



NESHAMINY-WARWICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Second Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2024

WELCOME

HYMN NO. 315

“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let us not be ashamed of our Savior. Let us sing and praise our God out loud.

People: In the midst of the crowd, we will praise you. In our community, we will bear witness to our faith.

Leader: Let us set our minds on divine things.

People: Let us take up our cross and follow Christ.

Leader: Christ died for our trespasses but was raised for our justification.

People: Thanks be to God.

WORSHIP SONG

“Open the Eyes of My Heart”

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord

Open the eyes of my heart

I want to see you, I want to see you (repeat)

To see you high and lifted up

Shining in the light of your glory

Pour out your power and love

As we sing holy, holy, holy

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord

Open the eyes of my heart

I want to see you, I want to see you (repeat)

Holy, holy, holy (3X)

I want to see you

(You may be seated)

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 8:31-35

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes and be killed and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." ³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

WORSHIP SONG

"Lord, You Have My Heart"

Lord You have my heart and I will search for Yours.

Jesus, take my life and lead me on.

Lord, You have my heart and I will search for Yours.

Let me be to You a sacrifice.

And I will praise You Lord, and I will sing of love come down.

And as You show Your face, we'll see Your glory here.

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

Lynne VanFossen

CHOIR ANTHEM

"Fix Our Eyes"

We run this race to win a crown. We lay aside the things that weigh us down.

We will fix our eyes on You.

The cheers of those gone on before, we hear them calling out from heaven's shore
to only fix our eyes on You.

If all the world rise up in hate, holiness they desecrate,
fix our eyes on You.

Fix our eyes on You, O Jesus, O Jesus, O Jesus.

Fix our eyes on You. You are the Author, Completer of our faith.

Surrounded by these witnesses who hold us to the truth, O Lord, we fix our eyes on You.

When all has changed from what we knew, if mountains shake and ancient landmarks move,
we will fix our eyes on You.

If things unheard of come to pass, the wrong gets strong and then the good collapse,
our faith in You will hold us fast.

If evil makes a new debut, folly has become what's true,
fix our eyes on You.

Fix our eyes on You, O Jesus, O Jesus, O Jesus.

Fix our eyes on You. You are the Author, Completer of our faith.

Surrounded by these witnesses who hold us to the truth, O Lord, we fix our eyes on You.

We see You in the distance! We run without retreat,
and ev'ry trophy, ev'ry prize we lay them at Your feet.

Fix our eyes on You, O Jesus, O Jesus, O Jesus. Fix our eyes on You.

You are the Author, Completer of our faith.

Surrounded by these witnesses who hold us to the truth, O Lord, we fix our eyes on You.

Surrounded by these witnesses who hold us to the truth, O Lord, we fix our eyes on You.

CALL TO CONFESSION

When we cry to God in prayer and confession, God hears. Let us approach God's throne of grace with confidence and faith.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Savior God, the public spectacle of the cross calls us to account. We hesitate and hedge when opportunities arise to speak of you. We are shy in faith and not bold to proclaim. Your story saves, yet we keep it to ourselves. Forgive our reticence of faith. Forgive the ways we fail to serve as public witnesses. Help us be your candlelight, held high to set the world aglow. Amen.

(Please take a moment of silent confession)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

God does not forsake us. Our God is a gracious God, abounding in steadfast love. Know that in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and be at peace. 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)

PASTORAL PRAYER

God our hope and our holy companion, we come before you on this Second Sunday of Lent, knowing we can be honest because you know us; you know our thoughts, our struggles, our joys. You know our prayers even before they form in our minds and are articulated with whispered words. You know how we struggle. You know how we hope. You delight in our joy. You desire our peace. What is the point of this prayer, then, we honestly ask of you who already knows everything? Or of any prayer, our doubt cries, when the world's struggles have opened a hole that seems impossible to fill? Can you stop the bombs from falling, God? Can you soften the hearts of warring dictators? Can you cure the cancer ravaging our loved one's body? Can you unburden the depressed from the weight of their sorrow? Can you make the chaos make sense? God, we are vulnerable, and we know it. We need you. As the thirsty deer longs for the flowing stream, our souls thirst for you. Our hearts ache for your love.

