



Hope

LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

December 1, 2019

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 *Now Herald We The King* **Paxton**

Welcome and Call To Worship

Hymn #66 *The God of Abraham Praise* **Leoni**

Prayer of Invocation

Family News

Scripture Reading Isaiah 42:1-4a; Isaiah 61:1-3 (p.1124, 1157)

Lighting the First Advent Candle "Hope"

9:00am The Hein Family

Greg, Trish, Abbie, Evelyn, Brody, and Nora

10:45am The O'Connor Family

Matt, Nina, Grace, David, and Mary

Unison Declaration: Hebrews 10:23-25

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hymn #135 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* **Hyfrydol**

Greeting

Worship Song *Living Hope* **Johnson/Wickham**

Affirmation of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Question

"What is your only comfort in life and in death?"

That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit he also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Deborah Watson,

Associate Pastor

Passing of Friendship Pads

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings and Dedication of Pledges

Offertory

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading

Psalm 34:1-8; Romans 15:13

(p.871, 1767)

Sermon

**God Drawing Near
Inspiring Hope In Others**

Steve Weed,
Pastor

Worship Song

Light of The World

Daigle

Invitation To Communion

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O holy God, creator and ruler of the universe. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and called us to love and serve you.

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Born in humility, he came to rule over all. Helpless as an infant, he showed the power of your love. Poor in things of the world, he brought the wealth of your grace. Rejected by many, he welcomed all who sought him.

In his death and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made us people of hope.

According to his commandments:

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory.

Empower us by your Spirit, O God, to be Christ's presence in the world even as Jesus was God-with-us. Give us courage and hope to speak his truth, to seek his justice, and to live together in his peace.

Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory and we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn #133

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

Benediction

Prayer Ministry

9:00am Clara Louie

10:45am Deborah Miller

Today on this first Sunday of the month, we celebrate Holy Communion. As Presbyterian Christians, we invite all who profess faith in Jesus Christ to receive communion, regardless of denominational affiliation or membership in this church. At both services you are invited to receive communion by coming forward down the center aisle. We break off a piece of the bread (gluten free available), dip it in the cup and eat, then return to your seat by the outer aisles. At the discretion of parents, our children are welcome to receive communion.

On Communion Sundays, the loose plate offering is earmarked for our Deacons Assistance Fund. This fund is used to meet critical needs within our own church family and beyond. Thank you for your very generous donations.

Today is FAMILY WORSHIP. Children K - 5th grade will remain in service to worship with their family. Busy bags are available at the entrance along with special children's bulletins! Infants through PreK have normal programming today.

Thank you for being with us in worship today! To learn more about our church, Welcome Bags are available for newcomers in the Narthex, the entrance area at the front doors, and at the Windsor Ave. entrance.

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 or podcast through iTunes. Also, CDs are available from Jonathan Miller's talks during the Spiritual Renewal Weekend.

Advent and Christmas Services and Events:

Sun. Dec 1 First Sunday in Advent

9:00 & 10:45am Family Worship Services –Communion
Wed. Dec 5 6:00pm Christmas By Candlelight for all
Sat. Dec 7 The Great Christmas Cookie Giveaway!
9:00am Bagging cookies
11:00am Cookie delivery in Narberth

Sun. Dec. 8 Second Sunday in Advent

9:00am and 10:45am Services
12:00-4:00pm Dickens Festival in Narberth
Tues. Dec 10 9:30-3:30 Sr. Adult Trip to Longwood Christmas Exhibit
Wed. Dec 11 7:00pm A Night To Remember, Chapel
A service of comfort and hope
Thurs. Dec 12 10:00am Pre-School Christmas Pageant

Sun. Dec. 15 Third Sunday in Advent

9:00am and 10:45am services Christmas Choir Presentation
10:15am Between services: Children's Christmas Pageant in Gym
12:15pm Annual Congregational Meeting,
Childcare and Lunch provided
Fri. Dec 19 1:30pm Sr. Christmas Carol Sing & Tea

Sun. Dec. 22 4th Sunday in Advent

9:00am and 10:45am services
7:00pm Found Wandering Concert

Sun. Dec 24 Christmas Eve

4:00pm Family Friendly Candlelight Service
(shorter and designed for young families)
5:30pm Family Friendly Candlelight Service
8:00pm Traditional Candlelight Service

FAMILY MINISTRY: CHILDREN, YOUTH & PARENTS

Childcare and Sunday School

2 yr olds & 3 yr olds meet in The Blue Door Rm (#105) during the 9:00 service. We use David C. Cook – Bible in Life Curriculum. Children enjoy play, snack, craft and lesson!

