



NESHAMINY-WARWICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2022

PRELUDE

Lee Nelmes

WELCOME

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING Dave, Jackie, David, Bella, and Livvy Garcia
Out of darkness light shines. This light points us to the One whose love overcame the darkness of this world and whose love will be our light in the world to come. As we wait for Christ to return, we can see his love grow.

[Light three purple candles and one pink candle.]

Today we light the candle of love because we know that Jesus is love. It is our hope that his church will grow as we share his love with each other.

In Ephesians 4:15-16, Paul writes, When we “speak the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.” May we grow in love as we await Christ’s return.

Prayer:

Dear God, we love you because we know that in Jesus you loved us first. As we light this candle, make us love each other more and more, and help us to tell about the love of Jesus to the whole world. **Amen.**

The Road to Bethlehem
A Journey to the Newborn King
By Lloyd Larson

Directed by
Dr. Suzanne Zak Carver
Neshaminy Warwick Sanctuary Choir
Dennis Forbes & Sadie Van Tassel, Narrators

DEDICATION

Barbara Obst

THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM

A HIGHWAY FOR OUR GOD

COME MESSIAH!

HOLY CHILD OF BETHLEHEM

SHEPHERDS IN THE FIELD

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

directed by Kyle Montgomery & Sadie Van Tassel

AWAY IN THE MANGER

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JESUS!

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³ "Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

SERMON

"Have Yourself a Messy Little Christmas"

Pastor Mark Lyndaker-Studer

SHEPHERDS CRADLE SONG

THE JOURNEY

CHRIST IS BORN IN BETHLEHEM

POSTLUDE

Lee Nelmes

This cantata is dedicated and performed in memory of Pete Obst, who was a long-time member of the Sanctuary Choir. He graciously donated funds specifically for a cantata as a thank you to the choir for his many years of music making. This year's cantata is especially meaningful, as it's our first full cantata post covid.

*Suzanne and the choir would like to thank all who have generously supported the NWPC music program through their time and financial support over the past year.
Both are greatly appreciated!*

*If you enjoy music, please consider singing with us for next year's cantata.
All are welcome! We rehearse on Thursday nights mid-fall.
If you are interested, feel free to speak with a choir member at the brunch.*

Sopranos

Sally Chambers
Jill Clayton
Joanne Cochran
Debbie Flick
Linda Goodman
Robin Haug
Jennifer Kreischer
Lynn Kreischer
Karen Lodwig
Jamme Lucas
Sue Rems
Sue Rugel
Eloyce Sturgeon
Wendy Uzelac
Christine Van Tassel
Ondine Van Tassel

Altos

Joan Becker
Sandie Bernstein
Maggie Bingham
Chris Davies
Lynne Friedel
Linda King
Judy Lodwig
Marge Louderback
Betty Mason
Dorothy Smith

Tenors

Josh Bernstein
Mark Davies
Jim Helsel
Steve Kielkucki
Kyle Montgomery
Jack Roushey
Ida Zimmer

Basses

Dave Baker
Bob Gronquist
Jack Kreischer
Paul Rankin
Ron Wallace
Bill Zimmer

Instrumentalists

Carly Lewis, violin
Jessica Tosti, violin
Felicia Reilly, viola
Walt Fisher, cello
Steve Kyle, bass
Andrea Levin, flute
Mark Vandersall, clarinet
Stephanie Durham, oboe
Bob McNally, trumpet
Michael Stadelmaier, trumpet
Jim McIlvaine, French horn
Bev Fulgham, French horn
Patrick McIssac, trombone
Dave Benbow, Tuba



Prayer Concerns: Lily Meade

Family of Sara Maull

Family of Joe Mazeika

Dorothy Moritz

Mel and Geremi Freceiro (friends of Sandee Wilson)

Jeff Smith (friend of the Darreffs)

Joanne Umbrecht (friend of Dorothy Smith)

Susan Cable (friend of Dorothy Smith)

Leslie McCartney (sister of Gail Bilsland)

Helen Murray (mother of Susan Zimmerman)

David Rankin (brother of Deborah Kapinos & Paul Rankin)

