



**A Service of Lessons & Carols
5:00 PM
Christmas Eve, 2023**

Newtown Square Presbyterian Church
3600 Goshen Road
Newtown Square, PA 19073
610.356.8063
www.newtownsquarepres.org

NEWTOWN SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CHRISTMAS EVE 2023
5:00 PM

PRELUDE:

Sing We Now of /God Rest Ye Merry Arr. Brant Adams
Gentlemen (Trad. French & English)
Jerry Schauer, Trombone & Ting Ting Wong, Piano

O Come, All Ye Faithful (Adeste Fideles) Arr. Jason W. Krug
Handbell Choir

Angels, We Have Heard on High Arr. Richard Walters
(19th Century French Carol)
Majalisa FritzHupsen & Brynn Terry - Duet

Angels we have heard on high	Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,	Gloria in excelsis Deo.
And the mountains in reply	Come to Bethlehem and see
Echoing their joyous strains	Him whose birth the angels sing;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.	Come, adore on bended knee
Shepherds, why this jubilee?	Christ the Lord, the newborn King
Why your joyous strains prolong?	Gloria in excelsis Deo!
What the gladsome tidings be	

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive):

Tonight we come into the presence of our Emmanuel, God with us.

***For the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those
who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.***

God sent Jesus to us from God's very self, to be born in the flesh, and to live
and reign among us.

That his glory would be revealed to us and show us the way to new life.

O come all ye faithful! Come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

***CAROL:** 133 *Adeste Fideles*
"O Come, All Ye Faithful" (Verses 1-3)

THE PRAYER OF ADORATION:

Loving God, on this holy night we gather to stand with shepherds, amazed at your glory; to sing with angels, rejoicing in your work; to wait with Joseph, trusting in your promise; to sit with Mary, cradling your love. May the good news of this night inspire us to tell the world of our great joy; for to us is born a Savior, the Messiah, Christ the Lord. Glory and praise to you forevermore! Amen.

SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

THE MESSIAH'S BIRTH IS FORETOLD

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The people who walked in the darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

ANTHEM:	Good Christian Men, Rejoice (Traditional, German) <i>NSPC Singers</i>	Arr. Alice Parker & Robert Shaw
----------------	---	------------------------------------

Good Christian men, rejoice
With heart, and soul, and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: News! News!
Jesus Christ was born to-day:
Ox and ass before Him bow,
And He is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today.

In dulci jubilo (in sweet rejoicing)
Nun singet und seid froh!
(Now sing and be glad!)
Unsers Herzen Wonne (Our hearts' joy)
leit in praesepio (in the manger),

Und leuchtet als die Sonne
(And shines in the Sun)
Matris in gremio: (in his Mother's lap);
alphas es et O, alphas es et O. (Thou art Alpha
and Omega).
Good Christian men, rejoice,
With heart, and soul, and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy!
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath ope'd the heav'nly door,
And man is blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for
this!

*CAROL: 121	<i>St. Louis</i>
"O Little Town of Bethlehem" (Verses 1 & 4)	

THE ANGEL GABRIEL GREETES THE VIRGIN MARY

Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end. Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God. Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

ANTHEM: Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Arr. Michael Larkin

Traditional German Hymn

NSPC Singers

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming,
As men of old have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The Rose I have in mind;
With Mary we behold it,
The virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
She bore to men a Savior,
When half spent was the night.

THE PROPHECY IS FULFILLED

Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and

who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

ANTHEM:

Silent Night

Franz Grüber,
Arr. Dan Forrest

NSPC Singers

Silent night, holy night
All is calm, all is bright.
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child
Holy infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy Holy face

With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus Lord, at thy birth
Jesus Lord, at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night
Wondrous star, lend thy light,
with the angels sing
"Alleluia" to our King:
Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born!"

THE SHEPHERDS' SIGN

Luke 2:8-14

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

***CAROL:** 119

Mendelssohn

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

ANTHEM:

Angels, We Have Heard on High
Gloria – French Carol
Handbell Choir

Arr. Jacob B. Weber

THE SHEPHERDS GO TO BETHLEHEM

Luke 2:15-20

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

***CAROL:** 114

Cradle Song

"Away in a Manger" (Verses 1 & 3)

ANTHEM:

Mary, Did You Know?

