

LORD'S DAY OF CELEBRATION

April 5, 2026

Prelude

Thine is the Glory
Jinhee Shim, organist

arr. Blair

Welcome

Debbie Watson

Call to Worship

Johnny Boyd

Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen Indeed!

The stone is rolled away, and we are perplexed.

The grave cloths are lying in the tomb, and we cannot fathom what has happened.

Can the words of the angels be true?

Dare we believe the Good News of resurrection?

Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen Indeed!

Hymn #234

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Easter Hymn

Opening Prayer

Debbie Watson

Scripture Reading

Matthew 28:1-8

Tim Henry & Caity Henry

Prayer of Confession

Katie Kennedy

Gracious God, You raised Jesus from the dead, and he lives today! Even if we know and embrace this marvelous truth, often we fail to recognize you, Lord, in our everyday lives, because we become distracted, and focused on ourselves. Forgive us and refocus our attention, so that we see and celebrate you, Almighty God, and your Risen Son, as you come to us and remain with us, every step of life's journey. We pray in Jesus' life-giving, life-changing name. Amen.

Silent Prayer & Assurance of Pardon

The Peace

Intergenerational Choir Presentation

Linda Pilacik, director
Jinhee Shim, piano

Songs from *The Risen Christ* Getty/Townend

The Risen Christ

Evan Doane & Fin Kauffman, soloists

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

NPC Choir

The Power of the Cross

NPC Choir

Risen For Me Killian/Scott

Kid's Praise

See, What a Morning

NPC Choir & Kid's Praise

In Christ Alone

NPC Choir & Kid's Praise

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Brint Nicolai

Passing of Friendship Pads & Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Crown Him with Many Crowns

setting, Raney

Linda Pilacik & Jinhee Shim, piano duet

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Scripture

Luke 24:1-12

Jeff Snyder

Message

Have I Got a Story for You!

Pastor Debbie

Hymn #243

Christ Is Alive!

Truro

Benediction

Pastor Debbie

Postlude

Toccata from Symphony No. 5

Widor

Jinhee Shim, organist

Prayer Ministry

Mark Wenger

EASTER FLOWERS



In Loving Memory Of:

My dear friends: Joyce Lewis, Jim
Kirkpatrick, Norm Johanson, Addy
Brown, & Bill Wismer
My beloved husband (& stepfather), Joe

My beloved parents (& grandparents),
Bill & Peggy Richardson
My Dad, Richard
Dearly loved family & friends
Husband, Tom
Son, Thomas
My Bill

By:

Alice Antonelli

Alice Antonelli
Grant & Maddy Fisher
Alice Antonelli
Grant & Maddy Fisher
Diane Chen
Isabel Lally
Joey Nangle
Joe Nangle
Gerri Wismer

For God's continuing love & grace:

By:

The Todd Family
Gerri Wismer

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

Welcome to the final entry of our Lenten devotional series, *The Week of Waves*. Today, on this glorious Easter Sunday, we drop anchor in the miracle of the empty tomb. We are especially honored to share this reflection from a voice so many of you hold dear, the same beloved pastor who will be guiding us through our upcoming church retreat in just a few short weeks, Pastor Farrar Griggs. Our scripture for this morning comes from Mark 16:6: “Don’t be alarmed . . . You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen!” May this message of hope wash over you today.

The Week of Waves – Mark 16:6

He Is Risen – Mark 16:6

Written by: Farrar Griggs

Lent. A time of prayer and fasting. Six weeks plus four days. Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday. Wilderness, whispers, wonders, witness, washing, waiting, waves. The “w’s” of our Lenten season take us from the nothingness of beginning through the agony of the crucifixion, and on—on to the miracle of the Resurrection.

All the Synoptics record it, as does John in his own unique way. Matthew, Mark and Luke say the same: “*He is not here. He has risen.*” John’s gospel gives Mary the words. An encounter, the first with our risen Lord. It is His voice, not her eyes, that make her “see.” And she flies to the disciples to utter: “*I have seen the Lord.*”

When I was younger, I spent the better part of two years at sea. My world consisted of waves. Waves that had to be crossed. Waves that threatened me. Waves that carried me. They became both enemy and friend. They taught me to be diligent, to remain ready. That our companions are not always our friends. That our destination may be on the other side of our vision.

The waves of this Lenten season, from wilderness to wonder, have washed over us to give us revelation, revelation from all our senses that He is, indeed, not in some tomb sealed away from us, but very much alive. And like Mary, He waits patiently for us to “see” Him. Have you—seen the Lord? He is here—among us. And in this, we have hope, hope in the ancient sense: the *expectation* of what is here--and what is to come. He is risen!

