



# Narberth Presbyterian Church

October 6, 2024

# LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

October 6, 2024

Prelude

*My Lord, What a Morning*  
Jinhee Shim, organ

*arr. Haan*

Welcome

Pastor Farrar

Call to Worship

Responsive Reading

Rawson Kennedy

Come, let us remember God's presence with us.

Let us give ear to all that God would teach us.

**Our ancestors have told us about God's might.**

**They have celebrated God's wondrous deeds.**

In the wilderness of Sinai, God provided water.

Through the sea, God provided safe passage.

**Yet the Israelites questioned God's presence,**

**They needed assurance amid their doubts.**

Our doubts can lead to honest searching.

God welcomes questions that seek new truth.

**We want to see God's larger picture.**

**We are here to broaden the scope of our concern.**

\*Hymn #532

*Be Thou My Vision*

*Slane*

Scripture Reading

Psalm 42:1-3; Psalm 34:18;  
Psalm 107:20; Psalm 103:1-5

Paul Rabe

Prayer of Confession

Pam Fleming

Father, we fear to confess to you, for you may require changes in us that are costly. You ask us to have the mind of Christ, a mind free of pretense and self-interest. You challenge us to lay aside our advantages, to go where you send us. We fear loss of security if we are obedient. It is hard to see ourselves as exploiters when we pursue advantages for our families. We confess our need for you, our desire to find your purpose for us. Amen.

Silent Prayer & Assurance of Pardon

*God accepts us in the midst of our struggles. There is encouragement in Christ; there is compassion and the opportunity to share in the Spirit. God blesses us as we gather in community, calling us to find our common mind in Christ Jesus. May we do the work God places before us as a ministry of love and do all we can to share our faith with a faithfulness stripped of pretense and conceit. May our lives praise God.* Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

## **\*The Peace**

Since we have peace with God through the Lord Jesus, let's share that peace with each other: The peace of the Lord be with you!

**And also with you.**

## **Worship Songs**

*Oh How I Need You  
I Will Call Upon the Lord  
We Will Feast in the House of Zion*  
NPC Worship Band

## **Pastoral Prayer**

**Pastor Debbie**

## **Passing of Friendship Pads & Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

## **Offertory**

*Song Without Words*  
Emil Pilacik, trumpet, Jinhee Shim, organ

*Alexandra*

## **Doxology and Prayer of Dedication**

## **Scripture Reading**

**John 5:1-18**

**Pastor Farrar**

## **Message**

**Do You Want to Be Healed?**

**Pastor Farrar**

## **\*Hymn #788**

*There's a Quiet Understanding*

*Quiet Understanding*

## **The Invitation to the Lord's Table**

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God, the Lord's table.

Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast which he has prepared.

## **The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them 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.

You are holy, O God of majesty, blessed is Jesus Christ, your son, our Lord. Born as king in David's line, he lived with the lowly and cared for the least of your children. From the grave you raised him to your right hand where he rules again from heaven.

**We remember his death,  
we proclaim his resurrection.  
we await his coming in glory.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ and with all who are baptized in his name, that we may be one in ministry in every place. Send us out as the body of Christ in the world.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, eternal God, now and forever. Amen

**The Breaking of the Bread  
The Communion of the People Invitation  
Distribution of the Elements**

**Prayer after Communion**  
Heavenly Father, as we remember your death, and proclaim your resurrection, help to seek our true calling as God's people; to embrace your creation; to love our neighbor and in all things, to be your faithful disciples. Amen

Hymn #530 *Be Still My Soul* *Finlandia*

Benediction *Pastor Farrar*

Postlude *Toccata in G Major* *Dubois*  
Jinhee Shim, organ

Prayer Ministry *Linda Behmke*

**NOAH at Sight & Sound** – Intergenerational Ministry is beginning to plan a time to see *NOAH* this April at Sight & Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA. Ticket prices are \$85 for adults and \$40 for children (3-12). If you would be interested in attending, please email Danielle (dkauffman@narberthpres.org) by Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for helping us to plan well!

