



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Welcome to Worship

OCTOBER 24, 2021

Gathering Song: Approach, My Soul, the Mercy Seat

† Call to Worship (from Psalm 46)

Pastor God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

People: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way, and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

Pastor: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.

People: He says, "Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

Unison: The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

† Hymn: A Mighty Fortress is Our God

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

First Scripture Readings

Acts 9:1-20 Responsive

¹ Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem.

³ **As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"**

⁵ "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. ⁶ "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

⁷ The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

¹⁰ **In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias."**

"Yes, Lord," he answered.

¹¹ The Lord told him, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. ¹² In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight."

¹³ **"Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name."**

¹⁵ But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. ¹⁶ I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

¹⁷ **Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.**

Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. ²⁰ At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God.

John 21:15-19 Responsive

¹⁵ When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"

"Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

¹⁶ **Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"**

He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

¹⁷ The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

which you have set in place,
⁴ what is mankind that you are mindful of them,
human beings that you care for them?

⁵ **You have made them a little lower than the angels
and crowned them with glory and honor.**

⁶ You made them rulers over the works of your hands;
you put everything under their feet:

⁷ all flocks and herds,
and the animals of the wild,

⁸ the birds in the sky,
and the fish in the sea,
all that swim the paths of the seas.

⁹ **LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

Hebrew 2:5-18 Responsive

⁵ It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking. ⁶ But there is a place where someone has testified:

“What is mankind that you are mindful of them,
a son of man that you care for him?

⁷ You made them a little lower than the angels;
you crowned them with glory and honor

⁸ and put everything under their feet.”

In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them. ⁹ But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰ In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. ¹¹ Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. ¹² He says,

“I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters;
In the assembly I will sing your praises.”

¹³ **And again,**

“I will put my trust in him.”

And again he says,

“Here am I, and the children God has given me.”

¹⁴ Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

¹⁶ For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants. ¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.

¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

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

Sermon: But We See Jesus
Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: Be Still, My Soul

Responsive Litany (from Hebrews 10)

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,

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

(Annual Meeting)

Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

Dr. Eric Roth, Director of Music

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, fear
 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
 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 and
 multiple Covid illnesses

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
 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
 Cyndi Taffee's friends, sudden loss of 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: \$4,625
Giving to general fund in Oct: \$13,385
Giving to mortgage in October: \$600

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 36. How does the holy conception and birth of Christ benefit you? **A.** He is our mediator, and with his innocence and perfect holiness he removes from God's sight my sin—mine since I was conceived.