

LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

March 18, 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.

Prelude *When I Survey The Wondrous Cross* *arr. Whitsett*

Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Call To Worship

Hymn #689 (1,2,4,5) *The Church's One Foundation* *Aurelia*

Prayer of Invocation

Scripture Reading Luke 6:27-36 (p.1601)
9:00am John Hart
10:45am Tabby Gaffga

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All the people: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you have called us to follow Jesus in the context of community. This is very strengthening, but sometimes it is hard. Too often we have not been gracious in our attitudes, actions, and speech. We have accepted your forgiveness for our own sins, but then not extended that same generosity to others. Regardless of our age, we all stand as little children at the foot of the cross. Please forgive us and renew us in the power of the Holy Spirit. Turn our hearts toward you and one another, and let the "amen" sound from your people again! May the world around us know that we are Christians by our love. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

9:00am Hymn *O God Beyond All Praising* *Perry*

The Greeting

Worship Song *All The People Said Amen* *Maher*

10:45am Songs of Praise **Nursery School Children**

This Little Light
We Thank You
The Lord Is My Shepherd
Anthony Coppa, Leader

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.

Unbound: From time to time we all experience obstacles to knowing the peace of Christ in our daily lives. Unbound is a ministry that helps us find the joy and freedom that Jesus desires for us. Personal prayer sessions are available on Sundays at 10:45 am with Gene and Becky McGee and on Wednesday evenings with Dana and Maria Kaminstein at 7 pm. Sessions available by appointment only. Contact Gene (267-446-9598), Becky (215-287-3844), Dana (610-247-4825), Maria (610-247-4927).

Holy Week Services:

Sunday, Mar 25 9:00am and 10:45am Palm Sunday Services, with Palms

Wednesday, Mar 28 7:00pm A contemplative time of music and prayer, led by Sarah & Colin Comstock

Thursday, Mar 29 7:30pm Tenebrae Service with communion
A quiet service of gathering darkness as we mark the Last Supper of Jesus with his disciples. Communion will be served. The service ends in darkness and silence. Childcare provided up to age 7.

Friday, Mar 30 12:00pm Good Friday Community Service at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Narberth

Sunday, April 1 Easter Morning:
7:30am Sunrise Service (on lawn, weather permitting)
9:00am Service
10:45am Service
A joyful celebration of the resurrection in word, music, prayer and song.
He Is Risen! He Is Risen, Indeed!

RESOURCES FOR LENT

In *A Cry for Mercy*, Henri Nouwen describes the season of Lent as a time “during which winter and spring struggle with each other for dominance.” Nouwen reminds us that “God’s mercy is greater than our sins,” and that we may seek Him accordingly. Lent offers us the opportunity to come out of the places of winter or darkness in our lives into God’s light and love.

Jesus opened his public ministry with the words, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Repent—turn around—reconsider how you are living. Lent is an invitation to do so, and to return to the One who waits to be gracious to each of us. In doing so, we say with John the Baptist, “He (Christ) must increase, but I must decrease.” With hopeful joy as we journey towards Good Friday and Easter, consider some of the following resources.

Sermon series: Pastor Steve’s preaching focus for Lent and Easter will have us Following Jesus.

Daily readings: *Preparing for Easter: Fifty Devotional Readings from C.S. Lewis*. Selections from Lewis’ writings paired with Scripture passages to help the reader prepare to celebrate the “grand miracle” Jesus accomplished through the cross.

On the Way to the Cross: 40 Days with the Church Fathers by Thomas Oden and Joel Elowsky. Jesus’ life seen in the Gospel of John and writings of the church fathers.

Online prayer guide: *Praying Lent 2018*—a Creighton University online ministry <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Lent/> (or google “Praying Lent 2018”) A daily guide of prayers, scripture readings and written reflections from this respected Catholic source.

Scripture focus: Read and meditate on the Gospel accounts of Jesus’ entry to Jerusalem, sacrifice at the cross, and triumph of Easter as found in Matthew (chapters 21-28), Mark (ch 11-16), Luke (ch 19:28 – 24:53), and John (ch 12-20).

Habits of compassion, justice and peace: Sacrifice time, treasure and talent to express God’s love for others. Join Jennifer Bonovitz (jmbonovitz@gmail.com) as she and others feed the homeless; exhibit God’s love for orphans and children in need by “adopting” a child through Compassion International or World Vision; expand your awareness of the evils of human trafficking; pursue personal reconciliation using the guidelines set forth by Ken Sande and Kevin Johnson in *Resolving Everyday Conflict*.

