



## NESHAMINY-WARWICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

First Sunday in Lent

February 18, 2024

### WELCOME

HYMN NO. 481

"Praise the Lord, God's Glories Show"

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: People of the covenant: God does not remember us according to our sins and transgressions.

**People: God remembers us according to God's own steadfast love!**

Leader: The God of our salvation teaches us right paths and leads us in truth.

**People: All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness; we put our trust in God.**

Leader: O God, in you we trust.

**People: Lead us in your truth and teach us,**

Leader: for you are the God of our salvation;

**People: for you we wait, for you we worship.**

## 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)

*(You may be seated)*

## SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 4:14-16

<sup>14</sup>Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. <sup>15</sup>For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup>Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**Leader:** The Word of the Lord

**People:** **Thanks be to God**

## WORSHIP SONG

“We are One In the Spirit”

We are one in the Spirit. We are one in the Lord.  
We are one in the Spirit. We are one in the Lord.  
And we pray the all unity, May one day be restored.

*And they'll know we are Christians By our love, by our love  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

We will walk with each other, We will walk hand in hand,  
We will walk with each other, We will walk hand in hand.  
And together will spread the news, That God is in our land. *(Chorus)*

We will work with each other, We will work side by side,  
We will work with each other, We will work side by side.  
And we'll guard each one's dignity, and save each one's pride. *(Chorus)*

All praise to the Father, From whom all things come,  
And all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son.  
All praise to the Spirit who makes us one. *(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.)*

## BAPTISM

Addison Jane Linsky

## SPECIAL MUSIC

“Thy Will”

Debbie Flick

## CALL TO CONFESSION

We pause here to examine our lives, our temptations, and the ways we have fallen short before our God. Let us confess our sins together.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Gracious God, as we begin this Lenten wilderness journey with Jesus, we confess our neglect of you and our faith. We make idols of nation, money and power. We build walls instead of better relationships. We fail to follow Jesus to the poor, the destitute, the stranger. Empty us this Lent, Holy God. Guide us in our faith so we can leave this wilderness season in right relationship with you. Amen.**

*(Please take a moment of silent confession)*

## **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Remember and receive these hopeful words from John 8:31-32, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." Receive God's truth. Receive God's grace. Accept the freedom God provides. Amen.

*(Please stand if you are able)*

## **RESPONSE TO ASSURANCE**

*"Gloria Patri"*

**Glorify 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**

O God, your Word is holy and hope-filled. We read these words from the Gospel of Mark today with joy and thanksgiving: "The Kingdom of God has come near." On this First Sunday of Lent, we give thanks for all the ways you come near and make yourself known to us, Great God. We give thanks for the boundaries you break on our behalf, crossing the heavens to come to earth, moving from the spiritual to the physical in the life and flesh of Jesus. As we follow your Beloved Son and our Beloved Savior into the wilderness of Lent, we pray for more signs of your "Kingdom come near" in our lives, the lives of those we love, and our world. God of all nations, the kingdoms we have built have desecrated your creation and established hierarchies of domination. We pray for an end to violence, war, hostage taking and terrorism, the abhorrent methods by which one tribe seeks to dominate another. May your kingdom come near, enlightening us to the error of our ways, to the consequences and costs of our sins, to alternative structures that promote peace, justice, and dignity for all life. Just as your Spirit possessed Jesus on the day of his baptism, may your Spirit fill us with the passion and the courage to pursue a more just world for all, the building of peaceful kingdoms, not

hierarchical kingdoms, where all can flourish, and all creation can be renewed. God of the incarnation, we praise you for the intimacy of knowing you through your son, Jesus Christ, and the way you come near in human flesh. You know our joy and our pain. You know our need and that which truly satisfies. You know our suffering and the path to healing. Your presence is balm to our wounds. Your love is an unfathomable grace. God be with those we know who are suffering and struggling, as well as those known only to you. We pray for the innocent trapped beneath falling bombs and warring nations ... We pray for those forced from their homes, unsafe and insecure and seeking asylum ... We pray for the unhoused and the hungry, struggling to survive ... We pray for the overwhelmed and exhausted, in need of respite, rest and relief ... We pray for those who are ill and their caregivers ... We pray for those who are struggling under the weight of grief ... God, come near to those who are suffering. Also, come near to those in our community, those on our prayer list, those we name silently before you now .... We lift these prayers to you, Gracious God, confident that you hear us and even know the prayers we are too afraid to pray. Hear us now as we join our hearts and our voices to pray the prayer Jesus taught us to pray by 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**

God calls us to lives of grateful generosity. Let us praise the Giver of all good gifts through our offering today.

