

Offertory

Air in G
Julie Todd, Flute

Bach

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading John 1:6-9; John 10:14-18; John 14:27 (p.1646, -67, -76)

Sermon **Peace: Called or Driven?** **Steve Weed,**
Pastor

Hymn #150 *What Child Is This?* *Greensleeves*

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

Communion music

Kathleen Pierce

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn #171

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

Benediction

Prayer Ministry

9:00am John Kennedy

10:45am John Furlong

The altar flowers today are given to the glory of God to celebrate our 30th anniversary of marriage, by Faithe and Jim Hornung.

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. At the 10:45 service, the Elders and Deacons serve you bread and the cup in your seats. We eat and drink together as a sign of our unity in Christ.

On Communion Sundays, the loose plate (non-envelope) offering is earmarked for our Deacons Assistance Fund to meet needs within our congregation. Thank you for your very generous donations.

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

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.

There will be an Advent Rejuvenation in Song led by Donald Robinson and the Praise Team on Wednesday Dec. 7 from 7:00-8:00pm in the Sanctuary. Along with a lot of singing and praise, there will be Scripture, prayer and a brief meditation. Childcare is provided and all are welcome to eat together beforehand in the Fellowship Café (Gym) from 5:45-6:45.

Stewardship letters were recently mailed out to members. Pledge cards may be dedicated through the offering on any Sunday in Advent, or may be mailed to the church office.

Our Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 8, 2017 at 12:15-2:00pm, lunch and childcare provided.

Our straw poll regarding denominational discernment concluded on Monday, November 14. The Session met this past Tuesday, November 29 to evaluate the results in detail. Later this week we will send a letter to the congregation with a summary of the straw poll as well as anticipated next steps. Thanks again for your faithful participation and ongoing prayers for our beloved church. Pastors Steve and Debbie or any of the elders are available and happy to respond to any questions you may have.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



During the month of December the Chancel and Sanctuary will again be fully decorated for Christmas. The poinsettias will be fully displayed on the 4th. After the service **on December 18, 2016**, the smaller poinsettias will be delivered to members and friends of the congregation. Most will be given to those who were unable 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. 18. Dedications must be received by December 15 to be included in the bulletin of 12/18.

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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 service on Sunday, December 18, 2016.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES AND EVENTS:

<u>Sun. Dec 4</u>	<u>Second Sunday in Advent</u> 9:00am and 1045am Worship Services with Communion
Wed. Dec 7	7-8pm Advent Rejuvenation in Song led by Donald Robinson and the Praise Team
<u>Sun. Dec 11</u>	<u>Third Sunday in Advent</u> 9:00am and 10:45am Christmas Choir Presentation:
Thurs. Dec 15	10:00am Christian Nursery School Christmas Pageant
Fri. Dec 16	1:30pm Sr. Christmas Carol Sing & Tea, Parlor
<u>Sun. Dec. 18</u>	<u>Fourth Sunday in Advent</u> 9:00am and 10:45am Worship Services 10:15am Between services Children's Christmas Pageant, in Gym 7:00pm Benefit Christmas Concert by Sarah & Colin Comstock and <i>Found Wandering</i>
<u>Sat. Dec. 24</u>	<u>Christmas Eve</u> 4:00pm Family Friendly Candlelight Service (shorter and designed for young families) 5:30pm Family Friendly Candlelight Service 8:00pm Traditional Candlelight Service
Sun. Dec 25	Christmas Day 10:00am One combined Worship Service
<u>Sat. Dec 31</u>	<u>7:00pm New year's Eve Service - Communion</u>
<u>Sun. Jan 1</u>	<u>New Year's Day</u> 10:00am One combined Worship Service – Communion (These two services are identical)

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:

We welcome our new Director of Youth Ministries, John Chaffee. Watch for a chance to get together with parents and students soon!

- 9:30 Youth Sunday School: Next Sunday, Dec 4th, will be the last class of "Stepping Up". Dec 11th will be a joint MS and HS Sunday School
- 4:00pm HS Youth Group: Dec 4th, last one for 2016. Then, Christmas Party on Dec 11th from 4-6pm.
- Youth Fellowship - Wednesday 6-8pm - Catch up over dinner then fellowship and discussion with Alice - Youth Room (2nd Flr.)

