



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

23455 Novi Road
Novi MI 48375
Pastor: Dr. James N. McGuire
248-719-7787

Welcome to Worship

NOVEMBER 15, 2020

† **Gathering Hymn: While We Are Waiting, Come**

† **Call to Worship** (Psalm 105:1-5a, 45b ESV)

Pastor: Oh, give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples.

People: Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!

Pastor: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

People: Seek the LORD and his strength, seek his presence continually!

Pastor: Remember the wondrous works he has done.

Unison: Praise the LORD!

† **Hymn: At the Name of Jesus**

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

First Scripture Readings

(Reader: Bruce Terras)

Judges 4:1-7 Responsive

¹ Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD, now that Ehud was dead. ² So the LORD sold them into the hands of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. Sisera, the commander of his army, was based in Harosheth Haggoyim.

³ **Because he had nine hundred chariots fitted with iron and had cruelly oppressed the Israelites for twenty years, they cried to the LORD for help.**

⁴ Now Deborah, a prophet, the wife of Lappidoth, was leading^[a] Israel at that time. ⁵ She held court under the Palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites went up to her to have their disputes decided.

⁶ **She sent for Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali and said to him, “The LORD, the God of Israel, commands you: ‘Go, take with you ten thousand men of Naphtali and Zebulun and lead them up to Mount Tabor.**

⁷ I will lead Sisera, the commander of Jabin’s army, with his chariots and his troops to the Kishon River and give him into your hands.”

Psalm 90:1-12 Responsive

¹ Lord, you have been our dwelling place
throughout all generations.

² **Before the mountains were born
or you brought forth the whole world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

³ You turn people back to dust,
saying, “Return to dust, you mortals.”

⁴ A thousand years in your sight
are like a day that has just gone by,
or like a watch in the night.

⁵ **Yet you sweep people away in the sleep of death—
they are like the new grass of the morning:**

⁶ **In the morning it springs up new,
but by evening it is dry and withered.**

⁷ We are consumed by your anger
and terrified by your indignation.

⁸ **You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your presence.**

⁹ **All our days pass away under your wrath;**

we finish our years with a moan.

¹⁰Our days may come to seventy years,
or eighty, if our strength endures;
yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow,
for they quickly pass, and we fly away.

¹¹**If only we knew the power of your anger!
Your wrath is as great as the fear that is your due.**

¹²**Teach us to number our days,
that we may gain a heart of wisdom.**

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: Soon and Very Soon

Offertory	Presentation of Tithes and Offerings Amazing Grace Prayer of Thanksgiving	arr: Mark Hayes
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† 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

(Reader: Bruce Terras)

Matthew 25:14-30 Responsive

¹⁴“Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey.

¹⁶The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. ¹⁷So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. ¹⁸But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

¹⁹“After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’

²¹“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

²²“The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’

²³“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

²⁴“Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’

²⁶“His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

²⁸“So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. ²⁹For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. ³⁰And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Responsive

¹Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, ²for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

³While people are saying, “Peace and safety,” destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

⁴But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. ⁵You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness.

Continued

⁶So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet.

⁹For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁰He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him.

¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

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

Sermon: Strengthened by the Facts
Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

Responsive Litany (Hebrews 9:24, 26b, 27, 28 NIV)

Pastor: For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.

People: **But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.**

Pastor: And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment,

Unison: **so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.**

† Benediction

Welcome, Announcements 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 the guest book in the narthex and allow us to greet you. Our normal fellowship time after the service has been postponed due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

