



**CHRIST**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

23455 Novi Road  
Novi MI 48375  
Pastor: Dr. James N. McGuire  
248-719-7787  
[www.christ-presbyterianchurch.org](http://www.christ-presbyterianchurch.org)

## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

**November 5, 2023**

**Gathering Song: For All the Saints**

**† Call to Worship (Psalm 24:1a-3-6 ESV)**

Pastor: The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein.

**People: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?**

Pastor: He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.

**People: He will receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation.**

**Unison: Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**

**† Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy**

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

## First Scripture Readings

### Acts 17: 1-10 Responsive

<sup>1</sup> When Paul and his companions had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue.<sup>2</sup> As was his custom, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, <sup>3</sup> explaining and proving that the Messiah had to suffer and rise from the dead. “This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Messiah,” he said.

**<sup>4</sup> Some of the Jews were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a large number of God-fearing Greeks and quite a few prominent women.**

<sup>5</sup> But other Jews were jealous; so they rounded up some bad characters from the marketplace, formed a mob and started a riot in the city. They rushed to Jason’s house in search of Paul and Silas in order to bring them out to the crowd.

**<sup>6</sup> But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some other believers before the city officials, shouting: “These men who have caused trouble all over the world have now come here, <sup>7</sup> and Jason has welcomed them into his house. They are all defying Caesar’s decrees, saying that there is another king, one called Jesus.”**

<sup>8</sup> When they heard this, the crowd and the city officials were thrown into turmoil. <sup>9</sup> Then they made Jason and the others post bond and let them go.

**<sup>10</sup> As soon as it was night, the believers sent Paul and Silas away to Berea. On arriving there, they went to the Jewish synagogue.**

### 1 Corinthians 2:6-13; 14:37,38

<sup>6</sup> We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing.

**<sup>7</sup> No, we declare God’s wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. <sup>8</sup> None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.**

<sup>9</sup> However, as it is written:

“What no eye has seen,  
what no ear has heard,  
and what no human mind has conceived” —  
the things God has prepared for those who love him—

<sup>10</sup> these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit.

**The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. <sup>11</sup> For who knows a person’s thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.**

<sup>12</sup> What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us. <sup>13</sup> This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human

wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words.

**<sup>37</sup>If anyone thinks they are a prophet or otherwise gifted by the Spirit, let them acknowledge that what I am writing to you is the Lord's command. <sup>38</sup>But if anyone ignores this, they will themselves be ignored.**

**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: Let All Things Now Living**

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

Offertory: "Be Thou My Vision"

arr: Yuta Sugano

**† 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**

**1 John 4:1-6 Responsive**

<sup>1</sup> Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God:

**Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup>but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.**

<sup>4</sup>You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

<sup>5</sup> **They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them.**

<sup>6</sup> We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.

### **1 Thessalonians 2:1-16 Responsive**

<sup>1</sup> You know, brothers and sisters, that our visit to you was not without results. <sup>2</sup> We had previously suffered and been treated outrageously in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in the face of strong opposition.

<sup>3</sup> **For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. <sup>4</sup> On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts.**

<sup>5</sup> You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed—God is our witness. <sup>6</sup> We were not looking for praise from people, not from you or anyone else, even though as apostles of Christ we could have asserted our authority. <sup>7</sup> Instead, we were like young children among you.

**Just as a nursing mother cares for her children, <sup>8</sup> so we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.**

<sup>9</sup> Surely you remember, brothers and sisters, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you. <sup>10</sup> You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed.

<sup>11</sup> **For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, <sup>12</sup>encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.**

<sup>13</sup> And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe.

<sup>14</sup> **For you, brothers and sisters, became imitators of God's churches in Judea, which are in Christ Jesus: You suffered from your own people the same things those churches suffered from the Jews <sup>15</sup> who killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets and also drove us out. They displease God and are hostile to everyone <sup>16</sup> in their effort to keep us from speaking to the Gentiles so that they may be saved.**

In this way they always heap up their sins to the limit. The wrath of God has come upon them at last.

