



# NESHAMINY-WARWICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Third Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2026

## WELCOME

## 300th ANNIVERSARY HYMN INTRODUCTION

## HYMN

*"Nearer, My God, to Thee"*

Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee,  
E'en though it be a cross That raiseth me!  
Still all my song shall be:

*Chorus:*

*Nearer, my God, to Thee;  
Nearer, my God, to Thee,  
Nearer to Thee.*

Though like the wanderer, The sun gone down,  
Darkness be over me, My rest a stone;  
Yet in my dreams I'd be (*Chorus*)

There let the way appear, Steps unto heav'n;  
All that Thou sendest me, In mercy giv'n;  
Angels to beckon me (*Chorus*)

Then, with my waking tho'ts Bright with Thy praise,  
Out of my stony griefs Bethel I'll raise;  
So by my woes to be (*Chorus*)

Or if, on joyful wing Cleaving the sky,  
Sun, moon, and stars forgot, Upwards I fly,  
Still all my song shall be: (*Chorus*)

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist-John Shaffer

One: On this day and in this place, we come as people on a journey—some of us weary, some hopeful, some searching for direction, all of us longing for the presence of God.

**All: Christ meets us on the road, walking beside us even when our eyes are kept from recognizing him.**

One: When our hearts are heavy with disappointment, when the world feels uncertain, when faith seems dim and the way ahead unclear—

**All: Christ listens to our stories, opens the Scriptures, and rekindles the fire of hope within us.**

One: When we gather at the table, when bread is broken and shared, when grace is made visible in simple gifts—

**All: Christ is revealed, our eyes are opened, and we know we are not alone.**

One: So let us lift our voices, open our hearts, and welcome the One who journeys with us still.

**All: With gratitude and wonder, with joy and expectation, we worship the living God.**

## WORSHIP SONG

“Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord”

Make a joyful noise to the Lord all the earth

Make a joyful noise to the Lord all the earth (2x)

The flowers of the fields are crying to be heard

The trees of the forest singing

And all of the mountains with one voice

Will join in the Chorus of this world

Make a joyful noise to the Lord all the earth

Make a joyful noise to the Lord all the earth (2x)

The flowers of the fields are crying to be heard

The trees of the forest singing

And all of the mountains with one voice

Will join in the Chorus of this world (2X)

And I will not be silent

And I will not be quiet anymore

I will not be silent

I will not be quiet anymore (2X)

Bridge (Contemporary Worship Team)  
Make a joyful noise to the Lord all the earth  
Make a joyful noise to the Lord all the earth (2X)

*(You may be seated)*

## WORSHIP SONG

### "I See a King"

I see a King ruling with equity  
Reigning with empathy in the name of love  
I see a King Standing with those in need  
Welcoming refugees in the name of love

I see a King making it all like new  
Turning the sad untrue in the name of love  
I see a King governing every place  
Cherishing every race in the name of love

*I see the glory of the Lord  
Fill the corners of the world  
Like a river to a desert He restores  
And I can hear the earth rejoice  
Clap her hands and shout for joy  
Singing, "Great is the King, Hallelujah, He's done great things"*

I see a King throwing a wedding feast  
Inviting the poor and least in the name of love  
I see a King laughing with great delight  
Sharing the finest wine He's the name of love (*Chorus*)

Soon the day, soon the day  
Soon the day, soon the day  
No more sickness, no more tears, no pain  
Soon the day He will reign forever

Soon the day, soon the day  
Soon the day, soon the day  
No more sickness, no more tears, no pain  
I see a King, His reign will be forever (*Chorus*)

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Psalm 116:1-4

(Liturgist)

<sup>1</sup>I love the LORD because he has heard my voice and my supplications. <sup>2</sup>Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live. <sup>3</sup>The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish. <sup>4</sup>Then I called on the name of the LORD, "O LORD, I pray, save my life!"

One:                   The Word of the Lord

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Pastor Mark Lyndaker-Studer

*(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***"At the Altar of the Lord"***CALL TO CONFESSION**

(Liturgist)

Even as Christ draws near, we often fail to see him. We cling to disappointment, resist new life, and overlook the holy in our midst. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin together.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

(Liturgist)

**Risen Christ, you meet us on the road, yet we often fail to recognize you. We are slow to believe your promises, quick to return to old fears, and hesitant to share your good news. Open our eyes to your presence, open our hearts to your grace, and open our lives to your transforming love. Walk with us again, so that we may walk in your ways. Amen.**

*(Please take a moment of silent confession)*

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

(Liturgist)

Beloved in Christ, the risen Lord does not leave us in our confusion or despair. He comes alongside us, speaks peace, and opens our eyes to grace. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*(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)*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: God of the journey, as you walked with the disciples on the road to Emmaus, reveal yourself to us in moments of doubt and hope. For those who mourn, for those who wait for hope, we ask for your comfort and presence. We pray for an end to war and violence in our world. Grant wisdom, courage, and compassion to all leaders and those in positions of authority, that they may seek peace and justice for all people.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer and bring new life where there is despair.**

One: In times of sorrow and confusion, remind us that you walk beside us, speaking words of comfort and wisdom.

