

Scripture Reading

Titus 3:3-7; John 1:10-13

(p.1859, 1646)

Sermon

REDISCOVERING GRACE

Learning To Receive

Steve Weed,
Pastor

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 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.

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.

Worship Song

Jesus Messiah

Tomlin

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 #150

What Child Is This?

Greensleeves

Benediction

Prayer Ministry

9:00am Meg McKinley

10:45am Linda Behmke

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 10, 2017 in the gym at 12:15-2:00pm, lunch and childcare provided. After a delicious lunch, we will review the budget for 2018, 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.

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.

On Communion Sundays, a portion of the 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.

We are grateful for the Young Adults who decorated the Sanctuary for Advent.

On this first Sunday of Advent, daily devotionals are available throughout the church. Please pick one up to enrich your devotion to Christ.

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 10th. After the morning services **on December 24, 2017**, 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. 24. Dedications must be received by December 20 to be included in the bulletin of 12/24.

----- 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 24, 2017.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES AND EVENTS:

Sun. Dec 3 **First Sunday in Advent**

9:00am and 10:45am Worship Services-Communion

Sun. Dec 10 **Second Sunday in Advent**

9:00am and 10:45am Christmas Choir Presentation:
“Candles and Carols”

Thurs. Dec 14 10:00am Christian Nursery School Christmas Pageant

Fri. Dec 15 1:30pm Sr. Christmas Carol Sing & Tea, Parlor

Sun. Dec 17 **Third Sunday in Advent**

9:00am and 10:45am Worship Services (8:45 Extended
Praise Team Prelude)
10:20am Between services Children’s Christmas Pageant,
in Gym

Wed. Dec 20 **7:00pm A Night To Remember** –A service of comfort
and hope for all who experience sadness and loss in this
season or year.

Sun. Dec. 24 **Fourth Sunday in Advent**

9:00am and 10:45am Worship Services

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

Sun. Dec 31 **New Year’s Eve Day**

9:00am and 10:45am Worship Services

Regretfully, there will be no Found Wandering Concert this year.

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:

- 6:45pm Wednesdays: Middle School YG
- 4:00pm Sunday HS Youth Group

Upcoming Events:

- All youth Christmas Party Dec 10th at 4-6pm in the youth room
- Star Wars Movie Outing Dec 15th, gather at 6:15pm at King of Prussia UA Movie Theatre for 7:00pm showing. Tickets only available through NPC website

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

YOUTH NEWS ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Youth Committee: Calling all demographics of the church! We are creating a new Youth Committee and we would like to invite you to be a part of it. The task of youth ministry is the joy of the whole church, and it is our expressed interest to have as many different decades of life a part of this crew! This committee will help to represent the happenings of the youth to the rest of the church, to help brainstorm new events, find ways to gift our volunteers, and create a feedback loop for how we can improve NPC's Youth Program. We would love to have you, if you are able! Please email John Chaffee at jchaffee@narberthpres.org to express your interest. Our first meeting will be just after Thanksgiving!

Confirmation Class 2018: Calling all youth who are interested in attending Confirmation and becoming members of Narberth Presbyterian Church! Just after the New Year we will be starting a new round of Confirmation; this is open to MS as well as HS youth. We will be covering the Christian faith, the Ten Commandments, the Creeds of the Church, and how Narberth Pres. sets out to be a community of faith. We will culminate on Pentecost, which is Sunday, May 20th. On that day we will have a large celebration and welcome all Confirmands into the Church as full members! To help make this a special spring, we would love to have the participation of the rest of the church, if this interests you, please email John Chaffee at jchaffee@narberthpres.org about Confirmation!

2017 MISSIONARY CAUSES

Mission

4D Ministries – Hank Paulson
Amnion Crisis Pregnancy Center
Child Evangelism Fellowship, Inc. – North Ireland
Chosen People Ministries (formerly Messiah Now) - Cruz
Cornerstone Christian Academy
Corrymeela Community – North Ireland
CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ) - Darwin
CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ) – Brindley (Philly Bridges)
CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ) - Shenk
DiscipleMakers - Hall
Esperanza Health Center
Fellowship of Christian Athletes – Kasey Dougherty
Fellowship International Mission/Jos Seminary - Tushima
Greater Europe Mission- Loeffler
Habitat for Humanity - Camden
Habitat for Humanity –Philadelphia
House of His Creation
Interserve-USA - Kennedy
Intervarsity – Emma Shaw
Kingdom Connect - Duffy
Kirkwood Camp (Presbytery of Philadelphia)
Neighborhood Crusades Inc.
Presby’s Inspired Life
Presbyterian Reformed Ministries International
Presbyterians for Renewal (Wee Kirk)
Presbytery of Philadelphia General Mission
REAP - Granada
Servant Partners – Dan & Denise Anderson
SIM USA - Jewell
The Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota (Standing Rock)
The Philadelphia Project
The Welcome Church – Steinnagel
Timothy Academy
United World Mission - Woodbury
Wycliffe Bible Translators - Shannon
Young Life (Western Philadelphia Suburbs)

