

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading Romans 6:1-4; Ephesians 1:13,14 (p.1754, 1818)

Sermon **Following Jesus**
Baptized Again For The First Time **Steve Weed,**
Pastor

Hymn #45 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* *Nettleton*

RENEWAL OF BAPTISM

The Apostles' Creed

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Questions of Reaffirmation

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you renounce all evil, and powers in the world which defy God's righteousness and love?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that separate you from the love of God?

I renounce them.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior?

I do.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love, to your life's end?

I will, with God's help.

Prayer of Rededication

(During a time of music and worship, those who want to receive the laying on of hands and a prayer of blessing, and/or anointing with oil may come to the Elders and Deacons at the front of the church.)

Worship Song

I Will Rise

Tomlin

Benediction

Prayer Ministry

9:00am Meg McKinley

10:45am Emma Shaw

The altar flowers today are given to the glory of God and in remembrance of Christopher Abbott, by his loving family.

TODAY, on this first Sunday of Lent, there will be an opportunity to renew your baptism. Toward the end of the service, all are invited to come forward.

Elders and Deacons will be available at the front of the sanctuary. As you are led, you are invited to come forward and to stand or to kneel. You will be asked to state your full name, as in baptism. The Elders and Deacons will anoint you with oil, making the sign of the cross on your forehead. They will then offer a simple, declarative prayer of blessing: "I anoint you in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for the renewal of your baptism. May the Lord bless you and keep you and grant you His peace. Amen."

The liturgy we are using comes out of the Presbyterian Book of Common Worship, including anointing with oil. So whether you were baptized as a baby, or as a believing young person or adult, this is an opportunity for you to renew your baptism.

If you have never been baptized or received Christ as your Lord and Savior, you might consider coming forward as a way of indicating you are ready to take that step. Then, at some point in the future, you could be baptized.

May today be a significant milestone in our walk with God, and a beautiful time of worship together. Glad you are here!

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 5 Year Olds

- 9:00-10:30am: *Gospel Light, Red Door Room* downstairs
- 10:45am-12:15pm: *Play through the Bible, Red Door Room* downstairs.

Grades K-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:

- 9:30am Youth Sunday School
- 10:30am Confirmation Class
- 7:00-9:00pm Middle School YG on 3rd Fridays
- 4:00pm Sunday HS Youth Group

Current Events: Parent Night, March 7th, 7-8:30pm

Teen Anxiety, the Family and the Church

It is not a new statement to say that being a teenager in today's world is difficult, but it is also the same for that of being a parent. There are new variables and new stresses that did not exist 50 years ago. However, in recent weeks there have been a few tragedies that have shaken the local schools. Teenage stress and anxiety seem to be at a high, if not chronic, level and it is easy to resign to the thought that, "we can't do anything about it." On this evening we will chat through some of these difficulties, consult the recent research on youth development, strategize supports for the family, and discuss how the Church can come alongside and be a partner in all of this. From 7-8:30pm, this event is open for parents of teens as well as children and is certainly open to any non-members.

For all youth-related questions, please contact John Chaffee 610-664-4880 x112
jchaffee@narberthpres.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † **Sunday Morning Curbside Cafe:** "Come & See" is our theme for Curbside Cafe 2018. With a regular presence outside the church, we seek to invite our neighbors to *come and see* the love of Jesus through our simple hospitality, prayers, and intentional conversation. For our team, it has been so exciting to see God's vivid work in us and among us! So we invite you, too, to join us and *come and see* for yourselves from **10:45-11:45 a.m.** on Windsor Avenue.

- † **Unbound:** From time to time we all experience obstacles to knowing the peace of Christ in our daily lives. Unbound is a ministry that helps us find the joy and freedom that Jesus desires for us. Personal prayer sessions are available on Sundays at 10:45 am with Gene and Becky McGee and on Wednesday evenings with Dana and Maria Kaminstein at 7 pm. Sessions available by appointment only. Contact Gene (267-446-9598), Becky (215-287-3844), Dana (610-247-4825), Maria (610-247-4927).

