



“And Mary gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger...”

(Luke 2:7)

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

December 24, 2023
Family Worship & Christmas Eve Pageant
10 AM

For reflection and prayer:

“Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.’”-Mark 19:14

PRELUDE: Gruber

“Silent Night”

Ting Ting Wong, piano

Trevor Hill, soprano saxophone

Luke Hill, trumpet

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

Worship begins with God. God takes the initiative and calls us into being. In the name of Christ, we heed God’s call and assemble as the community of faith.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST WELCOMES US TO WORSHIP

INTROIT: *traditional Spiritual/ Work*

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

Courtney DiPersia and Grace McCarry, Soloists

The Children of NSPC

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive):

We believe in God, who promised to send a Messiah.

For unto us a child is born.

We believe God loves and guides us, just as God led Mary and Joseph to the manger.

For a child has been born to us, a son given to us.

Authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful
Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Let us worship God together.

*** CAROL: 133** *Adeste Fideles*
“O Come, All Ye Faithful” (verses 1 and 4)

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE:

The Candle of Love

Stephen, Aurelie, Jenna, and Lydia Baradic

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING RESPONSE:

Advent Candle Blessings.....Wallace

Brynn Terry, Soloist

The fourth Advent candle is the candle born of Love.

In His love and mercy He saves us.

And when He calls us to the feast, His banner over us is peace.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Silent and in Unison):

Gracious God, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, into the world to be
our light and our salvation. Yet, we confess that we shut our eyes to
your light, dazzled by the glitter and tinsel instead. Forgive us, O
God, and ignite the Spirit with us, that we might share your gifts of
peace and love with all people. For we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Responsive):

God so loved the world that he gave us his only son, that whoever
believes in him would not perish, but have everlasting life.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***GLORIA PATRI: 581**

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

According to the Gospel of Luke

INTRODUCTION:

This morning, our sanctuary is transformed into the stable where we reenact the ancient drama of Christ's birth. In our singing, we become one with the heavenly choir and proclaim the 'good news of great joy which shall be to all people.' When our Lord comes in search of lodging, this time he finds welcome in the inn of our hearts.

God is in this place, and He is eager to speak to each of us through the music of the carols and the joyous proclamation of his word. Please join us in singing the carols printed in your bulletin.

THE FIRST LESSON.....Luke 1:26-35, 38

THE SECOND LESSON Luke 2:1-7

CAROL: 119 Mendelssohn
"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" (verse 1 and 3)

THE THIRD LESSONLuke 2:8-14

INTERLUDE: Mueller

"Away in a Manger"

Courtney DiPersia, Soloist

Ting Ting Wong, Piano

American Sign Language, The Children of NSPC

THE FOURTH LESSON.....Luke 2:15-16

Anthem:Handel/Watts Arr. McMichael
"Joy to the World"

Hand Chimes: Carmen Arraya, Daniel Bennett-Jones,

Courtney DiPersia, Luke Hill, Trevor Hill, Alexa Hill, Grace McCarry

CHRISTMAS CALL TO OFFERING:

As the magi brought Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, so we dedicate to God our Christmas offerings.

Offertory:*Lowry, Greene/ arr. Schrader*
“Mary Did You Know?”
Brynn Terry and Courtney DiPersia, soloists

OFFERTORY PRAYER (Responsive):

Faithful God, you came that we might have life and have it more abundantly.

These gifts we give are just a symbol of the gifts you have given to us in Jesus, our Savior.

Take and use these gifts to build up your kingdom on earth.