**Family [Feud] Fellowship** – Church family of all ages are invited to the gym directly following worship on **Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>** for an intergenerational game. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Please RSVP by Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> to Danielle.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Nominating Committee** – the 2025 Nominating Committee, co-chaired by Linda DiLullo & Pam Fleming, is looking for Elder & Deacon Nominations. See p. 9 & 10 for more information. Fill out the form or email office@narberthpres.org to submit a nomination.

**The NPC Parlor** – Parents, the NPC Parlor is always open on Sunday morning with the livestream available to watch! If you have younger children who might need a break from the sanctuary, please feel free to use this room! It's right off the Windsor Ave door stairs.

**Gifts of Hope (A Message from Ashley Reed):** Hello my church family, this year will be our 20<sup>th</sup> annual Gifts Of Hope! It will also be my last in charge of the committee. It has been an honor to be a team member for over a decade, but my time has come to an end. The physical toll it takes on me has become too much for my body to keep up with. GOH is too important to our church family and our missionaries to end just because I cannot keep going. Join us this year to see what it is like to be a team member and help this vision come to life. Many hands make light work, and this is never truer than with GOH. Although I am stepping down, I am not abandoning those that go after me. I will share my knowledge and help create a smooth transition to a new team of people. If you would like to join us this year or have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you, Ashley (amr0819@gmail.com//215.776.1358)

**Fundraising Banquet:** Join **Amnion Pregnancy Care Medical Center** for a special evening celebrating the strength of God's provision for life. We will be gathering on **October 15, 2024, at 6:00pm**, at Springfield Country Club (400 West Sproul Road, Springfield, PA 19064) for a special fundraising banquet that promises to be joyful, memorable and inspiring! The Keynote Speaker will be Scott Klusendorf, President of Life Training Institute and the host of the television series *Life is Best*. Registration is easy and free. Join us as our guest (note that a fundraising offering will be taken during the evening). To secure your spot, simply register by October 7, 2024, and let them know that you want to sit at Alice Antonelli's table.

**Men's Breakfast** will resume on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. More details to come.

**Save-A-Life Luncheon** – Please join us in the Parlor following the worship service on **Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>**. Nadia Gordynsky from one of our mission causes, Save-A-Life will be present to give important updates and talk about her new book, *Little Feet, Big Heart*. All are welcome for this time of information and fellowship.

**All-Church Retreat! Save the Date for Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025!** More details soon!

**Turkey Study Tour** Debbie Watson and Diane Chen have arranged with Tutku Educational Travel to lead a group from NPC and Palmer Theological Seminary on a 13-day study tour to Turkey from December 28, 2025 – January 9, 2026. Registration is open! Contact Diane (dianegchen@gmail.com) for a trip brochure or to express an interest in joining the tour. Space is limited.

## PRAYER INFORMATION

### Please Remember in Prayer

**Missions: Amnion Pregnancy Center** offers counseling to those who have undergone an abortion, whether recently or long ago, and provides support to young people who choose to parent their babies. Pray for those who provide the counseling, that they will be both kind and competent in their interactions with those who seek their help. Pray also for the clients to have hearts and minds open to the Lord as he comes to them through the ministry of Amnion staff and volunteers.

**Special Offering:** Because of the current increasingly dire situation in the West Bank of Israel, and the need for the church to provide for its members, as well as for its Muslim neighbors, the NPC Session has approved a one-time special offering, to be taken for the benefit of Baraka Presbyterian Church, in Bethlehem Israel, pastored by Rev. Danny Awad. Pastor Danny and his wife Joy spent 10 days here in April and spoke at a Wednesday Night gathering. The Church and Pastor Danny are members of Heritage Presbytery, to which Narberth Presbyterian Church also belongs. Thank you for helping to encourage our brothers and sisters in Bethlehem, and through them, sharing the tangible love of the Lord Jesus with their neighbors, whatever their religious affiliation, during a time of great difficulty for everyone who calls the Holy Land “home.” Donations can be made with a notation of “Disaster Relief – Baraka Church.”

## INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: CHILDREN

**Family Worship is Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>** – All children (Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade) are encouraged to worship with their church family and participate in Communion. Children's worship bags will be available, and children are welcome to sit with Miss Danielle. The NPC Nursery is available for infants through PreK.

