



Narberth Presbyterian Church

September 4, 2022

LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

September 4, 2022

Prelude

Come, Thou Almighty King
Jinhee Shim and Linda Pilacik, Piano

Arr. Larry Shackley

Welcome and Family News

Danielle Kauffman

Call to Worship

Psalm 63:1-5

Vera Comstock

Hymn #77

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
Jinhee Shim

Lobe Den Herren

Prayer of Invocation

Pastor Debbie

Scripture Reading

Hebrews 10:19-25

Jim Hoffman

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Steve

Gracious God, you are the solid rock, yet too often we build our lives and pin our hopes on what is less than you. We confess our short attention span for you and for others. We have allowed distractions to divert our desire for you. Please forgive our sins, and deliver us from habits and attitudes that weigh us down. In the words of Martin Luther King, Jr, "Transform the fatigue of despair into the buoyancy of hope." Through the gift of community, let us spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Grant us a second wind of the Spirit, that we might run the race with perseverance, keeping our eyes on Jesus. In His Name. Amen.

Silent Prayer and the Assurance of Pardon

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.

Children's Message

Danielle Kauffman

Worship Song

We Will Feast
Worship Team

Moore

Family Worship – Children and youth remain in sanctuary

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Pastor Debbie

Passing of Friendship Pads & Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Praise Him, Praise Him

Arr. Larry Shackley

Jinhee Shim and Linda Pilacik, Piano

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading

Hebrews 12:1,2

Pastor Debbie

Sermon

How's Your Motivation?

Pastor Steve

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, eternal and triune God, whom we worship as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In Jesus Christ you spoke the word that brought the world into being. By the Holy Spirit you brought order out of chaos and breathed life into your creatures.

In his ministry on earth, Jesus cared for all, forgiving their failures, healing their hurts, and nurturing their faith, giving himself in utter sacrifice for those he loved. He inspired ordinary people to Spirit-filled living, and displayed in his life, death, and rising again the power of your Spirit.

Nurture us at this table, O God, that we may grow to the stature of Jesus Christ. By the Holy Spirit, help us surrender more of ourselves to you, that we might know the freedom of your will. Help us to love you above all else and to love our neighbor as we love ourselves.

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. Amen.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again. Amen.

Prayer of Preparation

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Pastor Debbie

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn # 92

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Diademata

Jinhee Shim

Benediction

Pastor Steve

Postlude

March

by William Hill

Jinhee Shim, Organ

Prayer Ministry

Mike Morrison

+ **Today** we will be sharing in the Lord's Supper by coming forward and receiving the bread and (an individual) cup from a Pastor or Elder, or by taking a prepackaged set of bread and juice, found at the top of the stairs in the balcony, or at the front of the Sanctuary, under the pulpit. However we receive the elements, the Lord Jesus meets us in the moment, and binds us together in his great love.

+ **Next Sunday**, September 11, in the early part of the service, we will have the joy of blessing and anointing our children and teachers as they go back to school. All children, pre-school through 12th grade, along with teachers at all levels, will be invited to come forward to be anointed and blessed in prayer. In Scripture, anointing with oil is often symbolic of the peace and presence of the Holy Spirit.

+ **NEW CLASS: Mere Christianity Book Study with Pastor Steve.**

In 2000, *Christianity Today* voted *Mere Christianity* by CS Lewis as the "most important Christian book of the 20th century." Starting later in September, Pastor Steve will lead an 11-week study of this classic book. Day and time of the class will be confirmed by next week. **For now, please sign up in the Chapel at church, or email or text Pastor Steve if you are interested.**

+ **Starting next Sunday**, we will begin a new Fall sermon series on Paul's magnificent letter to the Philippians – "Breaking Out of Covid: Christ-Centered Resilience and Joy."

