



CHRIST  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

# Welcome to Worship

OCTOBER 31, 2021

**Gathering Song: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty**

**† Call to Worship** (Psalm 145:17-21)

**Pastor:** The LORD is righteous in all his ways and faithful in all he does.

**People:** **The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.**

**Pastor:** He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them.

**People:** **The LORD watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy.**

**Unison:** **My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD. Let every creature praise his holy name forever and ever.**

**† Hymn: Great is Thy Faithfulness**

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

## First Scripture Readings Acts 4: 1-12 Responsive

<sup>1</sup> The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people. <sup>2</sup> They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people, proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead.

**<sup>3</sup> They seized Peter and John and, because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day. <sup>4</sup> But many who heard the message believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand.**

<sup>5</sup> The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. <sup>7</sup> They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

**<sup>8</sup> Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! <sup>9</sup> If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, <sup>10</sup> then know this, you and all the people of Israel:**

It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. <sup>11</sup> Jesus is

“the stone you builders rejected,  
which has become the cornerstone.’

**<sup>12</sup> Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”**

## Romans 3:19-31 Responsive

<sup>19</sup> Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God.

**<sup>20</sup> Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.**

<sup>21</sup> But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. <sup>22</sup> This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.

**There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.**

<sup>25</sup> God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— <sup>26</sup> he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

**<sup>27</sup> Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. Because of what law? The law that requires works? No, because of the law that requires faith.**

<sup>28</sup> For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law. <sup>29</sup> Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too, <sup>30</sup> since there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith. <sup>31</sup> Do we, then, nullify the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law.

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



down) <sup>7</sup>“or ‘Who will descend into the deep?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

<sup>8</sup>**But what does it say? “The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,” that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: <sup>9</sup>If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.**

<sup>10</sup>For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

<sup>11</sup>**As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.” <sup>12</sup>For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, <sup>13</sup>for, Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”**

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

### **Sermon: What is Saving Faith?**

Dr. James N. McGuire

### **Pastoral Prayer**

† **Hymn: O Worship the King** (page 11)

### **Responsive Litany** (Romans 8:31-34)

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

**People:** He who did not spare His own 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 who God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one.

**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**

### **Welcome, Announcement, and Prayers**

**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**

Alberta Weaver, in hospital  
 Regina Higgs ,as caregiver for Alberta  
 Brenda Cook, health, esp. kidney function  
 Jen Freese, training of therapy dog, fear  
 Don Rende’s brother, Bob, nephew Chris  
 David, friend of Cindy Taaffee  
 Gary, Marion, Dan, friends of L.Szczepanek  
 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  
 Metzner family, many stressors and  
 multiple Covid illnesses  
 Bill Howard, pastor’s brother-in-law, heart  
 valve surgery

**In Need of Prayer**

George Donoian, in nursing facility  
 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>

Pray for the 17 Michigan missionaries, captured in Haiti.

**Monthly need: \$17,083.00**  
**Giving to general fund last week: \$3,349**  
**Giving to general fund in Oct: \$16,734**  
**Giving to mortgage in October: \$850**

**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 37.** What do you understand by the word “suffered”? A. That during his whole life on earth, but especially at the end, Christ sustained in body and soul, the anger of God against the sin of the whole human race. This he did in order that, by his suffering as the atoning sacrifice, he might set us free, body and soul, from eternal condemnation and gain for us God’s grace, and eternal life.