**Sunday School** – This fall our K – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade will be using the *Gospel Light* curriculum and 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> begin with a series called *Bible Trivia*. All are welcome in the gym for Sunday School fun and learning!

**Kids Praise Children's Program** – PreK – 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to the Choir Room each Wednesday night from 7:00 – 8:00pm for music fun. Come make a joyful noise!

**The Philadelphia Project Blitz Weekend (November 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>)** – All current 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to join Miss Danielle on an amazing weekend of service with TPP. If you would like to register or help chaperone, please email Danielle (dkauffman@narberthpres.org). Please RSVP to Danielle by Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup>.

**VBC 2025! – Monday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> through Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup>** from 9:00am until 11:30am. Our theme this year is "Live it Out" – This summer we are focusing on one powerful action: loving like Jesus! At VBC we will not only hear about Jesus' love but also learn to express that love through our actions. Join us this summer at VBC!

## INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: YOUTH

**Teen Girls & Guys: Join us TODAY!** Teen Girls will walk together to the McGrew's home for a meal, short devo, and cookie decorating. Teen Guys will meet in the Youth Room for a meal, time of devo, and games! Let Claire know if you are planning to attend!

**High School Small Group** – All high school students (9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>) are invited to the youth room every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday following worship to dive deeper into the sermon scripture. Please reach out to Claire with any questions.

**Youth Sunday School** – All 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to join us for Sunday School in the Youth Room! They will be dismissed following worship during the service.

**High School Fall Retreat!** Join all 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students for a weekend away at Blue Mountain Conference & Retreat Center! October 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> will be a weekend filled with worship, impactful messages, games, and FUN! Register by Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>. For more information, please contact Claire.

**Good Soil** – Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5:30 – 10pm! Youth are invited to attend a Christian Artist concert at Manoa Community Church! It will be a great time to connect with other youth and enjoy great worship, rap, spoken word, poetry and more! RSVP by Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>. Contact Claire for more information.

**Bible Study for 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> grade** – Join us each Sunday evening from 5:30 – 7:00pm for dinner and Bible study at the McGrew home. Together we will learn how to do an inductive Bible study on the book of John. Please reach out to Abby McGrew or Ian Kauffman with any questions.

## 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.

**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 called GriefShare. 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. This is a place where you can be around people who understand the pain of your loss. The first GriefShare session will meet on **Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 8:00pm** in either the Parlor or the Chapel area and will continue into December (note that you can join at any time). It is important to register on the GriefShare website (see link in the Friday newsletter). Reach out to Alice Antonelli (arichardson1@gmail.com) or Gerri Wismer (geewis46@gmail.com) for more information about the group."

**New Bible Study: A Heart after God: Learning from the Great Prayers of the Bible** *"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."* – *1 Thessalonians 5:16-18* Together, we will examine and learn from some of the beautiful and powerful prayers in the Bible such as the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6, Luke 11), David's prayer of repentance (Psalm 51), Jesus' prayers of suffering (Matthew 26) and His high priestly prayer (John 17), Paul's prayer for the Ephesians (Ephesians 3:14-21), and Daniel's and Moses' prayers of intercession (Daniel 9, Exodus 32-34).

**Day/Time:** This will be a 5-week study (9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/3, 10/10) on Thursdays from 7:00 – 8:15pm. Women meet in the parlor and men meet in the Pastor's office.

**Questions:** Contact Lalitha Naveen (lnaveen100@gmail.com), Ken Eng (K\_Eng@msn.com), or Tim Neilson (mytn1122@gmail.com)

**Overeaters Anonymous.** 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.



## WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES

Join us on Wednesdays for a church family supper followed by the following offerings:

**Moms at the Well:** Motherhood can be challenging! For centuries, women met daily at neighborhood wells to draw water for their families, meeting a very significant physical need. But these wells were also gathering spaces, providing much-needed community and relationships. Join us this fall for a new Bible study, led by Heather Gallagher and Linda DiLullo, called *“Moms at the Well: Meeting God through the mothers of scripture”*. This Bible study offers a modern-day “well” for mothers, a gathering place to encourage one another and take an honest look at the challenges we face as moms. It also allows us to experience the God who invites us into a process of spiritual transformation. We will begin **Wednesday, September 11th from 7:00pm-8:00pm** and this study will run for seven weeks. If you are interested in attending, please email Danielle Kauffman (dkauffman@narberthpres.org). There is a book that goes along with the study so RSVP’s will help us plan well.