In Need of Prayer

Pat Grad	CeCe, friend of Elaine Clay, lupus and cancer
Dennis Dorman	Jackie Whiting (Covid) mother-in-law of Donna
Bunny Rector	Priscilla Smith, spine problem
Cindy Bemis	Brenda's sister, healing from eye surgery
Bruce Hartley, employment	Janet Young
Kent's sister Lori	Marie Johnson, Linda & Ray Johnson's daughter
George Donoian and family	Nicki, Donna's neighbor, new cancer
Pat Grad's grandson, Luke age 12	Keely & Josh, daughter/son-in-law of Linda Johnson
Gail Nastwold	Julie, dear friend of Chernenkoffs
Jen Freese, lungs. Maya, and new service dog	Alberta Weaver, at home
Sally Freese, shingles pain	Reginia Higgs
Lyndsay, daughter of the Sharpes	Avery, niece of Teresa Lisowki
Don Rende's brother, Bob	Carol, Bev Thompson's cousin
David, friend of Cindy Taaffee	Tracy, friend of Bunny Rector
Bruce, friend of the Clay family	Randy, friend of Bodnars
Jim, Gary, Marion, friends of Szczepaneks	Tim, cancer, nephew of Janet Young
Linda Szczepanek and other family members	Lauren, niece of Ron Lisowski
Cody, grandson of Carolyn Krueger	Kelly Rende's co-worker, new cancer
Colleen, friend of Kelly Rende	Unbelieving children in our families
Nancy, friend of Doaks	Kelly Rende, Linda Szczepanek, grief
Yvonne Ray, assisted living	Kristen, Clay family friend, for successful pregnancy
Carolyn Schmierer, assisted living	
Mark, cousin of Elaine Clay	

Our sympathy and prayers are extended Linda Szczepanek and family in the death of her husband, Eugene, on October 25, 2020

Please also pray for people who are struggling over mental health issues, particularly brought on by the stresses of Covid-19, unemployment, etc.

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

Monthly need: \$17,083.0

Giving to general fund last week: \$4,545

Giving to general fund in Nov: \$10,335

Giving to mortgage in Nov: \$195

Our Military: Justin, has returned stateside; Metzners' grandson Bryan; and relative of Teresa Lisowski, deployed to Iraq.

Pray for God's protection of girls/women and intervention to stop the human sex trafficking in our state.

Heidelberg Catechism: Q 117. How does God want us to pray so that he will listen to us? A. First, we must pray from the heart to no other than the one true God, who has revealed himself in his Word, asking for everything he has commanded us to ask for. Psalm 145:18-20; John 4:22-24; Rom. 8:26-27; James 1:5; 1 John 5:14-15 (To be continued the following two weeks.)

Remember to pray for all our church members, some of whom are reluctant to come to our worship service. We miss them and pray that they will remain well.



Angel Tree, a ministry of Prison Fellowship has a new procedure this year to accommodate the Covid-19 restrictions. It will be simple to participate, but you will need directions. If you need assistance, or you do not use a computer, please contact Cheri Boone. Her number is in the directory.



Angel Tree is a worthwhile ministry to children whose parents are incarcerated. This gift of kindness given by you is tagged as coming from the parent and is a way to keep the families connected. The cost per child will be \$42.

So far, we have chosen 14 children, about half of our list.

Your Organization's URL: <https://vat.angeltreetool.org/c9a8d238-a084-43bb-8596-a38ab6e799ce>

Your Organization's Access Code: VCZX0

Procedure:

1. First copy Access Code number above
 2. Go to the link that is listed above (URL). You should arrive at the Angel Tree Virtual system
 3. Paste in the copied Access Code
 4. The children will come up for you to view. Go through and pick a girl or boy at ages provided.
 5. Click **choose** on your child, it will turn **green**. Siblings may or may not appear. You may choose one or all for the siblings for extra \$42.00. Tapping **choose** will unselect the child.
 6. Then head to check out.
 7. Enter your payment information. Once confirmed you will receive an e-mail receipt. Please call Cheri Boone if you have any problems.
- Thank you for supporting Angel Tree.

Help with cleaning the church is still needed. Generally, the tasks are limited to vacuuming and dusting. Gail Hershenzon can tell you what is needed and how to do it safely. Email her at gdh148@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your faithful giving throughout this year, despite the pandemic inconvenience. We have been able to meet our budget and re-finance our mortgage at a lower interest rate. God bless you!