+ **The NPC Library**

While you're organizing for the new school year, would you please check your bookshelves and if you find any NPC books, we would appreciate your returning them as soon as possible. We also are doing organizing!! Thanks, Helen Moffa

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS: STARTING SEPTEMBER 14

Schedule:

- 5:45 – 6:45pm** Church family supper in the gym
- 7:00 – 8:00pm** Children's programming with Danielle (K-5th grade)
- 7:00 – 8:00pm** Middle School Youth Group with Juwan
- 7:00 – 8:00pm** Bible Study with Pastor Steve (Parlor)
"Practicing The Presence of God: Finding God In All of Life"
- 7:00 – 8:00pm** Video Series with Pastor Debbie (Chapel)
"Living As A Christian in A World That Is Not." a 5 week series, filmed in Greece

Children's Wednesday Night Programming - ***GOD STRONG!***

Hey kids, let's get moving! Join Miss Danielle and Miss Sharon each Wednesday night beginning September 14th to exercise our muscles and exercise our faith! Together we will learn that God wants us to eat healthy, be active, clean up, and feed our minds with the Bible! Join us for a ***WORKOUT*** of the body, mind, and soul. We meet in RM 107 from 7:00pm-8:00pm. This program is best for Kindergarten through 5th grade. Please email Danielle with any questions (dkauffman@narberthpres.org).

Middle School Youth Group led by Juwan Williams

Youth Group will resume on September 14 for our Middle Schoolers. Our time together will be from 7-8pm. Looking forward to gathering again.

Pastor Steve's Wednesday Night Adult Class (Parlor)

"Practicing the Presence of God." Each week we will look at what the Bible teaches about finding God in all of life. Along with teaching, discussion, and prayer, we welcome personal testimonies about how we are encountering God in our daily life, and how we can sharpen our alertness.

Pastor Debbie's Wednesday Night Adult Class

Join us in the Chapel on Wednesday nights from 7-8pm for a 5 week video-based series on living as Christians in a culture that is not. Filmed on site in Athens and Corinth, each lesson will focus on the Apostle Paul's teaching concerning how the early Christians in those places (and we in our places) can live to glorify God, and exemplify his love to the people around us.

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: CHILDREN

- **Sunday, September 4th is Family Worship!** Children in Kindergarten through 12th grade are encouraged to worship with their family and participate in communion. A special children's message and worship bags will be provided. Our NPC Nursery is available for younger children in RM 107 with Miss Sharon and team.
- **Sunday, September 11th is Sunday School Kickoff and Blessing of the Children.** Join us for this important Sunday where we kickoff the new program year! Children and teachers will have a special time of blessing at the front part of worship before dismissal to Sunday School. All are welcome!
- **New Sunday School Program - Epic Love Story!** During the month of September our Sunday School Children (K-5th) will dive into God's One Big Story in the Bible. It's an Epic Love Story that unfolds in a garden and the love continues throughout the Bible. Join us as we learn to love others, comfort those who are hurting, and give to those in need! Special crafts and service opportunities too. Join the LOVE!
- **New Wednesday Night Program for Kids!** Beginning **Wednesday, September 14th** children (K-5th grade) are invited to a new program called **"God Strong"**! Get ready to exercise your muscles and your faith! We will meet in Rm 107 from 7:00pm-8:00pm. Sneakers and comfortable clothing are encouraged! All are welcome for dinner in the gym beginning at 5:45pm.
- **Volunteer Fair!** Join us **NEXT Sunday, September 11th** for our NPC Volunteer Fair! Learn more about the many ministry areas of NPC and discover ways you can get involved and strengthen our community! The Volunteer Fair will take place directly following service in the gym and FOOD is provided. **There will also be a special craft table for the children and volunteer table for the Youth.** Please contact Sarah Mahoney, Intergenerational Ministry Volunteer Coordinator, if you have any questions Sara.mahoney@gmail.com.

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS – YOUTH

- **Calling all Middle Schoolers** to a very special weekend. From September 30th - Oct. 2 we will venture as a group to NorthBay, Maryland for **Breakaway Retreat**. "Breakaway Retreat is an opportunity to join several hundred middle school students, leaders, youth pastors and volunteers as they gather to have fun, enjoy free time, play crazy games and hear more about the God who loves them. The price of the retreat is \$150 per person (\$30/person non-refundable deposit) RSVP for the event by September 11, 2022. For more information, please contact Juwan via phone or email. Thank you!
- **Youth Group** – Youth Group will resume on September 14 for our Middle Schoolers and September 18 for High Schoolers. Our time together will be from 7-8pm. Looking forward to gathering again.
- **Sunday, September 11th is Sunday School Kickoff and Blessing of the Children.** Join us for this important Sunday where we kickoff the new program year! Children and teachers will have a special time of blessing at the front part of worship before dismissal to Sunday School. All are welcome!
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ADULT DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

