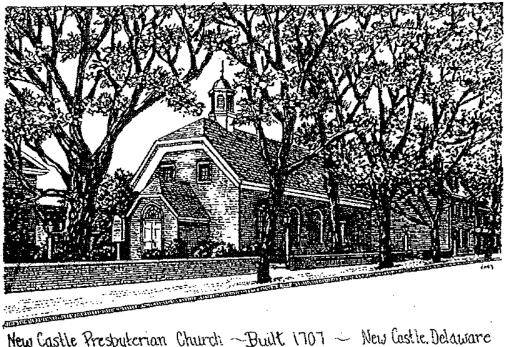
# New Castle Presbyterian Church

25 E 2nd Street, New Castle, DE 19720

Phone: (302) 328-3279 I Email: office@newcastlepreschurch.org www.newcastlepreschurch.org



# **Our Mission**

New Castle Presbyterian Church offers a nurturing and supportive church community where all are welcomed to join in prayer and song, study and service as all are called to demonstrate understanding, compassion, and acceptance.

By God's Spoken Word and Holy Spirit, we seek to live out the Gospel of the Risen Christ, as we grow spiritually, in strength, and with inclusiveness. We worship God in simplicity and with clarity; we study God's Word to direct our lives; and we nurture the young and the searchers in our midst.

As a congregation and in cooperation with others, we engage in service and outreach with the local community and the world. We work to feed, clothe, and shelter our brothers and sisters while sharing the selfless and forgiving love of Jesus Christ.

As we have been blessed, we seek to use all that we have to bless others with this good news of grace and joy.

# Welcome to New Castle Presbyterian Church!

Whether you are worshiping with us in-person or joining via livestream, we gather today as a community of faith, seeking and serving the God we know in Jesus Christ. May this worship service remind you that you are God's own and that together we are called to live out God's way of love, justice and peace.

# For folks joining us for in-person worship,

A little help - Please see an usher to receive any assistance, including a personal seat cushion.

**Restrooms** are located in the Education Building, at the far end of the Fellowship Hall.

**Sunday School and Nursery will be offered today.** Children are invited to begin in worship; worship bags are available at the entrance. Following the Scripture Conversation, babies through four-year-olds may go to nursery; children age Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade may go to Sunday School. All children must have an information form on file. Please see an usher for a copy of the form or if you have any questions. If your family needs to step out of the Meeting House for a time, there is a livestream feed and "pray ground" in the Fellowship Hall.

At the end of worship, please join us for Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall.

**Worship "code":** \* = please stand if able **bold** = all speak together

# **Gentle Reminders:**

Please turn off all cell phones.

Parking spaces on 2nd Street in front of the Meeting House are for <u>handicapped parking only</u>.

Please put your bulletins in the blue recycle can at the door as you leave – we recycle!

**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Pastor Miriam's day of rest is on Mondays.

# New Castle Presbyterian Church Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 8, 2024

10:30 a.m.

# GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

**Come, Christians, Join to Sing** arr. Becki Slagle Mayo Bethany Faiz - Piano

# Welcome & Words about The Life and Work of the Church Greeting of Peace

As Jesus greeted his disciples, so let us greet one another: The peace of Christ be with you!

#### And also with you!

Please wave at your neighbors and extend Christ's greeting, "Peace be with you".

#### Steeple Bell Choral Introit

## **Call to Worship**

Trust in the Lord, who made heaven and earth. **Trust in the Lord, who loves every part of creation.** 

Trust in the Lord, who cares for those in need.

Trust in the Lord, who leads us to do the same.

Trust in the Lord, who keeps your going out and your coming in. **Trust in the Lord, and let us worship God with gladness.** 

#### \*Hymn #26

**Earth and All Stars!** 



This lively text was written for the 90th anniversary of St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. Echoing Psalm 98, it is a prime example of a 20th-century hymn style based on phrases rather than complete sentences. The exuberant tune was created expressly for these words.

#### **Call to Confession**

## **Prayer of Confession**

You tell us, O Lord, who may abide in your presence, who may dwell on your holy hill: Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and who speak the truth from their heart.

And yet, O Lord, we do not walk blamelessly. So often we stumble on the path of faith. The truth makes us nervous, and we pretend not to know what is right.

