



NESHAMINY-WARWICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 12, 2023

WELCOME

HYMN NO. 388

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

1 O Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
Be Thou forever near me,
My Master and my Friend;
I shall not fear the battle
If Thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If Thou wilt be my guide.

2 O let me feel Thee near me!
The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
The tempting sounds I hear;
My foes are ever near me,
Around me and within;
But Jesus, draw Thou nearer,
And shield my soul from sin.

3 O let me hear Thee speaking
In accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion,
The murmurs of self will;
O speak to reassure me,
To hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
Thou guardian of my soul.

4 O Jesus, Thou hast promised
To all who follow Thee
That where Thou art in glory
There shall Thy servant be;
And, Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
My Master and my friend.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 119:1-8

Leader: Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD.

People: Happy are those who keep his decrees, who seek him with their whole heart,

Leader: who also do no wrong but walk in his ways.

People: You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.

Leader: O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!

People: Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.

Leader: I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous ordinances.

People: I will observe your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

WORSHIP SONG

“Salt and Light”

You make me want to be like You
Your holiness I will pursue
I want the heart of Jesus

Show me the meaning of your grace
I want to give the world a taste
Of the love of Jesus

*Make me salt, make me light
Let Your holy fire ignite
Reveal Your glory in my life*

*I am not ashamed
To lift up Your holy name
Make me salt, make me light*

You make me want to be like You
Your holiness I will pursue
I want the heart of Jesus

Show me the meaning of Your grace
I want to give the world a taste
Of the love of Jesus (Chorus)

(You may be seated)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of blessing, you call us to be one with you and your creation in love, faithfulness, and truth. Help us to carry out the vows we make: to adore you with our whole heart, to live in mutual support of one another, and to love as if your reign has fully come. **Amen.**

WORSHIP SONG

“How Can I Keep from Singing”

My life flows on in endless song
Above earth’s lamentation
I hear the real though far off hymn
That hails a new creation

*No storm can shake my in-most calm
While to that rock I'm clinging
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth
How can I keep from singing*

Through all the tumult and the strife
I hear the music ringing
It sounds and echoes in my soul
How can I keep from singing

What though the tempest round me roar
I hear the truth it liveth
What though the darkness round me close
Songs in the night it giveth

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Donna Mazeika

(We invite all children through 5th grade to come up to the front of the Sanctuary for a special message for them. They will then be dismissed to their Sunday School teacher, or if you prefer they may return to their seats with you.)

CHOIR ANTHEM

"No Other Hope"

CALL TO CONFESSION

Into the shadows of our isolation, God speaks the words of life and community. Through God's graceful, healing presence, God redeems our woundedness and restores us to wholeness. Trusting in God's gracious provision, let us together confess our limitations and proclaim God's faithfulness.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Generous God, we are baptized as your people, called to live and serve together as your church. We confess that we have sought to live for ourselves, not reaching out to others and honoring the divine image in all your children. Forgive us, we pray. In your abundant mercy give us the grace to be your church, confessing our faults, offering forgiveness and working for reconciliation. Turn our hearts to your intentions that we may hold fast to one another and draw near to your presence. In Jesus, we ask it. Amen.

(Please take a moment of silent confession)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, in Jesus Christ, we have been fed God's grace and redemption. And that redemption gives us the strength to love our neighbors near and far, proclaiming in our words and deeds: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

(Please stand if you are able)

RESPONSE TO ASSURANCE

"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.

(You may be seated)

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

God's Word finds fertile ground each time we choose life, each time we share the gifts of God's grace and love. Let us gather our gifts and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

OFFERTORY

Keith Rounds

(Please place your offering in the plate in the Narthex as you enter/exit the Sanctuary.)

(Please stand if you are able)

DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, you have planted the seeds of generosity into our hearts and by your grace, you give the growth through our actions and response. Receive the fruit of your mercy and the offerings of our lives and use these gifts to grow your harvest of justice and mercy, **Amen.**

(You may be seated)

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5:43-48

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven, for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

SERMON

“What Do You Mean by Love?”

Pastor Mark Lyndaker-Studer

(Please stand if you are able)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

HYMN NO. 361

"How Firm a Foundation"

1 How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
To you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

3 "When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

4 "When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

5 "The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

CHARGE

Go out into the world in peace. Be of good courage. Hold onto what is good. Render no one evil for evil. Uplift the fainthearted. Support the weak. Laugh with those who laugh and mourn with those who mourn. Do this in a spirit of joy and appreciation for you are God's child. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

BLESSING

May the wisdom of God, the love of Christ, and the peace of the Spirit shine brightly in your lives this day and always.