- **Upcoming Youth Events:**

- 12/11 Youth Group Christmas Party, 4-6pm
 - 12/16 Starwars: Rogue One

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

† **Treasurer's Report:**

We are finalizing official numbers for the month of November, but as of now we are at approximately \$892,000 in offerings. That would leave us approximately \$325,000 short of our \$1,217,000 annual budget with one month, or four Sundays, to go.

Your gifts are an act of worship which God uses to further ministry near and far. We ask for your continued support of NPC's ministries to help bring us closer to our budgeted needs over the coming months, so we may finish the year well and enter 2017 on a strong footing. May the Lord bless you in your giving!

† **Sr. Adult Christmas Carol Sing & Tea:** Friday, December 16 at 1:30pm in the Parlor. All are welcome!

† **Thank you for your participation at NPC's Gifts of Hope Gallery** on November 20th! If you were unable to attend, we will continue to receive orders until December 20th. 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 that Sunday totaled approximately \$9,459 and we expect to fill many more orders. Thank you! We look forward to celebrating Christmas with gifts that bless others!

† **Found Wandering Concert – December 18th at 7:00pm**

Save the date now for an evening of joyful Christmas music led by Sarah & Colin Comstock and Found Wandering. A free-will offering will once again benefit the Sunday Breakfast Rescue Mission in Philadelphia. Postcards with all of the details are available in and around the Sanctuary to take and share.

† **Have you ever wondered how lyrics get projected during the service?** NPC has contracted with The Scooby-Doo Temp Agency, but Fred and the gang have been too busy solving the Mystery of the Groaning Pipe Organ. If you can be available for 1 service a month, you could help in the NPC projection ministry. Please contact John Furlong at furlongjk@gmail.com or 215-482-8198 if you are interested in volunteering. With your help, we can get Shaggy to say "Like, let's get out of here, Scoob!"



On the Web:

www.narberthpres.org

twitter.com/narberthpres

facebook.com/narberthpresbyterian

BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, December 4

Second Sunday in Advent

8:00am Sunday School, Parlor

9:00am Worship Service - Communion

10:30am Sunday School, Parlor

10:45am Worship Service – Communion

Narberth Dickens Festival

4:00pm HS Youth Group

Monday, December 5

6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

7:00pm Prayer Group, open to all, Steve's Office

7:00pm MBR-Bible Study, Music office

7:30-9:15pm New Elder/Deacon Training, Parlor

7:30pm Men's Bible Study in Galatians, Resource Center

Tuesday, December 6

6:30am Men's small group

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

11-12noon Study & Prayer group, led by Faith Hornung, Parlor

7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal

7:00pm Knitters' Group, Resource Room

Wednesday, December 7

5:45pm Wednesday Night Dinner at the Fellowship Café (Gym) Menu: Pasta and garlic bread, salad, fruit, dessert

6:30pm Children's classes (up to grade 5)

7:00pm Advent Rejuvenation in song led by Praise Team (Sanctuary)

Thursday, December 8

9:30am Quilts for Comfort, Parlor

4:00pm Kickball with the Pastor, Gym

6-8pm New Elder/Deacon training, Parlor

7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

7:30pm Basketball in gym

Friday, December 9

10:00am Women's' Bible Study, Parlor

7:30pm Young Adult Bible Study, Parlor

Saturday, December 10

Sunday, December 11

Third Sunday in Advent

8:00am Sunday School, Parlor

9:00am Worship Service Choir: "God's Great Love"

10:30am Sunday School, Parlor

10:45am Worship Service –Choir: "God's Great Love"

4-6pm Youth Group Christmas Party

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: jlmpsych@hotmail.com

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

Dec 12 7:30pm Examination of new Elders/Deacons

Dec 12 7:30pm Deacons' Meeting, Parlor

Dec 13 7:00pm Session Meeting, Parlor

Dec 15 10:00am Nursery School Christmas Pageant, Sanctuary

Dec 16 1:30pm Sr. Adults Christmas Carol Sing and Tea

Dec 16 YG Event: Star Wars Rogue One viewing

Dec 18 10:15am Sunday School Christmas Pageant (between services)

Dec 18 7:00pm Benefit Concert by Found Wandering, Sanctuary

Dec 20 Staff Christmas Party

Dec 24 Services: 4:00pm, 5:30pm, 8:00pm

Dec 25 10:00am One Combined Service

Dec 26-27 Office Closed

Dec 27 7:00pm Knitters' Group, Resource Room

Dec 29 3-5pm Marathon Kickball with the Pastor

Dec 31 7:00pm New Year's Eve Service - Communion

Jan 1 10:00am One Combined Service – Communion