



Narberth Presbyterian Church

March 17, 2024

LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

March 17, 2024

Prelude

Allegro moderato e serio
from Sonata No. 1 in F Minor
Jinhee Shim, organ

Mendelssohn

Welcome & Family News

Pastor Debbie

PNC Update

Jack Comstock

Call to Worship

Deuteronomy 6:4-7

Tiffany Burnett
Hadley, Tatum, and Webb

*Hymn #66

The God of Abraham Praise

Leoni

Scripture Reading

Psalm 78:1-7

Leigh Haakenson

***Prayer of Confession**

Virginia Davis

God, our heavenly Father, we come to you because this week we haven't always thought, said, or done what pleases you. We haven't always paid proper attention to those who need us, depend on us, and look to us as their example in life. What we model is not always what we wish to pass on to the children you have entrusted to us. Please forgive us, merciful God; show us how to be with our children the way you are with us. Help them, and us, to live lives of consistent goodness, mercy, and grace in this world. We pray in the name of Jesus, who did. Amen.

***Silent Prayer & Assurance of Pardon**

Preschool Staff Introductions

Virginia Davis

Preschool Parent Testimony and Video Presentation

Katie Kennedy

***The Peace**

As God has given us peace through Christ, let us share that peace with one another. The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

***Worship Songs**

You Are With Me
Hosanna (Praise is Rising)
10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)
NPC Worship Band

Children & Youth dismissed to Sunday School

Pastoral Prayer		Pastor Debbie
Passing of Friendship Pads & Presentation of Tithes and Offerings		
Offertory	<i>Praise the Name of Jesus</i>	<i>arr. Wagner</i>
	NPC Bell Choir, Linda Pilacik, director	
*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication		
Scripture Reading	Mark 10:13-16	Seble Zein
Message	Kids: What Are You Going to Do?	Pastor Debbie
*Hymn #612	<i>How Firm a Foundation</i>	<i>Foundation</i>
Benediction		Pastor Debbie
Postlude	<i>The Canterbury March</i>	<i>Perrin</i>
	Jinhee Shim, organ	
Prayer Ministry		Jan Kennedy

TODAY is Preschool Sunday! – Welcome to our preschool children, families, and teachers! We are happy you are with us today. All are invited to the gym following worship for a special time of fellowship together.

Road to Emmaus with Jesus Day Retreat: “*Abide in me, and I in you.*” Perhaps this invitation from Jesus is resonating with your soul’s desire? Join us as we explore the theme “Abiding” in NPC’s next silent day retreat on **Thursday April 11, 9:30am – 2:30pm, at St. Raphaela Center, Haverford, PA.** You will have the opportunity to spend time with God in solitude with community and to receive spiritual direction, if desired. Registration deadline and the non-refundable fee of \$45 for St. Raphaela is due on March 24. Breakfast and lunch are provided. Contact Clara Louie (claralouie@yahoo.com) to sign up and for scholarship assistance.

Explorers’ Class – Are you interested in becoming a member of NPC, learning more about our church, or about faith? Please consider being a part of our New Explorers’ Class **beginning Sunday, April 14th** directly following worship. This class will run for 2 or 3 consecutive Sundays. To sign up or for more information please contact Sara Mahoney in the church office.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

Sunday, March 24th, Palm Sunday

9:30am Worship Service

Choir Cantata Presentation: *Victory!*

Sunday School for children and youth and Confirmation Class will meet as usual.

Wednesday, March 27th

5:45 – 6:45pm Church Family Supper, Gym

7:00 – 8:00pm Rediscover Jesus, Pastor Debbie, Chapel

Please note: No regular programming for Children & Youth.

Thursday, March 28th, Maundy Thursday

7:30pm Communion and Tenebrae Service

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 is provided for infants through kindergarten.

Friday, March 29th, Good Friday

12:00pm Good Friday Service

We will gather to celebrate our unity in Christ and remember his death on the cross.

Children's Worship Bags will be available.

Sunday, March 31st, EASTER Morning

7:30am Sunrise Service (weather permitting, held in the courtyard on Windsor Ave., otherwise, in the Gym)

8:30am Easter Breakfast in the Gym

9:30am Worship Service

A joyful celebration of the Risen Christ in word, music, prayer and song.

He Is Risen! He Is Risen, Indeed!

Please Note: No regular Sunday school for Children & Youth. The NPC Nursery will be available for infants through Pre-K.