Have mercy, O God. Convict us by your wisdom, cleanse us by your grace, challenge us by your presence, and by your forgiveness, free us to try again... (*Time for silent prayer*)

# **Assurance of Pardon**

Let us proclaim the Good News together: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

\*Response #582

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. (sing 3x) As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

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## Anthem

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

by Joseph M. Martin

**I Will Sing Praise** Bethany Faiz – Piano

I will sing praise to the Lord, my God, Lift up my voice in the sanctuary. I will sing praise to the Lord, my God; I will sing Alleluia, and praise his holy name. Sing the glory of his name; I will praise his name forever. Oh, the name above all names! I will sing praise to him, give all my life to him. Sing Alleluia, all heavens rejoice! Sing Alleluia, lift high your voice. Sing alleluia and make a joyful noise.

Scripture Conversation with Children: Blessing of the Backpacks

#### **Prayer for Illumination**

God of mercy, in a hurting world, your love shows us another way to live. Help us to join in your work, mending what is broken. Send your Holy Spirit to open our eyes and heal our hearts with your grace. Amen.

# Scripture LessonMark 7:24-37Page: NT 42

<sup>24</sup> From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, <sup>25</sup> but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup> Now the woman was a gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup> He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>28</sup> But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." <sup>29</sup> Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." <sup>30</sup> And when she went home, she found the child lying on the bed and the demon gone.

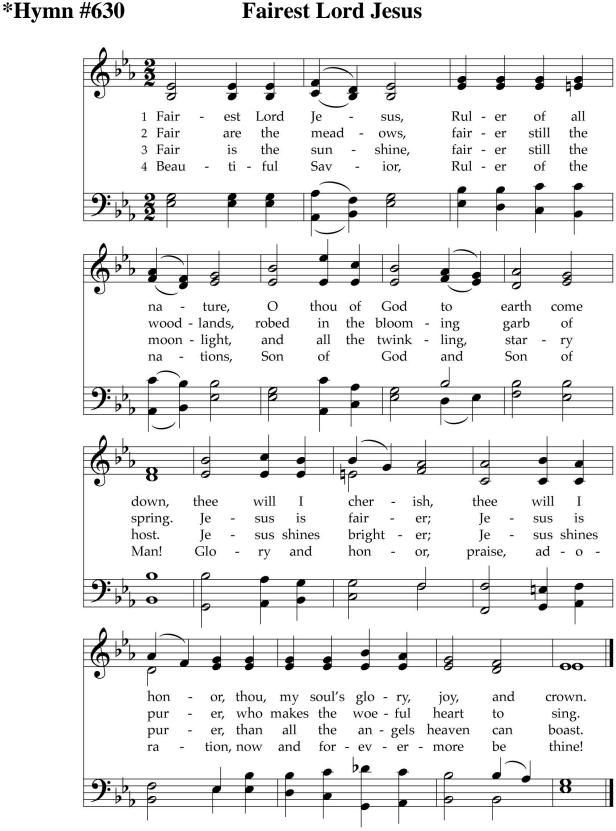
<sup>31</sup> Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went by way of Sidon toward the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup> They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup> He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup> Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." <sup>35</sup> And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup> Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one, but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup> They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak." *This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.* 

Sermon

Be Curious; Ask Questions

# GIVE THANKS TO GOD

**Fairest Lord Jesus** 



Franz Liszt used this melody for a "Crusaders' March" in an oratorio, but this hymn had nothing to do with the Crusades. No record of the German text exists before the middle of the 17th century or of the Silesian folk melody before the first half of the 19th century.

Offerings of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

**Take My Life, and Let it Be** (with "I Surrender All") Bethany Faiz - Piano

arr. Tom Fettke

\*Response #607 Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore. Praise triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

#### **\*Prayer of Dedication**

Unchanging God, you have blessed us forever through the Beloved One, Jesus Christ our Lord. Born again by your word of truth, may we give generously that your love would shine forth in this world. May our lives be an offering to you that we might do your word, care for the weak and vulnerable in their distress, and ever pursue your reign of justice. Through Christ we pray, Amen.