Ambassador

Helga Sauter
Alice Antonelli
Terry Weyant
Jennifer & Tim Roykouff
Joyce Lewis
Isabel Lally
Kathy McLean
Jean McIntire
The Bowser Family
Bob Moore
Greg Esterhai
Ashley Reed
Scott Todd
Helga Sauter
Linda Behmke
Linda Behmke
Melissa Esterhai
Jesse Kennedy
Meg McKinley
Ken & Sally Kapner
Curt Haring
Helga Sauter
Suzanne Morrison
Cathy Callaway
Steve Weed
Scott Todd
Charlie Choi
Faithe Hornung
Helga Sauter
Ashley Reed
Sharon Shallow
Jane Murray
Georgia Ward
Helga Sauter

Barbara Montgomery

2017 CHURCH OFFICERS

THE SESSION with Current Ministry Connections

Pastor Steve Weed – Moderator Diane Chen – Clerk of Session

Class of 2017

Linda Behmke – Personnel, Chair

*Diane Chen – Clerk of Session, Transition Team

Jack Comstock – Outreach, Greeter, Transition Team

*John Furlong – Worship Committee, Children’s Ministry

Meg McKinley – Finance Committee, Transition Team

Class of 2018

Sam DiLullo – Transition Team

*David Place – Finance Committee, Greeter

Emma Shaw – Young Adult Ministry, Transition Team

*Selim Tawadros – Finance Committee

Scott Todd – Missions Committee

Class of 2019

*Charlie Choi – Missions Committee, Chair

*John Kennedy – Personnel

Charlene McGrew – Christian Nursery School Board, Chair, Personnel

Mike Morrison – Finance Committee

THE BOARD OF DEACONS with Current Ministry Connections

Class of 2017

*Carol Bellamy – Church Financial Secretary

Donna Hart – Ushering

*Suzanne Morrison – Deacons’ Pantry

*Julie Todd – Moderator, Deacons’ Assistance, Justice & Mercy Ministry

Class of 2018

Faithe Hornung – Treasurer, Deacons’ Assistance Fund, Missions

*Omar Mehdi – Vice-Moderator, Transportation, Deacons’ Assistance Fund

Ashley Reed – Archivist, College-age Communications

*Gerri Wismer – Homebound Communications

Class of 2019

Ilonka Comstock

Ruth Ellen Patterson – (new) Church Financial Secretary

Tim Roykouff - Secretary

Marcy Wells

* serving second term

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † **Thank you for your participation at NPC's Gifts of Hope Gallery** on November 19th! 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 totaled approximately 6,000.00 and we expect to fill many more orders. Thank you! We look forward to celebrating Christmas with gifts that bless others!

- † **Wed. Dec 20 7:00pm A Night To Remember** – A service of comfort and hope for all who experience sadness and loss in this season or year. All are invited, and invite any friends or family who might receive comfort and strength.

- † **Sunday Morning Curbside Cafe** - A group of us will be outside the church in the lawn area on Windsor Ave., greeting our neighbors with free coffee, pastries, conversation, and prayer if desired. Come outside and join us anytime from 10:45-11:45 a.m. TODAY - for fellowship, and prayer for us, with us, for yourself, or for our neighbors!

- † **Christmas Choir Notice** All interested singers are invited to join in singing on Christmas Music Sunday, December 10. Rehearsals are in the Choir Room, on Monday evenings from 7:30-8:30.

- † **From John Kennedy with Interserve:** We have a missionary family (couple and three young boys) coming back for a brief visit in February 6-7, 2018. We will be running our winter Candidate School then and so are looking for some empty nesters or folks with a big house who could offer hospitality/lodging for those 2 nights/days. They arrive here in the area on the 6th and depart on the morning of the 8th. If you are able help you can reach me, John Kennedy, at my work number – 610-352-0581; or my cell – 610-930-8994. Or by email JKennedy@ludlow.net

- † **“The ‘café ministry’ of “On the Street Church”** is an outreach to the lost and challenged in Roxborough. We have lost our store-front venue and are crying out to Jesus to provide another store front to attract those the Holy Spirit is drawing to Christ. We need your prayers.” –Gene & Becky McGee

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † **New Women’s Study Group has started on Thursday evenings!** We meet from 7:00-8:30pm in Steve’s Office. Join us for an Advent study, “The Women of Christmas: Experience the Season Afresh with Elizabeth, Mary and Anna”. These three women demonstrate remarkable faith and trust in God. Following in their footsteps we too can prepare for the Savior to enter our hearts, minds and lives in a vibrant, new way. **All are welcome to join at any time. For ordering books, please contact Cathy Callaway at ccallaway@narberthpres.org or 215-341-6607.**

- † **Have you ever wondered how lyrics get projected during the service?** They say a thousand monkeys on a thousand typewriters could reproduce the works of Shakespeare, but we’ve found that our simian friend Bobo isn’t so good at running the projector. 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. Next slide, Bobo. Good Bobo.