**All: Stay with us, Lord, for it is sometimes evening and our hearts long for your light.**

One: Creator God, you have entrusted us with the care of your beautiful world. Inspire us to honor and protect the earth, its waters, skies, and all living things. May we act with responsibility and gratitude, nurturing your creation for generations to come.

**All: Guide our hands and hearts to cherish your creation, and give us wisdom to live in harmony with all that you have made.**

One: As you broke bread and shared with the disciples, help us to gather together, share with one another, and find you in fellowship.

**All: Let our hearts burn within us as we hear your word and recognize your love.**

One: Send us out, renewed by faith and eager to share the good news of your resurrection.

**All: Guide our steps, Lord, that we may follow you and bear witness to your transforming grace.**

One: In quiet trust, we lift before you the prayers of our hearts—those spoken and unspoken, for those we love and for our own deepest needs.

*(Moment of silence)*

Gracious God, receive these prayers, offered in the confidence of your resurrection and the power of your Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord. And now, as our Savior has taught us, we are bold to pray...

## 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

On the road to Emmaus, the disciples urged Jesus to stay with them, and in the breaking of the bread they discovered abundance and new life. In gratitude for the One who meets us and nourishes us, let us offer our gifts—signs of our hope and our trust in God's renewing work.

## 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

Generous God, you open the Scriptures to us and make yourself known in the breaking of the bread. Receive these gifts, and use them to open hearts, to nourish hope, and to reveal your presence in the world you love. In Christ's name we pray. **Amen.**

*(You may be seated)*

## SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24:13-35

<sup>13</sup>Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup>and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup>While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup>but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup>And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup>Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" <sup>19</sup>He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup>and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup>But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. <sup>22</sup>Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup>and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup>Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." <sup>25</sup>Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! <sup>26</sup>Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" <sup>27</sup>Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

<sup>28</sup> As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" <sup>33</sup> That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup> They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" <sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

One:                   The Word of God for the people of God

All:                    **Thanks be to God**

## SERMON

"Along for the Journey"

Pastor Chad Rodgers

*(Please stand if you are able)*

## HYMN

"It Is Well with My Soul"

When peace like a river attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll;  
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,  
"It is well, it is well with my soul."

Refrain:

It is well (it is well)  
With my soul (with my soul)  
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Tho' Satan should buffet, tho' trials should come,  
Let this blest assurance control,  
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,  
And hath shed His own blood for my soul. (Refrain)

My sin- O, the bliss of this glorious tho't-  
My sin-, not in part, but the whole,  
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! (Refrain)

And, Lord haste the day when the faith shall be sight,  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,  
"Even so"- it is well with my soul.

## 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 you go on your way, may the risen Christ walk beside you, speaking peace, stirring hope, and opening your eyes to grace in every place. Go in the love of God, the companionship of Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit— today and always. **Amen.**

## BENEDICTION by Philip Loewen

May the peace of the Lord be in your heart as you go,  
and through the days to come, there abide.

May He lead you that in your life His will may be done;  
the Spirit of the Lord be your guide.

May God's love always lift you, in His mercy, comfort give,  
as through life's joys and trials, you roam.

May our Father in heaven bless His children each day,  
'til the day He calls His children home. Amen.

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Our guest preacher this morning is **Pastor Chad Rodgers**. Originally from Northern California, Chad has been friends with Pastor Mark since their time as coordinators at Westminster Woods Presbyterian camp in the 1990s. He has served as a Presbyterian pastor at multiple churches and is now the Associate Director of Programs at Johnsonburg Presbyterian Camp in New Jersey. Chad enjoys running with his dog, building an off-grid tiny home, kayaking with his wife, keeping up with his daughter on Goodreads, listening to podcasts, and cheering for the San Francisco Giants.

