

To Our Visitors

We welcome you and hope our worship enables you to draw near to God through Christ Jesus, and that you feel welcome among us. Please sign our guest book in the Narthex.

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

Prayer needs

Brenda, very long work hours, and for improved lab results

Rob, homeless in FL, depressed

Ed, for mobility with less pain

Jen, for healing of ankle, mobility

Emilee, for employment

Marcus Liew, for restoration of vision

Kay, continued faith, poor prognosis

Maureen, dear friend of Lisa

Jean, friend of Cheri, breast cancer

Justin, wisdom re: job

Shiv and Namhui for encouragement

Judy Carr's sister-in-law, near death

Linda S: for improved health, joy

Sean's God-daughter, Brittany.

Pastor Scott McKee

Premature twins at 24 weeks, that they

will thrive, friends of Bodnar family

All who hate their neighbors to be

restrained.

Thank you for your faithful giving.

Giving on March 31: \$4,532

Giving in March: \$20,508

Prayer needs

Elder Ray B, painful legs, disturbed sleep

Benita, for continued normal blood counts

Glad, getting stronger

Bunny, for continued strength

Bryan, nephew of Terras family, cancer diagnosis

Lance and Sue, Isles family with cancers

Krystal's friend, Lolita, esophageal cancer

Noah, age 14, strong faith as he transfers to public school

Lisa, Pastor's niece, multiple cancers

Donna's family, Dan, heart surgery, slow recovery

Janet Evans, in AZ, deterioration in health

College students for continuing faith and clear witness

Pray for strength for caregivers in families of the ill

Pray for our military as they serve in dangerous places

Rene, age 53, breast cancer, for surgery soon

Sue Work, continued lung problems

Family (3 members) of Carolyn K, health issues

Dan, local firefighter, rare kidney disease, friend of Nate

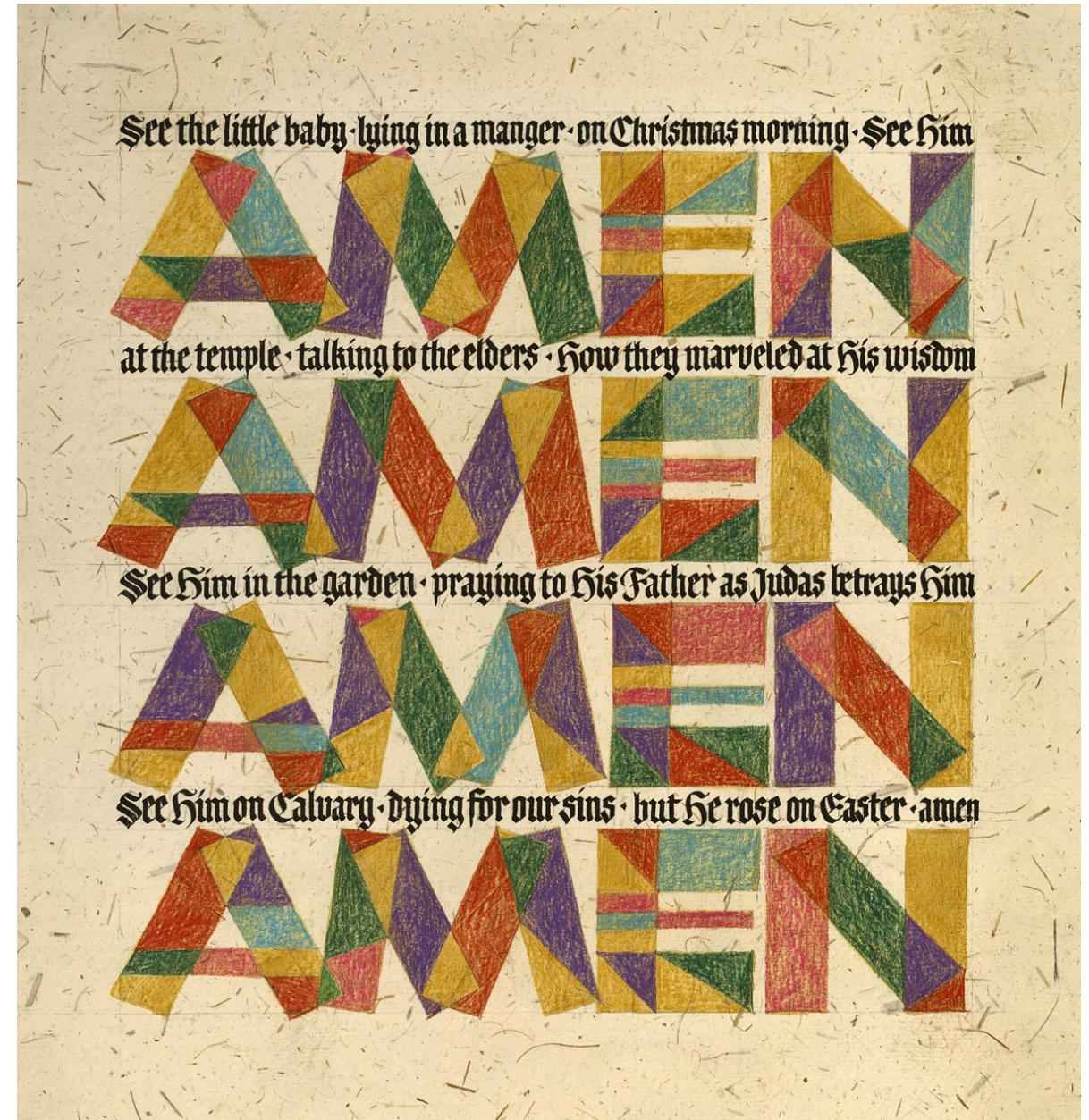
Michael, discovery of bladder cancer

Johnny, injury in a fall, not doing well, and wife, Betty

Our children's Sunday school teachers

Our sympathy to the Lochrie families, in the death of John Waldner, Lisa's father and Nate's grandfather. He died in faith on April 2. Arrangements are pending. We also know of the death of Pam Reynolds, daughter of the late Nancy Hill.

Heidelberg Catechism Q. 19. How do you come to know this? **A.** The holy gospel tells me. God himself began to reveal the gospel already in Paradise; later, he proclaimed it by the holy patriarchs and prophets, and portrayed it by the sacrifices and other ceremonies of the law, finally, he fulfilled it through his own dear Son.



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

APRIL 7, 2024



