

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.

The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. James 5:16

In Need of Prayer

Peter Hartig
 Kelly, Pat Grad's daughter
 Priscilla Smith, Pat's sister
 George Donoian and family
 Carolyn Krueger's son, Chuck
 Pat Grad's grandson, Luke age 12
 Gail Nastwold
 Jen Freese and family
 Jen's 100 y/o friend, Adele
 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

In Need of Prayer

Julie, dear friend of Chernenkoffs
 Gloria, sister of Bev Thompson
 Alberta Weaver, at home
 Regina 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

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Kelly Rende and family in the death of his wife, Julia, on July 22, 2020.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the Dormans in the sudden death of her son, Chris, on July 28, 2020.

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

Monthly need: \$17,083.00
Last week's offering: \$5,085
Giving so far in August: \$7,140
Giving toward mortgage In Aug: \$1,200

Our Military: Justin Isles, being 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.*
There is heavy persecution in both India and Nigeria. Also pray for China that the church will be protected and encouraged to share the Gospel in this crisis time.

Heidelberg Catechism: Q. (referring to the sixth commandment) Does this commandment refer only to killing? A. By forbidding murder God teaches us that he hates the root of murder: envy, hatred, anger, vindictiveness. In God's sight all such are murder.



CHRIST
 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Welcome to Worship
AUGUST 16, 2020

Gathering Hymn: O God, Our Help in Ages Past (Bulletin page 8)

† Call to Worship (Psalm 61:1-5,8 ESV)

Pastor: Hear my cry, O God; listen to my prayer.

People: From the ends of the earth I call to you, I call when my heart is faint; lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

Pastor: For you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the enemy.

People: Let me dwell in your tent forever! Let me take refuge under the shelter of your wings!

Pastor: For you, O God, have heard my vows; you have given me the heritage of those who fear your name.

Unison: So I will ever sing in praises to your name, as I perform my vows day after day.

† Hymn: Does Jesus Care? (page 9)

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

† Standing as you are able.

First Scripture Readings

(Reader: Kelly Rende)

Genesis 45:1-8; 50:15-21 Responsive

¹ Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all his attendants, and he cried out, “Have everyone leave my presence!” So there was no one with Joseph when he made himself known to his brothers. ² And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard him, and Pharaoh’s household heard about it.

³ **Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph! Is my father still living?” But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence.**

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come close to me.” When they had done so, he said, “I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! ⁵ And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you.

⁶ **For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping. ⁷ But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance.**

⁸ “So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt.

¹⁵ **When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, “What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?”**

¹⁶ So they sent word to Joseph, saying, “Your father left these instructions before he died: ¹⁷ ‘This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.’

Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father.” When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

¹⁸ His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. “We are your slaves,” they said.

¹⁹ **But Joseph said to them, “Don’t be afraid. Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.**

²¹ So then, don’t be afraid. I will provide for you and your children.” And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

He Leadeth Me

¹This is what the LORD says:

“Maintain justice
and do what is right,
for my salvation is close at hand
and my righteousness will soon be revealed.

²**Blessed is the one who does this—
the person who holds it fast,
who keeps the Sabbath without desecrating it,
and keeps their hands from doing any evil.”**

³Let no foreigner who is bound to the LORD say,
“The LORD will surely exclude me from his people.”
And let no eunuch complain,
“I am only a dry tree.”

⁴**For this is what the LORD says:
“To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths,
who choose what pleases me
and hold fast to my covenant—**

⁵**to them I will give within my temple and its walls
a memorial and a name
better than sons and daughters;
I will give them an everlasting name**

⁶And foreigners who bind themselves to the LORD
to minister to him,
to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it
and who hold fast to my covenant—

⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain
and give them joy in my house of prayer.

**Their burnt offerings and sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house will be called
a house of prayer for all nations.”**

Continued page 4

⁸The Sovereign LORD declares—
he who gathers the exiles of Israel:
“I will gather still others to them
besides those already gathered.”

Does Jesus Care?

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: I Am Not Skilled to Understand (page 10)

Offertory

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings
Guest Pianist
Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.

Romans 11:1-6, 28-36 Responsive

¹ I ask then: Did God reject his people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. ² God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew.

Don't you know what Scripture says in the passage about Elijah—how he appealed to God against Israel: ³“Lord, they have killed your prophets and torn down your altars; I am the only one left, and they are trying to kill me”?

⁴ And what was God's answer to him? “I have reserved for myself seven thousand who have not bowed the knee to Baal.” ⁵ So too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace. ⁶ And if by grace, then it cannot be based on works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.

²⁸ As far as the gospel is concerned, they are enemies for your sake; but as far as election is concerned, they are loved on account of the patriarchs, ²⁹ for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable.

³⁰ Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, ³¹ so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you. ³² For God has bound everyone over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

³³ Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!

**How unsearchable his judgments,
and his paths beyond tracing out!**

**³⁴ “Who has known the mind of the Lord?
Or who has been his counselor?”**

**³⁵ “Who has ever given to God,
that God should repay them?”**

**³⁶ For from him and through him and for him are all things.
To him be the glory forever! Amen.**

Psalm 37:1-13 Responsive

- ¹ Do not fret because of those who are evil
or be envious of those who do wrong;
² for like the grass they will soon wither,
like green plants they will soon die away.
- ³ **Trust in the LORD and do good;
dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.**
- ⁴ **Take delight in the LORD,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.**
- ⁵ Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in him and he will do this:
⁶ He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn,
your vindication like the noonday sun.
- ⁷ **Be still before the LORD
and wait patiently for him;
do not fret when people succeed in their ways,
when they carry out their wicked schemes.**
- ⁸ Refrain from anger and turn from wrath;
do not fret—it leads only to evil.
⁹ For those who are evil will be destroyed,
but those who hope in the LORD will inherit the land.
- ¹⁰ **A little while, and the wicked will be no more;
though you look for them, they will not be found.**
- ¹¹ **But the meek will inherit the land
and enjoy peace and prosperity.**
- ¹² The wicked plot against the righteous
and gnash their teeth at them;
¹³ but the Lord laughs at the wicked,
for he knows their day is coming.

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

Sermon: When Evil Seems to Triumph

Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: **He Leadeth Me** (page 11)

† **Responsive Litany (1 Peter 1:3-6)**

Pastor: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

People: In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance which can never perish, spoil, or fade.

Pastor: This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

Unison: In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials.

† **Benediction**

Welcome, Announcements and Prayers

Pastor: **Dr. James N. McGuire**

Music Director: **Dr. Eric Roth**