Our spirits cry for relief from the turmoil and the sorrow. Our bodies yearn for the ecstatic movement of joy. Our minds want to be assured, without a doubt, of your presence among us and with us. Life is a wilderness, and so often we are lost. Therefore, in these long wilderness days of Lent, we audaciously ask for your help and hope. Comfort the sick and the grieving. Heal our wounds of heart and body. Calm our frantic anxieties. God, come near to us this Second Sunday of Lent, and near to those we love. Sit and stay awhile. And hear our prayers, as we pray the prayer Jesus taught us 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

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

God of grace, you provide for us in amazing ways. May our offerings provide for others and be used to further Christ's ministry and mission. **Amen.**

(You may be seated)

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 9:30-32

³⁰They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it, ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

SERMON

"Saving Your Life"

Pastor Mark Lyndaker-Studer

(Please stand if you are able)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from A Brief Statement of Faith)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

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 blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, uphold you on the way.



Prayer Concerns: Nancy Tuggle (friend of Sandee Wilson)
Sherry 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)
Yolanda Sisco (sister in law of Bill Sisco)
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)
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 Henry Strawn and Dorothy Strawn Petry from Sue Doerfler; and given to the glory of God. Deacons Doris Rowley & 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.



YOUTH MISSION AUCTION

Saturday, March 2nd, 5pm – 7:30pm

This event is to raise money for our youth to go to Cross Missions in Charlotte, NC, from June 23rd – 28th. 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 14th – Wednesday, July 17th

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



EASTER EGG HUNT

Palm Sunday, March 24th

at 2pm for children ages 2 – grade 5.

Children will be divided into age groups.

If you would like to help we are in need of the following donations: Plastic Eggs, Individually wrapped candy(NO NUTS OR NUT BUTTER!!!), prizes (i.e.,chocolate bunnies, small stuffed animals, children's books, bubbles, balls, coloring books, small board games, fast food, Dairy Queen or coffee shop gift cards {\$5})

Please bring all donations by Sunday, March 17th.

Bring you children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, neighbors!!

All are welcome!



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 to sign up today!

*Thank
you*

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

Adult Mission Team – We are looking for volunteers to assist in rehabbing houses in Phoenixville this spring with our partner Good Works.

Good Works is a Christian nonprofit organization whose mission is: Transforming lives by repairing homes for low-income families and sharing the hope found in Jesus Christ. Our services are currently offered to homeowners in central & northern Chester County, PA. Repairs are provided at no cost to the homeowners and volunteers do most of the work.

Do you have construction/handyman skills? Perfect – your help and guidance is needed. No construction skills but are willing to follow directions and learn new skills? Perfect - there is work for you too. We have all sorts of skill levels. The tasks are varied so we can match people to the available tasks. There is always a supervisor to guide us.

Our group typically works at the same site or sometimes we split into two groups so you will always be with someone from our team.

We have **six** dates planned - most are the 3rd Thursday of the month. You can sign up for one date or all four dates:

Thursday 3/21

Thursday 4/11 – Second Thursday of the month

Thursday 5/16

Thursday 9/19

Thursday 10/17

Thursday 11/21

If you can't volunteer but would like to donate to Good Works please visit <https://www.goodworksinc.org/> or scan the QR code



Contact Dave or Darlene Baker if interested @ dbaker@dbrobertsgroup.com in learning more about this volunteer opportunity or to be added to our Mission Team distribution List. Example – Darlene has NO construction skills but has helped many times and learned lots of new skills.

Thanks to all for Making a Difference. Join us for the fun and fellowship and giving back.

THIS WEEK AT NESHAMINY

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

MONDAY—Office opening at 10 am

TUESDAY—WholyFit 7 pm Auditorium

WEDNESDAY—Bible Study 10 am Auditorium

THURSDAY—Choir Rehearsal 7 pm Choir Room

SATURDAY—Spaghetti Dinner 5 pm Auditorium

SUNDAY—Prayer Group 8:30 am Lounge
—Worship Service 9 am Sanctuary
—Food & Fellowship Auditorium 10:15 am 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.