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

Prayer needs

Brenda and co-worker Pat, very long work hours, for sustaining grace Rob, homeless in FL, depressed Karen's sister's son, John, Down's, for gov't compassion for insurance, etc. Rosie, Linda's daughter, grieving Ed, for mobility with less pain 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 Rev. Shiv for direction & healing Judy Carr's sister-in-law, near death Linda S: for improved health, joy Our children's Sunday school teachers Sean's God-daughter, Brittany.

Father of Lisa Lochrie, in hospice care Benita, consulting physician appointment Glad, home, 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, success in his work Lisa, Pastor's niece, multiple cancers Donna's family, Dan, heart surgery, slow recovery Pastor Scott McKee Janet Evans, in AZ, deterioration in health College students for continuing faith and clear witness Lydia, (teen) & family, emotional health 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 Father of Xavier, released from prison, for healthy relationship with his son. Brenda's friend Erin, for faith in loss of her father Family (3 members) of Carolyn K, health issues

Thank you for your faithful giving.

Giving on March 3: \$6,550 Giving in March: \$6,550

Our sympathy to Mike and Annette Mathers in the death this week of Mike's father. Pray for comfort; his mother died a few weeks ago also.

Heidelberg Catechism Q. 15. What kind of mediator and deliverer should we look for then? A. He must be truly human and truly righteous, yet more powerful than all creatures, that is, he must also be true God.



CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

MARCH 10, 2024

Gathering Song: To God Be the Glory (Page 7)

+ Call to Worship (Psalm 121 selections) Pastor: I will lift up my eyes to the mountains-where does not my help come from? People: My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. Pastor: He will not let your foot slip—he who watches over you will not slumber; People: Indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. Pastor: The Lord watches over you—he will watch over your life. Unison: The Lord will watch over your coming and going, both now and forevermore.

⁺ Hymn: The Lord is King, Enthroned in Might (page 8)

+ Invocation and the Lord's Praver

+ Standing as you are able

First Scripture Readings Today's Reader: Caroline Milam Colossians 3: 1-17 Responsive

¹ Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.³For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.⁴When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.⁶Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ⁷You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived.

⁸ But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.⁹ Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. ¹¹Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

¹² Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

¹⁷And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

2 Corinthians 11:16-33

¹⁶ I repeat: Let no one take me for a fool. But if you do, then tolerate me just as you would a fool, so that I may do a little boasting. ¹⁷ In this self-confident boasting I am not talking as the Lord would, but as a fool. ¹⁸ Since many are boasting in the way the world does, I too will boast.

¹⁹ You gladly put up with fools since you are so wise! ²⁰ In fact, you even put up with anyone who enslaves you or exploits you or takes advantage of you or puts on airs or slaps you in the face. ²¹ To my shame I admit that we were too weak for that!

All the Way My Savior Leads Me-2

Orders of Easter Lilies for the Sanctuary are being taken by Annette Mathers. Deadline is March 17. Cost is 10.

As Easter approaches, you will want to be aware of these special days in the church calendar:

Palm Sunday, March 24, celebrates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

<u>Tenebrae Service</u> on Thursday, March 28, at 6 pm. This service reminds us of the suffering of our Lord and is full of scripture and song. Also known as a Service of Shadows.

Easter is March 31, and we rejoice together in celebrating the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Come and join in the joy of this day.

All the Way My Savior Leads Me-1

Whatever anyone else dares to boast about—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast about. ² Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. re they Abraham's descendants? So am I. ²³ Are they servants of Christ? (I am out of my mind to talk like this.) I am more.

I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. ²⁴ Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, ²⁶ I have been constantly on the move.

I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. ²⁷ I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked.

²⁸ Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches. Who is weak, and I do not feel weak? Who is led into sin, and I do not inwardly burn?

³⁰If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.³¹The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, who is to be praised forever, knows that I am not lying.³²In Damascus the governor under King Aretas had the city of the Damascenes guarded in order to arrest me.³³But I was lowered in a basket from a window in the wall and slipped through his hands.

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: All the Way My Savior Leads Me (Pages 10-11)

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: Jesus Paid It All

Yuta Sugano, Pianist

† 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

Matthew 6:19-34

¹⁹ "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

²² "The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. ²³ But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

²⁴ "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.

²⁵ "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

²⁸ "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. ²⁹ Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ³⁰ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?

³¹ So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³² For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Philippians 1:12-30

¹² Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. ¹³ As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. ¹⁴ And because of my chains, most of

brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear.

¹⁵ It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill. ¹⁶ The latter do so out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. ¹⁷ The former preach Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing that they can stir up trouble for me while I am in chains.

¹⁸ But what does it matter? The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice.

Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, ¹⁹ for I know that through your prayers and God's provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance.²⁰ I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹ For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

²² If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! ²³ I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; ²⁴ but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. ²⁵ Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶ so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

²⁷ Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God.

²⁹ For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, ³⁰ since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

This is the Word of the Lord Thanks be to God

Sermon: For Me to Live is Christ Dr. James N. McGuire

Pastoral Prayer

+ Hymn: Jesus, I Am Resting, Resting (page 9)

† Responsive Litany (Romans 5:1-5)

Pastor: Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

People: through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand.

Pastor: And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

People: Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

Unison: And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, whom he has give to us.

Benediction

Welcome, Announcements, and Prayers

Orders of Easter Lilies for the Sanctuary are being taken by Annette Mathers

Pastor: Dr. James N. McGuire

Musician: Yuta Sugano