



# NESHAMINY-WARWICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 28, 2024

## WELCOME

HYMN NO. 391

"Take My Life"

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart.

**People: Great are your works, O Lord, pondered by all who delight in them.**

Leader: Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

**People: You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion.**

Leader: Come! Let us give thanks to the Lord with whole hearts.

**People: Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.**

Leader: Glory be to the One whose wonders are to be remembered.

**People: Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.**

Leader: The Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

**People: Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.**

Leader: The Lord feeds the righteous with truth.

**People: Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.**

Leader: Come! Let us give thanks to God.

## WORSHIP SONG

“Your Love Never Fails”

Nothing can separate even if I ran away  
Your love never fails  
I know I still make mistakes,  
but You have new mercies for me everyday  
Your love never fails

**You stay the same through the ages**  
**Your love never changes**  
**There may be pain in the night**  
**But joy comes in the morning**  
**And when the oceans rage**  
**I don't have to be afraid**  
**Because I know that You love me**  
**Your love never fails**

The wind is strong and the water's deep but  
I'm not alone here in these open seas  
Your love never fails  
The chasm is far too wide I never thought I'd reach the other side  
Your love never fails

You make all things work together for my good. (4x)

*(You may be seated)*

## SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 12:38-42

<sup>38</sup>Then some of the scribes and Pharisees said to him, “Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you.” <sup>39</sup>But he answered them, “An evil and adulterous generation asks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. <sup>40</sup>For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so for three days and three nights the Son of Man will be in the heart of the earth. <sup>41</sup>The people of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the proclamation of Jonah, and indeed something greater than Jonah is here! <sup>42</sup>The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to listen to the wisdom of Solomon, and indeed something greater than Solomon is here!

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

## WORSHIP SONG

### “You Are Good”

Lord, You are good And your mercy endureth forever  
Lord, You are good And your mercy endureth forever  
People from every nation and tongue  
From generation to generation

**We worship You Hallelujah, Hallelujah**  
**We worship You for who You are**  
**We worship You Hallelujah, Hallelujah**  
**We worship You for who You are**  
**For You Are Good**

Lord, You are Good And your mercy endureth forever  
Lord, You are good And your mercy endureth forever  
People from every nation and tongue  
From generation to generation

You are good, all the time, all the time, You are good  
You are good, all the time, all the time, You are good (2X)

## 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

### “With All Your Heart”

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus calls us to enter the joy of discipleship, the joy of following in his way. But sin clings closely, and we struggle to respond fully to Christ’s invitation. Let us seek God’s forgiveness so that we may know more deeply the joy God intends.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Merciful God, in Jesus, we have seen your glory. Yet our sinfulness often blocks out the light of Christ. We are quick to accuse and slow to confess. We find faults easily in others while ignoring our own shortcomings. We have squandered your gifts. We have turned from your ways. We have ignored your Word. Have mercy on us, compassionate God. Pour out your Holy Spirit on our sinful lives. Wash us with your love and cleanse us with your grace that day by day we might move closer to the people you would us be. Amen.**

*(Please take a moment of silent confession)*

## **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**Relentlessly God seeks us out with abundant grace and boundless mercy. This is good news! 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**

Holy God, eternal yet immediate, beyond yet near, we praise you for all that you have made, for grace that amazes, for mercy that cleanses, and for love that never lets us go. Hear our prayers, our shouts and our sighs, our whispers and our cries, and that which we can only speak deep within. Hear our prayers, for we long for all to be well, for all to be right, for all to be whole. Comfort the sick and encourage those who strive to heal them. Hold the mournful and grant them peace that passes understanding. Enlighten our leaders and give them a vision that promotes the common good. Shelter those reeling from stormy blasts. Sustain those starting on new adventures. Satisfy those who hunger and thirst for justice. We pray for teachers and students, for parents and children, for caregivers and care receivers, for gifts of knowledge and wisdom passed one to another. We pray silently now for those who are in our own hearts and for those listed in our prayer letter. Refresh your church. Give us a creative spirit as we travel together, sharing life and ministry. Renew our commitment to using well your abiding gifts of faith, hope and love. You have shown us in Jesus an example of courageous compassion and risky generosity and bold truth-telling. Help us to follow in his way so that we might know the fullness of life you intend for us all. God of each day and all days, hear us, hold us and keep us, for the sake of Jesus our Savior, who taught us to pray like this:

## 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 gratitude for God's faithfulness and with thanksgiving for all that we have received, let us bring our gifts to God.

