



## NESHAMINY-WARWICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

### WELCOME

HYMN NO. 142

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather this day in joy and Christian fellowship,

**People: for we are the church of Jesus Christ!**

Leader: We pray for the Holy Spirit to be among us,

**People: opening our hearts and minds to the worship of God!**

Leader: In the wilderness, water brings life.

**People: Seek us out, O God, and take us to the water.**

Leader: In the Word of God, the good news gives light.

**People: Seek us out, O God, and fill us with understanding.**

Leader: In the bread and the wine, the body of our Savior nourishes everyone.

**People: Seek us out, O God, and give us yourself.**

Leader: Here is the water of life, the word that feeds, the food of eternity. Come and praise the vine that gives all goodness.

## WORSHIP SONG

### “Your Grace Is Enough”

Great is Your faithfulness oh God. You wrestle with the sinner’s heart.  
You lead us by still waters and to mercy.  
And nothing can keep us apart.

Chorus:

So remember Your people Remember Your children  
Remember Your promise Oh God...  
Your grace is enough. Your grace is enough.  
Your grace is enough for me. *(Repeat)*

Great is Your love and justice God.  
You use the weak to lead the strong. You lead us in the song of Your salvation.  
And all Your people sing along. *(Chorus)*

Great is Your love and justice God.  
You use the weak to lead the strong. You lead us in the song of Your salvation.  
And all Your people sing along. *(Chorus)*

Your Grace is enough. Heaven reaching down to us.  
Your Grace is enough for me.  
Your Grace is enough. I’m covered in your love.  
Your grace is enough for me.

*(You may be seated)*

## SCRIPTURE READING

John 15:1-8

**15** “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

## WORSHIP SONG

### "Beautiful Things"

All this pain, I wonder if I'll ever find my way  
I wonder if my life could really change at all

All this earth, could all that is lost ever be found  
Could a garden come up from this ground at all

*You make beautiful things  
You make beautiful things out of the dust  
You make beautiful things  
You make beautiful things out of us*

All around, hope is springing up from this old ground  
Out of chaos life is being found in You

You make me new  
You are making me new

## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Zeng (Suzy) Hoffman, Andrew Ritting, Jenna Ritting, Brian Toro, & Victoria Toro

## 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

### "Come, Holy Spirit"

Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune our hearts to sing Your praise,  
tune our hearts to sing Your praise.

Come, Holy Spirit, fall upon this sacred place.  
Fill this house of worship with Your perfect grace.  
Shine Your light within us. Surround us with Your wind.  
Blaze in us a mission, give to us a vision, revive us, Lord, again.

*(Continued)*

Come, Holy Spirit, lead us in Your way.  
Give us all one language, one voice to sing Your praise.  
Make our lives Your holy temple. Make our hearts Your royal throne.  
We proclaim Your matchless glory. You are God alone.

Come, Holy Spirit, (Come, Holy Spirit,) make us strong and bold (come, Holy Spirit).  
Burn in us Your image (come, Holy Spirit). Refine us into gold (into gold).  
Let us be Your servants. Lord, blaze in us anew.  
Shine on us Your glory, shine on us Your glory, shine on us, Lord, today.

Shine on us, bright Holy Spirit, source of everlasting light.  
Burn in us a sense of mission, make us candles in the night.  
Give us courage, grant us wisdom. Let us all Your grace proclaim  
so the world will know Your glory, drawn to Your eternal flame.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!

## **BAPTISM**

Jovie Grace Musselman

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

When we come before God, we remember and proclaim who God is: merciful, just, holy, and loving. We must also remember who we are, and we are a people who have not always been the people God has called us to be. We have not always been merciful, just, holy or loving. So let us confess our sin, trusting in God's goodness to forgive us and create us anew for our lives ahead.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Gracious God, our hearts are restless until they find their home in you. Forgive our pursuit of things that separate us from you. We pursue success, realizing it will never be enough. We desire more possessions, knowing they are empty. We turn toward the world and hope we will find peace, knowing the world cannot provide it. Forgive us, we pray, and may our wandering hearts find their rest in you alone. Amen.**

*(Please take a moment of silent confession)*

## **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Hear the good news! In Christ, we are new creations. The old life is gone, thank God! A new life has begun. Know you are forgiven, and be at peace. **Thanks be to God! 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

Gracious God, you have promised to hear us when we pray to you, and we desperately need your guidance and care. We are a people who often walk around with a long list of concerns and worries on our minds. What a gift it is to come and offer them to you — for you are the author of all grace and goodness. We worry about the state of the world. More people die in Gaza and Ukraine, and we grieve it all. We pray for your peace to come to every war zone in the world and for leaders to be filled with a spirit of reconciliation and care. We worry about the state of our nation. In the run-up to the presidential election, it seems that divisiveness still reigns and that our very democracy is threatened. Remind us, Lord, of the greater good. May we focus not so much on ourselves, but on what we can do as a nation for those who need help the most. Let us live into our highest ideals and may we be agents of unity in a difficult time. We worry about our communities. May your hand be in all of our decisions as a community so that we can be a light unto the world. We worry about our those who are sick and suffering. It is difficult to witness illness, and we give you thanks for all the doctors and medical workers who live into their calling with grace and care. Help us each to offer a kind word and helping hand when we are able. May your Spirit be with all who suffer, giving them each a peace that passes all understanding. We worry about our families. We pray for your blessing on big families and small families, blood families and families of choice. We pray for our church family. May the bonds of loyalty and love that unite us with others be strengthened and may we share love with all. Lord, all that we know of goodness and love is found in the person of Jesus Christ and so we now join our voices together in the prayer that he 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

Having heard the good news and being assured of God’s love and grace, our only response is one of gratitude. Let us give thanks with what we have and who we are. Let us give our offering.