## **Prayers of the People**

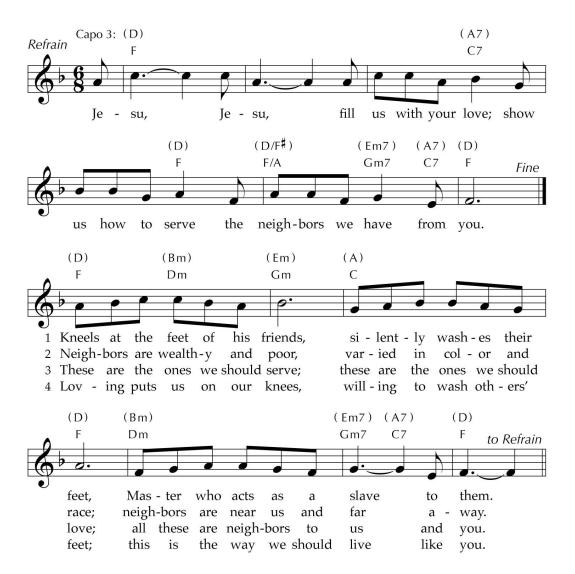
The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

# GO IN GOD'S NAME



#### Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love



Considering that this text comes from a part of the world where Christianity is not the primary religion gives these simple but powerful words even more depth and meaning. The tune name recalls the district in the Northern Region of Ghana where this tune was collected.

## \*Charge and Benediction

# Choral BenedictionSteeple BellPostludeWhen in Our Music God Is GlorifiedBethany Faiz - Piano

Please remain seated through the Postlude. As you exit, you may recycle your bulletin in the basket at the door. Join us after worship for Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall

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#### Thank you for serving today:

Worship Leader: Ray SnyderCounters: Peter McCurdy/Gary GrahamUshers: Peter McCurdy/Graham & Turnbull FamilyCoffee Hour: SessionNursery: Lynn Smith/Chris FaglesSunday School: Mallory Mackie/Molly Shaw

Today we remember in the Special Gifts Memorial Case:Harry Montgomery Sr.Mary R. Skeoch1869-19501907-1990



#### SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER ON A SUNDAY MORNING

We are in need of ushers and worship leaders in September and October. **Please sign up today:** <u>https://www.newcastlepreschurch.org/on-line-signups</u>

# FALL KICK-OFF – TODAY

Fall kicks off today; our Fall Flyers are out in the mail now. Regular Sunday School and Nursery care returns, so please fill out 2024-2025 registration forms for our youngest members.

# **BIBLE STUDY WITH THE PASTOR**

Gather on Wednesdays at 3 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall with Pastor Miriam for a weekly Bible Study. We'll read and discuss the upcoming Sunday's Scripture passages. No need to RSVP; come and join the conversation!



# ALL AGES SUNDAY SCHOOL – THIRD SUNDAYS



On September 15, we'll present Bibles to all Sunday School-aged children. Then after worship, we'll gather for our first All-Ages Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall! There won't be regular coffee hour...but if you stay for Sunday School, there will be lunch, fellowship, and interactive learning!

# **YOUTH GROUP – THIRD SUNDAYS**

Our middle and high school youth group will meet from 12-2 on September 15. Each month, our gatherings will focus on fellowship, service, and learning about God. Interested or know an interested youth? Reach out to Pastor Miriam today!

# **M&O CLOTHING DRIVE IN SEPTEMBER**



September marks our popular annual clothing drive for Friendship House. Refresh your life (and your closets!) by donating your new or gently used, clean clothing and school uniforms to Friendship House. Donations can be brought to the church and left in the second room on the right on the

second floor of the CE building, or if that's difficult, in the entryway. We'll collect them all through the month of September. Let's see those bags pile up!

# **ADDITIONAL MISSION & OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES**

<u>Epiphany House:</u> Interested in preparing and sharing dinner with Epiphany House residents on Thursday, September 12? Reach out to Scott Selheimer to volunteer!

<u>LGBTQ+ Task Force:</u> We welcome Guest Preacher Shannon Kearns on September 22. An award-winning author and ordained minister, Shannon is visiting New Castle Presbytery to share about the latest LGBTQ+ inclusion efforts within the broader church and ongoing Biblical scholarship, especially through the lens of queer theology. Drawing from his years of work with QueerTheology.com and his passion for storytelling, Shannon's preaching will inspire us all to see how the Holy Spirit still moves through the Body of Christ!

<u>Guatemalan Partnership</u>: Join us during Coffee Hour on Sunday, September 29, to hear an update from the partnership leadership, including an opportunity to travel to Guatemala in January 2025!

# **BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS - SEPT 28**

Good Doggie, Kitty, Fishy, Ground Hoggie! On Saturday, September 28 at 4 p.m., we will have a Blessing of the Animals event outside of the CE



Building. Creatures of all shapes and sizes are welcome. If your pet doesn't travel well or play well with others, bring their picture or one of their accessories to be blessed. And feel free to invite one of your pet's friends as everyone would benefit from a blessing!

