



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Welcome to Worship

OCTOBER 17, 2021

Gathering Song: Listen to My Cry, Lord

† Call to Worship (from Psalm 116)

Pastor: I love the Lord, for he heard my voice: he heard my cry for mercy.

People: **Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.**

Pastor: The Lord is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion.

People: **The Lord protects the unwary; when I was brought low, he saved me.**

Unison: **Return to your rest, my soul, for the Lord has been good to you.**

† Hymn: My Soul, Praise the Lord

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

First Scripture Readings

Psalm 91:9-16 Responsive

⁹ If you say, "The LORD is my refuge,"

and you make the Most High your dwelling,

¹⁰ no harm will overtake you,

no disaster will come near your tent.

¹¹ **For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways;**

¹² they will lift you up in their hands,

so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

¹³ You will tread on the lion and the cobra;

you will trample the great lion and the serpent.

¹⁴ **"Because he loves me," says the LORD, "I will rescue him;
I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.**

¹⁵ He will call on me, and I will answer him;

I will be with him in trouble,

I will deliver him and honor him.

¹⁶ **With long life I will satisfy him
and show him my salvation."**

Job 38:1-7, 34-41 Responsive

¹ Then the LORD spoke to Job out of the storm. He said:

² "Who is this that obscures my plans
with words without knowledge?"

³ Brace yourself like a man;

I will question you,

and you shall answer me.

⁴ **"Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation?
Tell me, if you understand.**

⁵ **Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know!
Who stretched a measuring line across it?**

⁶ **On what were its footings set,
or who laid its cornerstone—**

⁷ **while the morning stars sang together
and all the angels shouted for joy?**

³⁴ "Can you raise your voice to the clouds
and cover yourself with a flood of water?"

³⁵ Do you send the lightning bolts on their way?
Do they report to you, 'Here we are'?"

³⁶ Who gives the ibis wisdom
or gives the rooster understanding?

³⁷ **Who has the wisdom to count the clouds?
Who can tip over the water jars of the heavens**

³⁸ **when the dust becomes hard
and the clods of earth stick together?**

³⁹ "Do you hunt the prey for the lioness
and satisfy the hunger of the lions

⁴⁰ when they crouch in their dens
or lie in wait in a thicket?

⁴¹ **Who provides food for the raven
when its young cry out to God
and wander about for lack of food?**

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: Before the Throne of God Above

Offertory **Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**
I Need Thee Every Hour **arr: Lloyd Larson**

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

Matthew 13:18-23 Responsive

¹⁸ “Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: ¹⁹ When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path.

²⁰ **The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹ But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.**

²² The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful.

²³ **But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”**

Hebrews 2:1-4 Responsive

¹ We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away.

² **For since the message spoken through angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, ³ how shall we escape if we ignore so great a salvation?**

This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him.

⁴ **God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.**

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

Sermon: Paying Diligent Attention

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: Approach, My Soul, the Mercy Seat

Responsive Litany (Ephesians 6:10-13)

Pastor: Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

People: Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.

Pastor: For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world

People: and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Unison: Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

Benediction

Welcome, Announcements, and Prayers

Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

Dr. Eric Roth, Director of Music



Notice: The Annual Congregational Meeting for the purpose of approving the 2022 Church Budget will be held on **October 24**, 2021, following the worship service. All members are encouraged to attend and be informed.

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 function
 Jen Freese, training of therapy dog
 George Donoian, in nursing home
 Don Rende's brother, Bob, 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
 Dennis, friend of Puzzuolis, hard times
 Carmen, friend of Gail, fall with injuries
 Keely, daughter of Linda/Ray Johnson,
 preparing alone for move to HI
 Judy Carr's sister, stroke, seeks guardian
 Ed Steele for mobility, back pain
 Kelly Vincent, daughter of Bert Schwab
 Brenda's brother's wife/Covid
 Brenda's co-worker Pat's daughter
 Metzner family, many stressors

In Need of Prayer

Patty Bodnar, reaction to vaccinations
 Bill Howard, pastor's brother-in-law, heart valve surgery
 Margaret, Wilsons' friend, brain tumor
 Richard Abraham, son-in-law of Hartigs, lymphoma
 Joanna, niece of Lucy McGuire, a young mom, cancer
 Christopher, son of Ray Boone, heart
 Sue Work's parents, needing assisted living
 Pam Paglino's mother, extensive back surgery
 Gail Nastwold, for health, wound healing
 Katalee Deighton, lymphoma
 Darlene Little, heart health.
 Nancy, sister of John Dellinger
 Nancy, friend of Doaks, recurrence of cancer
 John, friend of Cindy Taaffee, pancreatic cancer
 Liz, granddaughter of Carolyn Krueger
 Joan, dear friend of Janet Evans
 Scott MacKenzie, son of Jim & Patty MacKenzie
 Suzanne, friend of Clay family, for wholeness
 Rose, friend of Boones, Covid complications
 First Responders & Border Patrol, safety & wisdom
 For those grieving recent loss of a loved one

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

The persecuted church around the world, Afghanis, others

Monthly need: \$17,083.00
Giving to general fund last week: \$3,325
Giving to general fund in Oct: \$8,760
Giving to mortgage in October: \$450

Our Military: Metzner's grandson; and Bryan, relative of Teresa Lisowski, deployed to Iraq. *William, co-worker of Krystal Murphy, recently deployed overseas.*
Pray for God's protection of girls/women and intervention to stop the human sex trafficking in our state.

Heidelberg Catechism: Q 35. What does it mean that he "was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary"? **A.** That the eternal Son of God, who is and remains true and eternal God, took to himself, through the working of the Holy Spirit, from the flesh and blood of the virgin Mary, a truly human nature so that he might become David's true descendant, in all things like us his brothers, except for sin.