**Three Free Sins:** Please join us this Fall for what promises to be an eye-opening, enlightening book study of *Three Free Sins: God’s Not Mad at You*, by Steve Brown, retired Pastor and Seminary Professor. Each week we’ll be reading one (brief) chapter of this down-to-earth book, thinking about, and discussing it. We’ll have a good time and, I trust, will be encouraged to live our lives more humbly and more confidently before God, and with each other! Books will be available for a \$10 donation, or you can purchase one yourself.

**Practicing the Way:** Simon and Cindy Hauger are leading an 8-week series on Practicing the Way, a wonderful new book about spiritual formation. This series is intended to help you be more intentional on the journey of spiritual formation, help you get unstuck if you’ve stalled out, or just guide you to developing a deeper relationship with God. Simon and Cindy have been blessed by this series and are excited to share it with our larger community. If you want to learn more, you can check out the Practicing the Way website or reach out to Simon or Cindy directly (shauger@workshopu.org//215-605-6850).

**Kids Praise is Back** – PreK through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited each Wednesday night for music fun!

**Middle School Youth Group!** Each week offers games, lessons, and fun! All 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to attend and bring a friend!

# THE SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP OF ELDERS AND DEACONS

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!

## 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))

## 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))

The Nominating Committee is receiving recommendations for the offices of Elder and Deacon to begin in January 2025. 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.

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.

**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.)*

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.

**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.

# BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

## *Sunday, October 6*

8:15am Sunday School, Parlor  
9:30am **Worship Service** In-person and live-stream  
**Explorers Class** directly following the Worship Service, Parlor  
**Teen Girls/Teen Guys Kick-Off**

## *Monday, October 7*

6:15 – 7:15pm Bell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary  
6:30 – 8:00pm GriefShare, Chapel  
7:00pm PNC Meeting, Parlor  
8:00pm Overeaters Anonymous, Pastor's Office

## *Tuesday, October 8*

12:15 – 1:15pm Staff Meeting, Parlor

## *Wednesday October 9*

5:45 – 6:45 Church Family Supper, Gym  
7:00 – 8:00pm Moms at the Well, Chapel  
7:00 – 8:00pm Three Free Sins, Gym  
7:00 – 8:00pm Kids Praise, Choir Room  
7:00 – 8:00pm MSYG, Youth Room  
7:00 – 8:00pm Practicing the Way, Parlor

## *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: [jlmpsych910@gmail.com](mailto:jlmpsych910@gmail.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](mailto:office@narberthpres.org)**

CCLI # License #387124

## *Thursday, October 10*

6:30 – 8:00pm Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room  
7:00 – 8:15pm Women's Bible Study, Parlor  
7:00 – 8:15pm Men's Bible Study, Pastor's Office

## *Friday, October 11*

10:00am – 12:00pm Ladies Bible Study, Parlor

## *Saturday, October 12*

8:30 Women's Breakfast, Parlor

## *Sunday, October 13*

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

Jesus Christ, Minister

Farrar Griggs, Pastor

Cell #: (704) 239-4735

Email: [fgriggs@narberthpres.org](mailto:fgriggs@narberthpres.org)

Deborah Watson, Associate Pastor

Danielle Kauffman, Intergenerational Ministry

Claire Woods, Director of Youth Ministry

Sharon Shallow, Nursery Coordinator

Jinhee Shim, Organist

Sarah Comstock, Worship Band Leader

Linda Pilalik, Minister of Music

Matt Weed, Worship Tech. Coordinator

Tim Roykouff, 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

Larry Lubchuk, Weekend Custodian



## **On the Web:**

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