



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Welcome to Worship

SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

Gathering Song: Come, Let Us Praise the Lord

† Call to Worship (Psalm 100)

Pastor: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

People: Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Pastor: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

Unison: For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues for all generations.

† Hymn: The Lord's My Shepherd

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

First Scripture Readings

Psalm 19 Responsive

For the director of music. A psalm of David.

¹The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

²Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.

³**They have no speech, they use no words;
no sound is heard from them.**

⁴**Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the world.**

In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.

⁵ It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,
like a champion rejoicing to run his course.

⁶It rises at one end of the heavens
and makes its circuit to the other;
nothing is deprived of its warmth.

⁷**The law of the LORD is perfect,
refreshing the soul.**

**The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy,
making wise the simple.**

⁸**The precepts of the LORD are right,
giving joy to the heart.**

**The commands of the LORD are radiant,
giving light to the eyes.**

⁹**The fear of the LORD is pure,
enduring forever.**

The decrees of the LORD are firm,
and all of them are righteous.

¹⁰They are more precious than gold,
than much pure gold;
they are sweeter than honey,
than honey from the honeycomb.

¹¹**By them your servant is warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.**

¹²**But who can discern their own errors?
Forgive my hidden faults.**

¹³Keep your servant also from willful sins;
may they not rule over me.

Then I will be blameless,
innocent of great transgression.

¹⁴**May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart
be pleasing in your sight,
LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.**

Isaiah 50:4-9a Responsive

⁴The Sovereign LORD has given me a well-instructed tongue,
to know the word that sustains the weary.
He wakens me morning by morning,
wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed.

⁵**The Sovereign LORD has opened my ears;
I have not been rebellious,
I have not turned away.**

⁶I offered my back to those who beat me,
my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard;
I did not hide my face
from mocking and spitting.

⁷**Because the Sovereign LORD helps me
I will not be disgraced.
Therefore have I set my face like flint,
and I know I will not be put to shame.**

⁸He who vindicates me is near.
Who then will bring charges against me?
Let us face each other!

Who is my accuser?
Let him confront me!

^{9a}**It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me.**

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

† Hymn: How Great Thou Art

Offertory

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings
Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee
Guest Pianist: Kyle Webber**

arr: Joel Raney

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 3:1-12 Responsive

¹ Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. ² We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check.

³ When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. ⁴ Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go.

⁵ Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. ⁶ The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

⁷ All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, ⁸ but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

⁹ With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. ¹⁰ Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be.

¹¹ Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? ¹² My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.

Matthew 16:21-28 Responsive

²¹ From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

²² Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!"

²³ Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.

²⁶ What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? ²⁷ For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.

²⁸ "Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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

Sermon
Online: Finding Life in Christ Alone
In Person: The Universal Terms to Follow Christ
Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: It is Well with My Soul

† Responsive Litany (Hebrews 10:19-25)

Pastor: Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body,

People: and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 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.

Pastor: Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

Unison: And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds 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.

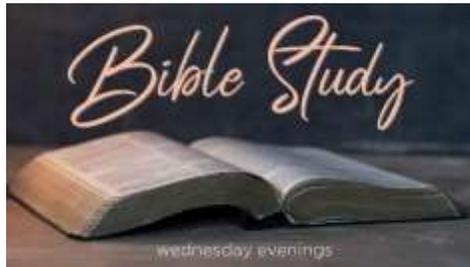
† Benediction

Welcome, Announcements, and Prayers

A graphic with the words "Hello September" in a stylized, multi-colored font. The letters are filled with a gradient of warm colors like orange, yellow, and red, giving it a glowing or fiery appearance. The text is centered on a white background.

Upcoming Congregational Meeting

There will be a Congregational Meeting for the purpose of election of officers on September 26, 2021, immediately following the worship service. Please plan to attend.



The Tuesday Morning Ladies' Bible Study will resume on Tuesday, September 14, at 10 am. Meeting in the Fellowship Hall for about an hour, they plan to study the book of Isaiah. If interested, please see or call Judy Dellinger.

New people are always welcome. If you have never participated in a small group study, you might give it a try; it is a blessing.

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 our guest book. Our normal fellowship time after the service has been postponed due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

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

In Need of Prayer

Brenda Cook, health, esp. kidney
 Sean Murphy, illness
 Jen Freese, training of therapy dog
 George Donoian
 Don Rende's brother, Bob
 Don Rende's nephew, Chris
 David, friend of Cindy Taaffee
 Gary, Marion, Dan, friends of L.Szczepanek
 Alberta Weaver, for stability
 Linda Szczepanek, and grandson, Justin
 Dot, friend of Cheri Boone
 Dan, friend of Chet Doak
 Pam Paglino's friend, recurrence of cancer
 Ken Lindsay's brother, Al
 Ray Boone, recent surgery
 Christy, daughter of Dellingers, heart
 Dennis, friend of Puzzuolis, hard times
 Carmen, friend of Gail, fall with injuries
 Linda Johnson's parents
 Judy Carr's sister, stroke, seeks guardian
 Bill Sackett, grief and wellness

In Need of Prayer

Jackie (Charlie) Wilson, death in family
 Richard Abraham, son-in-law of Hartigs, lymphoma
 Christopher, son of Ray Boone, hypertension
 Sue Work's parents, mom in rehab, both need assist living
 Pam Paglino's mother, extensive back surgery
 Rebekah, major heart reconstruction, friend of Judy Carr
 Joanna, niece of Lucy McGuire, a young mom, cancer
 Gail Nastwold, for health, wound healing
 Katalee Deighton, lymphoma
 Joyce, sister of Brenda Cook
 Nancy, friend of Doak's, recurrence of cancer
 Nancy, John Dellinger's sister
 Bruce's co-worker, Tony, bladder cancer
 John, friend of Cindy Taaffee, pancreatic cancer
 Liz, granddaughter of Carolyn Krueger
 For First Responders & Border Patrol, safety & wisdom
 Joan, dear friend of Janet Evans
 Scott MacKenzie, son of Jim & Patty MacKenzie
 Belinda Williams, trip to India, discerning God's will.
 Suzanne, friend of Clay family, for wholeness
 For Afghani Christians: protection, strong faith

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

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Ellen and the family of Dennis Dorman who succumbed after a long battle, to cancer on September 3, 2021.

Monthly need: \$17,083.00
Giving to general fund last week: \$6,933
Giving to general fund in Sept: 6,933
Giving to mortgage in September: \$1,157

Our sincere sympathy is also extended to the family of Marylyn Pfeifer: Bill Sackett, daughter Teresa (Ron) Lisowski, grandson Liam Pfeifer and others, on her death on September 5, 2021.

Heidelberg Catechism: Q. 30. Do those who look for their salvation and security in saints, in themselves, or elsewhere really believe in the only Savior Jesus? **A.** No. Although they boast of being his, by their deeds they deny the only savior and deliverer, Jesus. Either Jesus is not a perfect Savior, or those who in true faith accept this savior have in him all they need for their salvation.