



NESHAMINY-WARWICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 12, 2023

WELCOME

HYMN NO. 482

"Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.

People: We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and God's might, and the wonders that he has done.

Leader: The Lord established a decree in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which God commanded our ancestors to teach to their children; that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children,

People: So that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep God's commandments.

WORSHIP SONG

“The Earth Is Yours”

Your voice it thunders the oaks start twisting
The forest sounds with cedars breaking
The waters see You and start their writhing
From the depths a song is rising
Now it's rising from the ground

Holy, Holy Holy, Holy Lord
The Earth is Yours and singing
Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy Lord
The Earth is Yours the Earth is Yours

Your voice it thunders the ground is shaking
The mighty mountains now are trembling
Creation sees You and starts composing
The fields and trees they start rejoicing.

Now it's rising from the ground
Now it's rising from the ground
Hear us crying out Hear us crying out

(You may be seated)

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Peter 2:9-10

⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

WORSHIP SONG

"Revelation Song"

Worthy is the,
Lamb who was slain
Holy, Holy, is He
Sing a new song, to Him who sits on
Heaven's Mercy Seat (repeat)

*Holy, Holy, Holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was, and is, and is to come
With all creation I sing:
Praise to the King of Kings!
You are my everything,
And I will adore You*

Clothed in rainbows, of living color
Flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder
Blessing and honor, strength and
Glory and power be
To You the Only Wise King

Filled with wonder,
Awestruck wonder
At the mention of Your Name
Jesus, Your Name is Power
Breath, and Living Water
Such a marvelous mystery

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

“Teach Me Your Way, O Lord”

Teach me Your way, O Lord, teach me Your way.
Your guiding grace afford, teach me Your way.
Help me to walk aright, more by faith and less by sight;
Lead me in heav'nly light, teach me Your way.

When I am sad at heart, teach me Your way.
When earthly joys depart, teach me Your way.
In hours of loneliness, in times of dire distress,
In failure or success, teach me Your way!

When doubts and fears arise, Teach me Your way,
When storm clouds fill the skies, Teach me Your way.
Shine through the wind and rain, through sorrow, grief and pain,
Make now my pathway plain, make my pathway plain.

Long as my life shall last, teach me Your way.
Where'er my lot is cast, teach me Your way.
Until the race is run, is run, until the journey's done,
Until the crown is won, teach me Your way.
Lord, teach me Your way.

CALL TO CONFESSION

As far as the east is from the west, so far does God remove our transgressions from us, says the psalmist. With the assurance of God's healing mercies in our lives, we need not fear confession, but instead come with honesty, seeking wholeness in our own lives, and in the lives of those we may have injured. Let us confess to God those aspects of our lives in need of God's grace, first in unison, and then in silence.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, your way for us is clear: We are to live so that the manner of our lives speaks of your goodness, your generosity, your infinite mercy. Too often, though, we forget the purposes for which you made us. Too often, when we might meet inhumanity with the reflection of your goodness, we turn aside. We return unkindness for unkindness. We cling to what might be shared. We avoid those who are not like us. We fail to give grace in the measure we have received it. Forgive us, we pray. Remind us that your goodness is enduring, and your mercy is everlasting, for we pray all these things in the name of our savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Please take a moment of silent confession)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing: it is the gift of God, not the result of works, so that no one might boast. For we are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life. Believe the promise of the gospel: 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)

TESTIMONIALS

Dorothy Kieffer & Jen Kreischer

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

The abundance of God’s providing is evident: This world brims with goodness, amply offered that our needs may be met. From this abundance, we may take what we need. In recognition of what God has provided us, let us worship God with our tithes and offerings.

OFFERTORY

Suzanne Zak Carver

*(If you are our guest, please don’t feel obligated to participate.
We would be honored if today’s service could be our gift to you.)*

(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

Holy God, you have given us what we need, indeed you have given us more than we need. Accept this portion that we dedicate to your work. Grant that we might be blessed in turn as we see your reign at work in the world and in ourselves. **Amen.**

(You may be seated)

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 19:1-6

19 On the third new moon after the Israelites had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that very day, they came into the wilderness of Sinai. ²They journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. ³Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the Israelites: ⁴You have seen what I did to the Egyptians and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. ⁵Now, therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, ⁶but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites."

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON

"God's Treasured Possession"

Pastor Mark Lyndaker-Studer

(Please stand if you are able)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from A Brief Statement of Faith amended for inclusive language)
We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image of all genders, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

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 God, who creates, redeems, and sustains, keep you fervent in faith, cheerful in hope, brimming in justice, and overflowing in love. And the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.