#### **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

God of grace, you provide for us in amazing ways. Accept these offerings as signs of our gratitude and bless them to further Christ's ministry and mission among the poor, the suffering and the destitute. **Amen.**

*(You may be seated)*

## SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:9-15

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove upon him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." <sup>12</sup>And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup>He was in the wilderness forty days, tested by Satan, and he was with the wild beasts, and the angels waited on him. <sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God <sup>15</sup>and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

## SERMON

"Embracing Your Humanity"  
Pastor Mark Lyndaker-Studer

*(Please stand if you are able)*

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Apostles' Creed)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. 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**

May the God of covenant faithfulness enfold you; the beloved Son encourage you; and the Holy Spirit descend upon you in blessing; this day and forever.



**Prayer Concerns:** Sherri Shaffer (niece of Faye Wolfgang)  
Family of Irmgard Moyer (sister in law of Debbie Watson)  
Barbara Hayman (friend of Wendy Wirsch)  
Nichole Trollman (daughter in law of Sandee Wilson)  
Jean Byrne (friend of Sandee Wilson)  
Yolanda Sisco (sister in law of Bill Sisco)  
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)

**Ongoing Concerns:** Dorothy Moritz  
Cathy Shaheen  
David Rankin  
Charles Sutton  
Karen Meade  
Debbie Edwards  
Kerry Zimmerman  
Debbie Watson  
Robin Haug



## PULPIT FLOWERS

The pulpit flowers are given in loving memory of Harry Kieffer from his wife Dottie; and given in memory of loved ones from Charlotte Rugel. Deacons Dottie Kieffer & Jen Kreischer 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.



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

The next Men's Group get together is February 18<sup>th</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!



## RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Please join our lifesaving mission and schedule an appointment today!  
TOMORROW, 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](mailto:PSU2242@gmail.com) or 267-402-0040.

## **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!

Here are some ideas for some fun raffle baskets: Outdoor things for kids (bubbles, chalk, water toys, goggles, floats); fire pit with s'more kit; Plants and/or things to plant; fishing basket; family game night; outdoor games; pet grooming/toys; coffee, tea, espresso; massage/facial; hair salon; crock pot/cookware; lottery tickets; margarita/taco night; beach chair, cooler, towels; Legos; book club; arts & crafts; ice cream sundae supplies. Thank you!

### **Vacation Bible School – SAVE THE DATE!**

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

Our theme this year is: "Growing in God's Love: Parables Jesus Told"

### **MISSION CORNER**

SOUPerbowl Sunday was a huge success!!

The front of the stage was covered with soup cans and you donated \$200.00 besides  
**AWESOME!**

The Warminster Food Bank is very grateful as the need is growing

We will make this an annual event

As always your generosity is humbling

### **WOMEN OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

You've heard about the Founding Fathers, but do you know about the Founding Mothers? Sam Davis as George Washington and Mary Bauer as Martha Washington will present a program about the women of the American Revolution to benefit the William Tennent House Association. Come learn about Sybil Ludington and Molly Pitcher plus many more. The program will be held on Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 7PM in the church sanctuary. After their presentation George and Martha will make their way to the church auditorium for a meet and greet plus refreshments. The cost is \$10 or \$12 at the door. Please see Wendy Wirsch during Coffee Hour to make your reservation. You can also call her at 267-261-1274 or email [wendy@williamtennenthouse.org](mailto:wendy@williamtennenthouse.org).



## NWPC MUSICFEST

**Saturday, April 13, 2024, 7:00pm**

At NWPC, we have been blessed with a wide variety of musical talent. We would like to give our musicians an opportunity to showcase their talent. This 60 minute program, culminating in tasty desserts, is designed to benefit the music program at NWPC.

If you sing or play an instrument, we would love to have you participate! Accompanists available. Please register with Suzanne Zak Carver to obtain your spot. Call (215) 343-6060 ext. 104 [Suzanne.zak@nwpc.net](mailto:Suzanne.zak@nwpc.net) to sign up today!

## COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR

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](mailto: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 10:15 am Auditorium  
—Deacon Meeting 10:30 am Book Lounge  
—Youth Group 6 pm Youth Room  
—Men’s Group 6 pm Lounge

MONDAY—Office Closed for Presidents’ Day  
—Red Cross Blood Drive 2 pm Auditorium  
—Session Meeting 7 pm Lounge

TUESDAY—WholyFit 7 pm Auditorium

WEDNESDAY—Bible Study 10 am Auditorium

THURSDAY—Choir Rehearsal 7 pm Choir Room

SATURDAY—Private Function 8 am Auditorium, Youth Room & Nursery  
—WTHA Fundraiser 7 pm Sanctuary then Auditorium

SUNDAY—Prayer Group 8:30 am Lounge  
—Worship Service 9 am Sanctuary  
—Food & Fellowship Auditorium 10:15 am Auditorium  
—Adult Mission Team Meeting 10:30 am Lounge

### 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.