4 yr olds through PreK meet in The Red Door Rm (#107) during the 9:00 service.

****Please note the younger classes combine during the 10:45 service in RM #107****

We use David C. Cook – Bible in Life Curriculum. Children enjoy play, craft and lesson!

Our Nursery (Rm #104) is available at the 9:00 and 10:45 worship services. This room is best for infants through 23 months.

****Please sign your child in and out of each classroom****

A Christmas Journey – Children's Christmas Pageant! Our annual Christmas pageant will take place on Sunday, December 15th between services in the gym. Join Christmas, Joy, Peace, Faith, Hope and Doubt as they set out for Bethlehem to see the birth of our King Jesus. Children age 2 through 5th grade lead this special event.

Save the Dates:

Friday, December 6 – Parents' Night Out! Children age 4 (and potty-trained) through 5th grade are encouraged to leave their parents at home for a break. PNO is from 6:30pm – 9:00pm in the gym.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Upcoming Special Events

Dec.

8th – 12:30pm Last HS Youth Group for 2019 and Annual Train Ride to wander the Christmas Village in Philly.

11th - Last MS Youth Group for 2019.

15th - Last Youth Sunday School for 2019.

13th - [Youth Christmas Party to Get Air Trampoline Park. \(College students home on break can join this!\)](#)

20th - [Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker with NPCYG and Friends at Oaks Regal Movie Theater \(We reserved the ENTIRE theater.\)](#)

22nd - Found Wandering Christmas Concert at 7pm.

Jan.

5th - Youth Sunday School Resumes.

5th - HS Youth Group Resumes.

8th and 15th – 7:00-8:30pm Wed. Night Programs Resume with Youth and Parent Workshop Pt. 1 + 2.

30th - Youth Staff Outing at 7pm.

Feb.

26th - Ash Wednesday, the Start of Lent

Mar.

20-22nd - HS Pocono Cabin Retreat

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



During the month of December, the Chancel and Sanctuary is again fully decorated for Christmas. The poinsettias will be fully displayed on the 8th. After the morning services **on December 22, 2019**, the smaller poinsettias will be delivered to members and friends of the congregation. Most will be given to those who were not to attend the morning service, but ALL will be given to say **WE LOVE YOU!**

The Memorial Plants will be **\$12.00** each. This is a lovely way to remember loved ones, and to add to the congregation's enjoyment of the season. Please complete the form below and return it to the church office as soon as possible. Thank You! Please make **checks payable to Narberth Presbyterian Church.**

Dedications will be listed in the bulletin Dec. 22. Dedications must be received by December 19 to be included in the bulletin of 12/22.

----- cut here -----

Christmas Poinsettias

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Attached is \$ _____ (checks/cash) to be identified as follows:

Given to the glory of God and in loving memory (or honor) of:

(please print)

By _____

OR

Given to the glory of God with thankful joy for His continuing love and grace.