Prayer Concerns: Luca (friend of Jan Millin)
Amy Dietz & family (friend of Sandee Wilson)
Diana (friend of Jan Millin)
Melissa Stokes (cousin of Sandee Wilson)
Jonie Garcia (mother of Dave Garcia)
Malory Mee (friend of Garcia family)
Allan Schrage (friend of Sue Rems)
Tom Ceneviva (friend of Laura Stilinovich)
Karin Hart (sister of Laura Stilinovich)
Sue Ellen Nolan-Greeby (sister of Bill Watson)
Ed Sochanski (friend of Bill Watson)
Terry Blue (friend of Dave & Joanne Cochran)
Lois Williams (friend of Nina Resavage)
Rob Salvia (friend of Wendy Wirsch)
Sharon Burrink (friend of Wendy Wirsch)
Rima Mironas (mother of Dalia Lucas)
David Rankin (nephew of Deborah Kapinos & Paul Rankin)

Ongoing Concerns: Charles Sutton
Dorothy Moritz
Karen Meade
Debbie Edwards
Kerry Zimmerman
Debbie Watson
Robin Haug

PULPIT FLOWERS

The pulpit flowers are both given to the glory of God! Deacons Beth Haller & Peg Kaelin 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 November 19th and 26th & December 31st. If you are interested in donating pulpit flowers, please contact Dorothy Smith at 215-343-1142.



FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

TODAY! Please plan on joining us for a special Food & Fellowship with a catered, hot brunch. ALL ARE WELCOME!

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Themes of the Bible

Join us for bible study at 10:00 A.M. Whether you have spent years studying the Bible or the Bible is new to you, this class is for you. Beginning this fall we will be looking at big ideas that are core to the Biblical story. We will look at them from their first appearance through the entire narrative (*Image of God, Justice, Exile, Holiness, Covenants, Sacrifice, Temple, Son of Man, Eternal life, Sabbath, Water of life, Tree of life, Blessing and Curse, Kingdom of God, Anointing, Heaven and Earth*). This will help you to be able to see patterns throughout the Bible and come to understand the entire story of the Bible in a much deeper and greater way.

Newcomers are always welcome!

MEN'S GROUP

Next Meeting: November 19th from 6PM to 8PM

At NWPC (Lounge)

The Men's Group will be reconvening on November 19th. We will be meeting every month until May (except in December) on the third Sunday of the month from 6PM to 8PM. This is your opportunity to get to know other men at NWPC better, and to participate in discussing Bible themes as well as challenges we face in living a life of faith today. We will be discussing such themes as Church Unity & Community, Faith & Doubt, Tests and Trials, Trust & Faithfulness, God's Kingdom and Heaven and Earth. Please join us! For more information or any questions you have you can talk to Pastor Mark or Rick Rugel. Please let us know if you plan to join us so we know how many will be coming. See you then. Should be a good time!

WHOLYFIT

As a reminder, there will be no WholyFit classes during the month of December. Please plan on joining us on Tuesday evenings at 7pm when we resume classes in January!

AMERICAN MUSIC THEATRE BUS TRIP REMINDER

Bus leaves on Tuesday, November 14 at 10:45 a.m. for the American Music Theatre to see the Christmas Show. Lunch will be a smorgasbord at Bird-in-Hand at 12:30 p.m. Contact person is Dorothy Smith and she can be reached at 215-343-1142.

CHRISTMAS DINNER WITH MRS. TENNENT

The William Tennent House Association cordially invites you to a Christmas dinner featuring Mrs. Catherine Tennent (Wendy Wirsch) and local author, Patrick McFadden. Come learn about William Tennent and his contributions to the Great Awakening Revival, the Log College, and education. Mr. McFadden will talk about the role of German and Scotch-Irish immigrants that led to the Revolutionary War. The buffet banquet will be held on Saturday, December 2nd at Giuseppe's Restaurant, 1380 W. Street Road, Warminster. Dinner featuring Chicken Parmigiana, Hot Roast Beef with Rolls, and Penne with Marinara Sauce will begin at 6PM. The cost is \$45 per person. Please sign-up during Coffee Hour or contact Wendy Wirsch, 267-261-1274. Deadline for reservations is Nov. 27th.

THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS

The Compassionate Friends is a support group for grieving parents and grandparents. The purpose of the group is to provide support to grieving parents through this extremely difficult time. A co leader, who has also lost a child, facilitates the meeting. The group will meet the third Wednesday of every month in the lounge from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm. For additional information please contact Jan Millin at 215-820-3506 or janmke12@gmail.com.

*Thank
you*

The Red Cross would like to thank you for your support and participation in the recent highly successful blood drive on November 6th. This effort will save lives!

On behalf of the William Tennent House Association, Wendy Wirsch would like to thank everyone from NWPC who helped us raise money through our HundredX fundraising campaign. Thanks to your help, we raised \$2,377.60. The WTHA is hoping we can do another fundraiser in 2024 and raise even more money.

MEALS FOR our CODE BLUE GUESTS - DECEMBER 2023

We are once again planning for our Code Blue guests at NWPC in December. Your generosity as a congregation has provided hot and nourishing meals in the past, and the need continues to be great. Please prayerfully consider the information below as you decide how you can help. And many thanks in advance - you are a blessing!

Suggestions for meals:

Some suggestions for meals: LASAGNE; MACARONI & CHEESE; HOT DOGS & BEANS; MEAT LOAF, MASHED POTATOES with GRAVY; PORK & SAUERKRAUT; HAM & SCALLOPED POTATOES; PEROGIES; BAKED ZITI with MEAT BALLS/ SAUSAGE; CHICKEN & RICE; or any foods that have protein and are easy to chew. Some of our homeless guests have dental problems and are not able to chew hard or crunchy foods. Also please be moderate with spices and seasonings.

Instructions for providing meals:

PLEASE PREPARE CASSEROLE for **12 people** in disposable covered aluminum casserole-sized pans. (The kitchen crew will be dishing the meal that you bring into individual containers to serve our guests.) Historically, the number of guests starts to increase as we get into the month. We may eventually ask for casseroles to serve 20 or so people, so as the number of our guests increases, we will let you know how many folks we can expect to feed. If you choose to add rolls or dessert, these need to be put into individual sandwich bags. So no pies, puddings, etc. Cakes, cookies, doughnuts, etc are great.

You can drop off the casseroles: 1) "Hot" to the church kitchen at **7 PM**, 2) earlier in the day (attach reheating instructions & call me so I make sure someone is there to receive them), or 3) frozen (again we'll need instructions & phone call).

Because of covid, we will follow the same changes as last year:

- 1) Everything needs to be disposable.
- 2) We will be asking for donations of certain items and will be using a **SignUp Genius** for these items and also one for the actual casseroles. (**See links and QR codes below**). The cooks no longer need to provide extra vegetables or salads; these items will be on the SignUp Genius for miscellaneous donated items. We will no longer be serving food cafeteria-style as we used to, but will be packaging the meals in the kitchen for individual distribution to the guests in the auditorium. Therefore, we will need to have a tighter handle on quantity of food so we can avoid waste.

REMINDER: You will only need to cook for that evening **if a Code Blue is called** (usually wind chill factor of 26 degrees or less). If there is no Code Blue called, you will receive a call or email in the morning (usually before 10 AM) as soon as we are notified. (If you have prepared the meal ahead of time and a Code Blue is not called, you could always freeze it for possible use later in the month.)

Thank you for your willingness to prepare a meal for our homeless guests.

Your kindness is greatly appreciated by all of us!

If you have any questions, or do not want to use Sign Up Genius, **please contact** Jan Helsel (H#215-343-3778) (email: jjhelsel@yahoo.com).

Dinners link - - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4FABA723A4FA7-45932674-nwpc#1>



Supplies link - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4FABA723A4FA7-46023564-nwpc>



THIS WEEK AT NESHAMINY

SUNDAY—Prayer Group 8:30 am Lounge
—Worship Service 9 am Sanctuary
—Food & Fellowship with a catered, hot brunch 10 am Auditorium

MONDAY—Finance/Property Team Meeting 7 pm Lounge

TUESDAY—Bus Trip leaving for American Music Theater 10:45 am
—WholyFit 7 pm Auditorium

WEDNESDAY—Bible Study 10 am Auditorium

THURSDAY—Choir Rehearsal 7 pm Choir Room

SUNDAY—Prayer Group 8:30 am Lounge
—Worship Service 9 am Sanctuary
—Food & Fellowship 10 am Auditorium
—Cantata Rehearsal 10:30 am Choir Room
—Youth Group 6 pm Youth Room
—Men's Group 6 pm Lounge

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

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.