



**CHRIST**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

**April 2, 2023**

**Gathering Song: Ten Thousand Reasons**

**† Call to Worship (Psalm 9:1,2 7-10)**

**Pastor:** I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

**People:** I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High.

**Pastor:** The Lord reigns forever; he has established his throne for judgment. He rules the world in righteousness and judges the peoples with equity.

**People:** The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.

**Unison:** Those who know your name trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you.

**† Hymn: Praise, My Soul, the King of Glory**

**† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer**

## First Scripture Readings

### Colossians 2:6-15 Responsive

<sup>6</sup>So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, <sup>7</sup>rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

**<sup>8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.**

<sup>9</sup>For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, <sup>10</sup>and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority. <sup>11</sup>In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands.

**Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, <sup>12</sup>having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.**

<sup>13</sup>When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, <sup>14</sup>having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross.

**<sup>15</sup>And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.**

### John 6:35-40 Unison

**<sup>35</sup>Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. <sup>36</sup>But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe.**

**<sup>37</sup>All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. <sup>38</sup>For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me.**

**<sup>39</sup>And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day.**

**<sup>40</sup>For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day."**

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 Wonder of It All**  
**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory:**

**Yuta Sugano, Musician**

**† 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**

**Romans 5:1-11 Responsive**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.

<sup>3</sup>**Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup>perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup>And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.**

<sup>6</sup>You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.

<sup>7</sup>**Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die.<sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

<sup>9</sup>Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!

<sup>10</sup>**For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!**

<sup>11</sup> **Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.**

## Hebrews 10:11-25 Responsive

<sup>11</sup> Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. <sup>12</sup> But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, <sup>13</sup> and since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool. <sup>14</sup> For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

<sup>15</sup> **The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First he says:**

<sup>16</sup> **“This is the covenant I will make with them  
after that time, says the Lord.  
I will put my laws in their hearts,  
and I will write them on their minds.**

<sup>1</sup> Then he adds:

“Their sins and lawless acts  
I will remember no more.”

<sup>18</sup> **And where these have been forgiven, sacrifice for sin is no longer necessary.**

<sup>19</sup> Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup> by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, <sup>21</sup> and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

<sup>22</sup> **let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.**

<sup>23</sup> Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup> And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup> not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon: What about Purgatory?

Third in a Series: What is the Biblical View of Life After Death?

Dr. James N. McGuire

## **The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

### **The Apostle's 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)**

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**

## **Pastoral Prayer**

### **† Hymn: I'll Fly Away**

### **† Responsive Litany (Hebrews 4:14-16)**

**Pastor:** Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.

**People:** For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

**Unison:** Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

## **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, uppercase, sans-serif font in the center.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

It still feels like winter, but **Easter** is next week, April 9. In preparation for Easter Sunday, April 9, we will again decorate the sanctuary with lovely lilies. Call the office if you wish to purchase a lily. \$10 each. This is the final day to place an order.

Our **Tenebrae Service** (Maundy Thursday) will be held on, Thursday, April 6, 2023, at 6 p.m. This is always a meaningful service you won't want to miss.

### **Road Work on Novi Road**

After removing a lot of trees, the Road Commission of Oakland County is now beginning the serious work toward replacing Novi Road from 10 Mile Road to just beyond 9 Mile Road. We expect to have access to the church parking lot. You may wish to consider leaving home a little earlier because of the road work.

### **Working Toward a New Church Directory**

You may have noticed that our church directory is out-of-date. Plans are underway to replace it. Be watching over the next few weeks for opportunities to update or add your photo, as well as to update your information for the directory/database.

Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. Luke 18:1ff

**In Need of Prayer**

Janet Young, hospice, continued peace  
 Brenda's brother, Bernard, save foot  
 Bunny Rector, transition new residence  
 Jennifer's dad, for cancer care  
 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  
 Maureen, dear friend of Lisa Lochrie  
 Reagan, child with seizures  
 Kay, hospice, for peace, pain control  
 Scott, son of Metzners, serious surgery  
 Ralph Klein, successful knee surgery

**For those who grieve:**

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.  
 Lucy McGuire, niece, Joanna  
 Teresa Lisowski, Aunt Cookie

**In Need of Prayer**

Paul McGuire, son of Jimmy & Lucy, improving, still in hospital  
 Rosie, daughter of Linda Szczepanek  
 Ray Boone, pray for strength, cancer gone  
 Benita Puzzuoli, chemo helping  
 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, employment  
 Don Rende's brother, Bob, failing health  
 Sean's aunt & uncle, Sonja/Ronnie, heavy caregiving  
 Debbie, Pam Paglino's friend, responded to treatment  
 Donna Whiting's sister's family in grief  
 Judy Vershave, return of cancer and family in Florida  
 Cindi Taaffee's godson, Michael, for employment  
 Lance, brother-in-law of Isles, liver failure  
 Sue Isles, sister-in-law of Ron/Karen, on chemo  
 Jalene Rende, MS flareup, husband Kirk caring for her  
 Lee Paglino, young mom, breast cancer, radiation  
 Chuck, Step-father of Lisa, family death, despondent  
 Karen Isles, injured hip  
 Jack, young truck driver, killed in accident. Wife pregnant.  
 Pray for Caregivers of family members who are ill

Thank you for your faithful giving to the Lord.

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.

**Heidelberg Catechism Q. 100.** Is blasphemy of God's name by swearing and cursing really such serious sin that God is angry also with those who do not do all they can to help prevent it and forbid it? **A.** Yes, indeed. No sin is greater, no sin make God more angry than blaspheming his name. That is why he commanded the death penalty for it. (Leviticus 24:10-17)