



Narberth Presbyterian Church

September 3, 2023

LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

September 3, 2023

Prelude

I Love You, Lord
Jinhee Shim, organ

arr. Bock

Welcome and Family News

Danielle Kauffman

Call to Worship

Hebrews 10:23-25

Caitlin & Natalie Henry

Hymn #701

God Is Here!

Beecher

Prayer of Invocation

Pastor Debbie

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 13:1-8a

Heather Gallagher

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we thank you for the good news of the gospel. Jesus Christ sees us not only as we are, but as we can be, and shall be. We confess that too often this is not the vision we have of ourselves or others. We are more apt to judge and criticize, than to encourage. Please forgive us through the cross. Grant to us a fresh realization of your love, that we may faithfully embody Jesus to others. And all the people said, "Amen."

Assurance of Pardon

Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, 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 sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

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

The Greeting

Worship Song

All the People Said Amen
Who You Say I Am
NPC Worship Band

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer Pastor Debbie

Passing of Friendship Pads & Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Contemplation on Tallis' Canon* *Purvis*
Jinhee Shim, organ

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading Luke 15:11-24 Pastor Debbie

Sermon We All Need A Standing Ovation Pastor Steve

Hymn *O How He Loves You and Me*

Invitation To Communion Danielle Kauffman

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, eternal and triune God, whom we worship as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In Jesus Christ you spoke the word that brought the world into being. By the Holy Spirit you brought order out of chaos and breathed life into your creatures.

In his ministry on earth, Jesus cared for all, forgiving their failures, healing their hurts, and nurturing their faith, giving himself in utter sacrifice for those he loved. He inspired ordinary people to Spirit-filled living, and displayed in his life, death, and rising again the power of your Spirit.

Nurture us at this table, O God, that we may grow to the stature of Jesus Christ. By the Holy Spirit, help us surrender more of ourselves to you, that we might know the freedom of your will. Help us to love you above all else and to love our neighbor as we love ourselves.

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. Amen.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again. Amen.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Pastor Debbie

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn #498

I Love to Tell the Story (1,3)

Hankey

Benediction

Pastor Steve

Postlude

He Is Exalted

arr. Bock

Prayer Ministry

Linda Behmke

Next Sunday, September 10th, in the early part of the service, we will have the joy of blessing and anointing our children and teachers as they go back to school. All children, pre-school through 12th grade, along with teachers at all levels, will be invited to come forward to be anointed and blessed in prayer. In Scripture, anointing with oil is often symbolic of the peace and presence of the Holy Spirit.

Volunteer Fair! Join us next Sunday, September 10th for the NPC Volunteer Fair. Learn more about the many ministry areas of NPC and discover ways you can get involved and strengthen our community! It will take place directly following the Worship Service in the gym and FOOD is provided. Contact Sara Mahoney if you have any questions.

Brunch in the Parlor! Please join us for a free brunch following our September 17th service to hear from the leaders of Well Rooted, an organization that exists to support nurture, and empower young adults and families affected by the child welfare system.

God's Presence in Liminal Space is the theme for NPC's day retreat on **Monday October 2, 2023, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** We will meet at the Gallaghers' Idyllic Barn in Devon, PA, spending the day in solitude, listening to God's heart for us personally, and experiencing his presence in the in-between and not-yet spaces of life we find ourselves. We will begin and conclude our day in community, and there will be guided material for those who are new to solitude and silence. Sign-up in the Chapel, or contact Clara Louie (claralouie@yahoo.com) or Linda DiLullo (ldilullo3@gmail.com). Registration fee is \$25. It is a bring-your-own-lunch event. Register now, as space is limited! **Save the dates for upcoming Prayer Retreats on January 20th & April 11th.**

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: CHILDREN

Sunday, September 3rd is Family Worship – Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to sit with Miss Danielle in the first two pews up front. We will worship and participate in communion with our church family. The NPC Nursery will be available as usual for younger children.

Kickoff Sunday is September 10th – We welcome a new church program year with the blessing of children and teachers, begin our fall Sunday School series, and enjoy the Volunteer Fair with light refreshments directly following worship in the gym. All are welcome!

Promise Keeper – This fall the Sunday School children (K-5th) will begin a new series called “Promise Keeper”. Together we will explore very awesome promises in the Bible and be wowed at the creative ways in which God keeps his word!