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

CDC report

Welcome to Worship

April 7, 2024

Gathering Song: Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (page 7)

† Call to Worship (Psalm 130:1-5,7)

Pastor: Out of the depths I cry to you, LORD; hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.

People: If you, LORD, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

Pastor: I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word, I put my hope.

Unison: Put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.

† Hymn: Crown Him with Many Crowns (page 8)

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

Freely, Freely

First Scripture Readings

Reader: Justin Isles

Luke 2:1-7 Responsive

¹ In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

Luke 2:41-52 Responsive

⁴¹ Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. ⁴² When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom.

⁴³ After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. ⁴⁴ Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him.

⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

⁴⁹ "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁵¹ Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

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: Away in a Manger (page 9)

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: Open Our Eyes, Be Thou My Vision

Arr. by Mark Hayes

† 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.

Second Scripture Readings

Hebrews 2:14-17 Responsive

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.

Away in a Manger

Crown Him with Mancy Crowns

Philippians 2:5-11 Responsive

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷ rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.

⁸ **And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!**

⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ **and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

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

The Full Humanity of Jesus
Dr James N. McGuire

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: Freely, Freely (page 10)

Responsive Litany (Colossians 1:15-20)

Pastor: The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created.

People: He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Pastor: For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood shed on the cross.

People: Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.

Pastor: But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation—

Unison: if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel.

Benediction

Welcome, Announcements, and Prayer