

New Castle Presbyterian Church



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!

In person and via livestream, we gather as a faith community, 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.

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

Nametags – We encourage everyone to use the nametags available in the Meeting House entrance during worship and coffee hour. Please return to their box in Fellowship Hall.

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

Sunday School and Nursery will be offered today. Children 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 5th grade may go to Sunday School. Please see an usher for a registration form or if you have any questions.

At the end of worship, please join us for Coffee Hour in the 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 are for
handicapped parking only.

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 8:30am-12:30pm
Pastor Miriam's day of rest is Monday.

Prayer List:

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

Continuing Care Homes / Hospitals:

Linda Twyford

ACTS Country House
4830 Kennett Pike, DW15
Wilmington, DE 19807
(302) 328-2580

Mary Duncan

HarborChase of Wilmington
2004 Shipley Road #1107
Wilmington, DE 19803
(302) 482-3547

Fran Ginger

Lorelton
2200 W. 4th Street
Wilmington, DE 19805
(302) 573-3580

Ringo Keka

Sterling Care Bel Air
410 E Macphail Road,
Bel Air, MD 21014

At Home:

Kathy Griffin-Graham

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

Anita Johnson

724 Loveville Road
HealthCare Rm 2006
Hockessin, DE 19707

Jo Viola

Lodge Lane Assisted Living
[1221 Lodge Ln, Studio 119](#)
Wilmington, DE 19809

Judy Hentkowski

128 E. 2nd Street
New Castle, DE 19720
(302) 328-8266

Robert Lindfors

202 Brylgon Avenue
New Castle, DE 19720
(302) 220-7161

On Assignment with Coast Guard:

SN George Spock

1425 McFarland Rd. Apt. 506
Mt. Lebanon, PA 15216

On Assignment with Air Force:

James Boyle

2525 Date St. Apt. 3804
Honolulu HI 96826

New Castle Presbyterian Church

First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025

10:30 a.m.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies
Bethany Faiz - Piano

arr. Cindy Berry

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

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Toto and Spring Families

Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing!

We begin our journey to Bethlehem, with hope in our hearts and praise on our lips.

O come, all you faithful, joyful and triumphant.

We come to adore him, Christ the Lord.

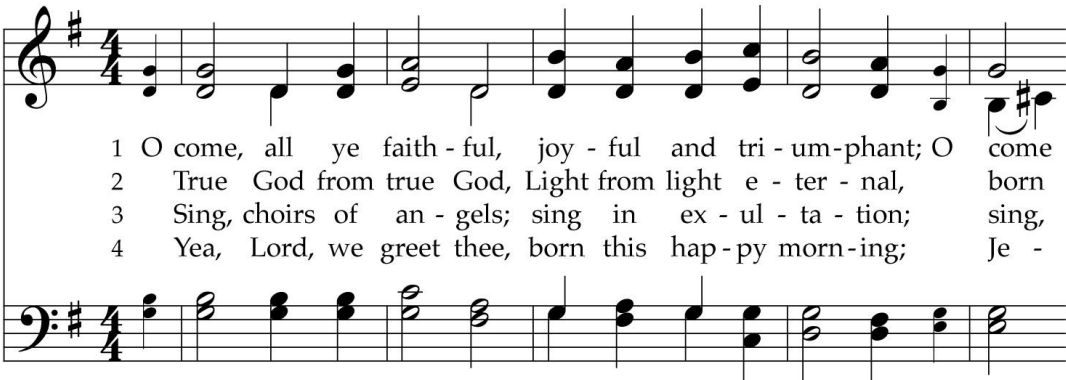
O come, all you faithful, to behold the King of angels.

Christ's light of hope shines. (Candle is lit.)

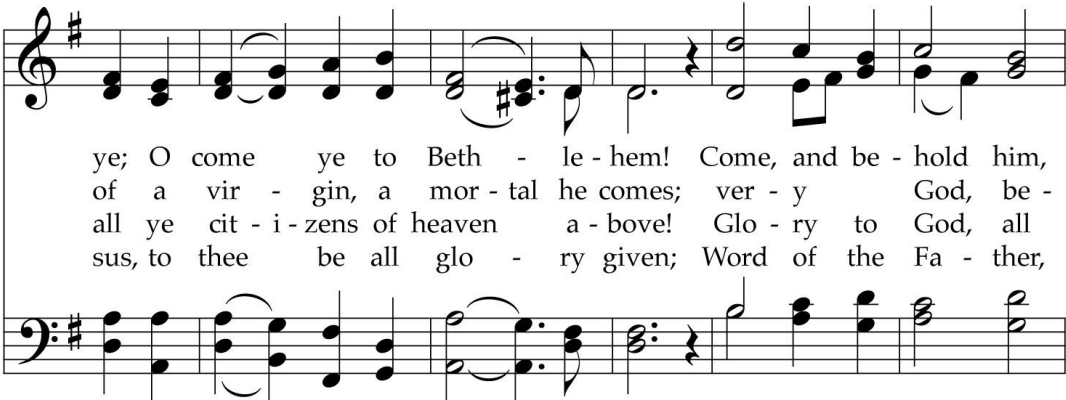
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! **O Come, let us adore him!**

