

# LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

November 26, 2017

*In preparation for worship, please take time to silence all electronic devices, and quiet our thoughts, so that we all may focus our hearts and minds on the Lord.*

## **Prelude**

**Sherry Beebe,**  
Organist

## **Welcome and Concerns of the Church**

The Cookie Song (sung to tune of "Jingle Bell Rock")

Marilyn Reed

## **Call To Worship**

## **Hymn #517**

*The Solid Rock*

*Solid Rock*

## **Prayer of Invocation**

## **Scripture Reading**

Acts 6:8-15

(p.1700)

9:00am Georgia Ward

10:45am Britany Smith

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

**All the people: Thanks be to God!**

## **Prayer of Confession**

Gracious God, we praise you for this weekend of Thanksgiving. Indeed, every good gift comes from your hand. Yet we confess how easily we forget you. We become anxious, and we do not trust your generous provision. In the book of Acts, we see the boldness and courage of your people, but we often make decisions out of fear, instead of faith. We worry more about the opinions of others, rather than pleasing you. Please forgive us through Jesus Christ, who prayed and died for us. By the power of the resurrection, reignite our devotion to Christ, and our witness and service to the world. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

## **Silent Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon**

## **The Greeting**

## **Worship Song**

*10,000 Reasons*

*Myrin/Redman*

## **Worship Song**

*In Christ Alone*

*Townend & Getty*

*During the 9:00am service, children up to grade 5 may be dismissed to Children's Sunday School.*

*6<sup>th</sup> grade and up meet in the Youth Room for Sunday School*

*During the 10:45am service, children in K through 5<sup>th</sup> grades may be dismissed to the gym for Lighthouse Kids children's church after the hymn/worship song.*



# FAMILY MINISTRY: CHILDREN, YOUTH & PARENTS

## Sunday Morning Schedule

### Infants and Toddlers

- 9:00am-12:15pm: *Nursery* provided in the *Nursery Room* downstairs near the restrooms, and a separate crying/changing room is directly across from the bottom of the stairs.

### 2 to 3 Year Olds

- 9:00-10:30am: *Hands On Bible, Blue Door Room* downstairs.
- 10:45am-12:15pm: *Spinners!* class, *Red Door Room* downstairs.

### 4 to 5 Year Olds

- 9:00-10:30am Sunday School *Red Door Room* (Kindergarten students may attend *Lighthouse Kids*, see below)

### Grades 1-3:

These children attend the first part of the worship service with parents and are *dismissed half-way through* to attend:

- 9:30-10:30am: *Rotation Sunday School, Brown Door Room* downstairs.
- 10:45am-12:15pm: *Lighthouse Kids*, downstairs in the *Gym*.

### Grades 4-5:

These children attend the first part of the worship service with parents and are *dismissed half-way through* to attend:

- 9:30-10:30am: *Tweens Class*, downstairs in the *Gym*.
- 10:45am-12:15pm: *Lighthouse Kids*, downstairs in the *Gym*.

### Grades 6-12:

- 6:45pm Wednesdays: Middle School YG
- 4:00pm Sunday HS Youth Group

### Upcoming Events:

- All youth Christmas Party Dec 10<sup>th</sup> at 4-6pm in the youth room
- Star Wars Movie Outing Dec 15<sup>th</sup>, gather at 6:15pm at King of Prussia UA Movie Theatre for 7:00pm showing. Tickets only available through NPC website

For all youth-related questions, please contact John Chaffee 610-664-4880 x112  
[jchaffee@narberthpres.org](mailto:jchaffee@narberthpres.org)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## † **Cookie Giveaway is Saturday, Dec 2nd!**



**Now** is the time to drop off your baked/purchased cookies! Christmas-wrapped boxes are located in the chapel and in the downstairs kitchen, to drop-off your cookie donations. We will be collecting cookie donations Nov 26 through Dec 1 to distribute to our Narberth neighbors, along with cards describing NPC community activities for children, teens, young adults, parents, and adults. We are looking for volunteers to bag and/or deliver the cookies to our Narberth neighbors on Dec. 2nd and to distribute at the Dickens Festival on Dec 3rd. We'll start bagging the cookies at 9am on Dec 2nd. We hope you will join us in our community outreach! Thank you!