- † **For those who like to sing!** On an occasional basis, prior to the worship services, our musicians will be offering an “extended prelude” of music and praise from 8:45-9:00am. Next one is Sunday, Dec. 17, 8:45-9:00am.

- † **Wycliffe Bible Translators (Al & Barb Shannon)** need a new ambassador to pray for and represent them at NPC. Please contact the office, 610-664-4880, if anyone in our congregation is called to be the “connection” for this Mission Cause.

- † **Visit the book table in the Chapel!**
We have a new assortment of music for adults and children. Also, be sure to visit the Children’s Library upstairs with your children.
Please look for any forgotten items from the resource center that might be in your home. Thanks! (Helen Moffa)

- † **Dr. Janet Moore** has been serving in our Counseling Ministry for the past 10 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.

Narberth Presbyterian Church
205 Grayling Avenue
Post Office Box 414
Narberth, PA 19072

Office hours 9:00am to 4:30pm

Phone: 610-664-4880

Fax: 610-668-8225

E-mail: office@narberthpres.org



On the Web:

www.narberthpres.org

twitter.com/narberthpres

facebook.com/narberthpresbyterian

Stephen N. Weed, Pastor
Deborah Watson, Pastoral Associate
Terry Weyant, Dir. of Children's Ministry
John Chaffee, Director of Youth Ministry
Sherry M. Beebe, Minister of Music
Donald Robinson, Dir. of Cntmpry. Music
Dave McIntire, Business Administrator
Hugh Barrie, Assistant Property Mrg.
Jennifer Addy, Dir. Christian Nursery Sch.
Isabel Lally, Pastoral Visitor
Karen Pappas, Secretary
Joyce B. Nicolai, Bookkeeper
Carol Bellamy, Financial Secretary
Spencer Hurst, Sunday Morning Custodian
CCLI # License #387124

BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, December 3

First Sunday in Advent

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

8:00am Sunday School, Parlor

9:00am Worship Service-Communion

10:45am Worship Service-Communion

4:00pm High School Youth Group

5:00pm (Private use of building) Recital in
Sanctuary

Monday, December 4

6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

7:00pm New Elder/Deacon Training, Parlor

7:00pm Youth Committee, in Youth Room
(1-hour only meeting)

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

7:30pm Christmas Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Tuesday, December 5

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

11:00am Prayer group, Resource Room

7:00pm Deacons' Meeting, Chapel

Wednesday, December 6

5:45pm-8:00pm Wednesday Night supper, then
classes for all ages

Menu: Pasta with meat sauce, salad, fruit, dessert.
(g-free/vegetarian, too)

6:45pm Adult Discipleship classes

6:45pm Middle School Youth Group

Thursday, December 7

1:00pm CNS Board Meeting, Parlor

4:00pm Kickball with the Pastor, Gym

7:00pm New "Women of Advent" Study, led
by Cathy Callaway, Steve's Office

7:00pm Young Adults Group, Parlor

7:30pm Adult Pick-up Basketball, Gym

Friday, December 8

9:30am Moms' Study, Parlor

10:00am Women's Bible Study, Chapel

7-9pm Pickleball (usually 2nd and 4th Fridays),
Gym

Saturday, December 9

10:30am Christmas Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, December 10

Second Sunday in Advent

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

8:00am Sunday School, Parlor

9:00am Worship Service-Music Sunday

10:45am Worship Service-Music Sunday

**12:15pm Annual Meeting with Lunch
provided, Gym**

4:00-6:00pm All Youth 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 6:00pm CNS “Little Stars” program, large classroom downstairs

Dec 12 7:00pm Session Meeting, New members received, Parlor

Dec 14 9:30am Quilts for Comfort, Parlor

Dec 15 1:30pm Annual Christmas Carol Sing and Tea, Parlor

Dec 16 10:00-11:30am Sunday School Christmas Pageant rehearsal, Gym

Dec 17 10:20-10:45am Christmas Pageant, Gym

Dec 20 7:00pm “A Night To Remember”- a service of comfort and hope

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

Dec 25 and 26 Office Closed for Christmas