



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Welcome to Worship

JUNE 14, 2020

† **Gathering Hymn: Shout to the Lord**

† **Call to Worship** (from Psalm 46)

Pastor: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

People: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way, and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

Pastor: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within her; she will not fail; God will help her at break of day.

People: He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations. I will be exalted in the earth."

Unison: The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

† **Hymn: Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus**

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

First Scripture Readings

(Reader: Jack Engebretson)

Genesis 18:1-15 Responsive

¹ The LORD appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. ² Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby.

When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground.

³ He said, "If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, do not pass your servant by. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under this tree.

⁵ Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way—now that you have come to your servant."

"Very well," they answered, "do as you say."

⁶ So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. "Quick," he said, "get three seahs of the finest flour and knead it and bake some bread."

⁷ Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it. ⁸ He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree.

⁹ "Where is your wife Sarah?" they asked him.

"There, in the tent," he said.

¹⁰ Then one of them said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son."

Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him. ¹¹ Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing.

¹² So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, "After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?"

¹³ Then the LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really have a child, now that I am old?' ¹⁴ Is anything too hard for the LORD? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son."

¹⁵ Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, "I did not laugh."

But he said, "Yes, you did laugh."

Genesis 21:1-7 Responsive

¹ Now the LORD was gracious to Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did for Sarah what he had promised.

² Sarah became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the very time God had promised him. ³ Abraham gave the name Isaac to the son Sarah bore him.

⁴ When his son Isaac was eight days old, Abraham circumcised him, as God commanded him. ⁵ Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.

⁶ Sarah said, "God has brought me laughter, and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me." ⁷ And she added, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

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: Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

Offertory	Presentation of Tithes and Offerings	
	Day by Day	arr: Lloyd Larson
	Prayer of Thanksgiving	

† 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: Ralph Klein)

John 8:31-42, 51-59 Responsive

³¹To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³²Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

³³**They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?"**

³⁴Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

³⁷**I know that you are Abraham's descendants. Yet you are looking for a way to kill me, because you have no room for my word. ³⁸I am telling you what I have seen in the Father's presence, and you are doing what you have heard from your father."**

³⁹"Abraham is our father," they answered.

"If you were Abraham's children," said Jesus, "then you would do what Abraham did. ⁴⁰As it is, you are looking for a way to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do such things. ⁴¹You are doing the works of your own father."

"We are not illegitimate children," they protested. "The only Father we have is God himself."

⁴²**Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I have come here from God. I have not come on my own; God sent me.**

⁵¹Very truly I tell you, whoever obeys my word will never see death."

⁵²**At this they exclaimed, "Now we know that you are demon-possessed! Abraham died and so did the prophets, yet you say that whoever obeys your word will never taste death.**

⁵³Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and so did the prophets. Who do you think you are?"

⁵⁴**Jesus replied, "If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me. ⁵⁵Though you do not know him, I know him. If I said I did not, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and obey his word.**

⁵⁶Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad."

⁵⁷**"You are not yet fifty years old," they said to him, "and you have seen Abraham!"**

⁵⁸"Very truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!" ⁵⁹At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.

Romans 4:16-25 Responsive

¹⁶ Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all.

¹⁷ **As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.**

¹⁸ Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be."

¹⁹ **Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah's womb was also dead.**

²⁰ Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, ²¹ being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.

²² **This is why "it was credited to him as righteousness."** ²³ **The words "it was credited to him" were written not for him alone,** ²⁴ **but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.** ²⁵ **He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.**

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

Sermon: What Does It Mean to Believe on Jesus Christ for Salvation?

Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: Freely, Freely

† Responsive Litany (Ephesians 2:1-5, 8,9)

Pastor: As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

People: All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

Pastor: But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

Unison: For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

†Benediction

† Welcome, Announcements and Prayers

Pastor: Dr. James N. McGuire

Music Director: Dr. Eric Roth

To our visitors: We hope our worship enables you to draw near to God through Christ Jesus, and that you are blessed to share this time with us. We would be happy to hear from you.

During the coronavirus crisis, we will not meet together. Our service will be available on Facebook and YouTube. The links will be sent by email. If we do not have your email, please send it to Bev at cpcnovi@gmail.com.

