



# Narberth Presbyterian Church

May 4, 2025

# LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

May 4, 2025

Prelude

*Dearest Jesus, We are Here*

*Bach*

Jinhee Shim, organ

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Debbie

Call to Worship

**Psalm 73:25-26**

Brint Nicolai

Surely God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart.

**But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold.**

For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

**Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand.**

You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory.

**Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you.**

**My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.**

Hymn #52

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

*Ellacombe*

Opening Prayer

Pastor Debbie

Scripture Reading

**Philippians 1:12-26**

Ann Saddle

Prayer of Confession

We so easily sing your praises when all is going well in our lives. We presume your blessing, Lord, in the pleasant things of life. When life becomes difficult, even painful, for no reason we can imagine, we tend to question your concern for us, and even despair. Forgive us when we forget you, and your faithful presence with us in all the ups and downs of life. Speak to us by your Spirit, through the words of scripture, and the people around us, reminding us, encouraging us, strengthening us to face each day with hope in you. We ask in the name of Jesus, who is our hope, amen.

Silent Prayer & Assurance of Pardon

The 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.**

## The Peace

### Worship Songs

*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

*Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

*Spirit of the Living God*

David Baker, vocals & guitar

### Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Debbie

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

#### Offertory

*Children's Medley*

*arr. Hayes*

Jinhee Shim, piano

### Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

#### Scripture Reading

Philippians 1:27-30

Zach Snyder

#### Message

When the Way Is Not Clear – What Then?

Pastor Debbie

### Invitation To Communion

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, eternal God, creator and ruler of the universe.

**With the majesty of your hand you shaped this world and all that is in it. By your Holy Spirit, you breathed life into human form, and set us on the earth to praise and serve you.**

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. In all he did and said, he announced the coming of your saving might. By his death on the cross and rising from the tomb, he broke the power of sin and death and led the way to eternal life.

**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.**

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,**

**Christ is risen,**

**Christ will come again. Amen.**

Sharing The Bread And The Cup  
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn #555                      *More Love to Thee, O Christ*

Benediction    Pastor Debbie

Postlude                                      *Allegro Maestoso*                      *Mendelssohn*  
Jinhee Shim, organ

Prayer Ministry    Simon Hauger

**TODAY is Family Worship!** - Children (K – 5<sup>th</sup>) are encouraged to worship with their church family and participate in Communion. Worship bags are available in the Narthex and the NPC Nursery is available for infants through PreK in RM 107.

***Where Friends Gather - 2025 All-Church Retreat!*** Our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual retreat is taking place this weekend in beautiful Sandy Cove, MD! Please keep our retreat in your prayers.

**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. Dates and Time TBD. To sign up or for more information please contact Sara Mahoney in the church office.

**All-Church Picnic is Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>** – Join us beginning at 1:00pm for our annual All-Church Picnic at Springton Reservoir Picnic Pavilion (1071 Media Line Road, Newtown Square). All are welcome! Please look for a registration link soon or contact Danielle (dkauffman@narberthpres.org) to RSVP.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Men's & Women's Bible Studies:** Join us for an eight-week Bible study on the "I AM" statements in the Gospel of John! Discover the profound truths and promises of Jesus as He reveals His divine identity through these powerful declarations. Whether you're new to Bible study or a seasoned participant, this series will deepen your understanding of Christ's mission and love. All are welcome!

**When:** Thursdays **starting March 20<sup>th</sup>**, from 7:00 – 8:15pm (excluding Easter week)

**Where:** Men's Bible Study – Copy Room; Women's Bible Study – Church Parlor

**For More Information:** Men's Bible Study – contact Ken Eng (K\_Eng@msn.com) or Tim Neilsen (mytn1122@gmail.com); Women's Bible Study – contact Lalitha Naveen (lnaveen@temple.edu)

**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 specifically address topics and issues for those who are grieving the death of a loved one. This is a place where you can be surrounded by people who understand the pain of your loss. GriefShare meets on **Mondays from 6:30 – 8:00pm** in the Parlor into June (note that you can join at any time). It is important to register on the GriefShare website & there is a \$20 registration fee to participate. Contact Alice Antonelli (arichardson1@gmail.com) or Gerri Wismer (geewis46@gmail.com) for more information about the group

**Parkway Ministry:** Jennifer Bonovitz is working at full steam again, loving our neighbors and regularly checking the blue bins outside the Windsor doors. The needs are great. All donations of canned goods, pasta, and toilet paper are greatly appreciated!