Lowry, Greene
Setting by Jack
Schrader

Trio: Meg Hess, Cheryl Koch, & Brynn Terry

Mary, did you know that your baby boy
Would one day walk on water?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy
Would save our sons and daughters?
Did you know that your baby boy
Has come to make you new?
This child that you delivered, will soon
deliver you
Mary, did you know that your baby boy
Will give sight to a blind man?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy
Will calm the storm with his hand?
Did you know that your baby boy
Has walked where angels trod?

When you kiss your little baby
You kiss the face of God
The blind will see, the deaf will hear
The dead will live again
The lame will leap, the dumb will speak
The praises of the Lamb
Mary, did you know that your baby boy
Is Lord of all creation?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy
Would one day rule the nations?
Did you know that your baby boy
Is heaven's perfect Lamb?
That sleeping child you're holding is the
great, I Am

THE WISE MEN ARE LED BY THE STAR

Matthew 2:9-11

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY:

O Holy Night

Adam

Brynn Terry, solo

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
'Til He appear'd and the soul felt its worth
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn
Fall on your knees; O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born
O night, O holy night, O night divine!
Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His gospel is peace
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother
And in His name all oppression shall cease
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we
Let all within us praise His holy name
Christ is the Lord; O praise His name forever!
His power and glory evermore proclaim
His power and glory evermore proclaim
O night, O holy night, O night divine

THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS

John 1:1-5, 9-12, 14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

CAROL: 122

Stille Nacht

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

**Please light your candle (switch is on the bottom) at the beginning of the second verse. (Carol is on insert)*

A PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS

***CAROL:** 134

Antioch

“Joy to the World” (Verses 1-4)

A CHRISTMAS BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Arr. Joel Raney

Traditional, Spiritual

Joann Mitchell, Flute

SPECIAL THANKS

Guest Singers this evening: Majalisa FritzHuspen & Erik Potteiger

NSPC singers: Meg Hess, Cheryl Koch, Jerry Schauer, & Brynn Terry

Handbell Choir Members: Courtney DiPersia, Rebecca DiPersia, Meg Hess, Keely Fraser, Cheryl Koch, Joann Mitchell, & Brynn Terry

Instrumentalists: Jerry Schauer & Joann Mitchell

USHERS:

Grant Snyder, Capt.; Chris Barmes, Allen Corle, Rich Digby, Joe Marchesani

READERS:

Jerry Schauer, Jen Gries, Rich Digby, Buff Biddle, Jacki and Doug Tase, and Jeanne Thomas

December 31st Service: 10 AM – Family Friendly ZOOM Service

“Going Home by Another Way”

Jeanne Thomas, Preaching

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86170342623>

Meeting ID: 861 7034 2623

Passcode: 331343





Poinsettias 2023

Sally & Glenn Bechtold
Kevin & Brynn Bechtold

George Bortle
Ginni Condo
Lynne & Allen Corle

Geoff & Joyce Cudd

Joyce & Geoff Cudd

Marge DeYoung
Rich Digby
Michael Digby
Denise Digby Cox
Nancy Gingras
Crystal & Rob Gray

Dolores Hart
Brad & Heather Impriano

Marisa Jacobs
Margot Jones

Pam Lounsbury

The Lynch Family
Barb Nicolardi

In memory of our parents
In honor of Sue & Bob Bechtold; in
memory of the Bechtolds & Johnstons
in heaven

In memory of Lois J. Bortle
In memory of my dear husband, Al
In honor of our 5 grandchildren; in
memory of our parents
In memory of Geoff's mother, Olga
Cudd

In memory of Joyce's parents, Gertrude
& Jim Peterson

In memory of loved ones
In memory of Susan Micki Digby
In memory of Grant Allen Digby
In memory of Spencer Bartley Cox
In honor of my mom, Margie Conway
In memory of Crystal's mother,
Deborah Barber-Jones; and in memory
of Rob's parents, Marie & Reginald,
and his brother Bill

In memory of Homer & Shirley Hart
In honor of our parents and in memory
our grandparents

In memory of my grandparents
In honor of Rev. Dr. Jeanne Thomas;
with gratitude for my devoted doctors
and nurses; in memory of loved ones
In honor of NSPC's leaders of our
many strong programs, inviting to
members of all ages