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**Prayer Concerns:**

Robin Haug  
Ron Vickery  
Izzy and family  
Ed Laguardia  
Dawn Park  
Sue Ellen Nolan  
Family & friends of Steve Weirback  
Family of Rich McNeeley  
Bill M.  
Wanda Warwick  
Tony Witkosky  
Jessica Hess  
Edna Reiss

Tom Curfman  
Mick Arnold  
Karen Deloia  
Jerry Furr  
Kim Roberts  
Cyndee Carr  
Karin Hart  
Crystal Ceneviva  
Tom Ceneviva  
Rhonda Auman  
Maria D. Andres  
Dave Cochran

**Ongoing Concerns:**

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



**PULPIT FLOWERS**

The pulpit flowers are given in memory of David Wilson by his wife, Sandee Wilson; and given in loving memory of Patricia Winey from her husband, Don.

## PETER'S ANTARCTIC ADVENTURE

Recently Peter Clayton went on a trip to the "White Continent" Antarctica. He will share stories of his trip with a slide presentation. TODAY in the Lounge at 10:30am after Food & Fellowship



### **NEW MEMBERS: Sunday April 26th 10:30 In the Lounge**

What does it mean to belong to a church? Whether you have worshiped with us in person at Neshaminy-Warwick, Presbyterian Church, or you have met us through online worship, we invite you to consider uniting with our congregation through membership. We'd be delighted to include you in our family of faith. If you have additional questions, please reach out to Pastor Mark. Even if you are not sure about membership, you are welcome to come and learn more about the church.

### **WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY 10 am Auditorium**

#### **Strength to Love by Martin Luther King Jr.**

*"If there is one book Martin Luther King, Jr. has written that people consistently tell me has changed their lives, it is Strength to Love." Coretta Scott King*

During our Bible study in this season of Epiphany, we will reflect on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s famous book, *Strength to Love*. Dr. King believed that real change in society starts when people courageously choose to do what is right. He wrote, "By reaching into and beyond ourselves and tapping the transcendent moral ethic of love, we shall overcome these evils." The short sermons and messages in this book were written during hard times, some even while Dr. King was in jail. Through his words, he shares his strong commitment to justice and explains how important it is to change our minds and hearts. His sermons serve as an excellent guide for Christians, both in his era and in ours.

### **8TH ANNUAL WEST KENSINGTON GOLF OUTING**

This golf outing will be held on Monday, May 11, 2026 at Five Ponds Golf Club. There is an 8:45 am sign-in time with shot-gun start at 9:45 am. Your donation of \$190 per player includes lunch, greens fees and cart, putting contest, hole prizes, door prizes and post-tournament reception. For more details and to sign up, please go to [westkensingtonministry.net](http://westkensingtonministry.net). Click on the GREEN "Golfer Registration" icon, it's near the bottom of the home page.



### **MOMENT IN HISTORY**

**1780s** Despite wartime interruptions and financial crises, the congregation continued to grow, due largely to Rev Nathaniel Irwin’s popularity. He was fond of instrumental and vocal music, skillfully playing the violin. He enjoyed the company of young people and often invited them to his home where he entertained them with music and dancing.

### **DEVOTIONAL**

April’s activity for the 300th Celebration is a special devotional book that represents our 300 years of faith. It includes a selection of devotions from the last 300 years. It also includes some information on the evolution of devotions during these 300 years.

Copies will be available starting April 19th.  
**BE SURE TO GET YOUR COPY!**

### **SAVE THE DATES FOR 2026 BUS TRIPS**



#### **PHILLIES GAME**

Tuesday, August 18, 2026  
Phillies vs. Miami Dolphins  
Price per person  
\$66.00

Includes motor coach, ticket, and gratuities

#### **SIGHT AND SOUND THEATRE**

Tuesday, November 10, 2026  
Theme: “JOSHUA”  
Price per person  
Minimum of 30 paying passengers: \$180.00  
Minimum of 40 paying passengers: \$165.00  
Includes lunch at Fulton Steamboat Inn served family style

## THIS WEEK AT NESHAMINY

SUNDAY –Prayer Group 8:30 am Lounge  
–Worship Service 9 am Sanctuary  
–Food & Fellowship 10:15 am Auditorium  
–Deacon Meeting 10:30 am Book Lounge  
–Peter’s Antarctic Adventure 10:30 am Lounge  
–Youth Group 6 pm Youth Room

MONDAY –Session Meeting 7 pm Lounge

TUESDAY –Staff Meeting 2 pm Lounge  
–WholyFit 6:30 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  
–New Members Class 10:30 am Lounge

### 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  
Valerie Pendrak, Director of Youth Ministries  
Lisa Ceraso, Director of Children's Ministries  
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.