



# Narberth Presbyterian Church

March 15, 2026

# LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

March 15, 2026

**Prelude**

*Benedictus*

*Rowley*

Jinhee Shim, organist

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Brinton Nicolai**

**Call to Worship**

**Mark 9:31-34**

**Emmy & Bennett Davis**

**Hymn #29**

*O Worship the King*

*Lyons*

**Opening Prayer**

**Pastor Debbie**

**Scripture Reading**

**Psalm 98**

**Maureen Russell, Preschool Teacher**

**Prayer of Confession**

**Katie Kennedy**

Almighty, Eternal God, you see us, you know us, and even though we are not perfect or powerful, you love us and give our lives purpose. Forgive us, merciful God, for sometimes we rank others' worth on the basis of how powerful or important they seem to be, and we miss the blessings you have placed in "little people," including children. Remind us that every person, including the youngest and least powerful, has an important part to play in your story. Give us open eyes and hearts to welcome your work in and through them. We ask in the name of your Son, who became small for us, and changed the world, including ours, for good! Amen.

**Silent Prayer & Assurance of Pardon**

**Preschool & Teacher Introductions**

**Virginia Davis, Preschool Director**

**Preschool Parent Testimony**

**Susie Stout**

**The Peace**

**Worship Songs**

*Goodness of God*

*I Will Follow*

*Is He Worthy*

NPC Worship Band

*Children & Youth dismissed to Sunday School*

**Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer**

**Pastor Debbie**

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

**Offertory**

*I Call to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ*

*Bach*

Jinhee Shim, organ

**Doxology and Prayer of Dedication**

Scripture	Mark 9:33-37	Brinton Nicolai
Message	Learning from the Kids...	Pastor Debbie
Hymn #52	<i>I Sing the Mighty Power of God</i>	<i>Ellacombe</i>
Benediction		Pastor Debbie
Postlude	<i>Allegro agitato</i> Jinhee Shim, organist	<i>Callaerts</i>
Prayer Ministry		Linda DiLullo

**Today is Preschool Sunday!** Please give a warm welcome to our NPC Christian Preschool teachers, students, and families! We will hear more about this important ministry from Virginia Davis (Preschool Director), and all children will sing at the Benediction.

### *Holy Week & Easter Services*

#### **Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, Palm Sunday**

9:30am Worship Service

*Sunday School for children and youth will meet as usual.*



#### **Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>**

Special Time of Prayer at 7:00pm in the Chapel led by Jan Kennedy & Linda Behmke. Regular Wednesday night programming will resume on April 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 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.

#### **Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, Good Friday**

12:00 noon 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, April 5<sup>th</sup>, EASTER Morning**

7:30am Sunrise Service (held in the courtyard or the Gym, weather permitting)

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: This is Family Worship Sunday where Children & Youth will remain in the Sanctuary to worship and receive communion with their families. The NPC Nursery will be available for infants through Pre-K. Children's Worship Bags will be available.*

# LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

Welcome to Week 4 of our Lenten journey. This week's title is *The Week of Witness*, where we are anchoring our reflections in Acts 1:8. We are particularly excited to share that this week's devotion was written by one of our own high school students. This perspective reminds us that the power of the Holy Spirit is alive in every generation, inviting all of us, young and young at heart, to bear witness to God's love. May these words encourage you to recognize the power of the Holy Spirit in your own life and inspire you to be a witness in your corner of the world this week.

## The Week of Witness – Acts 1:8

### The Lenten Witness

Written by: Ian Kauffman

It is easy to focus on what we can understand and control. However, God calls us to look beyond what is seen and trust the work of His Spirit. The disciples and we are far too often an example of focusing on earthly deities. Even after being first-hand witnesses to the miraculous work of Christ, the disciples turn away children to maintain their appearance (Matthew 19:13), debate who among them is the most Holy (Luke 22:21-24), and abuse Jesus to maintain power and status (Matthew 16:21-23). In all of these, the disciples replace God with a finite, corrupted idol. Acts 1:6 is a further example of this. Prior to Jesus' ascension, the disciples ask, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

Jesus' response to this question is one we should base our lives upon. Jesus states, "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Our task is not to understand what God has planned for this world, but to hold fast to our faith in Him. Faith can be challenging, as it requires our trust while resisting the temptation of anxiety. We keep our trust anchored in this redemptive love God has shown us. As sinners, we can be redeemed by grace through faith. Jesus calls us to share this message "to the ends of the earth" in verse 8, witnessing the truth of God's love for us.