In memory of Marcia & Joe Heumann
In honor of Holly, Anthony, Liz, &
Jack

Judi Niggeman & Family

Luann Picard & Susan Mixsell

Christine Robertson-Stokes

Tieg & Len Rustam

Len & Tieg Rustam

Dave Sampson & Nancy Zanine

Kathy Saybolt

Karen & Jim Shea

Toni Sichel

Rich & Carolyn Suchan

Doug & Jacki Tase

Jeanne & Jim Thomas

Tara, Tracy, & Tami Videon

The Villano Family

Rick & Debbie Weiss

Marian Wellington

Women's Ministry Board

In memory of Jack Niggeman, with love

In memory of Joseph C. Mixsell, Jr.

In memory of Richard Stokes

In memory of Karen Hummel

In memory of Lena & Nimrud Lazar

In memory of Kathleen Sampson & Catherine Carr

In memory of my parents, Ray & Edith Ridge

In honor of Ting Ting & our choir; in memory of Robert Blessinger

In memory of my husband, Len Sichel

In honor of the Suchan and Hadley families

In memory of Tana & Jack Almond, and Jean & Dick Putnam

In memory of Bill & Charlotte

Gearhart, and Jay and Bob Thomas

In memory of Carol Guest's parents and her husband, Frank

In memory of Fred & Theresa Villano and Ron Hill

In memory of loved ones

In memory of John R. Wellington, Jr.

In honor of Ginny Berman, who leads our PW committee with great energy & enthusiasm to bring the women of the church together

The two large poinsettias prominently displayed in the front of the chancel are in honor of members of our church family who are in our hearts and prayers but who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis. We thank them for the love that they continue to show NSPC.

Church Officers:

SESSION/BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Moderator: The Rev. Dr. Jeanne Thomas

Class of 2023

Chris Barmes
Ginny Berman
Joe Marchesani
Jerry Schauer

Class of 2024

Sue Bechtold
Lynne Corle
Siobhian Robinson
Debbie Weiss

Class of 2025

Rebecca DiPersia
Joe Falcon
Jim Shea

BOARD OF DEACONS

Moderator: Nancy Gingras

Class of 2023

Ed Arraya
Nancy Gingras
Stacey Kucera
Karen Shea

Class of 2024

Nicolle Arraya
Sara DiGirolamo
Jennifer Gries
Debbie Villano

Class of 2025

Betsy Bender
Rich Digby
Robbyn Marchesani
Barbara Nicolardi

To Give to NSPC:



Office Hours:

*Office Closed
December 25th – January 2nd*



In Ministry Together at Newtown Square Presbyterian Church:

Pastor.....	The Rev. Dr. Jeanne Thomas
Parish Associate	The Rev. Dr. Nancy Holt Timothy
Director of Music	Ting Ting Wong
Director of Youth & Family Ministry	Meg Hess
Church Office Manager.....	Heather Impriano
PreK-2nd Sunday School Teacher	Paige Fiore
3 rd -6 th grade Sunday School Teacher	Brad Kohlhepp
Nursery Attendant	Jeannette Giovanetti
Sunday School Superintendent.....	Nancy Gingras
Co-Director, NSPC Preschool.....	Jane Fioravanti
Co-Director, NSPC Preschool.....	Meghan Kazanjian
Clerk of Session	Buff Biddle
President, Board of Trustees	Jim Shea
Moderator of Deacons.....	Nancy Gingras
Co-Treasurer	Dave Sampson
Co-Treasurer	Heather Impriano
Head Usher.....	Grant Snyder
The Sacristy Guild of St. Martha	Carol Guest
Presbyterian Women	Ginny Berman

Plus...all the members of NSPC

Church Contact Information:

Church Phone:	610-356-8063
Rev. Thomas (cell):	610-368-1637
Ting Ting Wong (cell):	412-608-5588
Meg Hess (cell):	508-843-0008
Rev. Thomas e-mail:	jeannethomas@comcast.net
Ting Ting Wong e-mail:.....	ttwong827@gmail.com
Meg Hess e-mail:	nspcyouth@gmail.com

**Newtown Square Presbyterian Church
3600 Goshen Road, Newtown Square, PA 19073
610.356.8063 ~ nspc3600@gmail.com
www.newtownsquarepres.org**