



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

23455 Novi Road
Novi, MI 48375
Dr. James N. McGuire

Welcome to Worship

JULY 3, 2022

Gathering Song: Great is Thy Faithfulness

† Call to Worship (from Psalm 8)

Pastor: LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

People: When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

Pastor: what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?

People: You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor.

Unison: LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

†Hymn: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

First Scripture Readings

Joshua 2:1-21

¹Then Joshua son of Nun secretly sent two spies from Shittim. “Go, look over the land,” he said, “especially Jericho.” So they went and entered the house of a prostitute named Rahab and stayed there.

²**The king of Jericho was told, “Look, some of the Israelites have come here tonight to spy out the land.”** ³**So the king of Jericho sent this message to Rahab: “Bring out the men who came to you and entered your house, because they have come to spy out the whole land.”**

⁴But the woman had taken the two men and hidden them. She said, “Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they had come from. ⁵At dusk, when it was time to close the city gate, they left. I don’t know which way they went. Go after them quickly. You may catch up with them.”

⁶**(But she had taken them up to the roof and hidden them under the stalks of flax she had laid out on the roof.)** ⁷**So the men set out in pursuit of the spies on the road that leads to the fords of the Jordan, and as soon as the pursuers had gone out, the gate was shut.**

⁸Before the spies lay down for the night, she went up on the roof ⁹and said to them, “I know that the LORD has given you this land and that a great fear of you has fallen on us, so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you. ¹⁰We have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to Sihon and Og, the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan, whom you completely destroyed. ¹¹When we heard of it, our hearts melted in fear and everyone’s courage failed because of you, for the LORD your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below.

¹²**“Now then, please swear to me by the LORD that you will show kindness to my family, because I have shown kindness to you. Give me a sure sign ¹³that you will spare the lives of my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them—and that you will save us from death.”**

¹⁴“Our lives for your lives!” the men assured her. “If you don’t tell what we are doing, we will treat you kindly and faithfully when the LORD gives us the land.”

¹⁵**So she let them down by a rope through the window, for the house she lived in was part of the city wall.** ¹⁶**She said to them, “Go to the hills so the pursuers will not find you. Hide yourselves there three days until they return, and then go on your way.”**

¹⁷Now the men had said to her, “This oath you made us swear will not be binding on us ¹⁸unless, when we enter the land, you have tied this scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and unless you have brought your father and mother, your brothers and all your family into your house.

¹⁹**If any of them go outside your house into the street, their blood will be on their own heads; we will not be responsible. As for those who are in the house with you, their blood will be on our head if a hand is laid on them.** ²⁰**But if you tell what we are doing, we will be released from the oath you made us swear.”**

²¹“Agreed,” she replied. “Let it be as you say.”

So she sent them away, and they departed. And she tied the scarlet cord in the window.

1 Corinthians 1:18-25 (Unison)

¹⁸For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written:

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise;
the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.”

²⁰Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. ²²Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

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: All Creatures of Our God and King

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Pianist: Linda Johnson

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

James 2:1-14 Responsive

¹ My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. ² Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. ³ If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," ⁴ have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

⁵ Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? ⁶ But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? ⁷ Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

⁸ If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. ⁹ But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹ For he who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.

¹² Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom,¹³ because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them?

Hebrews 11:24-31 Responsive

²⁴ By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. ²⁵ He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

²⁶ He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.

²⁷ By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. ²⁸ By faith he kept the Passover and the application of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.

²⁹ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned.

³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the army had marched around them for seven days.

³¹ By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon: The Magnificent Grace of God: Rahab

Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

†Hymn: In Christ There is No East or West

† Responsive Litany (Titus 2:11-14)

Pastor: For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people.

People: It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age,

Pastor: while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,

Unison: who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

Benediction

Welcome, Announcements, and Prayers

Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Romans 12:12

<p>In Need of Prayer Karen Isles, recovering from surgery, 6/8 Patty Bodnar, recovering surgery Janet Young, in rehab after falls Cheri Boone’s friend Dot, fall injuries Janet Evans, adjustment to move to AZ Felicia, new diagnosis breast cancer Relative of Sean Murphy Jen Freese, pain, possible surgery Alberta Weaver, home Reginia Higgs as caregiver to Alberta Brenda Cook, blood pressure, kidney poor Brenda’s brother, Bernard, kidney failing Brenda’s sister, Joyce, eye cancer Don Rende’s brother, Bob, poor health David, friend of Cindy Taaffee Marion, Dan ,friends of L.Szczepanek Grace, injuries from a fall, per Gail N. Ed Steele for mobility, back pain Al Lindsay, chemotherapy for lung cancer Boone’s friend caring for invalid, age 102</p>	<p>In Need of Prayer Mark (18) a-fib, Justin (16) knee surgery, grandsons of Linda Szczepanek Marlene, relative of Gail Nastwold, eye cancer Chris with stage 4 cancer, neighbor of Linda Szczpanek Lauren, niece of Ron Lisowski Alanna, serious surgery for auto injuries Joanna, niece of Lucy McGuire, a young mom, cancer Richard Abraham, son-in-law of Hartigs, improving Margaret, Wilsons’ friend, brain tumor Keely, daughter of Linda Johnson, husband at sea 6 months Darlene Little, heart health John, friend of Cindy Taaffee, pancreatic cancer Karen Isles, sister-in-law, completing chemo for cancer Delilah, young relative of Isles family Linda Johnson’s mother, advanced dementia Salvation for Edward, Laura, Nick Ken, son-in-law of Bev, Parkinson’s, pain, walking problem Jane Kirkpatrick Peter & Renate Hartig in their grief Pray for the war in Ukraine</p>
<p>Audio Sermons can be heard on the church website: http://christ-presbyterianchurch.org</p>	<p>Our Military: Metzner’s grandson; Bryan, relative of Teresa Lisowski, deployed to Iraq.</p>
<p>Monthly Budget Need: \$18,333</p>	<p>Our deepest sympathy to Eleatrice Woods in the sudden death of her sister, Angela, on June 7, 2022 .</p>

“All we have accomplished, you have done for us, O LORD,” Isaiah 26:12.

Dear Christian people,

An extraordinary thing has happened to us this week: the Lord has allowed us to pay off our Church mortgage several years early. We are debt free! With the favor of our Heavenly Father, you gave generously, mostly gifts in small amounts, which we steadily paid on the principal of the loan. All our facilities are in good working condition, and are kept in order by your volunteer efforts.

We are not a large church, but we have a large heart. Only our Heavenly Father’s will can create such a Church, so we give thanks to Him alone through Whom every good and perfect gift comes.

Many among us contracted COVID which took the lives of too many family and friends. The last two years have been difficult for everyone and even crushing for some. But we who remain join together in work and worship to sing of the saving grace of our Lord and His everlasting love.

Let us sing of His mercies to sinners, for He has poured out His unfailing love on us through Jesus Christ, and tell of all His wonderful deeds.

Hartig Service Planned

As you likely know, Peter and Renate Hartig’s son died recently, while all were in Germany. They will be returning home this week and will have a memorial service for Gregor.

The service will be held this coming Saturday, June 25, 2020, at 11 am at Christ Presbyterian Church. Your support will be appreciated at this very difficult time.