



## NESHAMINY-WARWICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 21, 2024

### WELCOME

HYMN NO. 457

"I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art"

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: From God comes my salvation.

**People: For God alone my soul waits in silence.**

Leader: God alone is my rock and my salvation.

**People: God is my fortress; I shall never be shaken.**

Leader: Silence your scattered thoughts and lay down your distractions. God calls us here to worship.

**People: We are here to worship.**

Leader: Drop your nets and leave your boats. God is with us. Jesus calls us.

**People: We are here to worship.**

Leader: Let us worship God together.

## WORSHIP SONG

“Lord Reign In Me”

Over all the earth You reign on high  
Every mountain stream every sunset sky  
But my one request Lord my only aim  
Is that You reign in me again

*Chorus:*

*Lord reign in me  
Reign in Your power  
Over all my dreams  
In my darkest hour  
You are the Lord  
Of all I am  
So won't You reign in me again*

Over every thought over every word  
May my life reflect the beauty of my Lord  
'Cause you mean more to me than any earthly thing  
So won't You reign in me again (*Chorus*)

*(You may be seated)*

## SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 32:1-11

<sup>1</sup>Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. <sup>2</sup>Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit. <sup>3</sup>While I kept silent, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. <sup>4</sup>For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. <sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and you forgave the guilt of my sin. <sup>6</sup>Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them. <sup>7</sup>You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. <sup>8</sup>I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. <sup>9</sup>Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you. <sup>10</sup>Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD. <sup>11</sup>Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

Leader: The Word of the Lord  
People: Thanks be to God

## WORSHIP SONG

“We Give Thanks” (Psalm 107)

Once in the wilderness of our sin  
We wandered lost and without hope  
Into our desert waste God in grace  
Came to restore and bring us home  
Let the redeemed of God rise up and sing

We give thanks, O God, for Your steadfast love  
We give thanks, O God, for You are good  
Lord, You are good, we give thanks

Through every pain and trial, You provide  
Light in the dark of our distress  
Lifting us from on high when we cry  
Turning our grief to gratefulness  
Let the redeemed of God rise up and sing

**We give thanks, O God, for Your steadfast love  
We give thanks, O God, for You are good  
Lord, You are good**

**We give thanks, O God, for Your steadfast love  
We give thanks, O God, for You are good  
Lord, You are good, we give thanks**

### BRIDGE

You take the darkness and make it as light  
Hearts that were dead in sin, You raise to life  
You take a barren place and make it a spring  
Let the redeemed of God rise up and sing  
Let the redeemed of God rise up and sing! (Chorus)

## 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

"Christ Has Saved Us, Christ Alone!"

Lift your voices, let us sing praises to our gracious King!  
From His Spirit to our hearts, sweet assurance He imparts.  
Christ has saved us, Christ alone; by His blood our sin atoned.  
All the glory to Him alone! Christ has saved us, Christ alone.  
Christ has saved us, Christ alone!

No more fear and no more shame, Satan's lies are all the same.

If the guilt of sin delay, with assurance, we can say:  
Christ has saved us, Christ alone; by His blood our sin atoned.  
All the glory to Him alone! Christ has saved us, Christ alone!

When no more this life we see, then in heaven we shall be;  
there, we'll join the countless host and this shall be our boast:  
Christ has saved us, Christ alone; by His blood our sin atoned.  
All the glory to Him alone! Christ has saved us, Christ alone.  
Christ has saved us, Christ alone. Christ has saved us, Christ alone!

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus calls to us: change your hearts and change your lives! Repent, and believe the good news. The mercy and forgiveness we have already received enables us to be honest about the places in our lives in need of transformation. Let us confess our sin together.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of mercy, we confess that we have settled down in Nineveh. We have gotten comfortable in our categories: haves and have-nots, makers and takers, bigots and bystanders, self-starters and subordinates, law-abiders and illegals, the perpetrators and the innocent. We confess that we are comfortable living under systems of injustice and exploitation. We confess our discomfort in speaking truths that unmask idolatries. Make us ready to follow Jesus, ready to repent, and eager to change our hearts and lives. Call to us again, and show us your mercy. Let us hear your good news again. Amen.**

*(Please take a moment of silent confession)*

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

God desires relationship with us, and reconciliation for all of creation. Jesus comes bearing the good news of forgiveness and transformation. Receive the good news of God's grace: 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

Eternal God, we come to you again to pray for the church, the world, and all of the people and situations on our hearts. Hear us as we lift our prayers to you, aloud or in our hearts. We thank you that you care for those who are distant from us in relationship, geography, worldview or otherwise. For those people and communities, we pray ... We thank you for your faithfulness. When we see all the evil and suffering in our world, it can be easy to feel overwhelmed and to give up, but we are grateful that you have not given up on us. We offer our prayers now for the situations that seem to be beyond repair, healing, and hope ... We thank you for continuing to invite us to be partners in your transforming, reconciling and redeeming ministries in our communities and beyond. We pray for the church universal, and for the work of Christians around the globe. We pray for the work of this community of faith, and for ministries that are sharing your love and care in our community and beyond ... We thank you for the gift of relationship: for colleagues, friends, family and the communities to which we belong. When one rejoices, we all rejoice, and when one suffers, we all suffer. We offer our prayers of thanksgiving and our petitions and laments, for those who are on our hearts today ... We thank you for hearing our cries, for knowing what we need before a word is on our lips, and for holding in your loving care those people and situations known only to you. Unite us in our prayers and embolden us to follow Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray, saying,

## 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

With open hearts and open hands, we let go of the things that possess us, we offer our gifts to God, and we dedicate our lives in service to Jesus Christ. Freely we have received, now freely let us give.

