

LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

December 17, 2017

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.

8:45am Extended Prelude

The Praise Team

Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Call To Worship

Hymn #155

O Little Town of Bethlehem

St. Louis

Prayer of Invocation

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 11:6-9; 51:11

(p.1077, 1142)

Lighting the Third Advent Candle "Joy"

9:00am The Kennedy family: John, Jan, Sarah, Isaac, Asher

10:45am The Davis family: Brett, Virginia, Owen, Emmy, Griffin, Bennett

Declaration of Joy (Unison) John 15:11; 16:33b

"I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Hymn #157

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice (v.1,3)

In Dulci Jubilo

The Greeting

Worship Song

Sing To The King

Foote

During the 9:00am service, children up to grade 5 may be dismissed to Children's Sunday School.

6th grade and up meet in the Youth Room for Sunday School

During the 10:45am service, children in K through 5th grades may be dismissed to the gym for Lighthouse Kids children's church after the hymn/ worship song.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Deborah Watson,

Pastoral Associate

Passing of Friendship Pads

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Christmas Joy

Dobrinski

The Windsor Bells

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:26-38

(p.1588)

Sermon

REDISCOVERING GRACE

The Wonder of A Childlike Faith

Steve Weed,
Pastor

Hymn #146

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

Antioch

Benediction

Prayer Ministry

9:00am Charlie Choi
10:45am John Furlong

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.

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.

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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 morning services on Sunday, December 24, 2017.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES AND EVENTS:

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 (Christmas Eve morning)**

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.

*On Wednesday, December 20th, at 7:00pm in the Chapel: ***A Night To Remember*** is a service of comfort and hope – for everyone who is experiencing sadness and loss in this season, or earlier in the year. While we often think of loss in terms of death (adults, children, pregnancy), there are other losses that cause our spirits to flag in a season so overtly cheerful, and we may feel more forgotten and forlorn than festive. All are invited to ***A Night to Remember***. If you know someone this service might help, invite them! If *you* are that person, and don't want to come alone, why not ask a friend to come with you? This service offers comfort and encouragement from the God of all comfort, and is meant for all who long for both...

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 –Resumes in January
- 4:00pm Sunday HS Youth Group –Resumes in January

Upcoming Events:

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!

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Important Giving Update:

Through the end of November, your offerings totaled \$908,168, slightly higher than last year's offerings for the eleven months. While \$252,000 short of annual budget of \$1,161,000 (over 20%), we do expect actual spending in budgeted areas to fall somewhat below the budget. It is also customary to see a large percentage of annual giving come in during the month of December, but we have not seen a jump through the first two Sundays of December.

Accordingly, we would ask that you prayerfully consider what you may be led to give in order to allow ministries to be fully funded for the year. Your giving allows our ministry to happen, both near and far, and expresses our gratitude to God for his many wonderful gifts to us, especially in this season of Christmas as we mark his greatest gift of all - His Son.

Your 2017 tithes, offerings and other gifts, payable to Narberth Presbyterian Church, may be placed in the offering plate any Sunday this month or mailed (postmarked) prior to year-end to:

Carol Bellamy
Financial Secretary
Narberth Presbyterian Church
PO Box 414
Narberth, Pa 19072-0414

Please note that gifts intended for 2017 must be postmarked by December 31, 2017 or received at the church by December 31st. In addition, you may give online at narberthpres.org or, even faster, by texting the amount of your gift to 610-624-4831. Online transactions completed on 12/31 will be credited to your 2017 account. A gift of appreciated stock is also welcome; please contact Jim Hoffman, Treasurer, for that possibility. Thank you for your generous gifts this year!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † **A BIG Thank You! Thank You!** to all the cookie bakers, buyers, baggers, and deliverers who contributed to our 2017 Narberth community Cookie Giveaway! We collected 3,800 cookies and distributed 315 bags of cookies to our Narberth neighbors. Thank you for helping us spread good cheer and blessings to our neighbors!
- † **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 and since then total \$8776.96 so far. Thank you for your generosity. We look forward to celebrating Christmas with gifts that bless others!
- † **Christmas Trees!** Don't forget to stop by Roxborough Presbyterian Church at 8230 Ridge Avenue to purchase your Christmas tree, which benefits The Philadelphia Project. Their prices are very reasonable, and range from \$25 - \$40. Sale hours are: Sunday, 11:00 AM – 7:00 PM; Monday – Thursday, 3:00 PM – 7:00 PM; Friday, 3:00 PM – 9:00 PM and Saturday, from 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM.
- † **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** - We will bring our hospitality to people at the Narberth train station on Dec. 10 and 17. Join us if you are able. There will be no Curbside Cafe on Dec. 24 and 31. Stay tuned for our winter cafe schedule and activity.
- † **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

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.**
- † **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.
- † **During Advent**, daily devotionals are available throughout the church. Please pick one up to enrich your devotion to Christ.
- † **Those elusive elves have moved from last week!** John Chaffee has been looking for them all week. If you spot one, let him know! There is a candy cane reward for the finders.



On the Web:

www.narberthpres.org

twitter.com/narberthpres

facebook.com/narberthpresbyterian

BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, December 17

Third Sunday in Advent

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

8:00am Sunday School, Parlor

9:00am Worship Service

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

10:45am Worship Service

Monday, December 18

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

Tuesday, December 19

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

11:00am Prayer group, Resource Room

Wednesday, December 20

**7:00pm "A Night To Remember"- a service
of comfort and hope, Chapel**

Thursday, December 21

NO Kickball with the Pastor this week:

Marathon KB next Thursday, 3-5:00pm

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

7:30pm Adult Pick-up Basketball, Gym

Friday, December 22

10:00am Women's Bible Study, Chapel

Saturday, December 23

Sunday, December 24

Fourth Sunday in Advent

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

8:00am Sunday School, Parlor

9:00am Worship Service

10:45am Worship Service

Christmas Eve Services:

4:00pm

5:30pm

8:00pm

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 25 and 26 Office Closed for Christmas

Dec 28 9:30am Quilts for Comfort, Parlor

Dec 28 3-5:00pm Marathon Kickball With the Pastor, Gym

Dec 29 7-9pm Pickleball, Gym

Jan 1 Office Closed

Jan 9 7:00pm Deacons' Meeting, Parlor

Jan 11,25 9:30am Quilts for comfort, Parlor

Jan 12,26 7:00pm Pickleball, Gym

Jan 16 7:00pm Session Meeting, Parlor