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAMMING

**Introduction to Biblical Interpretation:** Who wrote the Bible -- human beings or God? Does the Bible contain errors? Who decided to include only these 66 books? What went on between ancient oral traditions and our modern-day Bible? Why are there many versions and translations? How do we bridge the historical, cultural, and linguistic gap between us and the world of the text? Who determines the meaning of the text -- the author or the reader? How about the role of the Holy Spirit? Considering these questions will help us respect the complexity of the Bible, follow sound interpretive guidelines, and deepen our desire to read God's word with curiosity, discernment, and reverence. This class is primarily taught via Zoom, with a viewing option set up at church. Please email Diane (dianegchen@gmail.com) for the Zoom link and/or recording for each class.

## PRAYER INFORMATION

### Please Remember in Prayer

**Missions: Amoenitas (Scott Todd)** provides professional technical assistance with technologies and techniques to help organizations, usually those in the non-profit sector, and frequently those motivated by faith, to identify, analyze and understand key factors that can be optimized, reoriented or improved to balance, strengthen and sustain healthy systems, as they do their work that intersects faith, science, business, education, environment, industry, government and community. Please pray for Scott's flourishing, and that of the work he does to help organizations become even stronger and healthier as they serve the common good in this world.

## INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: CHILDREN

**We Go Together! *How to be a Good Friend*** – Join us in Sunday School as we shine our light for Jesus and learn about being a friend like Jesus. Our new curriculum begins Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Bible Buddy** – Children's Ministries is launching a summer Bible reading program called "Bible Buddy". The goal is to encourage our youngest to foster a love for God's Word. During Sunday School everyone will be adopting a stuffed animal of their choice, naming it, and receiving a summer reading plan. More details and date(s) are coming soon!

**Save the Date for Moving Up Sunday** – On Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, rising second graders will receive new Bibles, we will recognize our current fifth grade students, and we will celebrate our high school seniors at the front-part of worship. Mark your calendar and stay tuned for more details.

**LIVE IT OUT! VBC 2025!** – Mark your calendar for these dates: ***Tuesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> (3:00 – 5:00pm) through Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup> (9:00 – 11:30am on Wed, Thurs, Fri) for NPC's VBC!*** This summer children will experience camp excitement with Bible-based learning that will inspire them to follow Jesus! VBC is best for those age 4 (by June 1) through rising 5<sup>th</sup> graders (2025-2026 school year). Students and Volunteers can register online at the church website today!

## INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: YOUTH

**Meet the Pastor Night and Dinner! Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup>** – All current high school students (9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>) are encouraged to join us in the Youth Room on Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 7:00pm. **Chipotle** will be served for dinner! Pastor Mark is excited to get to know you and revive the high school youth. **High School Sunday School will relaunch Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>!** Reach out to Pastor Mark ([mgende@narberthpres.org](mailto:mgende@narberthpres.org)) if you have any questions.

**Service Opportunity with The Welcome Church!** On Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup> we will be making snack bags during Sunday school to take to Center City! Following service, we will grab a piece of pizza and head to Logan Square for a time of worship & service for our homeless neighbors in the city! We will leave at 1:45pm and return to NPC by 4:30pm. Hope to see you there!

**Confirmation Sunday – Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>** Join us in helping to celebrate our students as they complete confirmation class and are welcomed into membership at NPC!

**Youth VBC Volunteers** – Rising 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders (2025 – 2026 school year) are encouraged to volunteer for VBC! Online Registration opens on March 24<sup>th</sup>. You can find the link on the church website or look for an email from Danielle. We hope to see you there!

# BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

## **Sunday, May 4**

8:15am Sunday School, Parlor

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

## **Monday, May 5**

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

6:30 – 8:00pm GriefShare, Parlor

8:00pm Overeaters Anonymous, Chapel

## **Tuesday, May 6**

12:15 – 1:15pm Staff Meeting, Parlor

## **Wednesday, May 7**

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

7:00 – 8:00pm Introduction to Biblical

Interpretation, Zoom/Parlor

7:00 – 8:00pm Personal Finance, Copy Room

## **Thursday, May 8**

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

## **Friday, May 9**

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

## **Saturday, May 10**

9:00am Women's Breakfast, Parlor

## **Sunday, May 11**

8:15am Sunday School, Parlor

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

6:00 – 7:00pm Youth Meet the Pastor Night, 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: [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

Jesus Christ, Minister

Mark Gende, Senior Pastor

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 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, Director of Preschool

Chris Marinelli, Weekday Custodian

Larry Lubchuk, Weekend Custodian



## **On the Web:**

[www.narberthpres.org](http://www.narberthpres.org)

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