Transform our hearts and help us become your hands and feet in the world around us. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

***CAROL: 151**.....*Kings of Orient*
“We Three Kings of Orient Are” (verse 1)

A UNISON PRAYER OF THANKS:

Generous God, on this holy night you gave us your Son, Jesus Christ, our Emmanuel. We thank you for living with us and showing us how to live faithful lives. Give us peace and joy so we may find the one for whom we have waited: Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CAROL: 122.....*Stille Nacht*
“Silent Night, Holy Night” (verses 1-2)

BENEDICTION

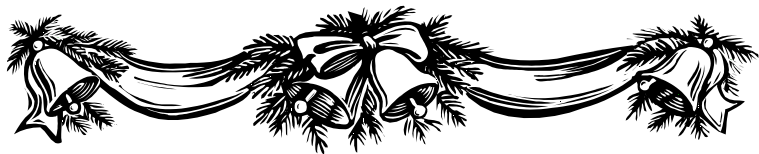
Silent Night Reprise

(During the reprise, please remain in the sanctuary until pageant participants have exited. Parents may pick up their children in the gathering room following the postlude. Thank you.)

POSTLUDE*Handel/ arr. Wolaver*
“Joy to the World”

*** Congregation standing, as able**

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE



Tonight: 5:00 P.M. Service of Lessons & Carols

**Sunday, December 31: 10:00 A.M. Service of Worship on
Zoom**

Monday, December 25-Monday, January 1: Church Office Closed





2023 PAGEANT PARTICIPANTS:

Readers:

Courtney DiPersia, Luke Hill, Trevor Hill,
Noah Kazanjian, and Emilia Falcon

Mary and Joseph:

Alexa Hill and Daniel Bennett-Jones

Gabriel:

Carmen Arraya

Angels:

Avery Andress, Natalie Andress*, Jenna Baradic, Lydia Baradic,
Emily Cuccia, Gabrielle DiGirolamo, Maren Falcon*, Helen Hess,
Sadie Kazanjian, Grace McCarry, Sarah McCarry, Riley Rustam,
Catalina Scarafone, Chiwa Vokhiwa

**denotes Lead Angel*

Shepherds:

Michael Andress, Danny Arraya, Christopher Bennett-Jones, Michael
Bennett-Jones, Ryan Cuccia, Rocco DiPersia*, Benjamin Kazanjian,
Nico Pupo, Dante Pupo, Declan Richards, Remy Rustam,
Thanthwe Vokhiwa

**denotes Lead Shepherd*

Magi:

Natalie Andress, Sadie Kazanjian, Grace McCarry

Backstage Support:

Nicolle Arraya, Lillie Falcon, Scott Hess, Meghan Kazanjian,
Abigail Kucera, and Emily Kucera



A Very Special Thank You to:

Nicolle Arraya, Aurelie Baradic, Sara Cuccia, Rebecca DiPersia,
Meg Hess, Scott Hess, Jen Hill, Meghan Kazanjian, Beth McCarry,
Joann Mitchell, Javvieaus Stewart, Rev. Jeanne Thomas, Brynn Terry,
and Ting Ting Wong

Join us (from wherever you are!)

*Our regular 10 AM worship service on Sunday, December 31st will
take place on Zoom!*

Join Zoom Meeting:

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

Meeting ID: 861 7034 2623

Passcode: 331343





NSPC Weekly

December 24, 2023

The NSPC congregation extends a warm welcome to those who are visiting with us today. If you are in search of a new church home, we invite you to make that home with us. Please check the appropriate column on the pew pad if you would like to visit with the pastor or would like more information about the church. Include your phone number and/or email address. Please join us for light refreshments and fellowship in the Gathering Room following the service.

Ushers: Jim Shea, Capt; Jessica Servano, Terri McCarthy

Acolyte: Katie Smitheman

Acolyte Guide: Jane Fioravanti

Fellowship Host: Jennifer Gries

Give to NSPC:



SAVE THE DATE: January 28, 2024

Annual Meeting of the Congregation



Following worship on January 28, 2024, there will be an annual meeting of the congregation in the Gathering Room. We will enjoy lunch and fellowship together before hearing a recap of 2023! More details to follow in a bulletin insert in early January. Come and hear the highlights of 2023 and the goals and objectives for 2024. ***We are all a part of what makes this congregation such a wonderful community of faith!***

Announcements



As Christmas nears and we prepare to celebrate the Perfect Gift, Jesus Christ, let us all adopt an attitude of gratitude. Through our annual Joy Offering, we give thanks to current and retired church workers and their families in need. These gifts help individuals remain in their homes, afford assisted living or long-term care as well as provide financial aid in times of difficult, unforeseen circumstances. These pastors and other church workers have devoted their lives to serving their communities of faith, and it is up to us to help them when they find themselves in need. The Christmas Joy Offering has been a Presbyterian tradition since the 1930's. Please use the Joy Offering envelopes you will find in the pew racks to make your contribution; write "Joy Offering" in the memo line of your check. Please give whatever you can; for when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot. This week is the final week for our Joy Offering!