GriefShare: New Group Starting this Fall

While the journey of grief is a painful process, you do not need to walk it alone. We encourage you to come to a special seminar and support group called GriefShare (<https://www.griefshare.org>). The sessions specifically address topics and issues for those who are grieving the death of a loved one. GriefShare meets weekly, the content is Christ-centered and biblical, and the sessions will be led by Alice Antonelli and Gerri Wismer. You will find this to be a place where you can be around people who understand the pain of your loss. The first GriefShare session will be held on **Monday, September 12 from 6:30 - 8pm** in the Parlor (in person), and continue on into December (note that you can join at any time). You can register here: <https://www.griefshare.org/groups/155054/registrations/new>. Please feel free to email Alice Antonelli at arichardson1@gmail.com for more information.

NEW CLASS: Mere Christianity Book Study with Pastor Steve.

In 2000, *Christianity Today* voted *Mere Christianity* by CS Lewis as the "most important Christian book of the 20th century." Starting later in September, Pastor Steve will lead an 11-week study of this classic book. Day and time of the class will be confirmed by next week. **For now, please sign up in the Chapel at church, or email or text Pastor Steve if you are interested.**

This class has wide appeal: for seekers, for those new to the Christian faith, as well as for seasoned believers. Lewis appeals to the mind, the heart, and the sanctified imagination to articulate the faith that is central to Christianity in all generations. Along with a careful and patient reading of the book, there will be generous use of Scripture, discussion, and practical application, as we seek to draw closer to Christ and one another.

We are living in a time of extreme cultural currents and upheaval. If ever there was a time for Christians to develop a more grounded faith, and a more robust life in Christ, it is NOW. Please reach out to Pastor Steve if you are interested or have any questions.

The Road to Emmaus With Jesus is a series of three five-hour days set aside on NPC's 2022-2023 calendar for us to pray and reflect on our journey with God. In solitude and in community, we will slow down and let the Holy Spirit draw our attention to his recollecting, renewing, and redeeming work in us. Through guided spiritual practices, we will make space for God in our hearts and in our lives, inviting the Holy Spirit to speak personally to us through Scripture, prayer, nature, solitude, and community. The dates and times are **Monday October 3, Saturday January 21, and Wednesday March 22, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** Each day will have its stand-alone theme and will take place in a local and accessible site, so come to one or all, as your schedules allow. The first retreat day of prayer will take place at St. Raphaela Center in Haverford. No prior experience is needed for participation. To sign up, please contact Linda DiLullo at 610-453-3420 or ldilullo3@gmail.com. Cost \$35, lunch included.

PRAYER INFORMATION

Please Remember in Prayer

Prayer Focus: Cornerstone Christian Academy

Cornerstone Christian Academy is a co-educational, independent Christian school, offering a full academic program for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. Cornerstone's faculty, staff and volunteers (including from NPC) have served the children and families of Southwest Philadelphia since 1988. Their vision is to be a model urban Christian school where students are grounded in faith, shaped with Christ-like character, and equipped with knowledge & skills to excel in high school, college, & throughout life. As the school year begins, please pray for the adults of Cornerstone Christian Academy to live their faith so that the children see Christ in them, are drawn to, and inspired to follow him, too.

<https://cornerstonephiladelphia.com/>

THE SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP OF ELDERS AND DEACONS

Elders

As there were in Old Testament times elders for the government of the people, so the New Testament Church provided persons with particular gifts to share in governing and ministry. Elders should be persons of faith, dedication and good judgment. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel, both within the church and in the world.

It is the duty of elders, individually and jointly, to strengthen and nurture the faith and life of the congregation committed to their charge. Together with the pastor, they should encourage the people in the worship of God, equip and renew them for their tasks in the church and for their mission in the world, visit and comfort and care for the people, with special attention to the poor, the sick, the lonely and those who are oppressed. They should inform the pastor and the session of those persons and structures that may need special attention. They should assist in worship. They should cultivate their ability to teach the Bible and may be authorized to supply places that are without the regular ministry of the Word and Sacrament. Those duties that all Christians are bound to perform by the law of love are especially incumbent upon elders because of their calling to office and are to be fulfilled by them as official responsibilities. (Excerpts from the *Book of Order* (2009/11))

Recommendations for Elder

The Nominating Committee is receiving recommendations for the offices of Elder and Deacon to begin in January 2023. In light of the description above, if you have individuals to suggest for Elder, please write them down below. Please describe briefly why you believe the individual would be suitable for this office.