**This is the Word of the Lord**

Thanks be to God

**Sermon: A Life That Pleases God**

Dr. James N. McGuire

## **The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

Litany on Page 9

### **Pastoral Prayer**

#### **† Hymn: The Solid Rock**

#### **† Responsive Litany (2 Corinthians 10:3-5)**

Pastor: For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does.

**People: The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world.**

Pastor: On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.

**People: We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God,**

**Unison: and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.**

### **Benediction**

#### **Welcome, Announcements, and Prayers**

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

**Musician: Yuta Sugano**

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;  
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:17

**In Need of Prayer**

Rosie, Linda's daughter, grieving  
Brenda, for good health  
Ed, for mobility, back pain  
Nancy, health  
Judy C, full healing of her leg  
Maureen, dear friend of Lisa  
Kay, continued faith, poor prognosis  
Raven, child with seizures  
Pray for caregivers of those who are ill  
Brenda's nephew and his friends for  
encouragement and better jobs, and  
For nephew Glenn: serious illness  
Caroline M's mother, failing  
College students, for continuing faith  
Jennet family, illness and deaths  
Linda S, breathing concerns  
Janet Evans, confusion (in AZ)  
Alicia, niece of Carolyn, cancer Marie,  
employment and comfort  
Bodnar grandson, arm fractures

**In Need of Prayer**

Bryan, nephew of Terras family, cancer diagnosis  
Enrique, continued ICU care in Korea, ? plan to fly him home  
Lisa, Pastor's niece, newly discovered cancer  
Glad, for restored strength  
Benita, improved blood counts and strength  
Jalene, MS flare-up and heart attack, husband caring for her  
Domingo, needs transplants; LaShell, cancer  
Sean's aunt & uncle, heavy caregiving  
Debbie, Pam's friend, improved, more chemo  
Judy V. and family in Florida  
Lance, brother-in-law of Isles family  
Sue, sister-in-law of Isles family  
Ron, age 34, heart failure, needs heart transplant  
Sarah, for strength to carry her load  
Pastor Scott McKee, serious cancer  
Family of Rusty, dear friend of Ron I, sudden death  
Willy, 76, needs Jesus  
Krystal's friend, Lolita, with esophageal cancer.  
Donna's family, 10 year old Gage, and Dan, recent heart  
surgery.

General Fund giving last week: \$2,570  
Total giving in November: \$2,570

Thank you for your faithful giving.

As the Middle Eastern war continues, it has spilled over  
to Lebanon. Please pray for Robbie and Joyce who are  
involved in children and family work, feeding children  
and providing care so parents can work.

**Heidelberg Catechism Q. 128.** What does your conclusion to this prayer mean? **A.** *For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever* means, We have made all these requests of you because, as our all-powerful king, you not only want to, but you are able to give us all that is good; and because of your holy name, and not we ourselves should receive all the praise, forever.

## **The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

### **The Apostle's Creed (Unison)**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **Prayer of Confession (Psalm 51:1-7)**

Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion  
blot out my transgressions.

Wash away all my iniquity  
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is always before me.

Against you, you only have I sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight,  
so that you are proved right when you speak  
and justified when you judge.

Surely I was sinful at birth,  
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

Surely you desire truth in the inner parts;  
you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;  
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

### **Receiving the Elements of the Lord's Supper**

### **Worship Fellowship Time**

Don't rush out after the service. Stay awhile and get to know your church friends over a cup of coffee or tea. Today, there will also be special foods created by Carolyn Sharpe and Jackie Wilson. Visitors are welcome!

### **Thanksgiving Meal—November 19, 2023**

Keeping our tradition, we will celebrate Thanksgiving together following our worship together on November 19. It will be catered, and as always, delicious. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex to indicate your plan to attend. Please sign up.

### **Prayer Cards**

Don't forget to pick up a bright yellow card in the Narthex. Then pray often the verse on the front for the person whose name is on the back.

### **Novi Road**

We eagerly look forward to the completion of the road work in front of the church. Landscaping has been the focus this week, and we look forward to the completion very soon. Thank you for your patience.

### **Ladies' Bible Study**

The Ladies' Bible study continues to meet every Tuesday at 10 am at the church. The current study is the book of Second Corinthians. For more information, you may speak to Judy Dellinger.