



NESHAMINY-WARWICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Baptism of the Lord

January 7, 2023

WELCOME

HYMN NO. 263

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God spoke the creative Word into the formless void.

People: The cosmos cries, "Glory!"

Leader: From the wildness, God brought forth new life and liberation.

People: The plants and animals that inhabit the wild places cry, "Glory!"

Leader: A messenger in the wilderness brings good news.

People: God's people cry, "Glory!"

Leader: In baptism, we are united to God through Jesus Christ.

People: With all of creation, we cry "Glory!"

WORSHIP SONG

"Our God"

Water You turned into wine

Open the eyes of the blind

There's no one like You

None like You

Into the darkness You shine

Out of the ashes we rise

There's no one like You

None like You

Our God is greater, our God is stronger

God You are higher than any other

Our God is Healer, awesome In power

Our God, Our God...

Into the darkness you shine

Out of the ashes we rise

There's no One like You

None like You

And if Our God is for us, then who could ever stop us

And if our God is with us, then what can stand against?

And if Our God is for us, then who could ever stop us

And if our God is with us, then what can stand against?

What can stand against?

(You may be seated)

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 42:1-9

42 Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. ²He will not cry out or lift up his voice or make it heard in the street; ³a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. ⁴He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth, and the coastlands wait for his teaching. ⁵Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: ⁶I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, ⁷to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. ⁸I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. ⁹See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

WORSHIP SONG

“What a Beautiful Name”

You were the Word at the beginning
One with God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation
Now revealed in You our Christ

What a beautiful Name it is
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a beautiful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

You wanted earth to know your glory
Jesus, you brought heaven down
Our sin was great Your love is greater
What could separate us now

What a Wonderful Name it is
What a Wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a Wonderful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a Wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

Death could not hold You
The veil tore before You
You silence the boast of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring
The praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again
You have no rival You have no equal

Now and forever God You reign
Yours is the kingdom Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name above all names.

What a Powerful Name it is
What a Powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a Powerful Name it is
Nothing can stand against
What a Powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

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

“The Promised King of Heaven”

CALL TO CONFESSION

The One who was without sin received the baptism of repentance so that we who have sinned may be covered by his righteousness. The Spirit enables us to tell the truth of our brokenness, assured already of the grace we know in Jesus Christ. Let us confess together:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creating God, we cannot look at our lives, our communities, or the world around us without seeing the fractures and brokenness that reflect the reality of sin. You created the earth and called it good, but it now groans, awaiting redemption and re-creation under the weight of our greed, abuse and carelessness. You created humanity in your image, and called us very good, but we have ignored the image of God in each other. We have created, maintained and benefitted from unjust systems built on divisions based on race, gender, sexuality, ethnicity and more. You poured out your love in Jesus Christ, who showed us how to live and how to love, but we continue to make our own path, follow our own desires, and neglect to love others as Christ loves us. Lord, have mercy. Rend the heavens. Re-create us now. Amen.

(Please take a moment of silent confession)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

The heavens part, the waters swirl and the dove descends, reminding us that we, too, are God’s beloved children. We are covered by God’s grace and forgiven in Jesus Christ. **Amen!**

(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)

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

We are called in virtue of our baptism to a life of service. We are equipped through the gifts and grace of the Holy Spirit. Let us live into our baptismal calling, sharing from what we have received according to the measure of Christ’s gift.

OFFERTORY

Suxanne 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, we trust in the provisions of your love and the abundance of your grace. May the gifts we offer bring glory to you in the ways they bear your love into the world. We ask this in Jesus' name, **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 3:13-17

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

SERMON

"Battling Serpents"
Pastor Mark Lyndaker-Studer

(Please stand if you are able)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Page 12 Blue Hymnal)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord Our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels,
with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who
forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and God might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna In the highest

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest

...With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedi-
cated to your service.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

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.

(Everyone is welcome to partake of the elements. We will be using prepackaged wafers and juice. Please come forward by the center aisle, take the elements from one of the baskets, and return to your seat by the side aisle. Please hold your elements until all are served so we can partake together.

There are also gluten-free elements on the side tables.)

COMMUNION SONG

“How Great Is Our God”

The splendor of the king, clothed in majesty,
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,
And trembles at his voice, trembles at his voice.

Chorus:

How great is our God, sing with me,
How great is our God, all will see,
How great, how great is our God.