Children's Worship Bags will be available.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastoral Nominating Committee Update: Since last month, the PNC has reviewed five candidates, two of whom were presented by Shepherd Staff. Two candidates were deemed not to be a good fit for NPC and were declined. A third candidate completed a first round Zoom interview and responded to a set of six theological questions. Their candidacy was then eliminated. A fourth candidate completed a first round Zoom interview and has been invited to respond to the theological questions. A fifth candidate has been invited to a first round Zoom interview. Please pray for stamina and encouragement for the PNC as we faithfully wait on God's timing. Please also continue to pray for the person that God is calling to be our next Senior Pastor.

GriefShare The journey of grief is a painful process; you do not need to walk it alone. We encourage you to come to the video and support group, GriefShare. The sessions address topics and issues for those who are grieving the death of a loved one. GriefShare meets weekly, the content is Christ-centered & biblical, and the sessions will be led by Alice Antonelli and Gerri Wismer. This is a place where you can be around people who understand the pain of your loss. GriefShare will begin on **Monday, March 18 from 6:30 – 8pm in the Chapel** and continue into June (note that you can join at any time). It is important to register on the GriefShare website. Please email Alice Antonelli (arichardson1@gmail.com) or Gerri Wismer (geewis46@gmail.com) for more information about the group.

Men's Small Group There is an open small group for men looking to connect in a more intimate setting. The Men's Small group **meets from 7:30 – 9:00am on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month in the Parlor**. Donuts sometimes exist, but coffee is *always* guaranteed! The format of the group is designed to facilitate intimate sharing, prayer, and accountability. While the study of scripture helps to facilitate those conversations, education is not the primary goal of this group. Our purpose is to provide a place for men to deepen relationships with a small cohort of other men and experience what it looks like for "iron to sharpen iron." Contact Justin Crawford (me@JustinCrawford.com / 646.588.9042) for more information.

Overeaters Anonymous. This displaced group from Overbrook Presbyterian Church will be using space at NPC. This is a support group for people who are struggling with their eating and want a caring group to support them in getting their eating and weight "right." The group meets on **Monday evenings at 8:00pm** in the Pastor's office both in person and via Zoom. New members are welcome; reach out to Eric (610-742-8196) with questions or to get the Zoom link.

Notes From Justice and Mercy The Chestnut Foundation is assisting a family with 2 young people who have Transverse Myelitis, an inflammation of the spinal cord. Shelby will be having surgery in early March to enable the muscles in her hands to relax so that they may open and then grip items. Benjamin will be having surgery to straighten his spinal cord which will, hopefully, enable him to stand up. Donna Hart has suffered from this disease as well. Donna was once dependent on a wheelchair but was miraculously healed to allow her to walk without assistance. Please pray for such a miracle for the Chestnut family. Pray that the surgeries will be successful, and God will bring about further healing. Grandmother Maryann is a primary caregiver and Donna Hart helps as well. Can you donate a few hours to be with the children so that the regular caregivers can have a break? Can you help the dad with construction work to renovate their home to better accommodate Shelby's and Benjamin's needs as they grow older? Contact Donna Hart (610-608-8728) for more information or to help.

Communicating with Church Staff by Email: Staff have reported more malware and other email abnormalities lately. **Legitimate Group Emails from NPC** (The newsletter, invites to Wednesday night programs, etc will come from "Church Community Builder <notifications@ccbchurch.com>"; on behalf of; Narberth Presbyterian narberthpres@ccbchurch.com. **Legitimate emails from staff** to members and friends will come from the staff person's Narberth Presbyterian Email address, which ends in "@narberthpres.org".

New! Health Aid Library Sometimes, due to age, injury or illness; crutches, a walker, cane or wheelchair become necessary to safely move about. Insurance coverage may be spotty on these devices, especially for temporary needs. Narberth Presbyterian Church has benefitted over the years from members that have donated their devices to the church for others to use. This article is being posted to make sure that those that might benefit from a mobility aid are aware that NPC will loan out these items for as long as one might want to borrow them at no cost. This also allows one to try different types of devices without having to commit to their purchase first. We simply ask that a mobility aid borrowed from NPC be returned when they are no longer needed. IF this might help you, please contact the church office at 610-664-4880 or by email at office@narberthpres.org.

PRAYER INFORMATION

Please Remember in Prayer

Missions: InterAct – Dan and Bev Mayerle InterAct desires to see disciples of Jesus Christ impacting communities across the North Pacific Crescent with the Gospel. Dan and Bev Mayerle have worked for many years with indigenous people through disciple making and church planting in Calgary's First Nations community. They have a passion for encouraging and equipping the next generation to follow the Lord's call into ministry. Please pray for Dan and Bev to be encouraged, as they offer encouragement to the 25+ missionary units they oversee across western Canada, all of whom are involved in First Nations and New Immigrant (Sikh and Muslim) disciple making.