Other resources: Read a 20th-century Christian classic you’ve always meant to get to: *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Celebration of Discipline* by Richard Foster or *Mere Christianity* by C. S. Lewis; align your heart more closely with the heart of God with David Benner’s *Desiring God’s Will*; journey with Jerry Sittser through *A Grace Disguised* to see how the soul can grow through loss; deepen your understanding of God’s heart for justice by examining Tim Keller’s *Generous Justice*, Gary Haugen’s *Good News about Injustice* or Richard Stearns’ *The Hole in our Gospel*.

EASTER FLOWERS 2018

On **Easter morning, April 1**, our sanctuary will again be filled with the beauty and fragrance of lovely spring flowers. If you wish to dedicate a plant as a memorial to loved ones or simply to express your joy in God's love, please fill out the form below. After both worship services on Easter, we are looking for people to deliver these plants to members of our church family who are unable to worship with us here. You do not need to donate a plant in order to deliver one.

Please consider being the bearer of Easter greetings and love from our congregation to someone who otherwise might be alone on that day. See below for further details.

If you want to donate a memorial plant for Easter, please make your check in the amount of \$12.00 payable to **Narberth Presbyterian Church** and mark it "Easter Plant." You may call the office with the info, or put it in the offering plate or mail it to be received in the church office by **Thursday, March 29**.

Name: _____

_____ I would like to give a plant as a memorial:

"Given to the glory of God and in loving memory of:

(Please print name clearly)

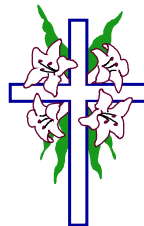
by:

or

_____ I would like to give a plant to express my joy for God's continuing love and grace.

WE NEED YOU to help deliver these plants and the warm greetings of the congregation after the 9:00am or 10:45am Easter service. If you are willing to help, please indicate below:

Name and phone number



FAMILY MINISTRY: CHILDREN, YOUTH & PARENTS

Children 9:00 Worship Service

2's & 3's - 9:00 am: Gospel Light, Blue Door Room downstairs

4's & 5's - 9:00 am: Gospel Light, Red Door Room downstairs

Grades K-5 - 9:00 am: Lent & Easter Gym

Children 10:45 Worship Service

2 to 5 year olds - 10:45 am: Gospel Light, Red Door Room downstairs

Grades K-5 - 10:45 am: Lent & Easter Gym

Upcoming Events:

- † **Sunday, March 25** - Join us on Palm Sunday during the 9:00 service as our Sunday School children (K-5th grade) process with palms and sing! You won't want to miss this.

- † **Children's Lenten Offering** - Our Sunday School children are collecting personal care items for the Narberth Community Food Bank. All are encouraged to participate. You can leave your items in our Donation Box on the stage in the gym. Our collection ends on Sunday, April 1 - Easter Sunday!
*****Shampoo, Hair Conditioner, Dental Floss, Mouthwash, Toilet Paper, Bar Soap, Deodorant, Dish Soap, Scrub Sponges, Brillo*****

- † **Easter Sunday – April 1 - Children's Programming**
 - 9:00 service** - K through 5th grade begin in the sanctuary and will move forward for a special children's message. Children will then be dismissed for Sunday School.
 - 10:45 service** - K through 5th grade will enjoy special "Easter Worship Bags" as they enter sanctuary. Children will be invited forward for a special children's message and then they will return to worship with their family. Please note there is no Lighthouse Kids this Sunday. Childcare will be provided as usual for infants through PreK in the children's wing.

- † **Friday, April 6 - "Minute to Win it" - Parents Night Out!**

- † **First Communion and Baptism Class** will begin on **Wednesday, April 25** from 4:00-5:30. It will run for three consecutive Wednesdays. This class is led by Pastor Steve and Pastor Debbie and is best for 3rd through 5th grade. If you would like more information or would like to have your child in this class please email Danielle (dkauffman@narberthpres.org).

† *Save The Date* VBC - June 18 through June 22! 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

If you are interested in volunteering please email Danielle

dkauffman@narberthpres.org

Youth Grades 6-12:

- 9:30am Youth Sunday School
- 10:30am Confirmation Class
- 7:00-9:00pm Middle School YG on 3rd Fridays
- 4:00pm Sunday HS Youth Group

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

2018 Confirmation Students and Mentors

Student

Anna Costantino
Mikaela Curyto
Kaelin Edge
Keira Edge
Allison Foley
Mei Mei Groeneveld
Faith Hauger
Anna Howard
Emily Anne Kucharczuk
Madison Louie
Aryanna Rusavage
Anusha Vyas
Sophia Weatherwax
Luke Barton
Adam Herrenkohl
Jimmy Hoffman
Will Hoffman
Thomas Kaplan
Brendan McGrew
Noah Mulugeta
Yannick Segal

Mentor

Sue Wenger
Lia Howard
Alison Louie
Susan Costantino
Beth Fleischauer
Charlene McGrew
Kelly Herrenkohl
Lalitha Naveen
Julie Todd
Clara Louie
Lisa Hoffman
Betsy Hayden
Melinda Groeneveld
John Kennedy
Jim Hoffman
Mark Wenger
Charlie Hurst
Dave Bellamy
Andy Zakhari
David Place
Micah Hauger

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE – TOMORROW!



