

LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

December 14, 2025

Prelude *Fantasia on "Veni Emmanuel"* Rowley
Jinhee Shim, organist

Welcome & Announcements Pastor Debbie

Call to Worship Hebrews 1:1-3a Isabel Lally

Hymn #187 *Jesus, Come! for We Invite You*

Opening Prayer Pastor Debbie

Scripture Reading 1 Samuel 3:3b-10 Katie Kennedy

Lighting the Third Advent Candle (JOY) The Higgins Family

Psalm 100 William, Kachiu, Alexandra, William & Parker

Declaration of Joy:

"The ransomed of the Lord shall return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away." Lord, fill us with your joy. In Jesus' Name. Amen. *Isaiah 51:11*

The Peace

Choir Presentation Linda Pilacik, director, Jinhee Shim, piano

*Hymn #171 *Hark ! the Herald Angels Sing (v1)*

*Hymn #162 *The First Noel, the Angel Did Say (v1)*

All The Stars Shone Down Lightfoot
Children's Choir, Pam Fleming, violin

O Little Bethlehemtown McDonald
Children's Choir and NPC choir

Who Is This Child Gallina

*Hymn # 164 *Silent night! Holy Night! (v1)*

Christmas Day in the Morning Shackley
Emil Pilacik, trumpet

*Congregation joins in

Children & Youth dismissed to Sunday School

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Pastor Debbie

Passing of Friendship Pads & Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Intermezzo in A Major, op 118, no 2

Brahms

Jesse Morris, piano

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading

Colossians 1:15-20, 3:1-4,12-17, 4:17-18

Diane Chen

Message

Undercover Boss

Pastor Debbie

Hymn #146

Joy to the World! the Lord Is Come

Antioch

Benediction

Pastor Debbie

Postlude

Toccata on "Creator Alme Siderum"(from Advent Suite)

Yon

Jinhee Shim, organist

Prayer Ministry

Maria Kaminstein

An Update from Session to Our Church Family

Dear Church Family,

We are grateful for all who participated in the peacemaking classes this past weekend. It was encouraging to see so many members of our church family learning together and engaging deeply with biblical tools for navigating conflict. These practices are an important part of our ongoing work of reconciliation, and we are thankful for the spirit of openness and hope that continues to grow among us.

Please keep the Session in prayer as we meet on Tuesday, December 16th. Our leadership coaching partners, Rev. Dori Little and Rev. Bill Enns, will join us once again as we continue working through several important priorities for our church, including next steps in engaging a transitional pastor. We will also be discussing the proposed 2026 church budget as we look ahead to the coming year with discernment and trust in God's provision.

We remain thankful for your prayers and your faithfulness in this season. The Lord is guiding us, and we walk forward with hope.

With gratitude in Christ and love for you,
The Session of Narberth Presbyterian Church

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES AND EVENTS

Sunday November 30

First Sunday in Advent

9:30am Worship Service: Join us as we light the candle of Hope.

Sunday December 7

Second Sunday in Advent

9:30am Worship Service: Join us as we celebrate communion & light the candle of Peace.

Guest Preacher: Erik Larsen

Monday December 8

6:30 – 8:30pm GriefShare Surviving the Holidays Event, Parlor

Wednesday, December 10

6:30pm Gingerbread Bash! This is a fun, hands-on Christmas event where we build gingerbread nativities, hear the Christmas story, and discover the life-changing gift of God's Son, Jesus. **RSVP to Danielle by November 30th.**

Thursday December 11

11:30am Christmas Luncheon & Carol Sing: All ages are welcome to join us in the Parlor for this annual event which is sure to get you in the Christmas spirit!

Sunday December 14

Third Sunday in Advent

9:30am Worship Service: Join us as the Choir presents an intergenerational presentation of scripture and music & we light the candle of Joy.

Thursday December 18

11:00am Pre-School Christmas Pageant, Sanctuary

Sunday December 21

Fourth Sunday in Advent

9:30am Worship Service: Join us as we experience the Christmas Story through the **Annual Children's Christmas Pageant** at the end of the Worship Service. We will also light the candle of Love.

Guest Preacher: Steve Weed

Wednesday, December 24

Christmas Eve

4:00pm Children's Candlelight Service This shorter service is designed for families with young children. Battery-operated candles will be used to conclude the service.

5:30pm Candlelight Service

8:00pm Traditional Candlelight Service (live streamed)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Update on Giving and a Year-End Appeal

Finance Committee has been working consistently to determine the year-end expected financial position of Narberth Presbyterian Church. Within that comes appreciation for the extraordinary giving that the members and friends of this church have provided throughout 2025. Still, it bears the question, where are we and where will we end up? Right now, accounting for what we know about what has already been spent and received combined with responsibly looking forward at anticipated expenses and gifts in the remainder of 2025, it is projected that we will end 2025 with a deficit of approximately \$200,000 or about \$50,000 less than projected when Finance Committee updated the Congregation on 11/30. The reduction in the projected deficit is immensely appreciated!

Year-end figures remain fluid, particularly for the giving side of the equation. If a member or friend feels the Holy Spirit leading them toward making an additional gift or stock donation, the deficit may be less. Sharing this information is in no way meant to nudge one to give more than their financial circumstances responsibly allow. Please keep the Session in your prayers when they have their regularly scheduled meeting this Tuesday. Among other items on the Docket will be finalizing the NPC budget for 2026.