NPC Nursery – Our youngest and most adorable will begin their new series called Bible-In-Life. Each week Miss Sharon and our faithful volunteers lead creative Bible lessons that help children interact with God’s Word. We are also welcoming Jennifer Fisher, for a few special Sundays, who will lead lesson-based songs that children will be singing all day long. The Nursery is best for infants through PreK. Please reach out to Sharon Shallow (sbshallow55@gmail.com) or Danielle Kauffman (dkauffman@narberthpres.org) with any questions or to volunteer.

Kids Praise – Join us on Wednesday Nights beginning **September 13th** for music fun! Mrs. Pilacik, NPC’s Minister of Music, will be joining us each week for an exciting time of music. Get ready to make a joyful noise! We will meet in the Choir Room from 7:00pm – 8:00pm.

The Philadelphia Project Blitz Weekend for 3rd, 4th, 5th grade – Register today! All 3rd – 5th graders are invited to serve with TPP Friday, November 3rd through Sunday, November 5th. Registration ends on October 8th.

Save the Date for the 2024 All-Church Retreat! Get out your calendar and mark the dates for the All-Church Retreat taking place on Friday, May 10th through Sunday, May 12th in beautiful Sandy Cove, MD. Many more details soon.

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: YOUTH

New Sunday School Curriculum – on September 10th we will begin a new Sunday School curriculum. This curriculum will be based on a JESUS series that matches the theme of the church year: Visualizing Jesus. The goal of this curriculum is to enhance Youths' vision and connection to Jesus and support them in seeing the beauty of the gospel.

Middle School Youth Group will be on Sunday evenings starting September 10th from 6:00 – 7:00pm in the Youth Room. We are excited about this new opportunity to come together and fellowship. This year we will focus on visualizing Jesus through games, interactive conversations, and at-home discipleship tools that will enhance your middle schooler's Christian journey.

High School Youth Group will continue Sunday evenings starting September 10th from 7:00 – 8:00pm in the Youth Room. Our sessions will include interactive conversations and hybrid fellowship. Our first lesson will be based on John 12:20-21... “Sir, we wish to see Jesus!”

CLASSES

8:15am Sunday Class – Please join us – live in the NPC Parlor, or via Zoom – for a time of conversation focused on the scriptures for the day's worship service. All are welcome! Contact Pastor Debbie for the Zoom link.

GriefShare® The journey of grief is a painful process; you do not need to walk it alone. We would encourage you to come to the video and support group called GriefShare (<https://www.griefshare.org>). The sessions specifically address topics and issues for those who are grieving the death of a loved one. GriefShare meets weekly, the content is Christ-centered and biblical, and the sessions will be led by Alice Antonelli and Gerri Wismer. You will find this to be a place where you can be around people who understand the pain of your loss. The first GriefShare session will meet on **Monday, September 18th from 6:30 – 8pm in the Chapel**, and continue into December (note that you can join at any time). It is important to register on the GriefShare website. Please feel free to email Alice Antonelli (arichardson1@gmail.com) or Gerri Wismer (geewis46@gmail.com) for more information about the group.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES

Wednesday Night Programming will resume on Wednesday, September 13th

Schedule:

5:45 – 6:45pm Church Family Supper (Gym)

7:00 – 8:00pm The New Testament in Its World, Pastor Debbie (Chapel)

7:00 – 8:00pm Top Lessons of Faith and Life, Pastor Steve (Parlor)

7:00 – 8:00pm Kids Praise, Miss Danielle (Choir Room)

The New Testament in Its World We will continue this 37-week, video-based study that looks at the entire New Testament. Each week, we will travel from the twenty-first century to the era of Jesus and the first Christians, where we will learn about how the message of the Gospel impacted them and their world. Only the Bible is needed; all the reading is found in its pages. Following each video there will be a time of interactive conversation based on what we have just seen/heard. If you would like to understand the NT at a deeper level, here is one opportunity to do that.

Top Lessons of Faith and Life Pastor Steve has recently put together an informal list of his top 35 lessons of faith and life. Each Wednesday night he will share at least one of them. It will be a surprise! All are welcome! The first week we will begin with an overview of the entire list.

Kids Praise – Join us for music fun! Mrs. Pilacik, NPC's Minister of Music, will be joining us each week for an exciting time of music. Get ready to make a joyful noise!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Offering: In light of the devastation caused by the wildfires on Maui, and in Lahaina specifically, our Deacons made the decision to send some of our Disaster Relief funds to help Kahului Baptist Church continue to open the doors of their buildings and hearts to provide the kind of welcome, comfort, and encouragement Jesus would through shelter, food, clothing, prayer, presence, and whatever else they can. The other gift was prompted by Kathy and Alan Hecht, who had just visited Maui. While there, they worshiped with Maui Christian Church. One of their worship leaders lost everything, including her family's home. Through our Deacons, we are helping to restore hope, as well as what the flames consumed. For the next few weeks, we will receive a special offering for the Maui fire survivors, through the Kahului Baptist Church. Please indicate that your offering is for "Maui Fire."