RISE AGAINST HUNGER FUNDRAISER ORDER FORM

OUTBACK STEAK HOUSE DINNER CARDS

Please join us in selling the Outback Steak House \$25 cards to friends and family. Return this form and \$25 per card sold to the Bechtolds, Corles or Church Office.

Checks should be made out to NSPC with RAH Outback in the memo.

We will get the cards to you upon receipt of the money.

I would like to order \$25 card(s) for the Outback Steakhouse in Springfield for use January 1 - 28, 2024:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

of cards: _____



Children & Youth Announcements



Here is our current Sunday Youth Group Schedule:

• **DECEMBER 31st:** *Worship on Zoom; Youth in Worship*

- **JANUARY 7th:** Back to Basics Bible Study Part 1
- **JANUARY 14th:** Back to Basics Bibles Study Part 2
- **JANUARY 21st:** *Youth in Worship*
- **JANUARY 28th:** Topic TBD

Youth Group is having a New Year's Party!

Underground church, good food, and presents!

When can you come?! Let Meg know so we can get planning!

- January 5th 7-9
- January 6th 7-9
- January 7th 5-7
- January 12th 7-9



Kids in preschool and kindergarten can come to First Friends!

Our first meeting for 2024 is January 7th from 11:15-12PM!

We are going to learn a new song, do a craft and have a **DANCE PARTY!**

Parents are welcome, but not required!



Kids in 1st thru 5th grade can come to Kid's Group!

Our next meeting will be on January 14th from 11:15-12PM... and we are having another messy, fun day!



We are going to usher in our year by celebrating EVERYONE's Un-birthday with a cake decorating contest and service project for kids who need help celebrating their *real* birthdays! Please RSVP to Meg by 1/10 to let her know you are coming!

BASKETS, PRIZES, AND HELP WANTED!

The Youth and Family Commission, together with our youth group, will be hosting a Bingo night on February 18th! More details to come, but we are looking for donations of themed gift baskets for prizes! Let Meg know ASAP if you can help us make this night a success!



Look for our camera icon on the bulletin board in the gathering space! The pictures around it are photos we are no longer displaying from past youth and family events. If you see kiddos you love smiling at you, feel free to take the picture(s) home! **Our current collection of pictures will be cleared in 2024, with new ones being added monthly as we make new memories!**

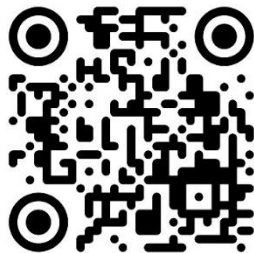


We are going to have such a busy, happy year and we don't want you to miss a thing! Our Facebook and Instagram pages will be filled with all the good things that are happening, so make sure you follow us! Don't remember how to find us? We have new QR codes to make it easy for you! Scan and click follow!

For Facebook:



For Instagram:



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

In Ministry Together at Newtown Square Presbyterian Church:

PastorThe Rev. Dr. Jeanne Thomas
Parish Associate..... The Rev. Dr. Nancy Holt Timothy
Director of Youth and Family Ministry Meg Hess
Director of Music..... Ting Ting Wong
Church Office ManagerHeather Impriano
Pre-K – 2nd grade Sunday School Teacher Paige Fiore
3rd-5th Grade Sunday School TeacherBrad Kohlhepp
Nursery Attendant..... Jeannette Giovanetti
Co-Director, NSPC PreschoolJane Fioravanti
Co-Director, NSPC PreschoolMeghan 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 UsherGrant 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
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Ting Ting Wong (cell):.....412-608-5588
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