- † **Save the Date: March 7th: Teen Anxiety, the Family and the Church**
It is not a new statement to say that being a teenager in today's world is difficult, but it is also the same for that of being a parent. There are new variables and new stresses that did not exist 50 years ago. That being said, in recent weeks there have been a few tragedies that have shaken the local schools. Teenage stress and anxiety seem to be at a high, if not chronic, level and it is easy to resign to the thought that, "we can't do anything about it." On this evening we will chat through some of these difficulties, consult the recent research on youth development, strategize supports for the family, and discuss how the Church can come alongside and be a partner in all of this. **Plan to join us Wednesday, March 7th from 7:00-8:30 in the gym. This event is open for parents of teens and children and is certainly open to the community. Child care will be provided.**

2 upcoming Retreat Options:

- † **"A Day Away" – personal retreat at St. Raphaela Retreat Center.**
Wednesday, April 11th from 9:30 am-3:00 pm (\$25.00 cost includes morning snack and cold lunch) Registration forms are available in the Chapel.

- † **Connect with God** - If you would like to spend some quality time with the creator of the universe, there is no better place than the Jesuit Retreat Center in Wernersville. We invite you to a weekend of prayerful silence and reflection that will refresh and renew your soul. Arrive anytime on **Friday April 20 and return Sunday April 22 about 3pm.** Cost of \$150 covers private room and meals. No experience necessary. Contact Dave Bellamy at dbellamy@narberthpres.org or [610-659-2063](tel:610-659-2063) for more information. Register at www.narberthpres.org. Registration deadline is April 2.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † **Calling all senior adults** (we don't card)! Come to the Parlor at 1:30pm on Friday, February 23rd for a video introduction to **Alaska's Great Northern Lights - The Aurora Borealis**. These displays of God's handiwork are truly magnificent, so why not join us for what is sure to be a good (and illuminating!) time? It's free, we're a friendly group, and there will be refreshments. Have questions? Contact Debbie Watson at dwatson@narberthpres.org or 610-664-4880 (x114).

- † **Young Adult Fellowship!**
Now meeting every other Friday night with a variety of social activities and service projects and pot-luck dinners. Next gathering is Friday night, February 23 at 7:30pm. Contact person: Mike Boccasini (631-487-2827).

- † **Children's Lenten Offering** - Beginning Sunday, February 18th, the children will be participating in a special Lenten Offering to support Narberth Community Food Bank. We are collecting personal care items through Sunday, April 1st (Easter Sunday). All items can be left in the Lenten Offering Boxes found on the stage in the gym. All are invited to participate!
Items Needed: Shampoo, Hair conditioner, Dental floss, Mouthwash, Toilet paper, Bar soap, Deodorant, Dish soap, Scrub sponges, Brillo

- † **Please join the Tuesday morning prayer group for "Journey To The Cross"**, a prayer plan for Lent. 11:00am-Noon in the Parlor each Tuesday. All are welcome. Led by Faithe Hornung.

- † **Parents, please visit the book table in the chapel and check out some new additions to the Children's Library** and some Oldies but Goodies such as A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle which will be a film coming to theatres soon. Please check your homes for any items you may have forgotten to return. We ask that all items be returned in one month's time.

- † **The Women's Bible Study** on the gospel of Luke will resume following the Mere Christianity class, on April 5th.

- † **Good News Evangelism Team: Fourth Tuesdays 7:00-8:30pm**
Led by Pastor Steve Location: Chapel
This is a monthly gathering to receive training on sharing our faith, and to hear stories of how we see God at work. The emphasis is less on programs and more on people, and how God is leading us to reach out into the community with the good news of Jesus Christ. ALL are welcome to this time of encouraging one another to fulfill the Great Commission.

