



NESHAMINY-WARWICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

June 23, 2024

WELCOME

HYMN NO. 482

"Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: When the storms of life arise

People: and the waves threaten to overturn the boat of our faith,

Leader: remember the power of our Savior

People: to calm, to still, to establish peace.

Leader: God alone laid the foundations of the earth.

People: The morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy.

Leader: From the midst of the whirlwind, God speaks with power.

People: We have seen the deeds of the Lord, who commands and raises the stormy wind and also makes the storm be still. We ourselves have seen the wondrous deeds of the Lord!

WORSHIP SONG

"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
Leaning on the everlasting arms,
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

*Leaning, leaning, Safe and secure from all alarms,
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.*

Oh, how sweet to walk in the pilgrim way,
Leaning on the everlasting arms,
Oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
Leaning on the everlasting arms. (Chorus)

What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
Leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
Leaning on the everlasting arms. (Chorus)

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him!
How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
O for grace to trust him more!

Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus
just to take him at his word
Just to rest upon his promise
And to know, "Thus saith the Lord." (Chorus)

(You may be seated)

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Samuel 17:1-11

17 Now the Philistines gathered their armies for battle; they were gathered at Socoh, which belongs to Judah, and encamped between Socoh and Azekah, in Ephes-dammim. ²Saul and the Israelites gathered and encamped in the valley of Elah and formed ranks against the Philistines. ³The Philistines stood on the mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on the mountain on the other side, with a valley between them. ⁴And there came out from the camp of the Philistines a champion named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was four cubits and a span. ⁵He had a helmet of bronze on his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail; the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of bronze. ⁶He had greaves of bronze on his legs and a javelin of bronze slung between his shoulders. ⁷The shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam, and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron, and his shield-bearer went before him. ⁸He stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why have you come out to draw up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. ⁹If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants, but if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us." ¹⁰And the Philistine said, "Today I defy the ranks of Israel! Give me a man, that we may fight together." ¹¹When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

WORSHIP SONG

"I Will Sing Praise to God"

I will sing praise to God
He has lifted me up
He heard my cry for help
And He filled my cup

Chorus:

His favor extends for a lifetime
His grace gives me strength each day
My soul shall sing His praise
Forevermore

I'll put my trust in Him
God, my refuge and strength
For when my life seems lost
He will show me the way **(Chorus)**

(Children 5th grade and under may go to Sunday School at this time)

BAPTISM

Sophia James Toro

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Trust in You”

Wendy Uzelac, Melissa Meade and Sue Rugel

CALL TO CONFESSION

God gathers and prepares us for worship. Let us confess the sins that detract and distract us from God’s path.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we doubt you and are people of little faith. When the circumstances of our lives overwhelm and the tragedy of the news leaves us lamenting the state of our world, we wonder where you are or if you even exist. Does the universe really bend toward justice? Does this justice include us and those we love? Does this justice include the innocent caught in the crosshairs of war? Forgive us, God, for the evils we perpetuate, the unjust systems from which we cannot see our way clear. Claim us and guide us in working toward the Beloved Community you so desire for us, where all your children live in peace. Amen.

(Please take a moment of silent confession)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Christ has set us free. Claim your forgiveness. Rejoice in God’s grace. Respond with love. 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 of mercy, the suffering of our world is overwhelming. Innocents are killed by the bombs of war. Terrorists hold hostages. Dictators use political manipulation and violence to hoard power. Guns in the hands of broken people continue to destroy lives. All this suffering leads us to ask, like Job, "Why?" and "Where are you?" Even as we suffer, God, we recognize the many ways you show up for us, the many ways you offer comfort, support and care. We, like Job, are humbled before you. We do not and cannot know your ways. We do not know the plan and the path you intend for us or our world. So we bow before you, humbly, reverently, to lift our prayers for all who suffer. In your mercy, God, hear our prayers. We pray for those caught in the cycle of violence, the victims and the perpetrators, that all may find their way to peace. We pray for those suffering from disease, that their bodies might find their way to healing and wholeness. We pray for those suffering from exhaustion and burnout, that their spirit might be lifted, their purpose renewed, their energy restored. We pray for those suffering from hopelessness, that their faith finds its wings, their spirit finds its way to soar. We pray for mother earth, neglected and abused, that she is renewed and her flourishing respected.

Time of Silent Prayer (2 minutes)

Hear these prayers of your people, Holy God, and as the Body of Christ, hear us as we pray the prayer our Savior taught us,

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

In gratitude to God for all our blessings, let us bless others with a portion of all we have been given. Let us present our offerings to God and God's ministry.