Dr. Janet Moore is a licensed psychologist with over 30 years of therapeutic expertise. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Bible from Philadelphia College of Bible and a Master's degree in Theology from Denver Seminary. With an understanding of spirituality and faith in clients' lives, she is able to provide spiritually integrated psychotherapy. Janet offers counseling to adults and couples experiencing such struggles as depression and anxiety, relationship issues, life crisis, grief and personal adjustment problems. She provides compassionate help to survivors of physical, emotional, sexual, and spiritual abuse. Contact Dr. Moore at 610-664-4880 Ext 121, or 484-686-6630, jlmpsy910@gmail.com

EASTER FLOWERS 2023

On **Easter morning, March 31st**, 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 the worship service on Easter, if you are able, please sign up to deliver a plant or two to members of our church family who are unable to worship with us here or take one home to enjoy. You do not need to donate a plant 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 information, put it in the offering plate, or mail it to be received in the church office by **Thursday, March 28th**.

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 9:30am Easter service. If you are willing to help, please indicate below:

Name and phone number

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: CHILDREN

ART-RAGE-OUS Sunday School - Our inner artist is coming out this Easter! During Sunday School our kids will have a chance to unleash the artist inside of them by using all kinds of super fun art to tell the Easter story and to picture the outrageous love that Jesus has for us. See you in Sunday School!

Children's Lenten Offering – Beginning Sunday, February 18th children are encouraged to bring in personal care items to support The Parkway Ministry. Please send in full-size: bars of soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, washcloth, ChapStick, large Ziplock bags. Also please pray for our Friends on the Parkway.

Kids Praise – Children (PreK-5th grade) are encouraged to join us each Wednesday for a time of music fun! We meet in the choir room from 7:00 – 8:00pm. **Please note: we will not hold this class on Wednesday, March 27th.**

VBC 2024 – START THE PARTY!

Save the Date for VBC – Jesus gives us the most amazing reason to party! This summer get ready to celebrate the good news of Jesus! Join us Monday, June 17th through Friday, June 21st from 9:00 – 11:30am at NPC for VBC 2024. VBC is best for those age 4 by June 1st, 2024 through those entering 5th grade (2024-2025 school year). Rising 6th graders through adults are encouraged to volunteer for this awesome week. **Registration is OPEN!** See the Friday Newsletter for registration links or reach out to Danielle (dkauffman@narberthpres.org) with any questions.

Youth Volunteers needed for VBC 2024 – Mark your calendar for Vacation Bible Camp the week of Monday, June 17th – Friday, June 21st! Rising 6th graders through adults are encouraged to volunteer! **Registration is now OPEN!** See the Friday Newsletter for registration links or reach out to Danielle (dkauffman@narberthpres.org) with questions.



INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: YOUTH

Youth Sunday School – All Youth (6th – 12th grade) are encouraged to attend Sunday School. Youth are dismissed to the Youth Room from the sanctuary. Hope to see you there!

High School Youth Group – HS Youth Group is moving! We will no longer have HS Youth Group on Sunday Evenings. Instead, we will have HS Youth Group every third Sunday directly after Worship Service. **This will begin next month on April 21st.** We hope to see you there!

Middle School Youth Group – MS Youth Groups meets each Wednesday from 7:00 – 8:00 pm in the Youth Room. We will be studying the Book of Acts.

Teen Girls and Teen Guys – Our next meeting is set for Sunday, April 7th. Details soon!

The Philadelphia Project – Summer of Service Retreat for Youth – All 6th through 12th graders are encouraged to attend a meaningful week of service with The Philadelphia Project! Mark your calendar for July 21st – 27th. Please reach out to Claire Woods (cwoods@narberthpres.org) or Dave Bellamy (dbellamy@narberthpres.org) to RSVP or for more information.

ALL CHURCH RETREAT – NEW BEGINNINGS



We are FULLY BOOKED!

Our retreat is fully booked! God is good! Looking forward to this beautiful time together!

Come away with the Lord and the community of NPC for a weekend of refreshment, fellowship, and fun. Meet new friends, enjoy the beauty of God's creation, and rest in the Lord's presence. We'll spend time in Scripture as we consider the significance of change and what it looks like to navigate through times of transition—in our own lives and in our life together. There will be time for recreation, worship, personal reflection, and fun for all ages. This retreat can be tailored to be what you need. All are welcome! Come as you are. There is something for everyone, no matter what season of life you are in.