Age to age he stands, and time is in his hands,
Beginning and the end, beginning and the end.
The Godhead, three in one: Father, Spirit, Son,
The lion and the lamb, the lion and the lamb. **(chorus)**

Name above all names, Worthy of all praise
My heart will sing how great is our God **2x (chorus)**

PARTAKING OF THE SACRAMENT

COMMUNION PRAYER

HYMN NO. 324

“Open My Eyes That I May See”

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

Beloved children of God, all the blessings of heaven are yours. Alleluia!

Ἡ ΒΑΠΤΙΣΙΣ

Τῶ ΧΡΙΣΤῶ





Prayer Concerns: Dan Wolfgang
Dorothy Moritz
Jeanette L. (friend of Jan Millin)
Family of Jollyfisher Ekpe, Jr. (friend of Wendy Wirsch)
Donna Palzer (friend of Debbie Watson)
Soukchay Khounxay (friend of Debbie Watson)
Cathy Shaheen
Monty Anderson
Vincent Evans (brother of Sue McOwen)
Liz & Larry Arnold (friends of Sandee Wilson)
Julia Bernanke (friend of Erin Watson)
Luca (friend of Jan Millin)
Amy Dietz & family (friend of Sandee Wilson)
Melissa Stokes (cousin of Sandee Wilson)
Jonie Garcia (mother of Dave Garcia)
Malory Mee (friend of Garcia family)
Allan Schrage (friend of Sue Rems)
Sue Ellen Nolan-Greeby (sister of Bill Watson)
Lois Williams (friend of Nina Resavage)
Connie Reisinger (friend of Wendy Wirsch)
Sharon Burrink (friend of Wendy Wirsch)
Rima Mironas (mother of Dalia Lucas)

Ongoing Concerns: David Rankin
Charles Sutton
Karen Meade
Debbie Edwards
Kerry Zimmerman
Debbie Watson
Robin Haug
Rob Salvia

PULPIT FLOWERS

The pulpit flowers are given in honor of Audrey Read from Peg Kaelin; and given to the glory of God. Deacons Leslie Bonner & 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

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: January 21st from 6PM to 8PM at NWPC (Lounge)

The next Men's Group get together is January 21st (theme Faith & Doubt). We will be meeting every month through May 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. 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!

Red Cross Blood Drive



Please join our lifesaving mission and schedule an appointment today!

Monday, February 19, 2024 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 November 6. 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.

WHOLYFIT™

WholyFit is a women's ministry for your mind, body and soul. We use gentle stretching and holding poses to increase stability, strength and flexibility as we grow closer in worship. We meet every Tuesday at 7:00 - 8:00 pm in the auditorium. Live music from Keith Rounds every first Tuesday of the month. Please contact Chelsea Rounds at mrsrounds@gmail.com for more information.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN CODE BLUE

Thank you for your help with Code Blue! Whether you prepared a meal, served a meal, worked in the kitchen, or staffed the shelter, each of you helped to provide our guests with a delicious meal, a safe environment and a bed inside during cold nights. Code Blue, a project of the Coalition to Shelter and Support the Homeless, was with Neshaminy from December 1 through December 28. During the month we were open 12 nights and were closed 16 nights. The number of guests ranged from 8 to 17. Through Neshaminy's generosity we were able to provide a WAWA Christmas \$25 gift card to each guest. The guests were very grateful, both for receiving an actual Christmas card and a gift card. Please keep them in your prayers!

NEW YEAR, NEW VOLUNTEERS FOR CODE BLUE

Even though Code Blue has left our building, it is still active through March at other churches. If you missed the opportunity to attend in-person training, there are 2 sessions scheduled for January. They are:

Saturday, January 6 at 9:30 a.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
301 N Main St
Doylestown, PA 18901

Wednesday, January 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Doylestown Borough Hall
10 Doyle St,
Doylestown, PA 18901

Each session will last approximately 2 hours.

For more information, go to the website at co2ssh.org
and look under New Volunteer Training.

THIS WEEK AT NESHAMINY

SUNDAY—Prayer Group 8:30 am Lounge

—Worship Service 9 am Sanctuary

—Food & Fellowship 10 am Auditorium

—Youth Group 6 pm Youth Room

MONDAY—Finance/Property Team Meeting 7 pm Lounge

TUESDAY—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

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.