***Hymn #133**

O Come, All Ye Faithful, verses 1 and 2

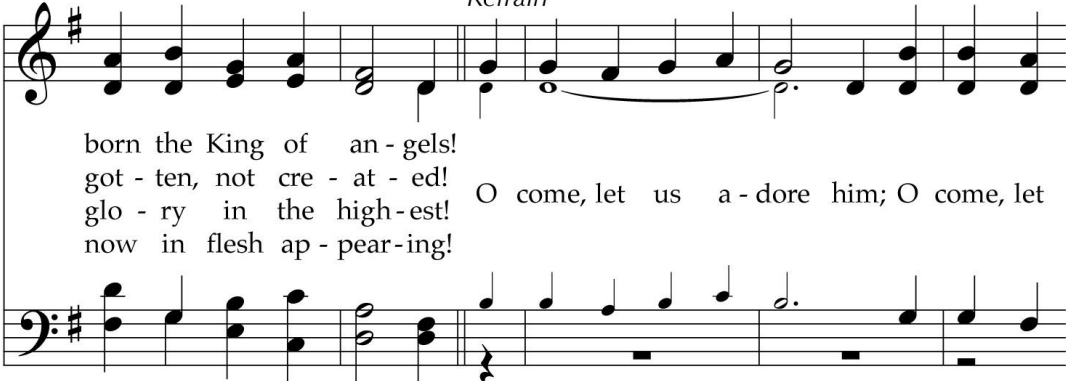


1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come
 2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -



ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,
 of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -
 all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all
 sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

Refrain



born the King of an - gels!
 got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let
 glo - ry in the high - est!
 now in flesh ap - pear - ing!



us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

O Lord our God, we give you thanks for the hope and longing you give us through the promise of our baptism. In a world of anger and hate, your steadfast love washes over us; your mercy renews us.

Forgive our hurtful ways. Call us to live as your beloved children. In the hope of Christ, we pray... (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 #134 Joy to the World, verse 1**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

**Let earth receive her king; let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Choral Anthem

Light A Candle for Peace

by Ruth Elaine Schram

Sarah McCann – Soloist / Carolyn Hendrix – Cello / Bethany Faiz Piano

Light a candle for peace; peace to a world lost in night, waiting, hoping, searching for the light. Say a prayer for peace, and believe that God will provide. He will touch each of us with the light. Light a candle for peace. Dona nobis pacem. Grant us peace. In this prayer for peace lives the faith that peace will begin. May it start in my own heart, as I let Him in. Let His peace come in. Light a candle for peace. Peace.

Scripture Conversation with Children

Prayer for Illumination

Holy God, heaven and earth may pass away, but your realm is eternal and your promise is sure. Lighten our hearts with hope as our redeemer draws near. May we heed the signs of our times, so that we join with your creation to praise Christ, our friend and savior. Amen.

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 1:18-25

Page: NT 1

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But

just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.”²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ “Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.”

²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

*This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

Sermon

Begotten, Not Created

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

*Hymn #82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.



Is-rael's strength and con-so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf-fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

Offerings of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

Let All Things Now Living

arr. Craig Duncan

(transcribed by Linda M. Cummings)

Carolyn Hendrix - Flute / Bethany Faiz - Piano

***Response #134 Joy to the World, verse 2**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ, while
fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

**God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow, as we begin this journey through
Advent, we remember that your time is different from our time. We do not
know the hour or the day of your coming, but we know that we can hold fast
to the hope that you are with us even now. Bless these offerings to the work
of your new creation in Christ. Come, Lord Jesus, 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

*Hymn #133

O Come, All Ye Faithful, verses 3 and 4

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come
2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -

ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,
of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -
all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all
sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

Refrain
born the King of an - gels!
got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let
glo - ry in the high - est!
now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

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TEXT: John Francis Wade, c. 1743; trans. Frederick Oakeley, 1841, alt.
MUSIC: John Francis Wade, c. 1743; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

ADESTE FIDELES
Irregular

***Charge and Benediction**

Choral Benediction

Steeple Bell

Postlude

O Worship the King

arr. Larry Shackley

Bethany 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.

All printed music & performances are covered under: OneLicense #A-720755

Thank you for serving today:

Worship Leader: Carol Mayhew

Coffee Hour: Potluck

Ushers: Lindy & Sandy Ballance

Counters: Gina Kouma/Gail Seitz

Nursery: Julie Barry/Molly Shaw

Sunday School: Mallory Mackie/Julia Bechtel

Today we remember in the Special Gifts Memorial Case:

Marjorie A. Montgomery
1900 - 1972

Dorothy Neilson
1910 - 2004



STEWARDSHIP SEASON: PLEDGE CARDS

Still need to return your pledge card? Mail it or drop it off to the Church Office.

ADVENT

The first Sunday of Advent is today; printed copies of our seasonal devotional “And Heaven and Nature Sing” are available in the Narthex. Be sure to listen to this week’s Hark! Podcast.