Prayer Concerns: Family of Janice Perkins (daughter of Mary Whitehead)
Lily Meade
Dorothy Moritz
Martha Post (friend of Wendy Wirsch)
Jennifer Young (niece of Alice Bray)
Elsie Stoud (sister of Dottie Kieffer)
Eileen Kardon (friend of Laura Stillinovich)
Karin Hart (sister of Laura Stillinovich)
Jeff Smith (friend of the Darreffs)
Joanne Umbrecht (friend of Dorothy Smith)
Susan Cable (friend of Dorothy Smith)
Leslie McCartney (sister of Gail Bilsland)
David Rankin (brother of Deborah Kapinos & Paul Rankin)
William McFadden (friend of Wendy Wirsch)
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)

NWPC 2023

Contributions

budget 2022: \$470,000 Actual: \$455,355

2022 Endowment

Starting: 807,127 Ending: 1,006,970

Thank you for your faithful giving during 2022. For our budget for 2023, we are hoping you will prayerfully consider a 10% increase in your giving. For example, if you gave \$2,000 in 2022, then we are asking for an increase to \$2,200. This will allow us to continue to support our church's mission and keep us strong going forward.

PULPIT FLOWERS

The pulpit flowers are given in loving memory of Harry Kieffer from his wife Dottie; and given to the glory of God. Deacons Cindy Anderson & Dottie Kieffer 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.



WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

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!

BY FORCE AND ARMS

Join the William Tennent House Association in welcoming back Clint Flack and Annie Halliday of the Mercer Museum as they present "By Force and Arms" which is the second part of the Doan Gang of Bucks County series. This presentation will focus on the story of the famous Newtown Treasury robbery in October 1781. It will also cover other important robberies and events leading up until October 1782. The presentation will take place on Saturday, February 25th, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM, in the church auditorium. The cost is \$10 per person (\$12 at the door). Refreshments will be served. I hope our wonderful Neshaminy bakers will help us with some goodies. You don't want to miss this exciting event. For more information contact Wendy Wirsch 267-261-1274 or wbw42451@gmail.com

WE WILL BE HAVING AN ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE/BIBLE STUDY

March 22nd at 10:am

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season in the church year known as Lent. Lent is a time to prepare for the celebration of Easter and to renew our life in the mystery of the saving death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance, and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ. We begin our journey to Easter with the sign of ashes, a biblical symbol of mourning and penitence. This ancient sign speaks of the fragility of human life and marks the penitence of the community of faith. We invite you, therefore, in the name of Christ, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by works of love, and by reading and meditating on the Word of God.

MISSION CORNER

Today after Food & Fellowship there is a Mission Team meeting in the Lounge. See you there!

YOUTH GROUP MISSION TRIP/MISSIONS FUNDRAISER

Mark your Calendars for Saturday March 18th! The Mission Team and Christian Education Team will be hosting a Dinner/Bingo Night/Auction Fundraiser. The money raised will support our Youth Mission Trip and other Missions we support as a church. We are in need of baskets for BINGO Prizes and items for the Auction. You can help by asking businesses you know to make donations or by donating and putting together a basket.

Here are a few basket suggestions: Outdoor things for kids (bubbles, chalk, water toys, goggles, fun floats), Fire Pit with smores kit, Grill with tools, Plants and/or stuff to plant (think veggie garden too), Fishing basket (rod, tacklebox), Movie and Candy,

Girl scout Cookie and Wine basket, Family Game Night, Outdoor Games, Golf related items, Pet grooming/Pet toys, Coffee/Tea Basket/Esspresso, Massage/Facial, Hair Salon, CrockPot/Cookware, Lottery Tickets, Margarita/Taco night, Beach Chair/Cooler/Towels, Legos,National Park Pass, hiking stuff, FitBit, Book Club, Arts/Crafts, Ice Cream Sundae, Knitting/Crocheting Basket

Suggestions of places to call for donations: Restaurants, Bowling - Thunderbird, Bowlero, Urban air, Sky zone, Lawn and garden centers - Holly Days, Gasper, Breweries - Artifacts, Crooked Eye, Warwick, Mini Golf - Merry Mead, Freddy Hill, iFly, Bucks County River Tubing, Gym Membership, Michaels

*If you don't have time or can't think of something to do
you can also donate money for us to buy items for baskets and prizes.*



USHERS

We need occasional help ushering on Sundays. There will be an informational meeting after church at 10:30am on Sunday March 19 in the lounge. Please consider helping and joining us on the 19th. "Many hands make light work." Call Peter Clayton at 215-343-2449 if you have any questions.