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

Most generous God, you have blessed us with gifts to serve and share. May the offerings we present today be used to promote the peace, justice and healing you desire for us and your world. **Amen.**

(You may be seated)

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Samuel 17:12-24

²Now David was the son of an Ephrathite of Bethlehem in Judah named Jesse, who had eight sons. In the days of Saul the man was already old and advanced in years. ¹³The three eldest sons of Jesse had followed Saul to the battle; the names of his three sons who went to the battle were Eliab the firstborn, and next to him Abinadab, and the third Shammah. ¹⁴David was the youngest; the three eldest followed Saul, ¹⁵but David went back and forth from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem. ¹⁶For forty days the Philistine came forward and took his stand, morning and evening. ¹⁷Jesse said to his son David, "Take for your brothers an ephah of this parched grain and these ten loaves, and carry them quickly to the camp to your brothers; ¹⁸also take these ten cheeses to the commander of their thousand. See how your brothers fare, and bring some token from them." ¹⁹Now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel were in the valley of Elah fighting with the Philistines. ²⁰David rose early in the morning, left the sheep with a keeper, took the provisions, and went as Jesse had commanded him. He came to the encampment as the army was going forth to the battle line, shouting the war cry. ²¹Israel and the Philistines drew up for battle, army against army. ²²David left the things in charge of the keeper of the baggage, ran to the ranks, and went and greeted his brothers. ²³As he talked with them, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, came up out of the ranks of the Philistines and spoke the same words as before. And David heard him. ²⁴All the Israelites, when they saw the man, fled from him and were very much afraid.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

People: **Thanks be to God**

SERMON

“Crushing the Serpent” Pastor Mark Lyndaker-Studer

(Please stand if you are able)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God’s commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God’s condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

HYMN NO. 467

“How Great Thou Art”

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 power of God uphold you, the peace of Christ rest upon you, and the Holy Spirit defend you, now and always.



Prayer Concerns: Youth Group & Leaders going on Cross Mission Trip
Anita Lyndaker-Studer
Carolyn Wallace
Marge Ayres (sister of Joe Mazeika)
Tyler Lackett (friend of Wendy Wirsch)
Dawn Hampson (daughter in law of Eloyce Sturgeon)
Leslie Bonner
Joyce Z. (friend of Jan & Don Millin)
Kay and Al (friends of Sandee Wilson)
Carmen Maligia (friend of Bill Watson)
Rich McNeeley (cousin of Sally Traubel)
Bill M. (nephew of Bob Louderback)
Kathy Taylor (friends of Wendy Wirsch)
Liz Sculli (Friend of Eloyce Sturgeon)
Milt Haupt (friend of Sandee Wilson)
Sherri Shaffer (niece of Faye Wolfgang)
Donna Palzer (friend of Debbie Watson)
Vincent Evans (brother of Sue McOwen)
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: Arielle Jackson
Connie Reisinger
David Rankin
Charles Sutton
Debbie Edwards
Kerry Zimmerman
Debbie Watson



PULPIT FLOWERS

The pulpit flowers are given by Philomena Walbert in loving memory of her husband, William; and given in loving memory of Frank Henderson, their dad, on his birthday from Jan & Jim Helsel. The third arrangement is given by Kim Richter in loving memory of her husband, Randy. 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.

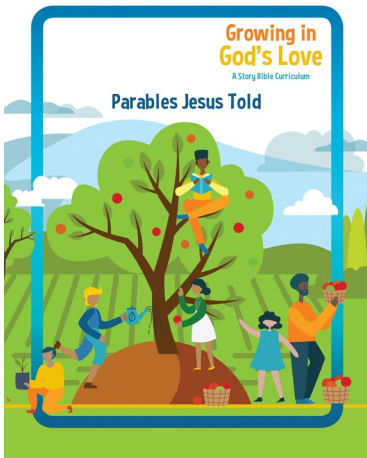


JULY FOOD DRIVE.

But do not forget to do good and share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. Hebrews 13:16

We have a great opportunity to serve those in need and share our blessings.

The Mission Team is hosting a community food drive. There will be two different collection dates for you to choose from. **Saturday July 20th, or July 27th.** We will be creating smaller collection areas too. We will need all available hands on Sunday July 28th for Sorting Day!!! Directly after Food & Fellowship we can all help sort the donations to be delivered to the Warminster Food Bank. If you are interested in getting involved or have a question, please talk to Barb Louderback (blouderback@hotmail.com).



Mark your calendars!
VBS 2024 – July 14th – 17th

GROWING IN GOD'S LOVE! PARABLES JESUS TOLD!

As always we are looking for lots of helpers! Crafts, Games, Snack Prep, Group Leaders. If you can help **OR if you're looking for a way to use your creativity and would like to lead in decorating the sanctuary, please contact Donna (donna.mazeika@nwpc.net)** Registration forms are on the table in the outer narthex. They can be completed and returned to Donna.

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.

WHOLYFIT™

Hello WholyFitters! WholyFit is a women's fitness ministry that meets every Tuesday from 7 to 8 pm in the Lloyd Rickner Auditorium. It's low impact, low pressure but high in worship and community. All ages and fitness levels are welcome. Even if you need to sit in a chair, come worship with us!!

WholyFit will not be meeting from July 2 to August 6. Classes will resume August 13. If you have questions, please contact Chelsea Rounds at Mrscrounds@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> or scan the QR. 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!

THIS WEEK AT NESHAMINY

SUNDAY—Youth Group leaving for Mission Trip
—Prayer Group 8:30 am Lounge
—Worship Service 9 am Sanctuary
—Food & Fellowship 10:15 am Auditorium

MONDAY—Office Closed

TUESDAY—WholyFit 7 pm Auditorium

FRIDAY—Youth Group returning from Mission Trip

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