† November is **National Adoption Month**. Have you been considering fostering or adopting a child in need? Are you daunted by the process or expense involved? NPC's Orphan Care Ministry has partnered with **Lifesong** to create a fund to help cover the cost. Whether you are looking to become a foster parent, starting your home study process, or need funds to complete your adoption, we want to help. Please contact Jess Gaffga ([jessicagaffga@yahoo.com](mailto:jessicagaffga@yahoo.com)) or Valerie Foley ([valerie@vfoley.com](mailto:valerie@vfoley.com)) for details.

## † **The Senior Adults are going to Longwood Gardens this Tuesday, Nov 28!**

Sign-up in the Chapel, or call for more details.

Why not join us for this event? We're a friendly bunch, always glad to meet new friends and add to our numbers!

Planning ahead to December, save Friday, December 15th to attend our annual Christmas Carol Sing and Tea! More details to come.

† **Sunday Morning Curbside Cafe** - A group of us will be outside the church in the lawn area on Windsor Ave., greeting our neighbors with free coffee, pastries, conversation, and prayer if desired. Come outside and join us anytime from 10:45-11:45 a.m. TODAY - for fellowship, and prayer for us, with us, for yourself, or for our neighbors!

† **Christmas Choir Notice** All interested singers are invited to join in singing on Christmas Music Sunday, December 10. Rehearsals are in the Choir Room, on Monday evenings from 7:30-8:30.

**CDs of today's sermon** are available in the Chapel within 15 minutes after the service. Previous Sundays' sermons are available by date in the bin on the small table. Sermons are also available online at our website [www.narberthpres.org](http://www.narberthpres.org) or podcast through iTunes.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † **New Women's Study Group starting on Thursday evenings!** Starting the Thursday after Thanksgiving we will meet from 7:00-8:30pm. Join us for an Advent study, "The Women of Christmas: Experience the Season Afresh with Elizabeth, Mary and Anna". These three women demonstrate remarkable faith and trust in God. Following in their footsteps we too can prepare for the Savior to enter our hearts, minds and lives in a vibrant, new way. **We need to order books for this study, so if you are interested, contact Cathy Callaway at [ccallaway@narberthpres.org](mailto:ccallaway@narberthpres.org) or 215-341-6607.**
- † **Have you ever wondered how lyrics get projected during the service?** We've been using droids, but our last order from the astro-mech factory has been delayed. Please contact John Furlong at [furlongjk@gmail.com](mailto:furlongjk@gmail.com) or 215-482-8198 if you are interested in volunteering. R2-D2, where are you?
- † **For those who like to sing!** On an occasional basis, prior to the worship services, our musicians will be offering an "extended prelude" of music and praise from 8:45-9:00am..
- † **Wycliffe Bible Translators (Al & Barb Shannon)** need a new ambassador to pray for and represent them at NPC. Please contact the office, 610-664-4880, if anyone in our congregation is called to be the "connection" for this Mission Cause.
- † **Visit the book table in the Chapel!**  
We have a new assortment of music for adults and children. Also, be sure to visit the Children's Library upstairs with your children.  
Please look for any forgotten items from the resource center that might be in your home. Thanks! (Helen Moffa)
- † **Dr. Janet Moore** has been serving in our Counseling Ministry for the past 10 years, working with individuals struggling with a wide range of personal and psychological challenges. Dr. Moore's perspective is that addressing mental health issues is essential to opening our hearts and minds, thereby enabling a closer relationship with God that can sustain us in an imperfect world. You may reach Dr. Moore by leaving a message on her church extension, 610-664-4880 (ext. 121), or at 484-686-6630.
- † **From John Kennedy with Interserve:** We have a missionary family (couple and three young boys) coming back for a brief visit in February 6-7, 2018. We will be running our winter Candidate School then and so are looking for some empty nesters or folks with a big house who could offer hospitality/lodging for those 2 nights/days. They arrive here in the area on the 6<sup>th</sup> and depart on the morning of the 8<sup>th</sup>. If you are able help you can reach me, John Kennedy, at my work number – 610-352-0581; or my cell – 610-930-8994. Or by email [JKennedy@ludlow.net](mailto:JKennedy@ludlow.net)