In Need of Prayer

Cindy Bemis, Engebretson's daughter
Kelly, Pat Grad's daughter
Priscilla Smith, Pat's sister
George Donoian and family
Carolyn Krueger's son, Chuck
Yvonne Ray
Pat Grad's grandson, Luke age 12
Gail Nastwold
Jen Freese, her family and Maya
Jen's 100 y/o friend, Adele
Brett Johnson, Nancy's son
Lyndsay, daughter of the Sharpes
Don Rende's brother, Bob
David, friend of Cindy Taaffee
Bruce, friend of the Clay family
Jim, Gary, Marion, friends of Szczepaneks
Linda Szczepanek
Cody, grandson of Carolyn Krueger
Cheri Boone's sister's family
Bruce Hartley, employment
Colleen, friend of Kelly Rende

In Need of Prayer

Judy All, relative of the Chernenkoffs, in hospice
Gloria, sister of Bev Thompson
Alberta Weaver, at home
Reginia Higgs
Avery, niece of Teresa Lisowki
Carol, Bev Thompson's cousin
Julia Rende
Tracy, friend of Bunny Rector
Andrew, friend of Bodnars, Guillain-Barré syndrome
Randy, friend of Bodnars
Tim, cancer, nephew of Janet Young
Lauren, niece of Ron Lisowski
Kelly Rende's friend Rich, family care burden
Employment for Gabriel and Tammy
Unbelieving children in our families
Jim Paglino
Sam Hutson, grief
Carolyn Schmierer, assisted living

Karen Isles, Ray Johnson, Krystal Murphy, Angie O'Dell, Claudine Sordyl, Manuel & Astrid Valdivieso, and all healthcare and first responders

Our sympathy to Elaine (Louis) Clay and family on the recent death of her sister, Sylvia, and last living sibling. Our sympathy also to the Rende family in the recent death of Don's sister-in-law.

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

Monthly need: \$17,083.00

Giving to general fund last week: \$3,715

Giving to date in June: \$6,971

Giving in June to mortgage fund: \$550.00

Our Military: Justin, deployed to Qatar; Metzners' grandson; Bryan 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 97. May we then not make any image at all? **A.** God can not and may not be visibly portrayed in any way. Although creatures may be portrayed, yet God forbids making or having such images if one's intention is to worship them or to serve God through them.



As you know the pandemic has resulted in many cancellations throughout our state. Session meets regularly to consider the implications of this upon our church body. You may want to know some of those recent decisions with the safety of our congregation in mind:

The church picnic and VBS have been cancelled.

Carpeting in the entire building has been cleaned and sanitized.

Safe methods of such things, as entry and exit from the building are being developed.

There will be no food or beverages served.

Bible study groups (Tuesday morning and Wednesday evening) will not resume until further notice.

A date of return is tentatively set for July 5. More information will follow.

This period of lockdown has been hard on us. Please make special efforts to keep in contact with others who may be lonely. Phone calls, emails, texts, cards, and notes are all ways to connect. And pray for one another. Pray also for Pastor McGuire and for the Elders as they seek to make good decisions.

The **new church directories** were delivered just about the time the lockdown began. They will be distributed as soon as we resume meeting together in the church building.

But read on.....we are now ready to provide you with an on-line computer directory. Last week, you should have received in your email a **code** that you may use to access this. It seems easy to use and includes photos and other pertinent information. If you did not receive your personal code, or if you need assistance please call Bev Thompson @ 734-664-2033.

You may also download the directory information to a smart phone. The code is set up for your household, not necessarily for an individual.



ANGEL TREE PROGRAM - 2020

Due to the Covid-19 situations Prison Fellowship is offering a virtual Angel Tree Program procedure. Christ Presbyterian Church has chosen 25 children to minister to for Christmas 2020. Prison Fellowship will be creating a website with the child's name, sex, age & ethnicity. I (Cheri Boone) will furnish a link to the web site with a pass code for you to view. You can pick a child and make a monetary donation for a gift card on the web site using your credit card. Prison Fellowship will then purchase the gift card and mail it to the Caregiver of that child. In addition, the usual literature we send to the children will be sent. The gift card price is yet to be determined. This plan is subject to change in August.

There will be no gifts for us to purchase, no gift wrapping, and no delivery. Sign-ups for participation will be available after we return to the church building next month. For questions, please contact Cheri Boone by phone or text at 734-765-9271 or email at caboone@sbcglobal.net.