Carol Daniels (friend of Bonnie Guenzel)

Trey McFadden (friend of Wendy Wirsch)

Craig Marvill (friend of Sue Rems)

Tim Godfrey (son in law of Sue Rems)

Helene Lyons (friend of Cindy Anderson)

Sheha Ranade (friend of Beth Augustine)

Beth Moffa (friend of Beth Augustine)

Ongoing Concerns: Karen Meade

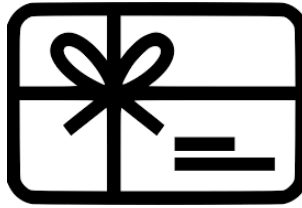
Debbie Edwards

Joan George

Kerry Zimmerman

Debbie Watson

David Rankin (nephew of Deborah Kapinos & Paul Rankin)



GIFT CARD MISSION

It's that time again!!! We will be collecting 25.00 Gift Certificates from TARGET & WALMART for:

Crossroads in North Philadelphia

West Kensington Ministry in Kensington

Oxford Circle in Frankford

The need is even greater this year and the Gift Cards bring just a bit of Christmas cheer to struggling families Your generosity puts a Smile on so many families trying to get some Christmas cheer.

DEADLINE for gift cards is **TODAY!**

If you were not able to get a gift card we will collect the \$25.00 and get the gift cards for you.

As always THANK YOU for your generosity!



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

5 pm Children/Family Worship

7 pm Candlelight Worship



PULPIT FLOWERS

The pulpit flowers are given in loving memory of Florene Heller from the Hellers; and in loving memory of Joseph V. Marabito from the Zebley family. The third flower arrangement is given in loving memory of his wife Joan and granddaughter Shaelee from Werner Thiessen. Deacons Cindy Anderson & Don Millin will deliver the flowers. Each week the flowers can be a bright moment for someone needing prayers or praise. If anyone in the congregation has a person in mind to give the pulpit flowers to, please contact Cindy Anderson at 215-672-3219. Pulpit flowers are needed for December 25. If you are interested in donating pulpit flowers, please contact Dorothy Smith at 215-343-1142.



WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

No Bible Study on December 21st or 28th

Bible Study will resume on January 4, 2023

Come and go in depth into that week's scripture to learn not only what the passage is about, but how it is relevant in your life.

You can come and just listen or, ask any questions you would like.

Newcomers are always welcome!

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service for Sara Maull will be held on Tuesday, December 20, 2022 at 11:00 am.

MEN'S GROUP

Next Meeting: **Sunday January 15th from 6pm to 8pm**

At Rick Rugel's 1471 Greenleaf Dr. Warrington, PA

This is your opportunity to get to know other men at NWPC better, and to participate in discussing the challenges we face in living a life of faith today. Please join us! For more information, or any questions you have you can talk to or email Pastor Mark or Rick Rugel Please *RSVP* so that we know how many will be coming. pastormark@nwpc.net.

THIS WEEK AT NESHAMINY

TODAY—Prayer Group 8:30 am Lounge
—Cantata Worship Service 9 am Sanctuary
—Sunday Food & Fellowship 10:15 am Auditorium
—Youth Group 6 pm Youth Room

MONDAY—Session Meeting 7 pm Sanctuary then Lounge
—Deacon Meeting 7 pm Sanctuary then Youth Room

WEDNESDAY—The Compassionate Friends 7 pm Lounge

SUNDAY—Prayer Group 8:30 am Lounge
—Worship Service 9 am Sanctuary
(No Nursery or Sunday School)

Church Staff

Rev. Mark Lyndaker-Studer, Pastor
Donna Mazeika, Director of Children & Youth
Rev. Sameh Shaker, Pastor of Visitation
Dr. Suzanne Zak Carver, Director of Music
Keith Rounds, Contemporary Music
Marianne Tierney, Business Manager
Cheryl Overton, Church Administrator
Website: www.nwpc.net
215-343-6060

Remembering that the members of Neshaminy-Warwick Presbyterian Church are the ministers and missionaries of our faith community, our Pastoral Staff and Support Team provide leadership and specialized ministries.