



# NESHAMINY-WARWICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

October 20, 2024

## WELCOME

HYMN NO. 482

"Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Praise the Lord, for God is great indeed! Let us sing praises for God's glorious work.

**People: We give glory, honor, and thanksgiving to the Lord, who makes and sustains all things.**

Leader: the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve. Let us follow Christ, not seeking glory, but ways to serve.

**People: Called to worship, we bow humbly before our God.**

Leader: The Lord is our dwelling place,

**People: a home of peace and plenty.**

Leader: The Lord is our dwelling place,

**People: a refuge when trouble is near.**

Leader: The Lord is our dwelling place,

**People: a temple that will stand forever.**

## WORSHIP SONG

### "We Give Thanks"

Once in the wilderness of our sin  
We wandered lost and without hope  
Into our desert waste God in grace  
Came to restore and bring us home  
Let the redeemed of God rise up and sing

We give thanks, O God, for Your steadfast love  
We give thanks, O God, for You are good  
Lord, You are good, we give thanks

Through every pain and trial, You provide  
Light in the dark of our distress  
Lifting us from on high when we cry  
Turning our grief to gratefulness  
Let the redeemed of God rise up and sing

**We give thanks, O God, for Your steadfast love**  
**We give thanks, O God, for You are good**  
**Lord, You are good**

**We give thanks, O God, for Your steadfast love**  
**We give thanks, O God, for You are good**  
**Lord, You are good, we give thanks**

#### BRIDGE

You take the darkness and make it as light  
Hearts that were dead in sin, You raise to life  
You take a barren place and make it a spring  
Let the redeemed of God rise up and sing  
Let the redeemed of God rise up and sing! (Chorus)

*(You may be seated)*

## SCRIPTURE READING

Leviticus 19:9-12

<sup>9</sup>“When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. <sup>10</sup>You shall not strip your vineyard bare or gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the alien: I am the LORD your God. <sup>11</sup>“You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; and you shall not lie to one another. <sup>12</sup>And you shall not swear falsely by my name, profaning the name of your God: I am the LORD.

Numbers 30:1-2

**30** Then Moses spoke to the heads of the tribes of the Israelites, saying, “This is what the LORD has commanded. <sup>2</sup>When a man makes a vow to the LORD or swears an oath to bind himself by a pledge, he shall not break his word; he shall do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

## WORSHIP SONG

“Only You”

*Men:* Only You *Women:* can shake the mountains

*Men:* Only You *Women:* can calm the oceans

*Men:* Only You *Women:* can hold the heavens

In the palm of Your hand

*Women:* Tell me who *Men:* can look inside me

*Women:* Tell me who *Men:* can purify me

*Women:* Tell me who *Men:* still loves me deeply

More than I understand... Only You

With a word You spoke the heavens into place

Scattered stars and gave the earth its frame

Who are we that You should touch us with Your grace?

And who am I, oh Lord, that You should know my name?

## 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

### "A Living Sacrifice"

Lord, we come to You with hearts of gratitude;  
You've shown us how to love and how to live completely.  
Help us to forgive and love as You have loved us.  
Help us to be a living sacrifice,  
sharing the love and grace of Jesus Christ;  
to show the love of God to all the world.  
Lord, let us be a living sacrifice, living sacrifice.

As we worship You in Spirit and in truth,  
Lord, bless us with Your grace to know we are forgiven.  
May we live in peace and share Your loving mercy,  
to show the love of God to all the world.  
Lord, let us be a living sacrifice.

Let us love, let us love, let us live, let us live in harmony;  
Let us go, let us serve in the pow'r of Jesus' name;  
to show the love of God to all the world.  
Lord, let us be, help us to be,  
Lord, let us be a living sacrifice.  
Amen, amen!