## YOUTH NEWS ANNOUNCEMENTS

***New Youth Committee:*** Calling all demographics of the church! We are creating a new Youth Committee and we would like to invite you to be a part of it. The task of youth ministry is the joy of the whole church, and it is our expressed interest to have as many different decades of life a part of this crew! This committee will help to represent the happenings of the youth to the rest of the church, to help brainstorm new events, find ways to gift our volunteers, and create a feedback loop for how we can improve NPC's Youth Program. We would love to have you, if you are able! Please email John Chaffee at [jchaffee@narberthpres.org](mailto:jchaffee@narberthpres.org) to express your interest. Our first meeting will be just after Thanksgiving!

***Confirmation Class 2018:*** Calling all youth who are interested in attending Confirmation and becoming members of Narberth Presbyterian Church! Just after the New Year we will be starting a new round of Confirmation; this is open to MS as well as HS youth. We will be covering the Christian faith, the Ten Commandments, the Creeds of the Church, and how Narberth Pres. sets out to be a community of faith. We will culminate on Pentecost, which is Sunday, May 20th. On that day we will have a large celebration and welcome all Confirmands into the Church as full members! To help make this a special spring, we would love to have the participation of the rest of the church, if this interests you, please email John Chaffee at [jchaffee@narberthpres.org](mailto:jchaffee@narberthpres.org) about Confirmation!

# ACTS 7

## Acts 7:51,52a, 54-8:1a

<sup>51</sup> “You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit! <sup>52</sup> Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One.

When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. <sup>55</sup> But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup> “Look,” he said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

<sup>57</sup> At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, <sup>58</sup> dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

<sup>59</sup> While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” <sup>60</sup> Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he fell asleep.

**8** And Saul approved of their killing him.

### Application Questions – for individuals or small groups:

- From Acts 6:3-10, what do we know about Stephen's faith and character which helped to prepare him to face persecution?
- As Stephen listened to the accusations, his face was "like the face of an angel" (Acts 6:15). What do you think is meant by this description? Why might there be such hostility almost immediately afterwards?
- Have you ever experienced suffering or persecution because of your faith in Christ? What form did it take, and what were the effects of that experience?
- Stephen is accused of blasphemy against Jewish law and the temple, because he taught that Jesus was the fulfillment of both. Stephen "stood up" for Jesus as the One who embodied the truth of scripture. Where might you be led to stand up for Jesus or scripture as the Word of God, over against tradition or human opinion?
- One of the sayings of the early church fathers was, "The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church." How was this fulfilled by Stephen's death? Read Galatians 6:7-10. How does this encourage you to take the long view? What does it mean to "sow to the Spirit"?
- Since Jesus is described in scripture and the Apostles' Creed as "sitting at the right hand of God," what does it mean "the Son of Man was standing at the right hand of God"?
- In Acts 7:59,60, how is Stephen's death like Jesus'? How do his last words "soften," or give another perspective to his very strong sermon in Acts 7?
- What does Stephen's death teach us about the Christian view of death and heaven?

# SERMON NOTES

November 26, 2017 Pastor Steve Weed

Acts 29

Stand Up With Courage

Acts 6:8-15

Acts 7:51-8:1a

## Assignment for this week:

- Monday through Friday, read one chapter per day in the Book of Acts.
- Saturday, or any days you are led, meditate more deeply on next week's passage: Acts 8

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### On the Web:

[www.narberthpres.org](http://www.narberthpres.org)

[twitter.com/narberthpres](https://twitter.com/narberthpres)

[facebook.com/narberthpresbyterian](https://facebook.com/narberthpresbyterian)

Stephen N. Weed, Pastor  
Deborah Watson, Pastoral Associate  
Terry Weyant, Dir. of Children's Ministry  
John Chaffee, Director of Youth Ministry  
Sherry M. Beebe, Minister of Music  
Donald Robinson, Dir. of Contmpy. Music  
Dave McIntire, Business Administrator  
Hugh Barrie, Assistant Property Mrg.  
Jennifer Addy, Dir. Christian Nursery Sch.  
Isabel Lally, Pastoral Visitor  
Karen Pappas, Secretary  
Joyce B. Nicolai, Bookkeeper  
Carol Bellamy, Financial Secretary  
Spencer Hurst, Sunday Morning Custodian  
CCLI # License #387124



# BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

## ***Sunday, November 26***

8:00am Open Prayer, Pastor Steve's Office  
8:00am Sunday School, Parlor  
**9:00am Worship Service**  
**10:45am Worship Service**  
4:00pm High School Youth Group

## ***Monday, November 27***

7:00pm Prayer Group, open to all, Steve's Office  
7:00pm MBR-Bible Study, Music office  
7:30pm Men's Bible Study in Gal., Copy Room  
7:30pm Christmas Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

## ***Tuesday, November 28***

7:00am Men-Sponsored Prayer Breakfast, at  
Narberth Diner

### **Sr. Trip to Longwood Gardens**

11:00am Prayer group, Resource Room  
7:00pm Missions Committee meeting, Parlor  
7:00pm Newly elected Elder/Deacon Training,  
Steve's Office  
7:30pm Praise Team rehearsal, Sanctuary

## ***Wednesday, November 29***

**9:30am Staff Meeting, Parlor**  
5:45pm-8:00pm Wednesday Night supper, then  
classes for all ages  
Menu: Pork BBQ, salad, fruit, dessert.  
(g-free/vegetarian, too)  
**6:45pm Adult Discipleship classes**  
**6:45pm Middle School Youth Group**

## ***Thursday, November 30***

9:30am Quilts for Comfort, Parlor  
4:00pm Kickball with the Pastor, Gym  
7:00pm New "Women of Advent" Study, led  
by Cathy Callaway, Chapel  
7:00pm Young Adults Group, Parlor

## ***Friday, December 1***

9:30am Moms' Bible Study, Parlor  
10:00am Women's Bible Study, Chapel  
**6:30-9:30pm Parents' Night Out, Gym**

## ***Saturday, December 2***

**Great Cookie Giveaway**  
(Bagging cookies: 9:00am,  
Delivering cookies: 12:00 noon)

## ***Sunday, December 3***

### ***First Sunday in Advent***

8:00am Open Prayer, Pastor Steve's Office  
8:00am Sunday School, Parlor  
**9:00am Worship Service-Communion**  
**10:45am Worship Service-Communion**  
4:00pm High School Youth Group  
5:00pm (Private use of building) Recital in  
Sanctuary

## ***Each Week***

**Christian Nursery School** – Jennifer Addy, Director, 610-664-8890

2, 3 & 5 Day Programs 9:00am to 11:30am & 11:30am to 3:30pm Extended Day Program, Sept.-May  
**AA** meets 12:30pm, Monday–Friday. Also, Saturday at 12:30pm & Sunday at 4:30pm

**Counseling:** Dr. Janet Moore: cell: 484-686-6630 email: [jlmpsy@hotmai.com](mailto:jlmpsy@hotmai.com)

**Planning ahead** Information and calendar updates 24/7 at [www.narberthpres.org](http://www.narberthpres.org)

Dec 4 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room  
Dec 4 7:00pm Youth Committee, in Youth Room (1-hour only meeting)  
Dec 4 7:00pm Newly elected Elder/Deacon Training, Parlor  
Dec 5 7:00pm Deacons' Meeting, Parlor  
Dec 8 7-9pm Pickleball (usually 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays), Gym  
**Dec 10 12:15pm Annual Meeting with Lunch provided, Gym**  
Dec 10 4:00-6:00pm All Youth Christmas Party  
Dec 12 6:00pm CNS "Little Stars" program, large classroom downstairs  
Dec 12 7:00pm Session Meeting, New members received, Parlor  
Dec 14 9:30am Quilts for Comfort, Parlor  
**Dec 15 1:30pm Annual Christmas Carol Sing and Tea, Parlor**  
Dec 16 10:00-11:30am Sunday School Christmas Pageant rehearsal, Gym  
**Dec 17 10:20-10:45am Christmas Pageant, Gym**