# NCPC FALL CAMPFIRE & COOKOUT - SEPT 28

Join us at 5 p.m. on Saturday, September 28 for a campfire and cook-out at Connie Reese's house. Bring a camping chair and join us for an evening of fellowship and fun around the campfire! RSVPs to Connie Reese or Jen Dunham are appreciated, and volunteers are welcome to help with grilling and shopping beforehand!

# YOUNG(ISH) WOMENS THIS FALL

This fall, we'll start meeting on the first Sunday of each month! Mark your calendars for October 6 from 12-2! This fellowship group is for women between the ages of 20ish and 50ish; let Pastor Miriam know if you need childcare.

# **Prayer List:**

To place a name on the confidential Prayer Chain, contact Susan Flook, 302-328-7346 <u>mailto:suzieflook@hotmail.com</u> or Fran Ginger, 302-994-5988 <u>mailto:silverfran@aol.com</u>

# Continuing Care Homes / Hospitals: Rod Denison Linda Twyford

Coral Springs Healthcare Ctr. 505 Greenbank Rd., Room C7 Wilmington, DE 19808 New Castle Nursing & Rehab 32 Buena Vista Dr, New Castle, DE 19720 (302) 328-2580

#### At Home: Kathy Griffin-Graham

323 Oregon AvenueNew Castle, DE 19720(302) 324-9944

# Mary Duncan

1323 Richard's Alley Wilmington, DE 19806 (302) 888-0282 Anita Johnson Cokesbury 724 Loveville Road, HealthCare Rm 2006 Hockessin, DE 19707

## **Robert Lindfors**

202 Brylgon Ave. New Castle, DE 19720 (302) 328-5369

#### Judy Hentkowski 128 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street New Castle, DE 19720 (302) 328-8266

# On Assignment with the Coast Guard:

*George Spock* USCGC Scheuerman PSC 851 P.O. Box 11620 FPO AE, 09834

#### On Assignment with the Air Force: James Boyle 1150 Bole Street, Unit 54 JBPHH, HI 96860

# This Week's Schedule

SUNDAY	09/08	10:30am	In-Person & Live Stream Worship
		11:30am	Coffee Hour
Monday	09/09		Meals on Wheels
Tuesday	09/10	6:00pm	Meals on Wheels Congregational Life via Zoom
Wednesday	09/11	3:00pm 7:30pm	Meals on Wheels Bible Study Choir
Thursday	09/12	7:00pm	Meals on Wheels Celebration Ringers
Friday	09/13		Meals on Wheels
Saturday	09/14	8:00am	Tai Chi
SUNDAY	09/15	10:30am	In-Person & Live Stream Worship
	12p	11:30am m-2:00pm 6:00pm	All Ages Sunday School Youth Group Open Mic Night

Kris will be at APA Regional Conference Monday, 9/9 – Wednesday, 9/11

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# New Castle Presbyterian Church 25 E. 2nd Street New Castle, DE 19720

Phone: (302) 328-3279 www.newcastlepreschurch.org Fax: (302) 328-5670

Rev. Miriam Foltz, Pastor - <u>pastor@newcastlepreschurch.org</u> Kris Krawczyk, Admin. Assistant - office@newcastlepreschurch.org Mallory Mackie, Sunday School Coord. Eileen Larkin, Dir. of Musie

Dan Knox, Treasurer Shirley Knox, Recording Secretary Eileen Larkin, Dir. of Music Minerva Lermond, Dir. of Handbells Bethany Faiz, Accompanist

SESSION				
2025	2026	2027		
Melissa Boris	Cynthia Beam	Julie Barry		
Jennifer Dunham	Peter McCurdy	Sarah McCann		
Connie Reese	Joanne Viola	Amy Selheimer		

Session meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month

#### **DEACONS**

2025	2026	2027		
Toni Marley	Lindy Ballance	Julia Spock		
Janet Spring	Liz Toto	Beverly Stoudt		

Deacons meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month

# TRUSTEES

2025	2026	2027
Marshall Freund	Mary Fontinha	Gary Graham
Mike Smith	Gail Seitz	Kelly McCurdy

Trustees meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday every other month (Sept/Nov/Jan/Mar/May)