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Our God is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Let us embrace this time of confession with honesty and humility.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, your truth is oftentimes hard to hear. We confess our avoidance, our purposeful distractions, our prideful arrogance that keeps us from hearing and responding to your Word. Although you send us messages and messengers, we dismiss and disregard those who tell us we are wrong. Have mercy upon us, Holy God. Open us to hearing the truth no matter how it is conveyed. Amen.

*(Please take a moment of silent confession)*

## **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Hear the Good News! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. **Amen.**

*(Please stand if you are able)*

## **RESPONSE TO ASSURANCE**

*“Gloria Patri”*

**Glorify 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 grace, nourish us this day through Word and worship. Strengthen our desire to discern and do your will. Focus us on your path of righteousness so we can walk steadily under your direction. Bend your ear to us, God of love, as we pray not only for ourselves but for people everywhere. God of mercy, hear our prayers. We pray for those suffering the aftermath of natural disasters, for the lives, homes and businesses destroyed by hurricanes, tornadoes and earthquakes. We pray for those who are exhausted, those struggling to pay bills and put food on the table, those overwhelmed by suffering and in need of a lighter load. We pray for those living in war zones, for the people of Israel and Palestine, Ukraine, Syria, and Sudan, people desperate for peace. God of mercy, hear our prayers. We pray for leaders, administrators and decision-makers who cannot please everyone, yet still strive to do what is just and right. We pray our nation’s leaders uphold those in need, defend the oppressed, and do not succumb to idols of money and power. We pray for disputes to end, for people to work together, for our nation to know peace rather than polarization. God of mercy, hear our prayers. We pray for those who are ill and their caregivers. We pray for those struggling with depression, anxiety and other mental illnesses. Free us from any shame or stigma that keeps us from acknowledging our need and getting the help all deserve. Instill in us a sense of mutual responsibility for the health and wellbeing of all your children. Finally, O God, mold us for service so we can be the answer to the prayers we pray, according to your Word and inspired by the One who saves, Jesus Christ our Lord. United as a family of faith and as the Body of Christ we lift these prayers up to you, God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

## **Time of Silence**

Finally, hear us pray the prayer Christ taught us, saying, “Our Father...”

## 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

Let us give and live generously in response to all that God has done for us. Let us present our tithes and offerings to the Lord.

## 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

Holy God, these offerings are only a portion of all that you have given us. We gratefully present these gifts and entrust them to your work in this world. May our gifts share the Good News of the gospel to those who are in need. May these gifts help unburden those with the heaviest of loads **Amen.**

*(You may be seated)*

## SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5:33-37

<sup>33</sup>"Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' <sup>34</sup>But I say to you: Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, <sup>35</sup>or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. <sup>36</sup>And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. <sup>37</sup>Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God  
People: Thanks be to God

## SERMON

“Just Say ‘Yes’ and ‘No’”  
Pastor Mark Lyndaker-Studer

*(Please stand if you are able)*

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Book of Common Worship; Philippians 2: 5-11)

**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. 316**

“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

## **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 Lord deliver and protect you. The Lord answer you when you call. The Lord satisfy you with long life and offer you salvation. **Alleluia!**



**Prayer Concerns:** Christine Morin (friend of Eloyce Sturgeon)  
Beth Harrison (cousin of Debbie Watson)  
Jeanne Witkoski (friend of Bill Watson)  
Rich McLauchlan (friend of Erin Watson)  
Family of Werner Thiessen  
Family of John Tozier (husband of Jeannie Lucas)  
Rich McNeeley (cousin of Sally Traubel)  
Gloria Long (sister of Charlotte Rugel)  
Ethan Chow (friend of Jen Kreischer)  
Cindy Ogle (friend of Wendy Wirsch)  
Ian Smith (nephew of Dorothy Moritz)  
Sheila Law (sister of Dorothy Moritz)  
Family of Bill Reiss (father of Robin Haug)  
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)  
Debbie and Bob Stokes (friends of Sandee Wilson)  
Gloria Rossi (friend of Lisa Pearsall)  
Michele Rousseau (friend of Wendy Wirsch)  
Swarling Aguero (friend of Dalia Lucas)  
Paulette Gold (friend of Sandee Wilson)  
Marge Ayres (sister of Joe Mazeika)