It is not necessary to obtain the permission of the person you are suggesting. It is preferable for the Nominating Committee to make the initial contact should this person be nominated.

For the office of Elder:

Name: _____

Reason for recommendation: _____

Name: _____

Reason for recommendation: _____

Name: _____

Reason for recommendation: _____

(Further names may be suggested on a separate paper.)

Please put this form in the collection plate, or drop off in the church office.

THE SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP OF ELDERS AND DEACONS

Deacons

The office of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service after the example of Jesus Christ. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, of exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this office.

It is the duty of deacons, first of all, to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith. They shall assume such other duties as may be delegated to them from time to time by the session, such as leading the people in worship through prayers of intercession, reading the Scriptures, presenting the gifts of the people, and assisting with the Lord's Supper. (Excerpts from the *Book of Order* (2009/11))

Recommendations for Deacon

The Nominating Committee is receiving recommendations for the offices of Elder and Deacon to begin serving in January 2023. In light of the description above, if you have individuals to suggest for Deacon, please write them down below. Please describe briefly why you believe the individual would be suitable for this office.

It is not necessary to obtain the permission of the person you are suggesting. It is preferable for the Nominating Committee to make the initial contact should this person be nominated.

For the office of Deacon:

Name: _____

Reason for recommendation: _____

Name: _____

Reason for recommendation: _____

Name: _____

Reason for recommendation: _____

(Further names may be suggested on a separate paper.)

Please put this form in the collection plate, or drop off in the church office.

At our best, Elders and Deacons seek by the grace of God to be examples of Jesus Christ and models of the quality of life which God desires for the whole church. It is a great privilege and responsibility – we welcome your prayers!

BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, September 4

8:15am **Sunday School** (Parlor)
9:30am **Worship Service** In-person and live-stream
Communion and Family Worship

Monday, September 5

Labor Day Church Office Closed

Tuesday, September 6

8:30am-12:30pm Pre-School Staff Meeting, Parlor
7:00pm Deacons' Meeting, Chapel

Wednesday, September 7

8:30am-12:30pm Pre-School Staff Training, Parlor
7:30pm-9:00pm Adult Discipleship Meeting, Parlor

Thursday, September 8

8:30am-12:30pm Pre-School Staff Training,
Chapel
9:30am-11:30am Full Staff Meeting, Parlor

Friday, September 9

11:00am **Women's Bible Study** (In-person),
Chapel

Saturday, September 10

Sunday, September 11

8:15am **Sunday School** (Parlor)
9:30am **Worship Service** In-person and live-stream

Looking Ahead:

Sept 12 6:30pm- 8:00pm New group "GriefShare" begins, Parlor
Sept 13 Pre-School begins new year
Sept 14 Wednesday Night ministry begins new year
Sept 20 7:00pm Session Meeting, Parlor.

Each Week

Christian Pre-School – 610-664-8890 x118

2, 3 & 5 Day Programs 9:00am to 12 noon & 12 noon to 3:00pm Extended Day Program, Sept.-May
AA meets 12:30pm, Monday–Saturday & Sunday at 4:30pm

Counseling: Dr. Janet Moore: cell: 484-686-6630 email: jlmpsych@hotmail.com

Narberth Presbyterian Church

205 Grayling Avenue

Post Office Box 414

Narberth, PA 19072

Office hours:

Mon-Thurs. 9:00am to 4:00pm

Friday 9:00 am - 3:00pm

Phone: 610-664-4880

Fax: 610-668-8225

E-mail: office@narberthpres.org

Stephen N. Weed, Pastor
Deborah Watson, Associate Pastor
Danielle Kauffman, Intergenerational Ministry
Juwana Williams, Intergenerational Ministry
Paul Mortilla, Director of Music
Jinhee Shim, Organist
Colin & Sarah Comstock, Worship Band Ldrs
Matt Weed, Worship Tech. Coordinator
Tim Rojkouff, Business Administrator
Donya Perry, Administrative Assistant
Hugh Barrie, Assistant Property Manager
Joyce B. Nicolai, Bookkeeper
Ruth Ellen Patterson, Financial Secretary
Isabel Lally, Pastoral Visitor
Virginia Davis, Dir. of Pre-School
Chris Marinelli, Weekday Custodian
Michael Ochal, Weekend Custodian
CCLI # License #387124



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