Prayer:

Father, we thank you. Jesus, we see you. Holy Spirit, we feel you. Help us to be creatures of the Way, your way, to see you in others, to thank you by giving of ourselves, to feel you in our heart of hearts, to be in you as you are in us. Today, tomorrow, and forever.

PRAYER INFORMATION

Please Remember in Prayer

Missions: Cornerstone Christian Academy is a co-educational, independent Christian school, offering a full academic program for students in K – 8th grade. Cornerstone’s faculty, staff and volunteers have served the children and families of Southwest Philadelphia since 1988. Their vision is to be a model urban Christian school where students are grounded in faith, shaped with Christ-like character, and equipped with knowledge & skills to excel in high school, college, & throughout life. Please pray for the adults of Cornerstone Christian Academy to live their faith so that the children see Christ in them, are drawn to, and inspired to follow him, too.

Notes from Justace and Mercy: Our Parkway Ministry is “humming right along”, in the words of Ilonka Comstock, its hard-working leader. This is due to the addition of some faithful new workers and the participation of the Saturday Women’s Breakfast working as a team preparing all the sandwiches for the next day’s Parkway Ministry. Maybe your ministry or small group would like to participate in this way. Working together makes it fun! The church kitchen may be available for your group to work, and the Parkway refrigerator can store all the supplies and sandwiches. Ask the office if the kitchen is available when you’d like to use it and talk with Ilonka about signing up to help. Please pray for our visits with these folks who are financially challenged to cover the increasing costs of necessities. We want to encourage them by providing some of the necessities for their physical health, but also for their spiritual health.

SESSION UPDATE

An Update from Session to Our Church Family

Dear Church Family,

We are grateful to share an exciting and important update in the life of our church family. After a season of prayer, discernment, and interviews, the Session unanimously voted to call a Transitional Pastor to serve our congregation.

We are pleased to announce that Rev. Dr. Jason Hsu has accepted this call and will be joining us early this summer as our Transitional Pastor. Jason brings nearly 20 years of ministry experience, having served as a Lead Pastor in multiple congregations, guiding churches toward growth, health, and deeper spiritual formation.

Throughout his ministry, Jason has worked closely with church leadership to discern vision, develop leaders, strengthen discipleship, and care well for congregations -- including helping create environments of healing for those who have experienced hurt in the church. His leadership is marked by integrity, servant-heartedness, and a commitment to clear communication and unity.

In this role, Jason will help guide our church through this season of transition—supporting our leadership, strengthening our ministries, and preparing us well for the future. We are grateful for God’s provision in bringing us a leader well-suited for this important work.

Please join us in praying for him and his family as they prepare to begin this new chapter, as well as in provision for their housing, and please pray for our congregation as we continue to walk forward together in faith, unity, and hope.

We praise God for this joyful news, and we look forward to sharing more about Jason in the coming weeks!

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join Us for Adult Bible Study on Acts on Thursday nights! We're excited to invite you to our upcoming Bible study on the **Book of Acts** — the story of the early church, the Holy Spirit, and the spread of the gospel to the ends of the earth. Whether you're new to Bible study or have been reading Scripture for years, all are welcome. Come ready to meditate on and be inspired by God's Word and to grow in community. We meet Thursday nights starting April 9th. Women meet in the parlor and men in the copy room. Contact Susanne Morrison or Ken Eng with any questions.

Women's Fellowship Breakfast is Saturday, April 11th – Join us for a special women's breakfast as we gather for a *Moment for Mission*. We'll enjoy a morning of food and fellowship while hearing powerful stories from Julie Fernandez about her recent medical mission trip to Africa. Reach out to Danielle Kauffman (dkauffman@narberthpres.org) or Sara Mahoney (smahoney@narberthpres.org) with any questions.

Board Game Nights at NPC – Mark your calendar & get your “game” face on! Join us for fun, fellowship & board games on the 3rd 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 // 484-620-4157) with any questions. **Next Game Night: April 17th.**

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. GriefShare meets on **Mondays 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) or Gerri Wismer (geewis46@gmail.com) for more information about the group.

All-Church Retreat 2026 Retreat! Get ready for a transformative experience! We are absolutely thrilled to announce that our 2026 All-Church Retreat speaker will be **Pastor Farrar Griggs**. Our theme for the weekend is *Journey of Faith* where we will explore what it means to Abide, Prune, Call, and Witness. This retreat will be a pivotal moment for us to gather, reflect, and get equipped for the road ahead. Our retreat is fully booked, but if you would like to be put on the waiting list please reach out to Danielle.

Jobs available at NPC: The Session and Personnel Committee are pleased to announce that we have begun to actively recruit for 2 part-time positions. We are seeking a **Contemporary Music Coordinator** to lead our worship music and coordinate special music opportunities. Additionally, we are seeking a **Weekend Custodian** to keep the building clean and ready for worship and other activities. If you or someone you know might be interested in either of these positions, please check the church website for job descriptions and/or reach out to Linda Behmke, Personnel Committee Chair.

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: CHILDREN

Family Worship on Easter Sunday – Sunday, April 5th is Family Worship where children (1st grade through 5th grade) worship with their church family. The NPC Nursery is available for younger children as usual. Sunday School will resume next week.

2026 VBC Kingdom Kids! Registration is Open! Use the links in the Friday Newsletter to register your student or youth for NPC's VBC. Join us on Wednesday, June 17th (5:00 – 7:00pm), Thursday, June 18th (9:00am – 12:00pm), Friday, June 19th (9:00am – 12:00pm). VBC is best for age 4 (by June 1st) through rising 5th graders (2026 – 2027 school year). Volunteers are needed to make our days fun and safe! All rising 6th through 12th grade (2026 – 2027 school year) are encouraged to volunteer. Adults who are volunteering must have clearances on file in the church office prior to June 17th. Reach out to Danielle for more details!

Kids Praise – All children (PreK – 5th 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!

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS: YOUTH

Youth Office Hours: Our Youth Director, Chris Rini, will be hosting his next "office hours" on 4/19 from 10:30am – 12:00pm. This is a dedicated time for all to come to talk, question, hang out, or anything in-between. Chris will be in his office, next to the Youth Lounge, following service. All are welcome.

Youth Reps Wanted: The Youth Committee is looking for a middle school & high school representative to attend monthly meetings and provide a voice to their respective cohorts, whose opinions and suggestions are greatly appreciated. For more information, or to volunteer, please reach out to Chris (crini@narberthpres.org).

Youth Meeting: Middle School and High School students are encouraged to come out and meet Chris on Sunday, **April 12th, from 6:00 – 7:30pm**. This will be a time to provide input on what you would like to get out of our Youth Program. Food will be provided and all youth are welcome.

Parent Meeting: Parents of youth are encouraged to attend a meeting on **Sunday, April 19th**, immediately following service in the Parlor. This will be a time for parents of current and prospective youth to provide their input about what they would like their youth to get out of our Youth Program. For more information, reach out to Chris.

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, reach out to director Virginia Davis (preschool@narberthpres.org // 610-664-8890).

WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAMMING

Join us for a church family supper starting at 5:45pm followed by the following offerings which begin at 7:00pm:

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 (dianegchen@gmail.com) for the Zoom link or the recorded video of each class.

Beginning April 15th: With All Your Heart takes us to the desert to learn with the Israelites how to trust in God fully, rather than in ourselves. Everyone is welcome to this next series of studies filmed on location in the Negev and taught by Dr. Ray VanderLaan.

Kids Praise – All children (PreK – 5th 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!

Middle School Youth Group – All 6th, 7th, and 8th 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: April 8th and April 22nd.

2026 CHURCH OFFICERS

THE SESSION

Deborah Watson – Moderator

Class of 2026

Diane Chen

*Brinton Nicolai

Mark Wenger

Clara Louie

Class of 2027

Susan Costantino

*Jim Hornung

Katie Kennedy

Ashley Reed

Class of 2028

*Linda Behmke

Jim Hoffman

Andrew Steenhoff

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2026

Lorraine Hoffner

Rick Plummer

*Gerri Wismer

Class of 2027

Gaby Anik

Kevin Cope

Suzanne Morrison

Class of 2028

Cheryl Gunter

Faithe Hornung

*Karen Pappas

*Ann Sattel

Shiang-Ju Steenhoff

* serving second term

BUILDING DISCIPLES IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST

Sunday, April 5

Easter Sunday

7:30am Sunrise Service, Courtyard, weather permitting

8:15am Easter Breakfast, Gym

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

Monday, April 6

Holiday – Church Office Closed

6:30 – 8:00pm GriefShare, Parlor

8:00pm Overeaters Anonymous, Chapel

Tuesday, April 7

12:15pm Staff Meeting, Parlor

7:00pm Deacons Meeting, Parlor

Wednesday, April 8

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

7:00 – 8:00pm Images of Salvation, Parlor & Zoom

7:00 – 8:00pm Kids Praise, Choir Room

7:00 – 8:00pm MSYG, Youth Room

Thursday, April 9

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

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

Friday, April 10

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

Saturday, April 11

10:00am Women's Breakfast, Parlor

2:00pm Memorial Service for Joyce Lewis with reception following

Sunday, April 12

8:15am Adult Sunday School, Parlor

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

6:00 – 7:30pm Youth Meeting, 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

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

Chris Rini, Youth Ministry Leader

Sharon Shallow, Nursery Coordinator

Jinhee Shim, Organist

Matt Weed, Worship Tech. Coordinator

Tim Roykoff, 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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