American Red Cross Blood Drive
Sponsored by: Narberth Presbyterian Church

Monday, March 19
2:00pm – 7:00pm

Location:
Narberth Presbyterian Church – Gymnasium
205 Grayling Avenue, Narberth, PA

Pre-register to donate blood

Visit redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor code: Narberth Presbyterian

Red Cross work impacts lives every day: Real impact. Saving lives.

- 190 times a day we help a family affected by a disaster.
- 5,600 times a day someone receives a Red Cross unit of blood.
- 1,000 times a day we provide services to military members, veterans and their families.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † **Calling All Singers! Come join the Easter Choir** with only 2 rehearsals
Today, March 18, 12:15-12:45 in the Choir Room and next Sunday, March 25,
12:15-12:45pm in the choir room. Everyone's invited!
- † **Need for housing from March 17-20.** A former Interserve missionary/worker
will be in the area in March, and he needs a place to stay the nights of the 17th,
18th, and 19th. If you are a guy, a couple, or a family with an extra room, this
man would very much appreciate it. If you have questions (or space!), please
contact John Kennedy jkennedy@ludlow.net.
- 2 upcoming Retreat Options:**
- † **“A Day Away” – personal retreat at St. Raphaela Retreat Center.**
Wednesday, April 11th from 9:30 am-3:00 pm (\$25.00 cost includes morning
snack and cold lunch) Registration forms are available in the Chapel. Contact
person: Jean McIntire 610-304-3929.
- † **Connect with God** - If you would like to spend some quality time with the
creator of the universe, there is no better place than the Jesuit Retreat Center in
Wernersville. We invite you to a weekend of prayerful silence and reflection that
will refresh and renew your soul. Arrive anytime on **Friday April 20 and return
Sunday April 22 about 3pm.** Cost of \$150 covers private room and meals. No
experience necessary. Contact Dave Bellamy at dbellamy@narberthpres.org or
[610-659-2063](tel:610-659-2063) for more information. Register at www.narberthpres.org.
Registration deadline is April 2.
- † **Sunday Morning Curbside Cafe:** "Come & See" is our theme for Curbside
Cafe 2018. With a regular presence outside the church, we seek to invite our
neighbors to *come and see* the love of Jesus through our simple hospitality, prayers,
and intentional conversation. So we invite you, too, to join us and *come and see* for
yourselves from **10:45-11:45 a.m.** on Windsor Avenue.
- † **Habitat for Humanity Work Days:** We have been invited to participate in
Philadelphia Habitat's Faith Build, where we will be working side by side with not
only future homeowners but also members of other faith communities!
Opportunities for small work crews of 5 – 6 volunteers on **April 7th** and **May
12th** are needed, with possible dates in later months as well. If you are interested
(and at least 16 years old with a parent accompanying you) please reach out to
Linda Behmke at either 610-283-7453 or lrbehmke@yahoo.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † **Invitation to runners and walkers of all kinds – Starting Fridays, March 23**
Are you interested in being part of a weekly running/walking group? At least a few of us are already excited about getting together once a week at Lower Merion Track on Fridays at 6:00pm. Why the track? Nice, even surface, kinder than pavement, and regardless of running ability or age, we can “be together” while pursuing our individual fitness. We can also be a bright and friendly witness to anyone we happen to meet along the way. Please contact Pastor Steve if interested sweed@narberthpres.org
- † **Young Adult Fellowship!** Now meeting every other Friday night with a variety of social activities and service projects and pot-luck dinners. Next gathering is Friday, Mar 30, progressive dinner.
Contact person: Mike Boccasini (631-487-2827).
- † **Children’s Lenten Offering** - Beginning Sunday, February 18th, the children will be participating in a special Lenten Offering to support Narberth Community Food Bank. We are collecting personal care items through Sunday, April 1st (Easter Sunday). All items can be left in the Lenten Offering Boxes found on the stage in the gym. All are invited to participate!
Items Needed: Shampoo, Hair conditioner, Dental floss, Mouthwash, Toilet paper, Bar soap, Deodorant, Dish soap, Scrub sponges, Brillo
- † **Dr. Janet Moore** has been serving in our Counseling Ministry for the past 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.
- † **Children’s Library**
Parents please check your bookshelves for any items you may have forgotten to return. You may place returns in any of the 3 return bins. We are especially missing some Berenstain Bears! If you haven’t visited the Children’s Library please bring your children upstairs soon and see what we have. Easter books are on display there and on the Book Table. Remember all items should be signed out and returned in a month. Enjoy reading aloud to your little ones and your not so little ones!

