



NESHAMINY-WARWICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 25, 2024

WELCOME

HYMN NO. 366

"Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Lord redeems the life of his servants.

People: Thanks be to God!

Leader: No one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.

People: Praise the Lord!

Leader: Christ abides in us,

People: And we abide in Him.

Leader: Christ has the words of eternal life;

People: We believe and trust that He is the Holy One of God.

Leader: As we hear the gospel of peace today,

People: Let us choose again whom we will serve.

Leader: We will serve the God of liberation and new life.

People: the God who hears and answers when we call.

Leader: We bring our praises and our prayers to God,

People: Trusting God to meet us as we gather. Let us worship our God together!

WORSHIP SONG

“Hallelujah (Your Love is Amazing)”

Your love is amazing, steady and unchanging
Your love is a mountain, firm beneath my feet
Your love is a mystery, how gently lift me
When I am surrounded, your love carries me

Hallelujah, hallelujah
Hallelujah, your love makes me sing
Hallelujah, hallelujah
Hallelujah, your love makes me sing

Your love is surprising, I can feel it rising
All the joy that’s growing deep inside of me
Every time I see you, all your goodness shines through
And I can feel this God song, rising up in me

(You may be seated)

SCRIPTURE READING

Joshua 24:1-2

24 Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. ²And Joshua said to all the people, “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

WORSHIP SONG

“Vast as the Heavens”

Your love, oh Lord
As vast as the heavens
It is overwhelming to me
Your faithfulness reaches the skies, the skies
Your righteousness towers over these mountains
Of struggle in my life (Repeat)

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.)

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Worship Christ the Mighty King”

Emily Smith

CALL TO CONFESSION

Our psalm for today reminds us: “The Lord redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in God will be condemned”. Trusting that God is always more ready to forgive than we are to confess, let us turn to God in prayer, seeking forgiveness and new life.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, through Christ you abide in us, and you invite us to abide in you. But so often we are restless and unsatisfied. Instead of resting in the fullness of life Christ offers to us, we chase after money and fame, recognition and power, status and control. Instead of honoring the image of God in all our neighbors, we push others down in the pursuit of our own desires. Forgive us for forgetting that you call us to a different way of being in the world, to lives grounded in the self-giving love of Christ. Lead us out of self-interest and into communal care for one another and the world you have made. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

(Please take a moment of silent confession)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

John's Gospel tells us: “God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him”. Christ forgives us and makes us whole. Christ fills us with life and sets us free for love. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

(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 Three-in-One and One-in-Three, we give thanks that you draw us into community with you, just as your three persons live in perpetual community, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. Thank you for the many gifts of grace that flow into our lives when we enter the embrace of your love: for your nearness in times of trouble, for your guidance in times of uncertainty, for the promise of hope. We thank you, too, that you draw us into community with our fellow human beings. We thank you for the gifts of this faith community. In this time of conflict in the world, bind us to one another and to you, that we may bear faithful witness to your love. Help us to care for others as you care for us. May the work we do in your name show those around us what is possible when people commit to working together for the common good. Loving Lord, we pray for our world marred by violence, arrogance, greed and injustice. We grieve the ways the “spiritual forces of evil” which the Apostle Paul wrote about still wreak havoc in our world today. As we fight against racism, sexism, poverty and every form of oppression, remind us that the fight is not against our neighbors who think or believe differently from us, but against the powers and principalities that oppose your reign of justice and peace. Ground us in your love and fill us with your Spirit that we may see Christ’s face in the face of every person we meet. When we are tempted to treat our neighbors as enemies, soften our hearts and move us to offer your transformative grace. Give us patience, perseverance and hope as we join you in the work of building the kingdom of God. God of grace, you promise to be near to the brokenhearted and save the crushed in spirit. We bring before you those in our community who are sick or recovering, grieving or in pain. Comfort their spirits by your Spirit and ease their sufferings with your healing mercies. Make us attentive to their needs and bearers of your loving presence. Lord of all, we thank you that through Christ’s life, death and resurrection, you have already won victory over sin and death. Help us to live in ways that reflect and respond to your overflowing love. We now lift up our prayers to you in a time of silence...