Submitted by the NPC Finance Committee, Jim Hoffman Treasurer, Ruth Ellen Patterson and Tim Roykouff, Finance Committee members.

Christmas Flowers: During the month of December, the Chancel and Sanctuary is again fully decorated for Christmas. The poinsettias will be displayed on the 14th. After morning worship on **December 21st**, the poinsettias will be delivered to members and friends of the congregation to say **WE LOVE YOU!**

The Memorial Plants will be **\$12.00** each. This is a lovely way to remember loved ones, and to add to the congregation's enjoyment of the season. Please complete the form below and return it to the church office as soon as possible. Thank You! **Please make checks payable to Narberth Presbyterian Church.** Dedications will be listed in the bulletin December 21st. Dedications must be received by December 18th to be included in the bulletin.

Forms are available in the Narthex and at the Windsor Street entrance if you would like to dedicate and/or deliver a plant. Please contact the church office with any questions.

Notes from Justice & Mercy: What a busy month! Rather than being busy with holiday shopping, wrapping, mailing and parties, folks along the Parkway are busy finding places to stay warm, getting food, and finding clothing suitable for all the winter weather events. Ilonka Comstock and her team faithfully minister to these dear ones in all kinds of weather, but they need help! Can you make 30 sandwiches? Can you drive to the park across the street from the Franklin Institute after church on Sunday? You can choose the week you want to serve, as frequently as your schedule allows. Please pray for more helpers and consider becoming one yourself!

PRAYER INFORMATION

Please Remember in Prayer

Missions: Music helps us give expression to our experiences of life, and God's faithfulness throughout life. Technology can help that expression to be communicated more beautifully. Our worship today, including the Choir, is live-streamed, and every week, Jinhee Shim, Linda Pilacik, Dave Baker, all our musicians and worship leaders, are supported and broadcast by Matt Weed and the Tech Team. Please pray for the music and technology ministries to continue to offer and facilitate the good news of God's love – at Christmas time – and all year!

Hugh Barrie, Chris Marcelli, and Larry Lubchuk, faithfully clean and maintain the building. Joyce, our Bookkeeper, keeps our accounts accurate, making sure that both bills and staff are paid, and Sara Mahoney shares herself and her amazing gifts of administrative expertise and so much more with the rest of the staff and congregation, welcoming all who enter the building. This week, please pray the Lord's ongoing blessing of provision and encouragement for our support staff.

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: CHILDREN & YOUTH

Kids Praise and Adult Choir Concert is December 14th – Kids Praise singers are thrilled to participate in the annual NPC Christmas Choir Concert! Following the musical selections children and youth will be dismissed to Sunday School as usual.

The Journey to Bethlehem – Our NPC Nursery will recreate the excitement all those years ago waiting for the promised Savior! Join us as we journey to Bethlehem and enjoy a special angel craft with Miss Sharon and team.

Children's Advent Calendars – Get your family's Advent Calendar from Danielle!

Gingerbread Bash – Thank you to the 32 children that made this year's "Bash" extra special! A special thank you to the volunteers for your love, support, and cutting out all those nativity characters! God is Good!

Christmas Pageant 2025 – Join our children and youth as they bring the Christmas Story to life on Sunday, December 21st in the sanctuary. This year we will enjoy ***"A Nostalgic Christmas"*** as we look back at our pageants from the past 7 years! Come and see how love has grown at NPC!

Pajama Sunday is Sunday, December 28th – Hey kids, wear your favorite pajamas to church on Sunday, December 28th! During Sunday School we will watch a Christmas movie and enjoy breakfast popcorn!

MS & HS Sunday School Sunday, December 14th – All youth (6th – 12th) are invited to the youth room for Sunday School, led by Andrew Steenholf. Please note: youth will not have Sunday School next Sunday, December 21st but all are encouraged to worship with their church family as Pastor Steve brings us God's Word!

BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, December 14

Third Sunday in Advent

8:15am Adult Sunday School, parlor

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

Intergenerational Choir Presentation

Monday, December 15

6:30 – 8:00pm GriefShare, Parlor

8:00pm Overeaters Anonymous, Chapel

Tuesday, December 16

12:15pm Staff Meeting, Parlor

7:00pm Session Meeting, Parlor

Wednesday, December 17

Wednesday Night Programming has ended for 2025 and will resume on Wednesday, January 14, 2026.

Thursday, December 18

11:00am Preschool Christmas Pageant, Sanctuary

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

7:00 – 8:15pm Men's Bible Study, Copy Room

Friday, December 19

10:00am – 12:00pm Ladie's Bible Study, Parlor

Saturday, December 20

Sunday, December 21

Fourth Sunday in Advent

8:15am Adult Sunday School, Parlor

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

Children's Christmas Pageant at the end of the Worship Service

Guest Preacher: Steve Weed

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

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

CCLI # License #387124

Church Staff

Deborah Watson, Associate Pastor

Danielle Kauffman, Intergenerational Ministry

Sharon Shallow, Nursery Coordinator

Jinhee Shim, Organist

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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