- † **Meals are needed** for the Ray Ward/Karen Tang family who are dealing with Ray's cancer treatment. Please contact Ilonka Comstock for details. (610-416-4096)

FOLLOWING JESUS

Application Questions from today's sermon for individuals or small groups:

Matthew 3:13-17; Galatians 3:26-29; Romans 6:1-4; Ephesians 1:13,14

- Have you been baptized? If so, when were you baptized and in what context? If not, what would it mean for you to take this step? What are the incentives or hesitations?
- The Westminster Confession, one of the theological confessions which guides our faith and practice states: "The efficacy of baptism is not tied to the time in which it is administered." Regardless of when you were baptized, what does your baptism mean to you today, and how can you reclaim its "efficacy?"
- In Revelation 2:1-5, the church at Ephesus is commended for their hard work and perseverance, but rebuked for "forgetting their first love." Can you recall a time of "first love" from God? What does it mean (or not mean) for your first love to be restored? How can this happen?
- Baptism celebrates what God has done for us in Christ. From Romans 6:1-4 and Ephesians 1:13,14, list all the blessings that we have received through baptism and faith in Christ.
- From Romans 6:1-14, what does it mean practically to live out the death and resurrection of Christ? Does this language of death and resurrection suggest that we have regarded the meaning of baptism too lightly?
- From Matthew 3:13-17, John the Baptist preached a baptism of repentance for forgiveness of sins. Jesus had no sin (Hebrews 2:17, 4:15). Why then was Jesus baptized? What righteousness did he fulfill? (Cf. Isaiah 53:12).
- The culmination of Jesus' baptism was the glorious affirmation of God's love. What might have been the significance of this for Jesus? Especially considering what happened next for him? (Matthew 4:1-11).
- Baptism is often referred to as a rite or sacrament of "identity." How so? How have you experienced God's affirmation of you as his beloved son or daughter?
- After baptism, the waters of baptism dry off, but not the faithfulness of God. His faithfulness needs no renewal, only ours. How does the "seal" of the Holy Spirit encourage you to persevere through sin and failure? (Ephesians 1:13,14; Philippians 1:6; 2Timothy 1:12).



On the Web:

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BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, February 18

8:00am Open Prayer, Pastor Steve's Office

8:00am Sunday School, Parlor

9:00am Worship Service

9:30am Children's Sunday School, downstairs

9:30am Youth Sunday School, Youth Room

10:30am Confirmation Class, Youth Room

10:45am Worship Service

4:00pm Youth Group

Monday, February 19

6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

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

Tuesday, February 20

7:00am Men's small group, Resource Room

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

11:00am Prayer Group, Parlor (open to all)

7:00pm Session Meeting, Parlor

7:30pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Wednesday, February 21

9:30am Staff Meeting, Parlor

5:45 Wed Night Supper Menu: Mac & Cheese, tomatoes, salad, fruit, dessert (gluten-free also)

7:00pm Adult Classes

Thursday, February 22

9:30-4:00pm All-day Quilting event, Parlor

4:00pm Kickball with the Pastor

7:00-8:30pm Mere Christianity book study with Pastor Steve, Parlor

(Read p.104-133)

7:30pm Adult Pick-up Basketball, Gym

Friday, February 23

9:30am Moms' Study Group, Parlor

10:00am Women's Bible Study, Chapel

1:30pm Sr. Slide Show (Aurora: Alaska's Great Northern Lights), Parlor

6:30-9:00pm Marriage Course, Parlor

7:00pm Pickleball, Gym

7:30pm Young Adults Fellowship

Saturday, February 24

Sunday, February 25

8:00am Open Prayer, Pastor Steve's Office

8:00am Sunday School, Parlor

9:00am Worship Service

9:30am Children's Sunday School, downstairs

9:30am Youth Sunday School, Youth Room

10:30am Confirmation Class, Youth Room

10:45am Worship Service

4:00pm Youth Group

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

Planning ahead Information and calendar updates 24/7 at www.narberthpres.org

- Feb 23 7:30pm Young Adults Fellowship
- Feb 27 7:00pm Missions Committee, Parlor
- Feb 27 7:00pm Good News Evangelism Team Meeting
- Mar 5 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
- Mar 7 7:00pm Parents & Youth: Teen Anxiety, the Family and the Church
- Mar 9, 23 9:30am Moms' Study Group, Parlor
- Mar 9 1:30pm Sr. Adult Slide Show, Parlor
- Mar 9,23 7:00pm Pickleball, Gym
- Mar 19 2-7pm Red Cross Blood Drive, Gym
- Mar 23 9:30-3:30 Sr. Adult Trip to Princeton NJ