

LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

December 2, 2018

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.

9:00am Extended Prelude

Donald Robinson

10:45am Prelude

Sherry Beebe

Welcome and Call To Worship

Hymn #135

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Hyfrydol

Prayer of Invocation

Scripture Reading

Psalm 42:1-5

(p.881)

Lighting the First Advent Candle "Hope"

9:00am Sean & Charlene Chen McGrew, Brenden, Abby

10:45am The Choi family, Charlie, Juen, Luke, Noah

Unison Prayer: Habakkuk 3:17-19

Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, ¹⁸ yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior. ¹⁹ The Sovereign Lord is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to tread on the heights. Amen.

Family News

The Greeting

Worship Song

Cornerstone

Hillsong

During the 9:00am service and the 10:45am service, children in K through 5th grades may be dismissed to Children's Sunday School. During the 9:00am service, 6th grade and up meet in the Youth Room for Sunday School.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Deborah Watson,
Associate Pastor

Passing of Friendship Pads

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Mary Did You Know?

Trad.

Izzy Bowser, Michaela Curyto, Rissa Howard

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Sermon

HOPE

An Eye For The Eternal

Steve Weed,
Pastor**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.

Hymn #167*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (v. 1,2)**Picardy***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

9:00am Communion music

Donald Robinson

10:45am Communion music

Sherry Beebe

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn #133

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

Benediction

Prayer Ministry

9:00am Isabel Lally

10:45am Emma Shaw

Today we begin the wonderful season of Advent, as we prepare for the Coming of Christ. Even though it is the first Sunday of the month and would normally be Family Worship, there will be **regular Sunday School** for both children, K-5th, and all youth, 6th-12th.

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 the 9:00 service 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 10:45 service, the Elders and Deacons serve you bread and the cup in your seats.

Our Annual Meeting will be held next Sunday, December 9, 2018 in the gym at 12:15-2:00pm, lunch and childcare provided. After a delicious lunch, we will review the budget for 2019, with a discussion of the ministries of our church. We will also provide an update on our denominational transition. Members are encouraged to attend. Friends of the church are also welcome

Surveys! If you participated in a small group during “What on Earth Am I Here For?”, please return surveys to the bin in the Chapel.

Thank you for being with us in worship today! To learn more about our church, Welcome Bags are available for newcomers in the Narthex

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

Thank you for your participation at NPC’s Gifts of Hope Gallery on November 18th! If you were unable to attend, we will continue to receive orders until December 19th. You may drop off orders in the Chapel after worship or mail them to the church—your gift cards will be mailed to you or made available here at NPC. Gifts “purchased” at the Gallery totaled approximately 8,500.00 and we expect to fill many more orders. Thank you! We look forward to celebrating Christmas with gifts that bless others!

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 9th. After the morning services **on December 23, 2018**, 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. 23. Dedications must be received by December 19 to be included in the bulletin of 12/23.

----- 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 23, 2018.

FAMILY MINISTRY: CHILDREN, YOUTH & PARENTS

Manger Tales

It's an exciting night in the stable. Mary and Joseph are there, keeping watch over the newborn Jesus, who is asleep in the manger. The animals are gathered together, keeping warm. Each Sunday children will listen to the animals share their unique perspective of the Christmas miracle! Elementary children will also be working weekly on the Children's Christmas Pageant! We will conclude our time together by watching "The Star".

2 year olds & 3 year olds meet in The Blue Door Room (during the 9:00am service only and meet in The Red Door Room at 10:45am).

4 year olds & 5 year olds (PreK) meet in The Red Door Room.

K - 5th begin in the sanctuary and are dismissed to the Gym after our worship songs.

Our **Nursery** is available at the 9:00am and 10:45am worship services. This room is best for infants through 23 months. Please sign your child in and out of the Nursery.

*NEW - Sock Tree!

Through the month of December Children & Youth will be collecting new socks to donate to the homeless. You can add your new socks to our "Sock Tree" located in the Chapel. Let's adorn our tree with many socks that will bless others this season!

Today, Sunday, December 2nd - Sunday School!

Though this is the first Sunday of the month and would normally be Family Sunday, children K -5th grade WILL have Sunday School in order to rehearse for our upcoming Christmas Pageant! Kids will be dismissed after our worship songs as usual.

Upcoming events:

- **Friday, December 7th - PARENTS' NIGHT OUT! 6:30pm-9:00pm**
Kids come have fun and give your parents a break! This event is best for children age 4 through 5th grade. We meet in the gym for games, dinner, devotional and a movie! This month we will watch *"The Incredibles 2"*!
- **Saturday, December 8th - ALL Church Christmas Caroling! 6:00pm-8:00pm**
Come one, come ALL for caroling in Narberth! We will meet in the church parking lot at 6:00pm and head out to spread some Christmas joy. We will conclude our evening together in the gym with Christmas cookies and hot chocolate! This event is great for kids and kids at heart!
- **Sunday, December 16th Children's Christmas Pageant! 10:15am**
Join us for our highly anticipated Christmas Pageant! Join us in the gym between services as children age 2 through 5th grade bring the Christmas story to life.

YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming things to keep on the radar!