Time of Silent Prayer

And now we are bold to pray together, as our Lord, Jesus 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

When Christ abides in us and we abide in him, we can see that everything we have is a gift from God. The gifts of time, talent and treasure God has entrusted us with are not to be hoarded, but to be shared, to give life to others as Christ gives life to us. Let us now return to God a portion of what God has so generously given to us.

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

Holy God, we thank you that we have heard your words of eternal life today. As a sign of our gratitude, we offer you these gifts. Take what we have given and multiply it for the good: the good of our faith community, the good of our neighbors, and the good of the world you so love. Shape and mold us so that our whole lives become a loving response to your goodness. In the name of the one whose life gives life to the world, Jesus Christ, **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Joshua 24:14-18

¹⁴"Now, therefore, revere the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt and serve the LORD. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living, but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." ¹⁶Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods, ¹⁷for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went and among all the peoples through whom we passed, ¹⁸and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

People: **Thanks be to God**

SERMON

“Choose this Day”
Pastor Mark Lyndaker-Studer

(Please stand if you are able)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Philippians 2:5–11, Book of Common Worship)

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

HYMN NO. 155

“Rejoice, the Lord is King”

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

The blessing of God, who delivers us, the grace of Christ, who sustains us, and the communion of the Spirit, who empowers us, be with you always.



Prayer Concerns: Pete Davis (friend of Mike O'Neill)
Sally Ault (family of Melissa Meade)
Thomas Ceneviva (friend of Laura Stillonovich)
Cyndee Carr (friend of Laura Stillonovich)
Karin Heart (friend of Laura Stillonovich)
Kayla (friend of Sandee Wilson)
Nicholas Stickle
Alice Bray
Debbie and Bob Stokes (friends of Sandee Wilson)
Gloria Rossi (friend of Lisa Pearsall)
Michele Rouseau (friend of Wendy Wirsch)
Swarling Aguero (friend of Dalia Lucas)
Paulette Gold (friend of Sandee Wilson)
Joseph Kaplan (friend of Dalia Lucas)
Marge Ayres (sister of Joe Mazeika)
Dawn Hampson (daughter in law of Eloyce Sturgeon)
Leslie Bonner
Kay and Al (friends of Sandee Wilson)
Carmen Maligia (friend of Bill Watson)
Rich McNeeley (cousin of Sally Traubel)
Liz Sculli (Friend of Eloyce Sturgeon)
Milt Haupt (friend of Sandee Wilson)
Sherri Shaffer (niece of Faye Wolfgang)

Ongoing Concerns: Rina Mironas
Cathy Shaheen
Arielle Jackson
Connie Reisinger
David Rankin
Charles Sutton
Debbie Edwards
Kerry Zimmerman
Debbie Watson



PULPIT FLOWERS

The pulpit flowers are given in memory of William Danihel (Jan's father) from Jan and George Rounds; and given to the glory of God! Deacons Cindy Anderson & 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.

*Thank
you*

MISSION CORNER

Thanks to the prayerful donations provided by this congregation, we are able to fill 125 new backpacks with school supplies. The backpacks will be distributed to children in need identified by Crossroads Community Center, West Kensington Ministry, Warminster Food Pantry and Oxford Circle. The Women's Circle sponsored 25 of these for St Francis Inn.

They are being delivered this month and will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you to Monty and Cindy Anderson for shopping the deals and filling all of the bags!



WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Starting September 11th

10:00 A.M. in the Auditorium

The Sermon on the Mount: *Matthew Chapters 5-7*

Most of us have probably heard sayings from Jesus' famous teaching, commonly called the Sermon on the Mount. It's only 100 verses, but the sermon has created an enduring legacy that has shaped countless lives throughout history. Jesus lays out his moral vision for humanity, emphasizing the importance of compassion, humility, and forgiveness. Join us Wednesdays at 10 AM for Bible study each week.

