Pray for students and families at Michigan State</p>
<p>General Fund giving last week: \$1,975 Total giving in February: \$11,865</p> <p>Thank you for your faithful giving to the Lord.</p>	<p>Our congregation is happy to pray for your prayer requests. Please let Bev know when prayers are answered and the name can be removed. Thank you.</p>
<p>Heidelberg Catechism Q. 96. What is Idolatry? A. Idolatry is having of inventing something in which one trusts in place of or alongside of the only true God, who has revealed himself in his Word.</p>	