- **TODAY!! Afternoon in the City - Sunday, December 2nd @ 12:30pm -**
In keeping with past years, on the same day as the Dickens Festival in Narberth, Middle Schoolers and High Schoolers are welcome to join up as we hop a train into the city and explore the Christmas Village, decorations and more. Bring money for the round trip train ride (\$11) and for food! Parents, we certainly welcome you to join us!
- **Christmas Caroling - Saturday, December 8th @ 6-8pm -** Come one, come ALL for caroling in Narberth! We will meet in the church parking lot at 6:00pm and head out to spread some Christmas joy. We will conclude our evening together in the gym with Christmas cookies and hot chocolate! This event is great for kids and kids at heart!
- **Youth Christmas Party - Sunday, December 16th @ 5-8pm (check in at 4:40pm) -** Bring \$20 to Get Air Trampoline Park in King of Prussia, as well as some socks for donation! This year's Christmas party will be out of the church and also seeking to help the homeless of Philadelphia. Many organizations get jackets, hats and gloves but often socks are overlooked. Please note, we will meet there at Get Air, not at the church! [Click here to fill out the online waiver!](#) (Link live on NPC website Bulletin)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

† TREASURER'S UPDATE:

As November comes to an end, offerings for the year stand at approximately \$835,000, against our annual budget of \$1,175,000

With spending below budget to date, in the range of \$300,000 is needed in December to cover our expenses in budgeted areas for the year. Those expenses include our staff, maintenance and utilities for the building, and the funding of our mission causes locally and around the world. We do normally see an uptick in giving in December, but the gap this year is larger than usual this year. Please prayerfully consider how you can support our ministry and help us end the year strong.

† SAVE the Date!!

Found Wandering Concert returns this year!
Sunday, December 23 at 7:00pm at NPC

† THIS WEDNESDAY – CHRISTMAS BY CANDLELIGHT

In this season of bright lights, festive music, and over-the top expectations, many of us have gift-giving on our minds. Your church would like to give you the gift of food, fellowship and a devotional thought! Please join us this Wednesday – all are welcome! We'll take care of dinner, beginning at 6:00pm and ending by 7:30pm, to make it easy for you to attend with your children.

There are 3 sign-ups in the Chapel:

1) **To bring a dessert to share** (Bought or home-made – it's dessert, so it's all good!) 😊

2) **To decorate the center of your table** (it doesn't need to be fancy – just remind us of Christmas!).

2 candles would be great, too (we have some, if you don't) 😊

3) **To attend!** This helps us plan for the food*, but we always have enough, so if on Wednesday afternoon you think, "I wish I could go, but..." please come on over. You'll be most welcome!

Contact Pastor Debbie if you have questions (dwatson@narberthpres.org or 610-664-4880 (114). Come on out and ENJOY dinner on us!

MENU: Roast Chicken with Carrots & Potatoes, Salad/Almond Slaw, LeBus Breads & Rolls, Cider, Coffee, Tea, Assorted Desserts

† **Dr. Janet Moore has been serving in our Counseling Ministry** for over 13 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.



On the Web:
www.narberthpres.org
twitter.com/narberthpres
facebook.com/narberthpresbyterian

BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, December 2

First Sunday in Advent

8:00am Open Prayer, Pastor Steve's Office
 8:00am Sunday School Class, Parlor
9:00am Worship Service-Communion
 9:30am Youth Sunday School
10:45am Worship Service-Communion
Dickens Festival in Narberth

Monday, December 3

6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Chapel
 7:00pm Prayer Group, open to all, Steve's Office
 7:00pm MBR-Bible Study, Music office
 7:30pm Men's Bible Study, Parlor
 7:30pm Newly elected elder/deacon training,
 Chapel

Tuesday, December 4

3:30pm Justice & Mercy Team Meeting, Parlor
 7:00am Men's small group, Parlor
 7:00am Men-Sponsored Prayer Breakfast, at
 Narberth Diner
 11:00am Praying with the Bible group, Parlor
 7:00pm Deacons' Meeting, Parlor

Wednesday, December 5

**6-7:30pm All invited: "Christmas by
 Candlelight" Dinner & talk**
(Last Wed program of year)
(See p.9 for details)

Thursday, December 6

4:00pm Kickball with the Pastor, (K-6th)Gym
 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal
 7:30pm Worship Band Rehearsal
 7:30pm Adult pick-up basketball

Friday, December 7

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

Saturday, December 8

6:00-8:00pm ALL-CHURCH caroling!
 Meet in parking lot at 6

Sunday, December 9

Second Sunday in Advent

8:00am Open Prayer, Pastor Steve's Office
 8:00am Sunday School Class, Parlor
9:00am Worship Service
 9:30am Youth Sunday School
10:45am Worship Service
**12:15pm Annual Congregational Meeting
 and Lunch**

Each Week

Christian Nursery School – 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–Saturday & Sunday at 4:30pm

Counseling: Dr. Janet Moore: cell: 484-686-6630 email: jlmpsy@hotmai.com

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

Dec 10 7:00pm Newly Elected Elder/Deacon Training, Chapel
 Dec 13 9:30am Quilts for Comfort, Parlor
 Dec 13 9:15am CNS Christmas Pageant, Sanctuary
 Dec 14 9:30am Moms' Group, Parlor
 Dec 14 1:30pm Annual Sr. Adults' Christmas Carol Sing & Tea, Parlor
 Dec 16 Music Sunday, both services, with Sunday School Pageant in-between services
 Dec 18 7:00pm Session Meeting, Parlor

Dec 23 7:00pm Found Wandering Concert, Sanctuary
Dec 24 4:00pm, 5:30pm, and 8:00pm Christmas Eve Services
Dec 25-26 Office Closed