## 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

Gracious God, please accept these gifts and use them for the coming of your kingdom in this time and place. In gratitude for all we have and for your love for us, we pray with thanksgiving. **Amen.**

*(You may be seated)*

## SCRIPTURE READING

John 15:9-17

<sup>9</sup> As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup> "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup> I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup> I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

**Leader:** The Word of God for the people of God

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

## SERMON

"It's About Us"

Pastor Mark Lyndaker-Studer

*(Please stand if you are able)*

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** adapted from *Belonging to God: A First Catechism*)

**We are the church: the people who believe the good news about Jesus, who are baptized, and who share in the Lord's Supper. Through these means of grace, the Spirit renews us so that we may serve God in love. We believe the good news that gives us comfort that we belong to our faithful Savior Jesus Christ, who died and rose again for our sake, so that nothing will ever separate us from God's love. We know this good news through reading the Bible and hearing it taught and preached. The Holy Spirit inspired those who wrote the Bible and helps us rely on its promises today.**

**HYMN NO. 543**

*"Abide with Me"*

**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**

As Jesus entered into human life, his life is still alive in you. The blessing of Almighty God be upon you today and always.



**Prayer Concerns:** Rich McNeeley (cousin of Sally Traubel)  
Bill M. (nephew of Bob Louderback)  
Family of Helen Stever (aunt of Debbie Watson)  
Joe Cooney & family (friends of Cailin Augustine)  
Bill Chicosci (former member)  
Joyce & Jan Conover (friends of Wendy Wirsch)  
Liz Scuilli (Friend of Eloyce Sturgeon)  
Milt Haupt (friend of Sandee Wilson)  
Nancy Tuggle (friend of Sandee Wilson)  
Sherri Shaffer (niece of Faye Wolfgang)  
Jamal & Arielle Jackson (friends 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)  
Sue Ellen Nolan-Greeby (sister of Bill Watson)  
Lois Williams (friend of Nina Resavage)

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





### **PULPIT FLOWERS**

The pulpit flowers are given in memory of loved ones from Debbie Rankin Kapinos; and given in memory of their daughter, Krissy Millin from Jan & Don Millin. The third arrangement is given in memory of Muriel and Robert Goodman from the Goodman family. 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.

### **THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS**

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 beginning 9/21/16. 7:30-9:00. For additional information please contact Jan Millin at 215-820-3506 or janmke12@gmail.com.

### **GREETERS**

We are looking for one person to sign up each week to greet those arriving at our Sunday service. You are also welcome to bring your family or a friend to join you as greeters. It's a one-time commitment to stand at the entrance to the narthex and greet those coming in to the service from about 8:45 am until 9 am. This is a wonderful chance to reestablish our practice of ensuring that everyone coming to the service starts off with a warm welcome. We have a "sign-up genius" set up where you can sign up on-line at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A4DA9A92FABFF2-greeter>. If you are interested, but don't have access to a computer, please reach out to Jen Kreischer at 610-952-5319.

Many thanks for considering signed up as a greeter!

## MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Do you ever feel that you'd like to help out people less fortunate than yourself but not really sure how to go about it? This year Hong and Kyle are returning to Honduras for a week of medical missions aided by the Good Samaritan Baptist Mission. This ministry has many different ministries including teaching aspiring pastors, running a Christian school for grades K-12, and running over 30 kitchens to feed the needy all across Honduras. You can read all about their history, ministries, and vision on their website: [www.goodsamaritan.ms](http://www.goodsamaritan.ms).

Two of the specific ways you can help the needy are to either sponsor a child or to donate money for food bags. If you'd like to sponsor a child – just click on the “Opportunity of a Lifetime” box. They have 3 different levels of monthly sponsorship to help a child get an education they would never get otherwise. If you'd like to donate money for food for the hungry – just click on the “Feed the Hungry” box. There you can donate as little as \$10 to supply food for those in need.

## TOUR OF THE MORAVIAN POTTERY AND TILE WORKS

The William Tennent House Association invites you to a tour of the Moravian Pottery and Tile Works. Dive into the world of Henry Chapman Mercer. Explore the decorative halls and historic workshops that lie throughout the grounds. Watch craftsmen as they turn Bucks County Clay into Mercer Tiles. The tour will be held at 10AM on Saturday, May 11, 2024. The cost is \$15 per person. We can take 20 people on the tour. The Moravian Pottery and Tile works is located at 130 E. Swamp Road, Doylestown, PA 18901. For more information or questions contact Wendy Wirsch, 267-261-1274 or [wbw42451@gmail.com](mailto:wbw42451@gmail.com). Please see Wendy during Coffee Hour to sign up.

## PHILLIES VS. HOUSTON ASTROS BUS TRIP

**Tuesday, August 27, 2024**



A bus trip has been planned to go see the Phillies play the Houston Astros at Citizens Bank Park on Tuesday, August 27. We will leave the church at 3:30 p.m. All are welcome to go, young and old alike. Ask your extended family members as well as friends. Thirty-five (35) tickets have been reserved so it's on a first-come first-serve basis. Cost is \$54.00, which includes your ticket as well as the motor coach, and gratuities. We are sitting in Section 419, Rows 5 thru 9.

Deadline is July 1. If you have any questions, please contact Dorothy Smith at 215-343-1142.

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto: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  
—The 300th Meeting 10:30 am Lounge

TUESDAY—WholyFit 7 pm Auditorium

WEDNESDAY—Bible Study 10 am Auditorium

THURSDAY—Choir Rehearsal 7 pm Choir Room

SATURDAY—Private Function 9 am Auditorium

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