TODAY’S COFFEE HOUR – POTLUCK

Today is a “Fifth Sunday,” when Coffee Hour is potluck-style. All are welcome, even if you aren’t able to bring something to share!

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS – PLANNING MEETING TODAY

If you can help with Spirit of Christmas (especially decorators and day-of volunteers), NCPC SoC organizers will hold an in-person meeting today at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

SAVE THE DATE: GROUNDS CLEAN-UP DAY: DECEMBER 6!

Help spruce up our beautiful church grounds! Mark your calendar for: Church Yard Clean-Up for Spirit of Christmas: Saturday, December 6 at 9am. Please bring work gloves, rakes, and safety glasses if you have them. We will provide leaf bags, along with coffee and donuts to keep you fueled! A rain date will be announced as needed. We hope you’ll join us! If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to any of the Trustees - we’re always happy to connect!

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

The CE Building will be open from 10-3 with soups and breads for sale, as well as free refreshments. All NCPC proceeds go to support [Friendship House](#)! We’ll offer three (free!) concerts in the Meeting House. We need volunteers to serve as Meeting House ushers, folks to bake bread/ fix soups/ bake cookies, as well as folks to sell the yummy goodies and restock the refreshments table. All sign-up forms, with more information, are posted in the Fellowship Hall.

LOOKING AHEAD TO DECEMBER

Mark your calendars for **our Longest Night Service** at 7:00pm on Wed., December 17th. For all who struggle in this season of merry carols, this candlelight service is a quieter time to gather in the promise and comfort of Emmanuel: God with Us.

Christmas Caroling will be on Sun., Dec 21 at 6:00p.m. We'll gather in the Fellowship Hall, stroll and sing through the streets of New Castle, & end with refreshments at Carol Mayhew's house around 7:00pm

Our Christmas Eve Services are a Family Service at 5 p.m. and a Traditional Service at 7:30pm.

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – DEC 14

At the end of worship on December 14, the Session has called a Special Congregational Meeting for the purpose of reviewing the 2026 Budget as approved by Session at their December meeting and to vote on the pastor's terms of call for next year.

CHRISTMAS EVE POINSETTIAS

For our Christmas Eve service, the Meeting House will be decorated with poinsettias. Donate a poinsettia for \$15 in memory or in honor of a loved one by returning the order form (located in entrance to Meeting House and CE bldg.) to the Church Office by **Monday, Dec. 15.**



WINTER SANCTUARY

Each Saturday, from 6:00 - 10:00 am, First & Central Presbyterian Church in Wilmington opens their doors to people experiencing homelessness. They may come in for a rest, warmth, a hot meal, coffee & snacks, a place to charge their phones, and even a shower. Here is the link if you'd like to sign up. Questions? Please reach out to Amy Selheimer (302-584-0982)



SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER ON A SUNDAY MORNING

Sign up to usher and serve as worship leader: <https://www.newcastlepreschurch.org/on-line-signups>

This Week's Schedule

SUNDAY	11/30		FIRST DAY OF ADVENT
		10:30am	In-Person & Live Stream Worship
		11:30am	Coffee Hour - Potluck
		12:00pm	Spirit of Christmas meeting
Monday	12/01	2:00-5:00pm	Private Counseling – Library
Tuesday	12/02	12:00pm	People Who Lunch – Rancho Azteca
		4:00pm	Presbytery Meeting
		7:00pm	Promises of AA Meeting
Wednesday	12/03	2:00-5:00pm	Private Counseling - Library
		3:00pm	Bible Study
		7:30pm	Choir
Thursday	12/04	7:00pm	Celebration Ringers
Saturday	12/06	8:00am	Tai Chi
		9:00am	Yard Cleanup
SUNDAY	12/07		SECOND DAY OF ADVENT
		10:30am	In-Person & Live Stream Worship & Communion
		11:30am	Coffee Hour
		12:00pm	Young-ish Women Gathering
		6:00pm	Community Open Mic Night

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 - pastor@newcastlepreschurch.org

Kris Krawczyk, Admin. Assistant - office@newcastlepreschurch.org

Mallory Mackie, Sunday School Coord.

Eileen Larkin, Dir. of Music

Dan Knox, Treasurer

Minerva Lermond, Dir. of Handbells

Lyn Briggs, Recording Secretary

Bethany Faiz, Accompanist

SESSION

2026	2027	2028
Cynthia Beam	Julie Barry	Jennifer Dunham
Peter McCurdy	Sarah McCann	Chris Fagles
Ray Snyder	Amy Selheimer	Gina Kouma
Clerk of Session: Scott Selheimer		

Session meets the 1st Tuesday of the month

DEACONS

2026	2027	2028
Lindy Ballance	Julia Spock	Mary Anne Brundage
Liz Toto	Beverly Stoudt	Teisha Fooks
		Nan Wallace

Deacons meet the 2nd Sunday of the month

TRUSTEES

2026	2027	2028
Mary Fontinha	Gary Graham	Marshall Freund
Gail Seitz	Kelly McCurdy	Mike Smith

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