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT BECOMING A CONCERN CENTER VOLUNTEER?

Current members of the Concern Center and others who would like to be involved in the Concern Center are invited to attend a meeting on Sunday, February 19 at 10:30 in the Church lounge. The Concern Center works with the Deacons. The Center sends out cards to members who have friends or relatives who could use prayers and a little cheer. Cards are provided. Like the Deacons, the Concern Center provides a little sunshine to those who need a little help. The Concern Center, working with the Deacons, also answers calls for transportation, meals.

If you have any questions about the Concern Center, please call Joanne Cochran at 215-290-0079. We hope to see you at the meeting!

Red Cross Blood Drive

Please join our lifesaving mission and schedule an appointment today!

Thursday, February 23, 2023 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Coordinator Name: Don Millin

You can sign up online at www.redcrossblood.org, enter NWP



Blood supplies are low and the need is great. If you've donated in the past - THANK YOU and we look forward to seeing you again on February 23rd. If you haven't ever given blood, PLEASE consider making this your first time. The need is continuous and the satisfaction of helping others with what truly is "the gift of life" is rewarding. If you have questions, you can contact Don at PSU2242@gmail.com or 267-402-0040. Be a Hero and sign up to give blood. Every donation saves three lives!

Every registered donor will receive an Amazon \$10.00 gift card via email and will be entered to for a chance to win a trip to Florida for two.



BEAR CREEK CAMP

Explore, celebrate & grow in God's creation!

SUMMER CAMP FOR NWPC KIDS!

Sunday June 18th- Friday June 23rd

2nd thru 5th Grades

We would like to offer this opportunity to your children this summer! For those of you who have older youth going on the mission trip, it is the same week. Please consider this prayerfully. It will be a chance for our children to grow in their faith while building relationships with each other and other children who will be there. Speaking from experience, some of my best memories are from church camp with my Sunday school friends. Donna

Bear Creek Camp in the Poconos Mountains (1 hour and 40 minutes from NWPC)

Register online at: Bearcreekcamp.org

Use code: NWPC23 (all caps) and Select Tier A

Cost: \$350.00

Bear Creek Camp's overnight camping program, is a traditional camp program centered on spiritual growth, outdoor living and small group development. Each age group experiences a mix of small-group and all-camp activities throughout their week to meet their group's spiritual, social and developmental needs. Camp sessions begin on Sunday afternoon and end Friday afternoon. Campers spend their time living and playing together: swimming, boating, hiking, worshipping, playing games, discussing their faith, camping, making arts and crafts, learning about the environment, singing and much more. Campers live in a cabin according to their gender and grade. Each cabin is paired with another to make a Quest Group. Quest Groups form the campers' main family group for their time at camp.

Camp Director Collin Grooms will be with us on Sunday February 26th to do a presentation and answer any questions parents have.

**If cost is an issue please speak with Pastor Mark or Donna.*

THIS WEEK AT NESHAMINY

TODAY—Prayer Group 8:30 am Lounge
—Worship Service 9 am Sanctuary
—Food & Fellowship 10 am Auditorium
—Handbell Rehearsal 10:30 am Choir Room
—Mission Team Meeting 10:30 am Lounge
—Christian Ed Meeting 10:30 am Book Lounge

TUESDAY—WholyFit 7 pm Auditorium

WEDNESDAY—Bible Study 10 am Auditorium
—The Compassionate Friends 7 pm Lounge

THURSDAY—Choir Rehearsal 7 pm Choir Room

SUNDAY—Prayer Group 8:30 am Lounge
—Worship Service 9 am Sanctuary
—Food & Fellowship 10 am Auditorium
—Concern Center Meeting 10:30 am Lounge
—Handbell Rehearsal 10:30 am Choir Room

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

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.

WAYS TO GIVE



ONLINE:
www.nwpc.net



ON YOUR PHONE:

- Open the camera on your phone
- Point the camera at the QR code
- Follow phone prompts to give via credit card



ENVELOPE:
1401 Meetinghouse Road,
Warminster PA 18974