Senior Adult "Slideshows" are back! While these have, traditionally, been for people aged 60 and above, we welcome *everyone* (of any age) to these gatherings, which are interesting, informative, FREE, and offer a great opportunity to meet and get to know your NPC "neighbors" in-person! We also have snacks! We meet on Fridays at 1:30pm in the Parlor.

- September 15th Iceland (Diane Chen)
- October 20th Oberammergau (Nancy Davis & Nancy Wolfe)
- November 17th Paris (2022/23) & Cambridge 2023 (Debbie Watson & Diane Chen)
- December 1st Israel (Diane Chen)
- December 15th Sr. Christmas Carol Sing & Tea (Save the date)

Notes From Justice and Mercy: NPC's Orphan Care Ministry has recently partnered with Well Rooted which exists to support, nurture, and empower young adults and families affected by the child welfare system by walking alongside them and connecting them to the relationships and resources they need to thrive. Nationwide, only half of the kids in foster care reunite with their biological parents, and each year 20,000 teenagers age out of foster care with no permanent home. Well Rooted seeks to interrupt these statistics by supporting foster families and struggling biological families. They also have a mentoring program for young adults who have aged out of the system, such as Malaeya, who says of foster care, "There may be rough patches in between... But time does matter and you will achieve it with the support." Please pray for the kids and families Well Rooted serves and for God's continuing provision. Well Rooted is especially in need of male mentors for young people aging out of foster care. To learn more and get involved, visit wellrootedpa.org.

Music Ministry's 2023-2024 season: We are seeking singers, bell ringers, musicians of all instruments, ages, and ability levels to participate in our Music Ministry programs. We have an exciting year of musical selections and performances planned and we want **YOU** to be a part of it! Rehearsals will begin in September on Monday nights for Bell Choir and on Thursday nights for the Sanctuary Choir. Be in touch with our Minister of Music, Linda Pilacik (lindapilacik@gmail.com, (610) 585-3339).

Room For Restless Children The presence of children is a gift to the church, and children are always welcome in our services. The Parlor is available to parents of young children who need a place for a crying or restless child during service. The Parlor is set up so parents can view the service while caring for their child. We invite you to make use of this room, located off the Windsor Ave doors when needed, so that all who are in attendance can pray and worship. Thank you for your consideration in helping to make our time together as a church family a holy experience.

Flower Dedication:  Each week beautiful flowers grace the altar of the church. They remind us of the Lord's goodness and are a way to honor Him. You may provide one week's flowers with a donation of \$25. Flowers may be given in memory/honor of someone or simply to God's glory; your dedication will be acknowledged in the weekly bulletin. If you would like to dedicate flowers, please call Sara in the church office.

Dr. Janet Moore is a licensed psychologist with over 30 years of therapeutic expertise. With an understanding of spirituality and faith in clients' lives, she is able to provide spiritually integrated psychotherapy. Janet offers counseling to adults and couples experiencing such struggles as depression and anxiety, relationship issues, life crisis, grief, and personal adjustment problems. Contact Dr. Moore at 610-664-4880 Ext 121, or 484-686-6630, jlmpsych910@gmail.com

2023 MISSIONARY CAUSES

Mission

4D Ministries – Hank Paulson
Amnion Pregnancy Center
Cephas Tushima
Child Evangelism Fellowship, Inc. – N. Ireland
Chosen People Ministries– Paul Cruz
Cornerstone Christian Academy
CRU City – Brindleys (Philadelphia Gospel Movement)
CRU International–Leah Darwin
Development Associates International
DiscipleMakers – Rebecca and Dan Hall
ECO Church Planting and Global Missions Funds
Esperanza Health Center
Fellowship of Christian Athletes – Kasey Dougherty
For Richmond – Matt & Anna Shenk (formerly CRU)
Greater Europe Mission- Liz Loeffler
Habitat for Humanity –N. Central Philadelphia
House of His Creation
InterAct Ministries – Dan & Bev Mayerle
Interserve-USA – Jan Kennedy
Kingdom Connect – Ben Duffy
Neighborhood Crusades Inc.
New Horizons/Amoenitas – Scott Todd
Olney Christian School
Presby's Inspired Life (Human Good)
Presbyterian Reformed Ministries International
Rancho Del Rey
REAP Granada-Scott Esposito
Redeemed For A Cause Outreach – Sakinah Love
Servant Partners – Dan & Denise Anderson
The Antioch Partners-Haugens
The Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota (Standing Rock)
The Philadelphia Project
The Welcome Church – Schaunel Steinnagel
United World Mission – Nick & Ginny Woodbury
World Link
Wycliffe Bible Translators – Al & Barb Shannon
Young Life (Western Philadelphia Suburbs)