## 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, change our hearts and our lives. Renew us by your good news. Use the gifts we bring for your holy work of transformation, as we seek to go where Jesus leads us. **Amen.**

*(You may be seated)*

## SCRIPTURE READING

Jonah 1:1-17

1 Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, <sup>2</sup>"Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it, for their wickedness has come up before me." <sup>3</sup>But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD. <sup>4</sup>But the LORD hurled a great wind upon the sea, and such a mighty storm came upon the sea that the ship threatened to break up. <sup>5</sup>Then the sailors were afraid, and each cried to his god. They threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten it for them. Jonah, meanwhile, had gone down into the hold of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep. <sup>6</sup>The captain came and said to him, "What are you doing sound asleep? Get up; call on your god! Perhaps the god will spare us a thought so that we do not perish." <sup>7</sup>The sailors said to one another, "Come, let us cast lots, so that we may know on whose account this calamity has come upon us." So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. <sup>8</sup>Then they said to him, "Tell us why this calamity has come upon us. What is your occupation? Where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?" <sup>9</sup>"I am a Hebrew," he replied. "I worship the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land." <sup>10</sup>Then the men were even more afraid and said to him, "What is this that you have done!" For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them so. <sup>11</sup>Then they said to him, "What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?" For the sea was growing more and more tempestuous. <sup>12</sup>He said to

them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great storm has come upon you." <sup>13</sup>Nevertheless, the men rowed hard to bring the ship back to land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more stormy against them. <sup>14</sup>Then they cried out to the LORD, "Please, O LORD, we pray, do not let us perish on account of this man's life. Do not make us guilty of innocent blood, for you, O LORD, have done as it pleased you." <sup>15</sup>So they picked Jonah up and threw him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. <sup>16</sup>Then the men feared the LORD even more, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows. <sup>17</sup>But the LORD provided a large fish to swallow up Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

## SERMON

"We All Have a Nineveh"  
Pastor Mark Lyndaker-Studer

*(Please stand if you are able)*

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Declaration of Faith)

**In forming his people and sending them into the world Jesus called individuals to be disciples. They were to share the joy of his companionship, to understand and obey his teachings, and to follow him in life and death. We confess that Christians today are called to discipleship. Life shared with Christ and shaped by Christ is God's undeserved gift to each of us. It is also God's demand upon every one of us, never perfectly fulfilled by any of us. Forgiven by God and supported by our siblings in Christ, we strive to become more faithful and effective in our daily practice of the Christian life.**

## HYMN NO. 442

"The Church's One Foundation"

## 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 God of second chances renew your sense of call and inspire you to go out and share the good news of forgiveness and hope!



**Prayer Concerns:** Family of Sally Hellings  
Family of Dan Wolfgang  
Jean Byrne (friend of Sandee Wilson)  
Yolanda Sisco (sister in law of Bill Sisco)  
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  
Vincent Evans (brother of Sue McOwen)  
Liz & Larry Arnold (friends of Sandee Wilson)  
Julia Bernanke (friend of Erin Watson)  
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)

**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 memory of Richard Goodman from his family; and given in loving memory of her mother, Virginia B. Haller from her daughter, Beth Haller. The flowers on the communion table are given in loving memory of her husband, William Gow, on his birthday from his wife, Laura Gow Stilinovich. Deacons Jen Kreischer & Doris Rowley 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 February 25th. If you are interested in donating pulpit flowers, please contact Dorothy Smith at 215-343-1142

### **MEN'S GROUP**

**Next Meeting: TONIGHT from 6PM to 8PM at NWPC (Lounge)**

The next Men's Group get together is January 21<sup>st</sup> (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!



Our annual congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, February 4, 2024 immediately following our worship service in the Sanctuary.

### 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!

### 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](http://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 19. 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.



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 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm. For additional information please contact Jan Millin at 215-820-3506 or [janmke12@gmail.com](mailto:janmke12@gmail.com).

### **FOOD COLLECTION**

The need for assistance is great and you can help! We still collect non-perishable food items for the Coordinating Council of Health and Welfare's Warminster Food Bank. Non-perishable food items can be dropped off in the bin right inside the double-glass doors by the Sanctuary any time. This ongoing mission is coordinated by the Deacons.

## **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](mailto:mrsrounds@gmail.com) for more information.

## THIS WEEK AT NESHAMINY

SUNDAY—Prayer Group 8:30 am Lounge  
—Worship Service 9 am Sanctuary  
—Food & Fellowship 10 am Auditorium  
—Christian Ed 10:30 am Book Lounge  
—Youth Group 6 pm Youth Room  
—Men's Group 6 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.