Newcomers are always welcome!

LOOKING AHEAD:

We are currently planning our confirmation class for January 2025. The class will include anyone who is in 8th grade or older who has not yet been confirmed. It will be an 8 week series of weekly meetings from 10:30am – Noon on Sundays, where we will study what it means to be a Christian in today's world, building relationships as we discover and develop what we believe about our own Christian faith. The class will meet from 10:30am – Noon on Sunday mornings.

Please contact Donna Mazeika donna.mazeika@nwpc.net
if you would like to enroll your son or daughter!



The Adult Mission Team is looking for volunteers to assist in rehabbing houses in Phoenixville this fall 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. Example – Darlene has NO construction skills but has helped many times and learned lots of new skills. We have all sorts of skill levels. The tasks are varied so we can match people to the available tasks. There are always supervisors to guide/teach us. Good Works provides all the tools. We have three dates planned – each are the 3rd Thursday of the month. You can sign up for one date or all dates:

Thursday September 19th

Thursday October 17th

Thursday November 21st

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



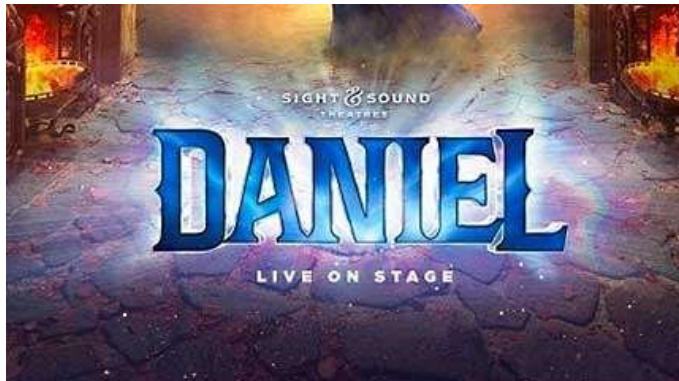
Contact Dave or Darlene Baker if interested @ dblions1980@gmail.com to learn more about this volunteer opportunity or to be added to our Mission Team distribution List. Join us for the Fun, Fellowship and Making a Difference.



PHILLIES VS. HOUSTON ASTROS BUS TRIP
Tuesday, August 27, 2024



Don't forget the bus trip to go see the Phillies play the Houston Astros at Citizens Bank Park on Tuesday, August 27 leaves the church at 3:30 p.m. Contact person is Dorothy Smith and she can be reached at 215-343-1142 or drsmith524@verizon.net.



SIGHT AND SOUND THEATRE BUS TRIP PLANNED FOR 2024

Save the date for a bus trip that has been planned with you in mind: 1) Sight and Sound Theatre on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 to see "Daniel". We will be leaving the church at 10:45 a.m. and returning at 7:30 p.m. Lunch will be a family style lunch at Fulton Steamboat Inn at 12:30 p.m. COST IS NOW \$155/person as we have over 40 passengers. For your information I already have a listing of a lot of people who signed up from last year's trip who will be going on this year's bus trip.

Look for sign-up sheet in the auditorium as well as in the church office. Checks should be made payable to NWPC and either dropped off at the church or mailed into the church. Deadline for monies is October 1. Contact person is Dorothy Smith and she can be reached at 215-343-1142 or drsmith524@verizon.net.

THIS WEEK AT NESHAMINY

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

TUESDAY – WholyFit 7 pm Auditorium

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

WAYS TO GIVE



ONLINE:

www.nwpc.net



ON YOUR PHONE:

- Open the camera on your phone
- Point the camera at the QR code
- Follow phone prompts to give via credit card



ENVELOPE:

1401 Meetinghouse Road,
Warminster PA 18974

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.