During this season of Lent, may we be witnesses to the eternal trust we hold in God and the plan He has for us.

### Prayer:

*God, I come before you professing, I do not fully understand your plans for me. As the disciples, I have grasped to regain control over the future and replaced my trust in you by doing so. Please forgive me. I ask that you guide me to your grace and truth for my future. Give me boldness to share your name to the ends of the earth out of love for you. Amen.*

## PRAYER INFORMATION

### Please Remember in Prayer

**Missions: The Welcome Church**, in Philadelphia, is a church without walls. Pastors Violet Little (a Lutheran) and Schaunel Steinnagel (a Presbyterian) lead the congregation and volunteer clergy, as together they proclaim the hope and love of our gracious God to all people, and especially those experiencing homelessness in the city. Please pray for this congregation to grow strong in the blessing of God, as they seek to share that blessing on the streets and in the parks of Philadelphia in these challenging days of violence and uncertainty.

**Notes from Justice and Mercy: The Orphan Care Ministry at NPC** has partnered with 2 groups to heed God's call in Isaiah 1:17. "Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow." **Safe Families for Children** aims to prevent children from entering foster care by practicing biblical hospitality, generosity, and compassion to struggling families. **Well Rooted** works to support foster parents, reunifying biological families, and youth who have aged out of the foster care system. Val Foley has volunteered with each of the ministries described above and is a wealth of information for any questions you might have.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

On **Easter morning, April 5<sup>th</sup>**, our sanctuary will be filled with the beauty and fragrance of spring flowers. You may dedicate a plant as a memorial to loved ones or simply to express your joy in God's love. 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. 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.

**Amnion Fund Raiser:** During the month of March, we will be holding Amnion's *Make a Change for Life* baby bottle fundraising drive. There are baby bottles available in the chapel area of the church to take home and fill with loose change, dollars, and/or checks. You can return the bottles to the church over the next few weeks in the box located in the chapel area. Amnion is also looking for donations of diapers, wipes, baby shampoo, baby clothes, diaper bags.

**Board Game Nights at NPC** – Mark your calendar & get your “game” face on! Join us for fun, fellowship & board games on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month at 6:30pm in the Parlor. Bring a snack to share and your favorite board game. Children are welcome but must remain in the Parlor. Reach out to Dee Knight ([deedleskni9@gmail.com](mailto:deedleskni9@gmail.com) // 484-620-4157) with any questions. **Next Game Night: March 20<sup>th</sup>.**

**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. This is a place where you can be around people who understand the pain of your loss. The first session will meet on **Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 8:00pm** in the Parlor and will continue into June (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](mailto:arichardson1@gmail.com)) or Gerri Wismer ([geewis46@gmail.com](mailto:geewis46@gmail.com)) for more information about the group.

**JaM Brunch – Rescheduled:** The new date for the Justice and Mercy brunch is April 26<sup>th</sup>, following worship. Enjoy a lovely meal and hear from the JaM Advocates.

**2026 All-Church Retreat! *Only a few rooms remain!*** Join us May 1<sup>s</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> at beautiful Sandy Cove, MD for our 4<sup>th</sup> annual All-Church Retreat! **Speaker to be announced soon.** Pricing sheets are available in the Chapel or please reach out to Danielle with any questions. You can reserve your spot with \$100 deposit by check, cash or online option. Please use 2026 Spring Retreat in the dropbox online. Balance is due by April 26<sup>th</sup>.

## INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: CHILDREN & YOUTH

**Mashup! New Sunday School Series** – Beginning Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> our Sunday School children will begin a new series that makes the connection between the Easter message and the Christmas story. Join us as we gain new insight into the truth that Jesus came as a baby but grew into a man who laid down his life to save us.

**Save the Date for Kingdom Kids! VBC 2026!** Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> (5:00 – 7:00pm), Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup> (9:00am – 12:00pm), Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup> (9:00am – 12:00pm). Online registration for students and volunteers begins March 22<sup>nd</sup>. VBC is best for age 4 (by June 1<sup>st</sup>) through rising 5<sup>th</sup> graders (2026 – 2027 school year). Reach out to Danielle for more details!

**Middle School & High School Sunday School** – Sunday School is more than just a class; it's a space to connect, explore big questions, and find a community. All 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to meet us in the Youth Room. This week Andrew Steenhof will be leading Youth Sunday School.

**Only a Few Spots Left! NPC Christian Preschool registration for the 2026-2027 school year is open!** Our preschool offers two-day, three-day and five-day options for children aged 21 months to pre-kindergarten. To receive more information as well as the link to register, please reach out to director Virginia Davis at [preschool@narberthpres.org](mailto:preschool@narberthpres.org) or 610-664-8890.

### Wednesday Night Programming

**NEW Wednesday Night Class beginning March 11<sup>th</sup> – Images of Salvation:** God talk is more effective and identifiable when expressed in imagery and motif rather than in abstract propositions. We talk about God in terms of things we experience in mundane life. In the New Testament, what it means to be saved is explained in day-to-day images. We will consider some of these in this course, exploring themes such as covenant, regeneration, redemption, reconciliation, justification, citizenship, and holiness. This class will meet via Zoom with a viewing option available in the Parlor. Please email Diane Chen at [dianegchen@gmail.com](mailto:dianegchen@gmail.com) for the Zoom link or the recorded video of each class.

**This week: “The Last Passover”** Filmed in Jerusalem, Ray Vanderlaan teaches about the night Jesus shared the Passover Seder with his disciples. Come learn about its deep meaning – for them, and for us. **Next week: “The Fifth Cup – Our Way of Hope”** Join us for a Bible Study filmed at Gethsemane, in Jerusalem, to think deeply about the cup, about which Jesus asked his Father, and that “night of watching,” when Jesus watched alone, and his disciples fell asleep.

**Kids Praise** – All children (PreK – 5<sup>th</sup> grade) are invited to Kids Praise each Wednesday night from 7:00 – 8:00pm in the choir room. We sing, play music games, and have a lot of fun! Kids Praise will be singing on Easter Sunday!

**Middle School Youth Group** – All 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to attend Youth Group. We meet every other Wednesday from 7:00 – 8:00pm in the Youth Room. Mark your calendar for: March 25<sup>th</sup> and April 8<sup>th</sup>.

# BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

## *Sunday, March 15*

### *Preschool Sunday*

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

## *Monday, March 16*

6:30 – 8:00pm GriefShare, Parlor  
8:00pm Overeaters Anonymous, Chapel

## *Tuesday, March 17*

12:15pm Staff Meeting, Parlor  
7:00pm Session Meeting

## *Wednesday, March 18*

5:45 – 6:45pm Church Family Supper  
7:00 – 8:00pm With God in the Desert, Chapel  
7:00 – 8:00pm Images of Salvation, Parlor & Zoom  
7:00 – 8:00pm Kids Praise, Choir 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)

## *Thursday, March 19*

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

## *Friday, March 20*

10:00am – 12:00pm Ladies' Bible Study, Parlor  
6:30pm Board Game Night, Parlor

## *Saturday, March 21*

## *Sunday, March 22*

8:15am Adult Sunday School, Parlor  
9:30am **Worship Service** In-person and live-stream.  
**Guest Preacher: Ken Green**

**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

### **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:**

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

[twitter.com/narberthpres](https://twitter.com/narberthpres)

[facebook.com/narberthpresbyterian](https://facebook.com/narberthpresbyterian)