By _____

_____ I would be happy to deliver one (or more) plants after the morning services on Sunday, December 22, 2019.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † **Spiritual Renewal Weekend Follow-Up: Sunday morning opportunity:**
Let's gather on [Dec 8](#), (you can come at either [9:30](#) or [10:45](#)), to nurture what has begun in us during this Spiritual Renewal Weekend.
After exploring how to be good listeners to one another, we will share in small groups about our experience during the retreat and how we can best carry that forward. Led by Dana Engenbright, Location: Parlor
- † **NPC's Friday Morning Moms' Group** has resumed and meets from 9:30 to 11:30 am in the Parlor every other Friday. This fall we are studying the CS Lewis classic, [The Screwtape Letters](#). This is a deep, welcoming, and supportive group of women who pray together, share about life's struggles and successes, and seek to grow closer to Jesus by studying Scripture and helpful books together. We are always open to new faces and encourage inviting new Christians or friends/neighbors/family members who are questioning faith. Coffee, tea, snacks, and free childcare are provided. Our next meeting will be Friday, December 6. Please contact Jess Gaffga (jessicagaffga@yahoo.com) or Jo-Anne Kaplan (jrgarrid@yahoo.com) with any questions.
- † **Cookie Time! It's time!** It's that time of year when we begin to prepare for our Great Cookie Giveaway and Narberth's Dickens Festival.
Start baking those cookies and freeze them. Or freeze the cookie dough so it's ready to bake when needed. We would like 10,000 cookies to bag and give away to our neighbors on **Sat. Dec 7th and at the Dickens Festival on Dec 8th**.
Volunteers are needed to distribute cookies, if interested please contact Betsy Hayden (bhayden126@comcast.net) or Gaby Anik or Alison Louie.
We appreciate your help!
- † **NEW! BULLETIN REUSE & RECYCLING**
Not taking your bulletin home? Help us save money and conserve resources by dropping it into one of our new **Bulletin Boxes** located at each main exits from the sanctuary. *Want to go completely paper-free?* Access the bulletin online at www.narberthpres.org using your mobile phone (simply click the front-page link to open this week's bulletin). This reuse and recycling effort is an initiative of our new Creation Care Committee, which seeks to mobilize our church to care for God's creation. For more information or to get involved with the church's new Creation Care Committee, please contact abowser@gmail.com.
- † **A special "Thank You"** to all the Mission Cause Representatives who were with us last Sunday for the Gifts of Hope Gallery and shared the story of their ministry. Thanks also to all the Gifts of Hope Team for coordinating this event.



On the Web:

www.narberthpres.org
twitter.com/narberthpres
facebook.com/narberthpresbyterian

BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, December 1

First Sunday in Advent

8:00am Sunday School, Parlor
8:00am Open Prayer, Pastor Steve's Office
9:00am Family Worship and Communion Service
10:45am Family Worship and Communion Service

12:30pm Usher/Greeter Training, Parlor
No Youth Group today

Monday, December 2

6:30pm Windsor Bell Choir Rehearsal, Chapel
7:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
7:00pm Prayer Group, open to all, Steve's Office
7:00pm Newly-elected Elder/Deacon Training, Steve's Office
7:30pm Men's Bible Study, Parlor

Tuesday, December 3

11:00am Praying / Bible group, Parlor
5:00pm Memorial Service for Sue Plummer
7:00pm Deacons' Meeting, Parlor

Wednesday, December 4

9:30am Staff Meeting, Parlor
6:00-8:00 Christmas by Candlelight, (includes dinner) Chapel

Thursday, December 5

9:30am Quilts for Comfort, Parlor
7:00pm Safety & Security Team Meeting, Parlor

Friday, December 6

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

Saturday, December 7

8:00am-Noon "Saturday With Santa", Gym
9:00am Cookie bagging, followed by
11:00am Cookie Give-a-way
3:30-5:30pm Private use of Gym

Sunday, December 8

Second Sunday in Advent
8:00am Sunday School, Parlor
8:00am Open Prayer, Pastor Steve's Office
9:00am Worship Service
10:45am Worship Service
12:00pm-4:00pm Dickens Festival in Narberth
12:30pm Youth trip to the city

Each Week

Christian Pre-School – 610-664-8890 Director: Christina Platt
2, 3 & 5 Day Programs 9:00am to 12 noon & 12 noon to 3:00pm Extended Day Program, Sept.-May

AA meets 12:30pm, Monday–Saturday & Sunday at 4:30pm in the Choir Room

Counseling: Dr. Janet Moore: cell: 484-686-6630 email: jlimpsych@hotmail.com

Planning Ahead-Information and calendar updates 24/7 www.narberthpres.org

- Dec 10 9:30-3:30 Sr. Trip to Longwood Gardens
- Dec 11 7:00pm A Night To Remember – a service of comfort and hope
- Dec 12 9:00-Noon Preschool Christmas Pageant and reception
- Dec 12 7:00pm Adult Discipleship Committee, Youth Annex
- Dec 13,27 6:30pm Pickleball, Gym
- Dec 13 Youth Christmas Party at "Get Air"
- Dec 15 10:15am Children's Christmas Pageant
- Dec 15 12:30 Annual Congregational Meeting, Gym
- Dec 17 7:00pm Session Meeting, Parlor
- Dec 17 7:00pm Knitters' Group, Chapel

Dec 19 9:30am Quilts for Comfort, Parlor
Dec 20 9:30am Moms' Bible Study, Parlor
Dec 22 7:00pm Found Wandering Concert
Dec 24 4:00pm, 5:30pm, 8:00pm Services