**Ongoing Concerns:** Cathy Roushey  
Leslie Bonner  
Rina Mironas  
Cathy Shaheen  
David Rankin  
Charles Sutton  
Debbie Edwards  
Kerry Zimmerman  
Debbie Watson





### PULPIT FLOWERS

The pulpit flowers are given in loving memory of Phyllis & Jack Mekel from their son , Bob; also in thanks to this church for opening his heart and eyes to the many blessings I have received; and given in loving memory of David Wilson from his wife, Sandee. Deacons Doris Rowley & Patrick Van Tassel 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.

### MEN'S GROUP TONIGHT! 6:00 PM

The Men's Group will reconvene in October in the Lounge. We'll meet on the third Sunday of the month from October through May (no Men's Group in December). We will be discussing Eugene Peterson's book *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction – Discipleship In An Instant Society*. While there is no need to read the book for the Men's Group meetings, books are available at no cost. The Men's Group is a great 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.



### TRUNK OR TREAT FALL FUN FEST Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2 – 3:30pm

Wear your costume & collect treats, decorate your trunk & provide treats. Food, games, petting zoo, pony rides and more! **Bring friends and family!**



## RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Please join our lifesaving mission and schedule an appointment today!

Monday, November 4, 2024 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM

**Coordinator Name:** Patrick Van Tassel

**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 November 4th. 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 Patrick at [patrick.vantassel@gmail.com](mailto:patrick.vantassel@gmail.com) or 610-585-3701.

Be a Hero and sign up to give blood. Every donation saves three lives!

## G.A.R. CIVIL WAR MUSEUM PRESENTATION

On November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00PM the William Tennent House Association will host a presentation about the history of the G.A.R. Civil War Museum and Archive in Philadelphia. Museum Researcher, Walter Lafty and Outreach Coordinator, Mary Wible will focus on the Grand Army of the Republic, history of the museum and the archive, and share some interesting stories from the archives. Artifacts from the museum will be on display. The event will be held in the auditorium. Refreshments will be served. I hope some of the Neshaminy bakers will help with the refreshments. Admission is \$10 per person (\$12 at the door). For more information contact Wendy Wirsch, 267-261-1274 or [wbw42451@gmail.com](mailto:wbw42451@gmail.com).

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

Please consider catching up on or increasing your 2024 contribution. Our giving for 2024 is lower than this time in 2023 and our expenses (as expected) are higher this year. The Session made the decision to reduce our personnel budget for 2025. We are hopeful we will not have to make any further reductions to our personnel or mission giving in 2025.

|                 | <b>Income</b>        |                | <b>Expenses</b> | <b>Net Result</b> |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
|                 | Member Contributions | Total Income   |                 |                   |
| <b>YTD 2024</b> | <b>341,101</b>       | <b>442,586</b> | <b>490,837</b>  | <b>(48,251)</b>   |
| <b>YTD 2023</b> | <b>368,340</b>       | <b>458,784</b> | <b>460,119</b>  | <b>(1,335)</b>    |

## WAYS TO GIVE



**ONLINE:**  
[www.nwpc.net](http://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

# THIS WEEK AT NESHAMINY

SUNDAY—Prayer Group 8:30 am Lounge  
—Worship Service 9 am Sanctuary  
—Food & Fellowship 10:15 am Auditorium  
—Youth Group 6 pm Youth Room  
—Men's Group 6 pm Lounge

MONDAY—Session Meeting 7 pm Lounge

TUESDAY—WholyFit 7 pm Auditorium

WEDNESDAY—Bible Study 10 am Auditorium

THURSDAY—Choir Rehearsal 7 pm Choir Room

SATURDAY—Trunk or Treat 2 pm Parking Lot

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  
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.