Ambassador

Helga Sauter
Alice Antonelli
Scott Todd
Danielle Kauffman
Jennifer & Tim Roykoff
Joyce Lewis
Tom & Alyson Burnett
Kathy McLean
Open
Bob Moore
Open
Open
Ashley Reed
Open
Helga Sauter
Linda Behmke
Open
Marilyn Reed
Jesse Kennedy
Ken & Sally Kapner
Helga Sauter/M. Reed
Marilyn Reed
Ann Sattel
Suzanne Morrison
Open
Ann Sattel
Charlie Choi
Sally Kapner
Faithe Hornung
Open
Ashley Reed
Dave Bellamy
Jane Murray
Helga Sauter
Rob & Sandi Wray
Kim Ishmael
Barb Montgomery

PRAYER INFORMATION

Please pray for patience and discernment for the PNC. Please also pray for the person that God is calling to be our next Senior Pastor.

Pray for Pastor Steve, for energy, wisdom, and grace to prepare for retirement and to bless NPC.

Missions: Cornerstone Christian Academy is a co-educational, independent Christian school, offering a full academic program for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. Cornerstone's faculty, staff, and volunteers (including from NPC) have served the children and families of Southwest Philadelphia since 1988. Their vision is to be a model urban Christian school where students are grounded in faith, shaped with Christ-like character, and equipped with knowledge & skills to excel in high school, college, & throughout life. As the school year begins, please pray for the adults of Cornerstone Christian Academy to live their faith so that the children see Christ in them, are drawn to, and inspired to follow him, too.

<https://cornerstonephiladelphia.com/>

BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, September 3

8:15am Sunday School, Parlor
8:30 – 9:15 Prayer Meeting, Pastor Steve’s Office
9:30am **Worship Service** In-person and live-stream

Monday, September 4

Tuesday, September 5

12:00-1:00pm Staff Enrichment, Parlor
7:00 Deacons Meeting, Parlor

Wednesday, September 6

Thursday, September 7

4:00 – 5:00pm Kickball with the Pastor,
Gym
6:30 – 8:00pm Choir Rehearsal, Choir
Room

Friday, September 8

Saturday, September 9

8:30 Women’s Breakfast, Parlor

Sunday, September 10

Church programming year kick-off
Blessing of the Children
8:15am Sunday School (Parlor)
9:30am **Worship Service** In-person and
live-stream
NPC Volunteer Fair directly following the
Worship Service, Gym
Youth Group Kick-Off:
6:00 – 7:00pm Middle School Youth Group,
Youth Room
7:00 – 8:00pm High School Youth Group,
Youth Room

Each Week

Christian Pre-School – 610-664-8890 x118

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

Counseling: Dr. Janet Moore: cell: 484-686-6630 email: jlmpsych910@gmail.com

Narberth Presbyterian Church

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Office hours:

Mon-Thurs. 9:00am to 4:00pm

Friday 9:00 am - 3:00pm

Phone: 610-664-4880

Fax: 610-668-8225

E-mail: office@narberthpres.org

CCLI # License #387124

Stephen N. Weed, Pastor
Deborah Watson, Associate Pastor
Danielle Kauffman, Intergenerational Ministry
Juwana Williams, Intergenerational Ministry
Jinhee Shim, Organist
Colin & Sarah Comstock, Worship Band Ldrs
Linda Pilacik, Minister of Music
Matt Weed, Worship Tech. Coordinator
Tim Roykoff, Business Administrator
Sara Mahoney, Administrative Assistant
Hugh Barrie, Assistant Property Manager
Joyce B. Nicolai, Bookkeeper
Ruth Ellen Patterson, Financial Secretary
Isabel Lally, Pastoral Visitor
Virginia Davis, Dir. of Pre-School
Chris Marinelli, Weekday Custodian
Michael Ochal, Weekend Custodian



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