



# Narberth Presbyterian Church

March 3, 2024

# LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

March 3, 2024

Prelude

*Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart*  
Jinhee Shim, organ

*Costello*

Welcome

Pastor Farrar

Call to Worship

Jack Mahoney

The heavens are telling the glory of God.

The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

**We celebrate the steadfast love of God, our Creator.**

**Surely God is faithful to all who live in covenant.**

From the sun's rising to its setting, the creation speaks.

Day and night, earth's creatures announce God's works.

**The commandments of God are clear.**

**God's law is perfect, calling forth our best.**

God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom.

God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

**The ordinances of God are true and righteous.**

**In following them, we gain wisdom and strength.**

\*Hymn #130

*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

*Azmon*

Scripture Reading

Psalm 145:8-13

Claire Woods

\*Prayer of Confession

Pam Fleming

Father, we have come to your temple because this is your place, not ours. We confess that we sometimes forget whose home this is. We forget that all the world belongs to you as we scramble for all we can claim for ourselves. Our actions deny your love, which is at the heart of your perfect law. Our minds have justified the bending and breaking of your law to suit current trends and feelings. We cry out for forgiveness and the opportunity for a fresh start. Clear us of hidden faults and redeem us from those we recognize and confess. Amen.

\*Silent Prayer & Assurance of Pardon

*I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. —Ezekiel 36:25-26, NRSV*

## 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 Spirit, 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 sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

Introduction & Commissioning of Claire Woods, Linda Behmke  
Director of Youth Ministry

## \*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

*That Where I Am*  
*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

*Nocturne in E Minor*  
David Cai, piano

*Chopin*

## \*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

## Scripture Reading

Acts 16:9-15

Pastor Farrar

## Sermon

Laboring Outside the Gate

Pastor Farrar

## \*Hymn #776

*Let Us Break Bread Together*

*Crimond*

## 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, although we live in a broken world, we are your people and we are not broken. As we remember your death and proclaim your resurrection, help us to celebrate our unity as the people of God. Help us 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 #710

*We Are Called to Be God's People*

*Austrian Hymn*

Benediction

Pastor Farrar

Postlude

*Praeludium in A Minor*

*Bach*

Jinhee Shim, organ

Prayer Ministry

Linda Behmke

**Daylight Savings Breakfast is March 10<sup>th</sup>** – All are encouraged to attend breakfast at NPC to celebrate “springing ahead”! Eggs, Pancakes, Coffee and more! Breakfast will be served in the gym from 8:30 – 9:15am. Thank you to our youth and adult chefs!

**World Day of Prayer:** *And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.* **This Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>**, Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church will host World Day of Prayer, when our focus will be on the Christian women of Palestine. Everyone is welcome **from 11:00am – noon** at the church to join with other local believers to pray for Christians in a place of unusual difficulty and danger. We will car-pool from NPC at 10:30am. Questions? Contact Pastor Debbie (610-664-4880 x114 or [dwatson@narberthpres.org](mailto:dwatson@narberthpres.org)).

**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](mailto:claralouie@yahoo.com)) to sign up and for scholarship assistance. Registration will be closed once maximum capacity is reached.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

# PRAYER INFORMATION

## Please Remember in Prayer

**Missions: Friends on the Parkway Ministry** Each Sunday, teams of 2 or more NPC people head into the city to bring lunch and Christian friendship to some of the many people living without benefit of housing. Founded and organized by Jennifer Bonovitz and Marilyn Reed, this ministry also offers seasonally appropriate clothing, along with the lunches. Please prayerfully consider getting involved in this amazing opportunity to bless our neighbors in Philadelphia. Lunch makers, delivery people, and a new organizer are all needed. See Jennifer for details!

## INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: CHILDREN

**Family Worship is Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>** – All children and youth are encouraged to worship with their church family and participate in Communion. Worship Bags will be available for children at both entrances. Children are invited to sit with Miss Danielle in the first two pews. The NPC Nursery is available, as usual, for our youngest in RM 107.

**Girl Scout Sunday is Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>** – Our NPC Girl Scouts will host the Fellowship Table following service. This is a great time to sample your favorite Girl Scout cookie!

**Daylight Savings Breakfast is March 10<sup>th</sup>** – All are encouraged to attend breakfast at NPC to celebrate “springing ahead”! Eggs, Pancakes, Coffee and more! Breakfast will be served in the gym from 8:30 – 9:15am.

**Cross my Heart NEW Lenten Series for Children** – During Sunday School we will dive deeper into God’s great love, given to us in the person of Jesus and shown to us through Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross. We will end our Sunday School lesson each week by exploring the “Pray-ground” and discovering fun ways to pray!

**Children’s Lenten Offering** – Beginning Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> 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-5<sup>th</sup> 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.

## 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 17<sup>th</sup> through Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 – 11:30am at NPC for VBC 2024. VBC is best for those age 4 by June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 through those entering 5<sup>th</sup> grade (2024-2025 school year). Rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders through adults are encouraged to volunteer for this awesome week. Online registration for students and volunteers begins Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. Let’s get this VBC party started! Please reach out to Danielle ([dkauffman@narberthpres.org](mailto:dkauffman@narberthpres.org)) with any questions.

