



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Welcome to Worship

AUGUST 23, 2020

† **Gathering Hymn: All Praise to Our Redeeming Lord**

† **Call to Worship** (Psalm 118:1, 4-6, 28-29)

Pastor: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his love endures forever!

People: Let those who fear the Lord say: "His love endures forever."

Pastor: When hard pressed, I cried to the LORD, he brought me into a spacious place.

People: The Lord is with me, I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?

Pastor: You are my God, and I will praise you; you are my God and I will extol you.

Unison: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his love endures forever!

† **Hymn: Lead On, O King Eternal**

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

First Scripture Readings

(Reader: Carolyn Sharpe)

Exodus 3:1-15 Responsive

¹Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.

²**There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. ³So Moses thought, “I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up.”**

⁴When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!” And Moses said, “Here I am.”

⁵**“Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” ⁶Then he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.**

⁷The LORD said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. ⁸So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites.

⁹**And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. ¹⁰So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.”**

¹¹But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”

¹²**And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”**

¹³Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”

¹⁴**God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”**

¹⁵God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’”

**“This is my name forever,
the name you shall call me
from generation to generation**

Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵ LORD, you understand;
remember me and care for me.
Avenge me on my persecutors.
You are long-suffering—do not take me away;
think of how I suffer reproach for your sake.

¹⁶ **When your words came, I ate them;
they were my joy and my heart's delight,
for I bear your name,
LORD God Almighty.**

¹⁷ I never sat in the company of revelers,
never made merry with them;
I sat alone because your hand was on me
and you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸ **Why is my pain unending
and my wound grievous and incurable?
You are to me like a deceptive brook,
like a spring that fails.**

¹⁹ Therefore this is what the LORD says:

**“If you repent, I will restore you
that you may serve me;
if you utter worthy, not worthless, words,
you will be my spokesman.
Let this people turn to you,
but you must not turn to them.**

I will make you a wall to this people,
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you
but will not overcome you,
for I am with you
to rescue and save you,”
declares the LORD.

²¹ **“I will save you from the hands of the wicked
and deliver you from the grasp of the cruel.”**

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 Praise to Our Redeeming Lord

Offertory	Presentation of Tithes and Offerings	
	Guest Pianist	Linda Johnson
	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: Carolyn Sharpe)

Romans 12:9-21 Responsive

⁹Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

¹¹**Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. ¹²Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. ¹³Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.**

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

¹⁷**Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. ¹⁸If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. ¹⁹Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. ²⁰On the contrary:**

"If your enemy is hungry, feed him;
if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.
In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."

²¹**Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.**

Luke 20:27-40 Responsive

²⁷Some of the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Jesus with a question.²⁸“Teacher,” they said, “Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies and leaves a wife but no children, the man must marry the widow and raise up offspring for his brother.

²⁹**Now there were seven brothers. The first one married a woman and died childless. ³⁰The second ³¹and then the third married her, and in the same way the seven died, leaving no children. ³²Finally, the woman died too. ³³Now then, at the resurrection whose wife will she be, since the seven were married to her?”**

³⁴Jesus replied, “The people of this age marry and are given in marriage. ³⁵But those who are considered worthy of taking part in the age to come and in the resurrection from the dead will neither marry nor be given in marriage, ³⁶and they can no longer die; for they are like the angels. They are God’s children, since they are children of the resurrection.

³⁷**But in the account of the burning bush, even Moses showed that the dead rise, for he calls the Lord ‘the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ ³⁸He is not the God of the dead, but of the living, for to him all are alive.”**

³⁹Some of the teachers of the law responded, “Well said, teacher!” ⁴⁰And no one dared to ask him any more questions.

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

Sermon: The God of the Living

Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: Because He Lives

† Responsive Litany (Romans 8:31-34)

Pastor: What then, shall we say in response to all these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

People: **He who did not spare his only Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?**

Pastor: Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies.

Unison: **Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.**

†Benediction

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

Kent's sister Lori
Kelly, Pat Grad's daughter
George Donoian and family
Carolyn Krueger's son, Chuck
Pat Grad's grandson, Luke age 12
Gail Nastwold
Jen Freese and family
Brett Johnson, Nancy's son
Lyndsay, daughter of the Sharpes
Don Rende's brother, Bob
David, friend of Cindy Taaffee
Bruce, friend of the Clay family
Jim, Gary, Marion, friends of Szczepaneks
Linda Szczepanek
Cody, grandson of Carolyn Krueger
Cheri Boone's sister's family
Bruce Hartley, employment
Colleen, friend of Kelly Rende
Nancy, friend of Doaks
Joy Kull, critically ill (Szczepanek request)

In Need of Prayer

Natalie, Pam's sister for biopsies
Keely & Josh, daughter/son-in-law of Linda Johnson
Julie, dear friend of Chernenkoffs
Alberta Weaver, at home
Reginia Higgs
Avery, niece of Teresa Lisowki
Carol, Bev Thompson's cousin
Tracy, friend of Bunny Rector
Andrew, friend of Bodnars, Guillain-Barré syndrome
Randy, friend of Bodnars
Tim, cancer, nephew of Janet Young
Lauren, niece of Ron Lisowski
Kelly Rende's friend Rich, family care burden
Carolyn Schmierer, assisted living
Yvonne Ray, assisted living
Ella, age 10, diabetes. friend of Metzners
Unbelieving children in our families
Siva, colleague of Brenda Cook visa renewal

Please update this list as appropriate by alerting Bev Thompson.

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

Monthly need: \$17,083.0

Giving to general fund last week: \$4,635

Giving to general fund in August: \$16,910

Giving to mortgage in August: \$1,150

Our Military: Justin, deployed to Qatar; Metzners' grandson; Bryan, 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: \$17,083.0

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Heidelberg Catechism: Q. 108. What is God's will for us in the seventh commandment?

A. God condemns all unchastity. We should therefore thoroughly detest it and, married or single, live decent and chaste lives



We welcome all who have come today to worship the Lord together. Of course, if you are experiencing any symptoms or know that you have recently been exposed to someone with the Covid-19 virus, we ask that you do not remain.

Please remember to maintain the 6-foot social distancing, both indoors and outdoors, and wear a mask. Hand sanitizer is available.

If you are not able to come, we remind you that *Audio Sermons* are available on our website: www.christ-presbyterianchurch.org In addition, Dr. McGuire's video sermons will premier Sunday mornings at 10:30 on Facebook and YouTube. Links will be sent as usual.

Important! Nomination forms for Elders, Deacons and Trustees can be found in the Narthex. Please pray that God will call forth leaders for our congregation to serve in these offices. If you wish to nominate someone, you must ask their consent before handing in the nomination to a current Elder. Nominations are accepted now until September 6. The congregational meeting will be on September 27.

If you have not received your **church directory**, please speak to Bev Thompson.

Included with our directory is the use of an online directory for your PC and/or smart phone. If you did not receive your personal code and instructions, or if you need assistance, please call Bev Thompson @ 734-664-2033.

Pray for Missions

- The church in China is under increasing stress and persecution, especially pastors.
- African and South American countries are experiencing severe pandemic effects w/limited resources.
- CDC (Central Detroit Christian) ministry to this neighborhood has been deeply limited, yet the needs have increased. Unemployment means no ability to pay rent, feed their children, etc. Pray for wisdom and resources for Lisa Johanan and her team.
- Pray for our missionaries: the Fogelbachs, Tim North, Marcus Liew, and Enrique Cepeda.