



## NESHAMINY-WARWICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025

### WELCOME

### HYMN NO. 9

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Jim, Debbie, & Naomi Flick

**Reader:** In the days of exile and uncertainty, the prophet Isaiah cried out: O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence. As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you! For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you.

**Reader:** In the midst of our own encounters with uncertainty and upheaval and our longing for deliverance, Jesus calls to us, “Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come” (Mark 13:35).

**Reader:** We wait as people surprised again and again by God who shakes us out of our complacency and wakes us up to the work of the kingdom all around us.

**Reader:** We light this candle as a sign of our shocking hope. May we stay awake to God’s activity in the world as we wait in expectation that even now God is with us, working to restore us to the fullness of life with God and one another. **Amen.**

*Light the first candle of the Advent wreath.*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist—Dorothy Smith

One: Owe no one anything, except to love one another.

**All: For love is the fulfillment of God’s law.**

One: The commandments are summed up in this word: “Love your neighbor as yourself.”

**All: Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.**

One: Come, let us worship the Lord who calls us to love.

**All: We will worship with hearts open to God’s love and lives ready to share it.**

## WORSHIP SONG

“Soon and Very Soon”

Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!  
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!  
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We’re going to see the King!

No more crying there – we are going to see the King!  
No more crying there – we are going to see the King!  
No more crying there – we are going to see the King!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We’re going to see the King!

No more dying there – we are going to see the King!  
No more dying there – we are going to see the King!  
No more dying there – we are going to see the King!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We’re going to see the King!

Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!  
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!  
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We’re going to see the King!

*(You may be seated)*

## SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

(Liturgist)

**2** The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup>In days to come the mountain of the LORD’s house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. <sup>3</sup>Many peoples shall come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more. <sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

One: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God**

## WORSHIP SONG

“God with Us”

Oh You've come To bring peace  
To be love To be nearer to us  
You've come To bring life  
To be light To shine brighter in us  
Oh Emmanuel God with us

*Our Deliverer You are Savior  
In Your presence we find our strength  
Over everything Our redemption  
God with us You are God with us*

You've come To be hope  
To this world For Your honor and name  
You've come To take sin  
To bear shame And to conquer the grave  
Oh Emmanuel God with us (Chorus)

*Bridge*

You are here You are holy  
We are standing In Your glory 4x (Chorus)

## 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

Keith Rounds

## CALL TO CONFESSION

(Liturgist)

God's love is perfect, but our love is often partial, hesitant, or self-serving. Let us confess our sins before the One whose mercy never fails.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(Liturgist)

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have turned away from your commandments, seeking our own comfort rather than the good of others. Forgive us, Lord. Renew us by your Spirit, so that we may live as people of love, walking in the way of Christ, who laid down his life for us. Amen.**

*(Please take a moment of silent confession)*

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

(Liturgist)

Friends, hear the good news:

God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us.

*(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

### 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

Love is not only spoken—it is lived. We give our gifts as signs of love for God and neighbor, trusting that God will use them to bring healing, hope, and justice to the world.

### OFFERTORY

Jan Helsel

*(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, receive these gifts as tokens of our love. Use them to build up your kingdom, to care for neighbors near and far, and to proclaim the good news of Christ's love. Make us generous in all we do, that our lives may reflect your mercy and grace. **Amen.**

*(You may be seated)*

## SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 13:8-10

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

One: The Word of God for the people of God

All: **Thanks be to God**

## SERMON

“Love is a Habit”

Pastor Mark Lyndaker-Studer

*(Please stand if you are able)*

## HYMN NO. 8

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

## 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

Go forth in peace, to love your neighbor as yourself, to seek justice, to walk humbly, and to live in the freedom of God's grace. And may the blessing of Almighty God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—be with you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**



**Prayer Concerns:**

Karen Deloia  
Mary Whitehead  
Jerry Furr  
Kim Roberts  
Cyndee Carr  
Karin Hart  
Crystal Ceneviva  
Tom Ceneviva  
Rhonda Auman  
Bev Cupo  
Ken Seagreaves  
Family of Barb Moritz  
Steve Weirback  
Family of Cathy Roushey

Maria D. Andres  
Susan Sisco  
Dave Cochran  
Michele Malone  
Sue Landis  
Marianne Dubresson  
Marjie O'Neill  
Edna Reiss  
Gary Crim  
Ginny Wisler  
Rich McNeeley  
Paul Abraham  
Miranda Rangel  
Marion Sutton

**Ongoing Concerns:**

Debbie Watson  
Charles Sutton  
Connie Reisinger  
Rima Mironas  
Cathy Shaheen  
David Rankin  
Debbie Edwards  
Kerry Zimmerman



**PULPIT FLOWERS**

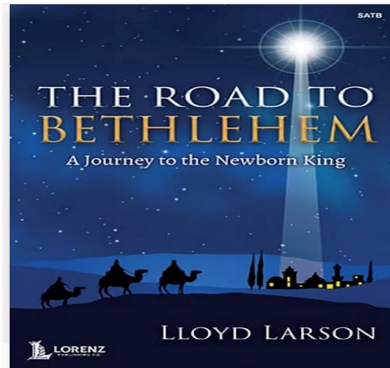
The pulpit flowers are both given to the glory of God! Deacons Cindy Anderson & Sandee Wilson will deliver the flowers. Each week the flowers can be a bright moment for someone needing prayers or praise. If anyone in the congregation has a person in mind to give the pulpit flowers to, please let the Deacons delivering the flowers this week know.

