

### 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, for brother's health  
Kay, continued faith, poor prognosis  
Maureen, dear friend of Lisa  
Jean, friend of Cheri, breast cancer  
Justin, discernment re: job location  
Pastor Scott McKee, new suffering  
All who hate their neighbors, to be restrained.  
Leona, 5th grader, for confidence  
Elder Jack E, severe vision problems  
Senie E, severe pain in back  
Our children who are learning about Jesus at home and in Sunday School.  
Our children's Sunday school teachers  
Claudine Sordyl's uncle, Richard  
Ellen Dorman, low iron, treatment  
Cheri's friend, Nancy, in hospice  
Sister of Sue Dial  
Bruce: for elderly woman with cancer  
Diane Carr, grief, questions of future

#### Thank you for your faithful giving.

*Giving for August 18: \$3, 075*

*Giving to date in August; \$9,6307*

**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.

#### Prayer need

Chet Doak, had surgery on 8/19  
Carolyn Krueger, moved to senior facility  
Bunny, for continued strength  
Glad, for continued strength  
Lance, liver failure, relative of Isles family  
Krystal's friend, Lolita, esophageal cancer  
Lisa, Pastor's niece, multiple cancers  
Pray for strength for caregivers in families of the ill  
Pray for our military as they serve in dangerous places  
Family (3 members) of Carolyn K, health issues  
Johnny, injury in a fall, not doing well, and wife, Betty  
Emilee for a job, and for several family members' health  
Diane, friend of Cheri, fall with injury,  
Kadyjah's family, for peace  
Pam's father, Nathan, in pain, surgery postponed  
Bev's sister, Gloria, severe pain  
Esmerelda, to be free of cancer (Elaine's relative)  
Sudden death of two cousins of Renate, Elaine's friend  
Friend of Isles family, poor school situation, her fears  
Pray for those who are grieving the loss of loved ones.  
Benita's friend, Sandy, in hospital, several needs

**Ladies' Bible Study has resumed on Tuesday mornings at 10 AM at the church. Studying Romans. For more information, contact Judy Dellinger @ 734-386-6449.**



CHRIST  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

23455 Novi Road  
Novi MI 4837  
Pastor: Dr. James N. McGuire  
248-719-7787

## Welcome to Worship

August 25, 2024

Gathering Song: I Love to Tell the Story (pages 8-9)

†Call to Worship (Psalm 96:1-6)

Pastor: Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

**People: Sing to the Lord, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day.**

Pastor: Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among the peoples.

**People: For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods.**

**Pastor:** For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the Lord made the heavens

**People: Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and glory are in his sanctuary.**

**Unison: Let all creation rejoice before the LORD, for he comes, he comes to judge the earth.**

**He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples in his faithfulness.**

† Hymn: The Church's One Foundation (page 7)

† Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

†Standing as you are able

**First Scripture Readings**  
**Today's Reader: Mark Tarpinian**  
**Jeremiah 29:4-7 Responsive**

**Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus**

<sup>4</sup>This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon:

<sup>5</sup>**“Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. <sup>6</sup>Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease.**

<sup>7</sup>Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.”

**Matthew 25:14-30 Responsive**

<sup>14</sup>“Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. <sup>15</sup>To 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.

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

<sup>19</sup>“After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>The 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.’

<sup>21</sup>**“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!’**

<sup>22</sup>“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.’

<sup>23</sup>**“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!’**

<sup>24</sup>“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. <sup>25</sup>So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’  
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**We've a Story to Tell to the Nations**

<sup>26</sup> “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? <sup>27</sup> Well 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.

<sup>28</sup> ““So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. <sup>29</sup> For 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. <sup>30</sup> And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

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: We've a Story to Tell to the Nations (Page 8)**

**The Sacrament of Baptism**

To be baptized today:  
**Nathanael David Lochrie**  
**Anna Grace Lochrie**

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory: “Holy, Holy, Holy”**

**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.

## Second Scripture Readings

## I Love to Tell the Story—2

### Luke 16:1-13 Responsive

<sup>1</sup> Jesus told his disciples: “There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. <sup>2</sup> So he called him in and asked him, ‘What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.’

<sup>3</sup> **“The manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I’m not strong enough to dig, and I’m ashamed to beg— <sup>4</sup> I know what I’ll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.’**

<sup>5</sup> “So he called in each one of his master’s debtors. He asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’

<sup>6</sup> **“‘Nine hundred gallons of olive oil,’ he replied.**

“The manager told him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred and fifty.’

<sup>7</sup> **“Then he asked the second, ‘And how much do you owe?’**

“‘A thousand bushels of wheat,’ he replied.

**“He told him, ‘Take your bill and make it eight hundred.’**

<sup>8</sup> “The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. <sup>9</sup> I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

<sup>10</sup> **“Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. <sup>11</sup> So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else’s property, who will give you property of your own?**

<sup>13</sup> “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

### I Corinthians 4:1-13 Responsive

This, then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed. <sup>2</sup> Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful. <sup>3</sup> I care very little if I am judged by you or by any human court; indeed, I do not even judge myself.

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## I Love to Tell the Story—1

<sup>4</sup> My conscience is clear, but that does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges me. <sup>5</sup> Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait until the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of the heart. At that time each will receive their praise from God.

<sup>6</sup> Now, brothers and sisters, I have applied these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, so that you may learn from us the meaning of the saying, “Do not go beyond what is written.” Then you will not be puffed up in being a follower of one of us over against the other.

<sup>7</sup> For who makes you different from anyone else? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?

<sup>8</sup> Already you have all you want! Already you have become rich! You have begun to reign—and that without us! How I wish that you really had begun to reign so that we also might reign with you!

<sup>9</sup> For it seems to me that God has put us apostles on display at the end of the procession, like those condemned to die in the arena. We have been made a spectacle to the whole universe, to angels as well as to human beings. <sup>10</sup> We are fools for Christ, but you are so wise in Christ!

We are weak, but you are strong! You are honored, we are dishonored! <sup>11</sup> To this very hour we go hungry and thirsty, we are in rags, we are brutally treated, we are homeless. <sup>12</sup> We work hard with our own hands. When we are cursed, we bless; when we are persecuted, we endure it; <sup>13</sup> when we are slandered, we answer kindly. We have become the scum of the earth, the garbage of the world—right up to this moment.

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

**Sermon: What is a Faithful Steward?**  
Dr. James N. McGuire

**Pastoral Prayer**

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† Hymn: Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus (page

† Responsive Litany (Romans 15:1,2, 4,5, 13)

Pastor: We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. Each of us should please our neighbors for their good, to build them up.

**People: For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.**

Pastor: May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Unison: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

† Benediction

Welcome, Announcements, and Prayers.