CLASSES

8:15am Sunday Class – Please join us – in the NPC Parlor, or via Zoom – for a time of conversation focused on the scriptures for the day's worship service. All are welcome! Contact Pastor Debbie for the Zoom link.

Adult Bible Study – The Gospel of Mark. The Gospel of Mark is a vivid and dynamic account of the ministry and message of Jesus Christ. It is the shortest of the four gospels and portrays Jesus as the Servant of God: "*For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.*" (Mark 10:45).

When: Thursdays from 7:00 – 8:15pm, starting Thursday, Jan 18th

Where: Women's Bible Study: Church Parlor; Men's Bible Study: Pastor G's office

Who: Women's Bible Study: contact Lalitha Naveen: lnaveen100@gmail.com.

Men's Bible Study: contact Ken Eng: K_Eng@msn.com

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES

Wednesday Night Dinners continue this week and next. Everyone is welcome to enjoy the food and friendship around the tables.

Wednesday Night Study for Lent! *Rediscover Jesus*, by Matthew Kelly. This book is divided into 40 daily readings of a page or two, a Bible verse, a question to ask, a thought to ponder, and a sentence prayer. Kelly prompts us to get to know Jesus in a deeply personal way: As the carpenter from Nazareth, the itinerant preacher, the Son of God, the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords, the Lamb of God, the new Adam, the Messiah, the Alpha and the Omega, the Chosen One, the Light of the World, the God-Man who wants good things for us more than we want them for ourselves, the healer of our souls. You can order the book on-line or pick up a copy here at church (\$10 suggested donation).

Kids Praise – Children (PreK-5th grade) are encouraged to join us for a time of music fun! Thank you to Linda Pilacik for leading this energetic time! **Please note: we will not hold this class on Wednesday, March 27th.**

Middle School Youth Group – All 6th – 8th graders are invited to Youth Group in the Youth Room for games, devotional and fellowship.

BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, March 17

5th Sunday in Lent

Preschool Sunday

9:30am **Worship Service** In-person and live-stream

Youth Confirmation Class during Sunday School

Preschool Reception & Fellowship in the Gym following the Worship Service

Monday, March 18

6:15 – 7:15pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

6:30 – 8:00pm GriefShare, Chapel

8:00pm Overeaters Anonymous, Pastor's Office

Tuesday, March 19

12:15pm Staff Meeting, Parlor

7:00pm Session Meeting, Parlor

Wednesday, March 20

5:45 – 6:45pm Church Family Supper, Gym

7:00 – 8:00pm Rediscover Jesus, Pastor Debbie, Chapel

7:00 – 8:00pm Kids Praise, Miss Danielle, Choir Room

7:00 – 8:00pm Middle School Youth Group, Youth Room

Thursday, March 21

6:30 – 8:00pm Choir Practice, Choir Room

7:00 – 8:15pm Women's Bible Study, Parlor

7:00 – 8:15pm Men's Bible Study, Pastor's Office

Friday, March 22

1:30pm Ladies Bible Study, Parlor

Saturday, March 23

7:30am Men's Breakfast, Gym

10:00 – 11:30am Choir Cantata Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Sunday, March 24

Palm Sunday

8:15am Sunday School, Parlor

9:30am **Worship Service** In-person and live-stream; **Easter Cantata: Victory!**

Youth Confirmation Class during Sunday School

Each Week

Christian Preschool – 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: ilmpsy910@gmail.com

Narberth Presbyterian Church

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

Friday 9:00 am - 3:00pm

Phone: 610-664-4880

Fax: 610-668-8225

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CCLI # License #387124

Jesus Christ, Minister

Farrar Griggs, Pastor

Cell #: (704) 239-4735

Email: fgriggs@narberthpres.org

Deborah Watson, Associate Pastor

Danielle Kauffman, Intergenerational Ministry

Claire Woods, Director of Youth Ministry

Jinhee Shim, Organist

Sarah Comstock, Worship Band Leader

Linda Pilacik, Minister of Music

Matt Weed, Worship Tech. Coordinator

Tim Roykoff, Business Administrator

Sara Mahoney, Administrative Assistant

Hugh Barrie, Assistant Property Manager

Joyce B. Nicolai, Bookkeeper

Ruth Ellen Patterson, Financial Secretary

Isabel Lally, Pastoral Visitor

Virginia Davis, Director of Preschool

Chris Marinelli, Weekday Custodian



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