## OFFERTORY

Keith Rounds

*(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

O God, with faith and hope, we offer these gifts. Use them, even as you use us, to accomplish your purposes in Jesus Christ, the Head of the church and the Lord of our lives. **Amen.**

*(You may be seated)*

## SCRIPTURE READING

Jonah 1:17-2:1-10

<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. **2** Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the belly of the fish, <sup>2</sup>saying, "I called to the LORD out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice. <sup>3</sup>You cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me. <sup>4</sup>Then I said, 'I am driven away from your sight; how shall I look again upon your holy temple?' <sup>5</sup>The waters closed in over me; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped around my head <sup>6</sup>at the roots of the mountains. I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever; yet you brought up my life from the Pit, O LORD my God. <sup>7</sup>As my life was ebbing away, I remembered the LORD, and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple. <sup>8</sup>Those who worship vain idols for sake their true loyalty. <sup>9</sup>But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Deliverance belongs to the LORD!" <sup>10</sup>Then the LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah out onto the dry land.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

## SERMON

"I Remembered"

Pastor Mark Lyndaker-Studer

*(Please stand if you are able)*

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from Colossians 1:15-20)

**Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible. All things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. Jesus Christ is head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn of the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.**

**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**

Go in peace with the knowledge that God's power is given to the church, the body of Christ, for the sake of the life of the world.



**Prayer Concerns:** Irmgard Moyer (sister in law of Debbie Watson)  
Nichole Trollman (daughter in law of Sandee Wilson)  
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)  
Donna Palzer (friend of Debbie Watson)  
Soukchay Khounxay (friend of Debbie Watson)  
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:** Cathy Shaheen  
David Rankin  
Charles Sutton  
Karen Meade  
Debbie Edwards  
Kerry Zimmerman  
Debbie Watson  
Robin Haug  
Rob Salvia





### **PULPIT FLOWERS**

The pulpit flowers are given in celebration of their granddaughter's, Emma DeChristopher, 12th birthday from Jan and Don Millin; and given in loving memory of their daughter, Janice Perkins, from Mary and John Whitehead. Deacons Patrick Van Tassel & Sandee Wilson 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

### **MEMORIAL SERVICE**

There will be a memorial service for Bob Maull on Friday, February 2nd at 11 am. Visitation with the family will start at 10 am.

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – SAVE THE DATE!**

Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday, July 17<sup>th</sup>

Theme TBD; more info to follow!

### **SPAGHETTI DINNER/YOUTH MISSION AUCTION**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup>, 5PM – 7:30PM**

This event is to raise money for our youth to go to Cross Missions in Charlotte, NC, from June 23<sup>rd</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for auction items! If you'd like to help you can put a basket together, donate a gift card or more, seek donations from a business or restaurant you are familiar with....and of course, come to the dinner and the auction!



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.

## MISSION CORNER



Please join the NWPC Walkers for a heartwarming evening under the starlit sky in Doylestown as we come together for the "Coldest Night of the Year" fundraiser. This event supports two local charities, Bucks County Opportunity Council and Bucks County Housing Group. The goal is to help make a difference in the lives of those facing homelessness. This unique event invites you to brave the cold, raising awareness and funds to provide warmth, shelter, and support for individuals in need.

We would love to have as many walkers possible, so feel free to bring a family member or friend to join us for this event. If you would like to join us, please consider adding a donation to the cause. Any amount is acceptable! You can **Venmo me @Sandy-McKeown (4781 is the code)** or hand me cash/check in church. Once all donations are received, I will write one check to the organization. You can also make a donation to our team, **NWPC Walkers** on the website below. Even if you aren't able donate to the cause, consider joining us for this time of fellowship. Any questions, you can contact me @ 215-534-4781, or email Sandy McKeown - smckeown5@yahoo.com. Check out the link below to find out more information about this event. <https://cnoy.com/location/doylestown>.

**Event Date:** Saturday, February 24th

**Event Details:** 4:00 pm: Meet at 100 N. Main Street in Doylestown  
(Bucks County Justice Center),  
Fill out a waiver when you arrive

5:00 pm: Walk either the 2K or 5K (paths will be clearly marked)

6:00 pm: Light refreshments are served

# 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

TUESDAY—WholyFit 7 pm Auditorium

WEDNESDAY—Bible Study 10 am Auditorium

THURSDAY—WTHA Board Meeting 2 pm Lounge  
—Choir Rehearsal 7 pm Choir Room

FRIDAY—Visitation with the family of Bob Maull 10 am Narthex  
—Memorial Service for Bob Maull 11 am Sanctuary

SUNDAY—Prayer Group 8:30 am Lounge  
—Worship Service 9 am Sanctuary  
—Congregational Meeting 10:00 am Sanctuary  
—Food & Fellowship Auditorium  
—Mary-Martha Circle 10:30 am Lounge  
—Youth Group 6 pm Youth 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.