**Youth Volunteers needed for VBC 2024** – Mark your calendar for Vacation Bible Camp the week of Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup> – Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>! Rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders through adults are encouraged to volunteer! Online Registration begins March 17<sup>th</sup> for students and volunteers! Please reach out to Danielle ([dkauffman@narberthpres.org](mailto:dkauffman@narberthpres.org)) with questions.





## INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: YOUTH

**Meet and Greet with Claire Woods is Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>** – All youth and their families are invited to meet Claire and enjoy food and fellowship in the NPC gym directly following service on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please note that Teen Girls and Teen Guys will not take place this Sunday.

**Family Worship is Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>** – All children and youth are encouraged to worship with their church family and participate in Communion. Please note that Confirmation Class and Sunday School will not meet. Both resume next Sunday!

**Daylight Savings Breakfast is March 10<sup>th</sup>** – All are encouraged to attend breakfast at NPC to celebrate “springing ahead”! Eggs, Pancakes, Coffee and more! Breakfast will be served in the gym from 8:30 – 9:15am. Thank you to our youth and adult chefs!

**High School Youth Group** – HS Youth Group is set to meet Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> in the Youth Room from 7:00 – 8:00pm.

**Middle School Youth Group** – All 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to Youth Group each Wednesday at NPC from 7:00 – 8:00pm. We meet in the Youth Room for games, devotional, and fellowship.

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

# ALL-CHURCH RETREAT

ALL-CHURCH RETREAT – NEW BEGINNINGS!

We are FULLY BOOKED!



What a blessing our retreat rooms are fully booked. If you would like to be added to the waiting list OR if you are interested in attending on Saturday only, please reach out to Danielle (dkauffman@narberthpres.org). There are limited spots for the Saturday Only option.

Our All-Church Retreat takes place on Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup> in beautiful Sandy Cove, MD. **Rev. Jane Filkin will be our speaker!** Full payment is due April 1, 2024. This retreat is great for ALL AGES!

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.

**Rev. Jane Filkin** is the Director of Leadership Development & Spiritual Formation at Eastern University's Campolo Center for Ministry and the Founder of BETWEEN Life Coaching. Jane's passion is to encourage, develop, and equip others to be who God has made them to be and do what God has called them to do. She is an ordained ECO pastor and has served in pastoral ministry for 20 years. Jane holds a Master of Divinity from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and a degree in Sociology and Education from UC Berkeley as well as an Advanced Certificate in Life Coaching from the American Association of Christian Counselors and a Certificate in Resilient Leadership from The Seattle School of Theology and Psychology. Jane loves to be outside, have a house full of kids, take long walks, journal, and prepare and share good food.

## 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 18<sup>th</sup>

**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

**New Bible Study: A study of the Book of Acts**, which promises, "*you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses . . . to the ends of the earth.*" Upon Pentecost the Holy Spirit revolutionized the faithful, created the early church, and began to disrupt and transform the world. Acts documents the power of God working in and through his people in ways that were impossible until then. Join us in the Parlor on the **1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of each month from 9:30 – 10:30am beginning February 17<sup>th</sup>**. Reach out to Rob Wray (robwrayofpa@verizon.net) for more information.

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES

**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).

**Encounters with Jesus** – Join us as we look all throughout the Bible for where and how Jesus appears in surprising and even amazing ways. Imagine yourself there with him, hearing what he says and seeing what he does, right there in front of you. What do you learn about Jesus that you didn't know before, and what does that tell you about what God is really like and how to love him even more? Come have these encounters with us in a 10-week class in the Parlor or on Zoom. Led by Mark Wenger.

**Kids Praise** – Children (PreK-5<sup>th</sup> grade) are encouraged to join us for a time of music fun! Thank you to Linda Pilacik for leading this energetic time!

**Middle School Youth Group** – All 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> 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 3**

*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent*

8:15am Sunday School, Parlor

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

Introduction & Commissioning of Claire Woods, Youth Director, during the service

Meet & Greet Luncheon for youth/parents with Claire Woods, Gym

## **Monday, March 4**

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

8:00pm Overeaters Anonymous, Pastor's Office

## **Tuesday, March 5**

12:15pm Staff Meeting, Parlor

7:00pm Deacons Meeting, Parlor

## **Wednesday, March 6**

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

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

7:00 – 8:00pm Encounters with Jesus, Mark Wenger, Parlor.

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

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

## **Thursday, March 7**

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 8**

1:30pm Ladies Bible Study, Parlor

## **Saturday, March 9**

8:30am Women's Breakfast, Parlor

8:30 – 9:30am Kids' Basketball, Gym

## **Sunday, March 10**

*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent*

8:15am Sunday School, Parlor

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

8:30 – 9:15 Daylight Savings Breakfast, Gym

7:00 – 8:00pm Youth Group, Youth Room

## **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](mailto:ilmpsy910@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)**

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## **On the Web:**

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Jesus Christ, Minister

Farrar Griggs, Pastor

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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 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, Dir. of Preschool

Chris Marinelli, Weekday Custodian