## ADVENT CHRISTMAS PARTY

We will celebrate our annual Advent Christmas Party on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. There will be crafts, tree decorating, a catered dinner, the childrens choir and the youth choir will be singing Christmas carols, and SANTA CLAUS!! The dinner for this special event will be catered. We hope to see everyone there for this festive and fun occasion!

## NEXT MEN'S GROUP MEETING, DECEMBER 14 at 6pm

Join us in the lounge for our next monthly men's group. We'll discuss the biblical view of God (His nature and character) and how this compares to other religious beliefs. We'll explore the various ways in which biblical faith in God is expressed. Please feel free to join us as we explore the question, *Who is God?*



## CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Come hear the sounds of Christmas! Our 2025 Christmas Cantata, "The Road to Bethlehem" will be performed by the Sanctuary Choir with live orchestra on Sunday, December 14, 9:00am. Special pieces by the Children's and Teen Choirs will add to a memorable musical morning!

## CODE BLUE ORIENTATION

There will be an orientation for anyone who is volunteering at Neshaminy. It will include shelter operations, showers, and kitchen operations. This orientation is taking place today, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm in the auditorium and last approximately one hour. Questions? Text Joanne Cochran at 215-290-0079.



**We need you to Volunteer for CODE BLUE!!!!**

Code Blue, a mission to house the homeless, takes place at Neshaminy throughout December. We will be open when the temperature is 28° F. or lower, have enough volunteers and every Thursday night, regardless of weather. To help us with this mission, please volunteer by attending in- person training, (dates and times below) OR take the on-line training [www.co2ssh.org/new-volunteer-training](http://www.co2ssh.org/new-volunteer-training). Our homeless need OUR help!

<b>Saturday, November 8th at 9:30 am</b> Our Lady of Guadalupe, second floor classroom 5194 Cold Spring Creamery Road Doylestown PA 18902	<b>Wednesday, December 3rd at 7 pm</b> Doylestown Twp. Parks and Recreation Center, Multi-Purpose Room A, 425 Wells Road Doylestown, PA 18901
<b>Saturday, November 15th at 9:30 am</b> Our Lady of Mount Carmel, St. Mary's Hall 235 E. State St. Doylestown, PA 18901	<b>Saturday, January 10, 2026 at 9:30 am</b> Bux Mont Unitarian Universalist Church, Social Hall, 2040 Street Road Warrington, PA 18976

If you have any questions, please text Joanne Cochran at 215-290-0079.

**MEALS FOR our CODE BLUE GUESTS - DECEMBER 2025**

We are once again planning for our Code Blue guests at NWPC in December. Your generosity as a congregation has provided hot and nourishing meals in the past, and the need continues to increase. In December of 2024, the nights we were open we hosted between 16 and 33 guests! Please prayerfully consider the information below as you decide how you can help. And many thanks in advance - you are a blessing!

Suggestions for meals:

Some suggestions for meals: LASAGNE; MACARONI & CHEESE; HOT DOGS & BEANS; MEAT LOAF, MASHED POTATOES with GRAVY; PORK & SAUERKRAUT; HAM & SCALLOPED POTATOES; PEROGIES; BAKED ZITI with MEAT BALLS/SAUSAGE; CHICKEN & RICE; or any foods that have protein and are easy to chew. Some of our homeless guests have dental problems and are not able to chew hard or crunchy foods. Also please be moderate with spices and seasonings.

Instructions for providing meals:

PLEASE PREPARE CASSEROLE for **16 people** in disposable covered aluminum casserole-sized pans. (The kitchen crew will be serving the meal cafeteria style to our guests.) Historically, the number of guests starts to increase as we get into the month. We will let you know as the numbers rise. Since the numbers are increasing, you may want to invite a friend to join you in providing a meal for the night/nights you have signed up. If you choose to add rolls or dessert, these need to be put into individual sandwich bags. So no pies, puddings, etc. Cakes, cookies, doughnuts, etc are great.

You can drop off the casseroles: 1) "Hot" to the church kitchen at **7 PM**, 2) earlier in the day (attach reheating instructions & call me so I make sure someone is there to receive them), or 3) frozen (again we'll need instructions & phone call).

- 1) Everything needs to be disposable.
- 2) We will be asking for donations of certain items and will be using a **SignUp Genius** for these items and also one for the actual casseroles. (**See links and QR codes below**). The cooks no longer need to provide extra vegetables or salads; these items will be on the SignUp Genius for miscellaneous donated items.