LENTEN SERIES: FOLLOWING JESUS

Application Questions from today's sermon

Luke 6:27-36 Luke 6:37,38; Ephesians 4:32-5:2

- When Jesus called his disciples to follow him, he wanted them to be part of a team. What is strengthening about living in close community with others? What is challenging?
- In one of the chapters in Mere Christianity, CS Lewis asks the question, “Is Christianity hard or easy?” When you read Jesus’ commands in Luke 6:27-38, which do you think is more true? What makes the Christian life (if not “easy”) at least possible?
- In the very first sentence of his book on Peacemaking, Ken Sande says that Christians are to be people who “breathe grace.” How would you define “grace?” What is suggested by saying that grace is something to be “breathed?”
- In Luke 6:32-35, Jesus says that even people without faith in God often love those who love them. How does Jesus describe what is distinctive about the love of a disciple? What do you notice about the worthiness of the recipients? What does this suggest about the proactive versus reactive nature of love?
- In Luke 6:27, what does Jesus command us to do in regard to our enemies? Notice the verbs are about actions, not necessarily feelings. What does this suggest about the nature of “true love?” How might this be helpful in our ability to love our enemies?
- In Luke 6:36 and Ephesians 4:32-5:2, what is the motivation and the power for being able to show mercy to others and to forgive them? How is this so different than just trying hard to be more like Jesus? (A point to ponder: the horizontal commands for how we treat others, are consistently linked in Scripture to the vertical dimension of our relationship with God).
- How would you describe the significance of the little word, “as” in the Lord’s Prayer, “forgive us our debts, AS we forgive our debtors.” Or in Ephesians 4:32, “forgiving each other, just AS in Christ God forgave you.”
- According to Matthew 5:23,24; Mark 11:25; and Romans 12:18, who takes the initiative when there is a conflict or break in a relationship? On the basis of Romans 5:8, why is this the case? How does what Jesus did on the cross for you, affect how you treat others?



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

BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, March 18

8:00am Open Prayer, Pastor Steve's Office
9:00am Worship Service
 9:30am Children's Sunday School, downstairs
 9:30am Youth Sunday School, Youth Room
 10:30am Confirmation Class, Youth Room
10:45am Worship Service
10:45am service: CNS Children sing
 4:00pm Youth Group

Monday, March 19

2-7pm Red Cross Blood Drive, Gym
 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
 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, March 20

7:00am Men's small group, Resource Room
 7:00am Men-Sponsored Prayer Breakfast, at Narberth Diner
 11:00am Prayer Group, Parlor (open to all)
7:00pm Session Meeting, Parlor
 7:30pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Wednesday, March 21

9:30am Staff Meeting, Parlor
5:45 Wed Night Supper Menu: Mac & Cheese/ tomatoes, salad, fruit, dessert (gluten-free also)
7:00pm Teaching: Christian Liberty and the Grace of God.

Thursday, March 22

9:30am Quilts for Comfort
 9am-12pm EOP Training, Chapel
 4:00pm Kickball with the Pastor
7:00-8:30pm Mere Christianity final book study with Pastor Steve, Parlor (Read p.178-200)
 "Little Stars", CNS rooms
 7:30pm Adult Pick-up Basketball, Gym

Friday, March 23

9:15-3:30 Sr. Adult Trip to Princeton NJ
 9:30am Moms' Study group, Parlor
 10:00am Women's Bible Study, Chapel
 7:00pm Middle School gathering, Youth Room
 7:00pm Pickleball, Gym

Saturday, March 24

Sunday, March 25 – Palm Sunday

8:00am Open Prayer, Pastor Steve's Office
9:00am Worship Service
 9:30am Children's Sunday School, downstairs
 9:30am Youth Sunday School, Youth Room
 10:30am Confirmation Class, Youth Room
10:45am Worship Service
 4:00pm Youth Group

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: jlmpsynd@hotmail.com

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

Mar 27 7:00pm Evangelism Team Meeting, Parlor
 Mar 28 7:00pm Holy Week Service
 Mar 29 7:30pm Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service
 Mar 30 12:00pm Community Good Friday Service, Holy Trinity Lutheran, Narberth
 Apr 1 Easter Morning: Services at 7:30, 9:00, and 10:45am
 Apr 3 7:00pm Deacons' Meeting, Parlor

Apr 3 7:00pm Missions Committee Meeting (Note date change), Chapel
Apr 6,20 9:30am Moms' Study Group, Parlor
Apr 11 9:30-3:00pm Personal Retreat Day @ St. Raphaela, Haverford
Apr12, 26 9:30am Quilts for Comfort, Parlor
Apr 16 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal