

**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  
Lorissa Isles, safe delivery of baby  
Maureen, dear friend of Lisa  
Jean, friend of Cheri, breast cancer  
Justin, discernment re: job location  
Pastor Scott McKee  
All who hate their neighbors, to be restrained  
Leona, 6th 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

**Prayer need**

Chet Doak, recent surgery, improving  
Carolyn Krueger, 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 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  
Judy Carr, infection in leg  
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

**Thank you for your faithful giving.**

**Giving for September 1: \$7,110**

**Giving for August: \$14,392**

**Tuesday morning Ladies' Bible Study will resume on September 10 at 10 a.m. with the study of Romans. If you need information on attending and/or purchasing the study guide, contact Judy Dellinger, 734.386.6449.**

**Heidelberg Catechism. Q. 38. Why did he suffer under Pontius Pilate as judge?**

**A. That he being innocent and yet condemned by a temporal judge, might therefore free us from the severe judgment of God to which we were exposed.**



**CHRIST**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

## Welcome to Worship

**September 8, 2024**

**Gathering Song: Come, Let Us Praise the Lord (page 7)**

**†Call to Worship (1 Chronicles 16:23-27)**

Pastor: Sing to the LORD, all the earth; proclaim his salvation day after day.

**People: Declare his glory among the nations; his marvelous deeds among all peoples.**

Pastor: For great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods.

**People: For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the LORD made the heavens.**

**Unison: Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and joy are in his dwelling place.**

**† Hymn: The Lord's My Shepherd (page 8)**

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

†Standing as you are able

## First Scripture Readings

Today's Reader: Pam Paglino

### 1 Corinthians 13 Responsive

<sup>1</sup>If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup>If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup>If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast,<sup>1</sup> but do not have love, I gain nothing.

<sup>4</sup>Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. <sup>5</sup>It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. <sup>6</sup>Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup>It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

<sup>8</sup>Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. <sup>9</sup>For we know in part and we prophesy in part, <sup>10</sup>but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears.

<sup>11</sup>When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. <sup>12</sup>For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

<sup>13</sup>And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

### Romans 8:1-14 Responsive

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, <sup>2</sup>because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.

<sup>3</sup>For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup>in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

<sup>5</sup>Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. <sup>6</sup>The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace.

<sup>7</sup>The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. <sup>8</sup>Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

## How Grea Thou Art-2

### Notice of Congregational Meeting

**A meeting of the congregation for the election of officers will be held on Sunday, September 22, following our worship service.**

**All members are encouraged to attend.**

If you have not picked up your new church directory, you will find them near the entrance to Fellowship Hall.

## How Great Thou Art-1

<sup>9</sup> You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. <sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness.

<sup>11</sup> And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. <sup>13</sup> For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

<sup>14</sup> For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.

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: **How Great Thou Art** (pages 10-11)

### **Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory: “Trust and Obey”**

**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

It is Well With My Soul

### Romans 13:1-8 Responsive

<sup>1</sup> Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.

**<sup>2</sup> Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. <sup>3</sup> For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong.**

Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. <sup>4</sup> For the one in authority is God's servant for your good.

**But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup> Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience.**

<sup>6</sup> This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. <sup>7</sup> Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

**<sup>8</sup> Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law.**

### 1 Corinthians 6:1-12 Responsive

<sup>6</sup> If any of you has a dispute with another, do you dare to take it before the ungodly for judgment instead of before the Lord's people? <sup>2</sup> Or do you not know that the Lord's people will judge the world? And if you are to judge the world, are you not competent to judge trivial cases?

**<sup>3</sup> Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more the things of life. <sup>4</sup> Therefore, if you have disputes about such matters, do you ask for a ruling from those whose way of life is scorned in the church?**

<sup>5</sup> I say this to shame you. Is it possible that there is nobody among you wise enough to judge a dispute between believers? <sup>6</sup> But instead, one brother takes another to court—and this in front of unbelievers!

>>>>>

## The Lord's My Shepherd

<sup>7</sup> The very fact that you have lawsuits among you means you have been completely defeated already. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be cheated? <sup>8</sup> Instead, you yourselves cheat and do wrong, and you do this to your brothers and sisters.

<sup>9</sup> **Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men<sup>-10</sup> nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.**

<sup>11</sup> And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

<sup>12</sup> **"I have the right to do anything," you say—but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything"—but I will not be mastered by anything.**

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

### Sermon: Forbidden Lawsuits

Dr. James N. McGuire

### Pastoral Prayer

† Hymn: It is Well with My Soul (page )

† **Closing Litany:** (2 Timothy 1:9-10)

Pastor: He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done, but because of his own purpose and grace.

**People:** This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time,

Pastor: but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus,

**Unison:** who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

† **Benediction**

**Welcome, Announcements, and Prayers**

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Come, Let Us Praise the Lord