REMINDER: You will only need to cook for that evening **if a Code Blue is called** (usually wind chill factor of 28 degrees or less). If there is no Code Blue called, you will receive a text, call or email in the morning (usually before 10 AM) as soon as we are notified. (If you have prepared the meal ahead of time and a Code Blue is not called, you could always freeze it for possible use later in the month.)

Thank you for your willingness to prepare a meal for our homeless guests.

**Your kindness is greatly appreciated by all of us!**

If you have any questions, or do not want to use Sign Up Genius, **please contact** Jan Helsel (H#215-343-3778) (email: jjhelsel@yahoo.com).

**Dinners link** - NWPC Dec 2025 Code Blue Dinner Providers



**Supplies link** - NWPC Dec 2025 Code Blue Groceries/Supplies



## CHRISTMAS GIFT CARD MISSION

It is that time of year already!!! 25.00 GIFT CARDS from Target or Walmart for:

Oxford Circle Crossroads in North Philadelphia West Kensington Ministries

We all know how bad the economy has been and the city feels it twice as much as we do. These gift cards are a bright spot for families to get a Christmas meal on the table or a gift or two. Your generous giving to this project has always been generous and much appreciated. We will be collecting cards Nov 23--Nov 30 with the **deadline on December 7**.

## CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX MISSION 2025 FOR CROSSROADS

This year we are once again assembling shoe boxes for the children at Crossroads Christian Community Center in North Philadelphia.

If you would like to be a part of this mission, there are several options:

1. **Sponsor a child/fill a shoebox:** Take a tag from the tree with a child's name on it. These tags include information about items the child likes and their special wishes. Use it to help you to fill their box. Return the shoebox unwrapped with the child's tag taped to the box **no later than December 7<sup>th</sup>**.
2. **Donate cash so we can purchase items to help fill shoe boxes**
3. **Donate specific items:** Choose a tag from the tree that lists item needed and return the unwrapped item by **November 30<sup>th</sup>** so that we can assemble boxes.

Donated items and unwrapped filled shoeboxes should be put in the bins underneath the Christmas tree located in the outer narthex.

We will be delivering the gifts to Crossroads with Santa on December 10<sup>th</sup>.

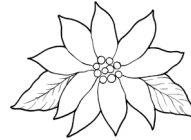
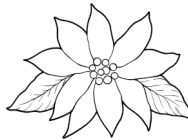
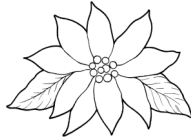
## BANQUET WITH REBECCA PRICE JANNEY

Join the William Tennent House Association for its annual banquet on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. Our speaker is award winning author, Dr. Rebecca Price Janney. She wrote a book about the Great Awakening Revival and the Tennents. Her newest book is East of the Sun, which takes place during the Korean War. Rebecca will be signing copies of her book with a portion of the proceeds going to WTHA. The banquet will be held at Giuseppe's Restaurant 1380 W. Street Road, Warminster, PA. The cost is \$50 per person. Come join us for a delicious Italian meal at 6:00PM. See Wendy Wirsch at Coffee Hour to sign up. You can also call her at 267-261-1274 or email her at [wbw42451@gmail.com](mailto:wbw42451@gmail.com).

Member contributions received year to date have been less than this time last year.

If you are able to catchup on your contributions, or even increase your offering, it will be greatly appreciated.

<b>NWPC FINANCIAL UPDATE</b>				
	<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Net Result</u>
	Member Contributions	Total Income		
<b>YTD 2025 as of 11/12/25</b>	<b>407,045</b>	<b>545,348</b>	<b>600,971</b>	<b>(55,623)</b>
<b>YTD 2023 as of 11/30/24</b>	<b>454,026</b>	<b>592,104</b>	<b>601,584</b>	<b>(9,480)</b>



### **POINSETTIAS**

All those interested in making donations for poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary at Christmas time please notify Dorothy Smith (215-343-1142) by Sunday, December 7. Please fill out the form below indicating which option you prefer.

I am interested in making a donation (any dollar amount). I understand the poinsettias will be delivered to shut-ins.

I prefer to make a donation for a poinsettia (\$10). I understand I can pick up this poinsettia after the 7:00 service on December 24.

As all donations will be noted in the Sunday, December 14 bulletin, please designate what the wording should be for you.

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In memory of from Mr. & Mrs. Smith, etc.

All checks should be made payable to: Neshaminy-Warwick Presbyterian Church, Attn: Poinsettias and forwarded to the church at 1401 Meetinghouse Road, Hartsville, Warminster, PA 18974.

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(Signature)

# THIS WEEK AT NESHAMINY

SUNDAY—Prayer Group 8:30 am Lounge

—Worship Service 9 am Sanctuary

—Food & Fellowship 10:15 am Auditorium

— Code Blue Orientation 1 pm Auditorium

WEDNESDAY—Bible Study 10 am Auditorium

—Girl Scout Troop 6 pm Youth Room

THURSDAY—Choir Rehearsal 7 pm Choir Room

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

—Cantata Rehearsal 10:30 am Choir Room

—Advent Christmas Party 4 pm Auditorium

## 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

### 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.