

# New Castle Presbyterian Church

25 E 2nd Street, New Castle, DE 19720

Phone: (302) 328-3279 | Email: [office@newcastlepreschurch.org](mailto:office@newcastlepreschurch.org)  
[www.newcastlepreschurch.org](http://www.newcastlepreschurch.org)



New Castle Presbyterian Church ~ Built 1707 ~ New Castle, Delaware

## *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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Street are for  
accessible parking only.

## Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 8:30am-12:30pm

Pastor Miriam's day of rest is Monday

Forget your  
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Donate to NCPC

## Prayer List:

To place a name on the confidential Prayer Chain, contact Susan Flook,  
302-328-7346 [suzieflook@hotmail.com](mailto:suzieflook@hotmail.com) or Fran Ginger, 302-994-5988 [silverfran@aol.com](mailto: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 Gingher***

Lorelton  
2200 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Wilmington, DE 19805  
(302) 533-2952

## *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](http://1221LodgeLn.Studio119)  
Wilmington, DE 19809

### ***Judy Hentkowski***

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

### ***Robert Lindfors***

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

### ***Ringo Keka***

358 Ailsa Drive  
Rising Sun, MD 21911  
(410) 658-7639

### ***Carol Mayhew***

17 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
New Castle, DE 19720

## *On Assignment with Coast Guard:*

### ***SN George Spock***

1370 Harris Ave  
Pittsburgh, PA 15205

## *On Assignment with Air Force:*

### ***James Boyle***

2525 Date St. Apt. 3804  
Honolulu HI 96826

# New Castle Presbyterian Church

## First Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026

10:30 a.m.

### GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

**Bell Prelude**

**Prelude**

Michael Helman

### 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

The good news of the gospel is manna in the desert.

**The good news of the gospel is water turned into wine.**

Christ proclaims release to the captives and hope for the hopeless.

**Christ turns mourning into dancing and strangers into friends.**

So come on in; there's no time to waste!

**Let us worship God who surprises us with joy!**

\*Hymn 694

Great God of Every Blessing

1 Great God of ev - ery bless - ing, of faith - ful, lov - ing care,  
 2 Your Word is our sal - va - tion, the source of end - less grace,  
 3 Your Spir - it is our teach - er, the light that guides our search,  
 you are the fount of good - ness, the dai - ly bread we share.  
 in death and life ex - tend - ing your cov - e - nant em - brace.  
 trans - form - ing bro - ken peo - ple in - to the ho - ly church.  
 How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:  
 In Christ we are one bod - y; each mem - ber has a part:  
 For feed - ing us with mer - cy, for wis - dom you im - part:  
 sin - cere - ly and com - plete - ly I of - fer you my heart.

Written for the 500th anniversary of John Calvin's birth, this text sums up his liturgical theology, ending each stanza with his motto: *Cor meum tibi offero, Domine, prompte et sincere.* By moving from plural to singular the stanzas show how corporate faith becomes personal piety.

## Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

Loving God, somewhere along the way, we picked up the message that in order to be faithful, we have to be solemn and somber. But then you say the kingdom of God is like a mustard seed – unruly and untamed. The Spirit invites us to be playful, curious, and messy. Forgive us and free us to live as your beloved children... *(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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## PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

**Choral Anthem    Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days    by John Leavitt**  
**Bethany Faiz – Piano**

*Lord, who throughout these forty days, for us did fast and pray, teach us with You to mourn our sins, and close by You to stay. As You did hunger, bear, and thirst, so teach us, gracious Lord, to die to self, and always live by Your most holy word. And through these days of penitence, and through Your Passion tide for evermore, in life and death, O Lord, with us abide. Amen.*

### Welcome into Membership – Jim Slagle

Words of Welcome

**With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you to this congregation.  
May God bless this new beginning, as we grow our faith and live as  
disciples of Jesus Christ together in this place!**

### Scripture Conversation with Children

## Prayer for Illumination

**Holy One, we get busy and forget to marvel at the holy blessings in our lives. As we turn to your text today, we pray, surprise us. Speak to us. Move through us. Draw us closer to your good news. We wait with bated breath. Amen.**

### Scripture Lesson

### Matthew 13:31-32

### Page: NT 14

<sup>31</sup> He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; <sup>32</sup> it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

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

### Scripture Lesson

### John 2:1-11

### Page: NT 93

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. <sup>2</sup> Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. <sup>3</sup> When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” <sup>4</sup> And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to me and to you? My hour has not yet come.” <sup>5</sup> His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” <sup>6</sup> Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. <sup>7</sup> Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. <sup>8</sup> He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the person in charge of the banquet.” So they took it. <sup>9</sup> When the person in charge tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the bridegroom <sup>10</sup> and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” <sup>11</sup> Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

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

### Sermon

### *The Good News Is... so good it catches us by surprise*

## GIVE THANKS TO GOD

\*Hymn 821

### My Life Flows On

1 My life flows on in end-less song, a-bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion.  
2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.  
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? I know my Sav - ior liv - eth.  
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!

I hear the clear, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.  
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.  
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain

No storm can shake my in - most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.

Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

In the *New York Observer* of August 7, 1868, this text was titled "Always Rejoicing," and was attributed to "Pauline T." This may well be where the Baptist pastor and musician to whom it is usually credited encountered the words that he later published with his tune.

## Offerings of Tithes and Gifts

Bell Offertory    **With Heart and Hands and Voices**    Douglas Wagner  
\*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

**God of our salvation, your forgiveness catches us by surprise. Jesus teaches us to forgive, to be slow to anger, to turn the other cheek. By your amazing grace, bless our lives and these offerings to your work of mercy. May these gifts bless and surprise our weary world. In Christ's name, 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 #450

### Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) (G) (D/F<sup>#</sup>) (A7) (D)  
E<sup>flat</sup> A<sup>flat</sup> E<sup>flat/G</sup> B<sup>flat/7</sup> E<sup>flat</sup>

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;  
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;  
4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) (D) (G) (A)  
B<sup>flat</sup> E<sup>flat</sup> A<sup>flat</sup> B<sup>flat</sup>

naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;  
may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) (D) (F#m7) (G) (A)  
A<sup>flat</sup> E<sup>flat</sup> Gm7 A<sup>flat</sup> B<sup>flat</sup>

thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;  
thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,  
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) (D/F<sup>#</sup>) (G) (D)  
Cm E<sup>flat/G</sup> A<sup>flat</sup> E<sup>flat</sup>

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
raise thou me heaven-ward, O Power of my power.  
High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.

**\*Charge & Benediction  
Choral Benediction  
Steeple Bell  
Postlude**

**In the Cross of Christ I Glory** arr. Patti Drennan  
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.*

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### **Thank you for serving today:**

*Worship Leader:* Melissa Boris  
*Ushers:* Scott & Amy Selheimer  
*Nursery:* Julie Barry/Teisha Fooks

*Coffee Hour:* All-Ages Sunday School  
*Counters:* Sarah McCann/Kelly McCurdy  
*Sunday School:* Mallory Mackie/Chris Fagles

Today we remember in the Special Gifts Memorial Case:

**Minnie Thomson**  
1886 - 1974

**Frank J. Reese**  
1921 - 2008



### **ALL-AGES SUNDAY SCHOOL SERVICE ACTIVITY – TODAY**

Please join us during a potluck coffee hour for an All-Ages service project to benefit Winter Sanctuary at First & Central in Wilmington. Bring a dish to share and help in making peanut butter & jelly sandwiches to assist in feeding our neighbors in need.

### **LENTEN REFLECTIONS FROM SANCTIFIED ART**

Lenten Devotionals for *Tell Me Something Good* are available in the Narthex.

### **LENTEN DINNERS**

Sign up today to bring soup for our **Lenten Dinner** on Feb. 25 at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Check out these purple flyers for the order of soup dinners this season.

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

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

### **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!

### **NEW IMPROV GATHERING – FEBRUARY 23**

Feeling the winter blues? Join Nan Wallace and New Castle Neighbors at 6 p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month in NCPC's Fellowship Hall for improv games. No experience required!

### **YOUNG(ISH) WOMEN'S WALK ON MARCH 1**

Young(ish) women are invited to bring a dish to share during next Sunday's Coffee Hour. Around 12:15, we'll head out for a walk in Battery Park; we'll go on a mini-Lenten pilgrimage together! Let Pastor Miriam know if you plan to participate and have any questions.

## **MASSANETTA CONFIRMATION RETREAT – POSTPONED UNTIL MARCH 20-22**

Due to Virginia's inclement weather, our five youth (Annabelle, Joey, Oliver, Ryan, and Wyatt) and three chaperones (Pastor Miriam, Amy, and Peter) didn't make it to Massanetta Springs in January, but we will head there in March for our Confirmation retreat!

### **This Week's Schedule**

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>02/22</b>		<b>First Sunday in Lent</b> <b>In-Person &amp; Live Stream Worship</b> <b>All-Ages Sunday School</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>02/23</b>	<b>2:00-5:00pm</b> <b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Private Counseling – Library</b> <b>Improv Fun and Games</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>02/24</b>	<b>10:00am</b> <b>11:00am</b> <b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Bluegrass Band Rehearsal</b> <b>Staff Meeting</b> <b>Promises of AA Meeting</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>02/25</b>	<b>2:00-5:00pm</b> <b>3:00pm</b> <b>6:00pm</b> <b>7:30pm</b>	<b>Private Counseling – Library</b> <b>Bible Study</b> <b>Lenten Supper - NCPC</b> <b>Choir</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>02/26</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Celebration Ringers</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>02/28</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>Tai Chi</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>03/01</b>		<b>Second Sunday in Lent</b> <b>In-Person &amp; Live Stream Worship</b> <b>&amp; Communion</b> <b>Coffee Hour</b> <b>Young(ish) Women Walk</b>

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Rev. Miriam Foltz, Pastor - [pastor@newcastlepreschurch.org](mailto:pastor@newcastlepreschurch.org)

Kris Krawczyk, Admin. Assistant - [office@newcastlepreschurch.org](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month*

## TRUSTEES

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

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



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