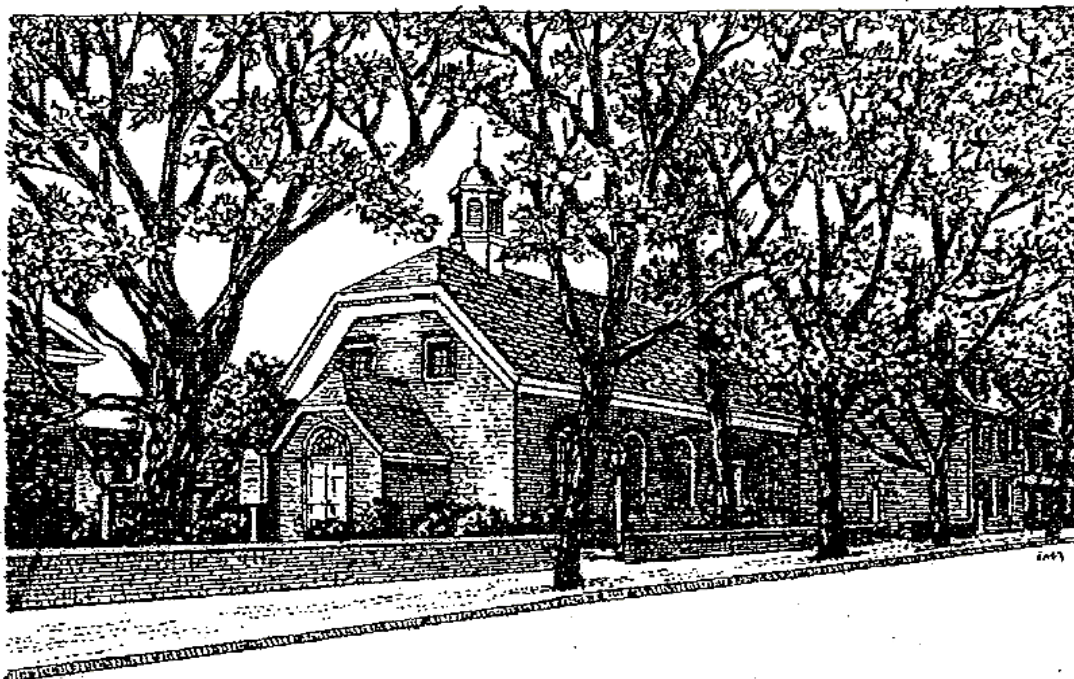


New Castle Presbyterian Church

25 E 2nd Street, New Castle, DE 19720

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

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!

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 5th 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 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 in front of the Meeting House are for handicapped parking only.

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 17, 2023

10:30 a.m.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Bell Prelude

Celebration No. 4
Celebration Ringers

Michael R. Keller

**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

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

The Lord gives justice to the oppressed and lifts up the downtrodden.

The Lord forgives us and redeems us.

The Lord crowns us with steadfast love and mercy.

Let us worship the One who is worthy of our praise!

***Hymn #619**

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; glad of heart your
2 Praise God for the grace and fa - vor shown our fore - bears
3 Like a lov - ing par - ent car - ing, God knows well our
4 An - gels, teach us ad - o - ra - tion; you be - hold God

car - ols raise; ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
in dis - tress; God is still the same for - ev - er,
fee - ble frame, glad - ly all our bur - dens bear - ing,
face to face. Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion,

who, like me, should sing God's praise? Al - le - lu - ia!
slow to chide, and swift to bless. Al - le - lu - ia!
still to count - less years the same. Al - le - lu - ia!
dwell - ers all in time and space: Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the Mak - er all your days!
Al - le - lu - ia! Sing our Mak - er's faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! All with - in me, praise God's name!
Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

This adaptation of an older paraphrase of Psalm 103 (see no. 620) is informed by an awareness that much of the received language of religious traditions enshrines social values that obscure the goodness of God, which far transcends all our labels and categories and hierarchies.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of justice and mercy, we admit we have double standards. We seek forgiveness for ourselves, but fail to forgive others. We seek relief for ourselves, but fail to seek relief for others. We seek leniency for ourselves, but fail to show that mercy to others.

Forgive us, mighty God, and help us to forgive, showing others the same grace and mercy that you have generously shown to us...

(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

Anthem

The Gift of Love

Hal Hopson

Bethany Faiz - Piano

*Though I may speak with bravest fire, And have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love, my words are vain, As sounding brass, and hopeless gain.*

*Though I may give all I possess, And striving so my love profess,
But not be given by love within, The profit soon turns strangely thin.*

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, Our spirits long to be made whole.

Let inward love guide every deed; By this we worship, and are freed.

Scripture Conversation with Children

Prayer for Illumination

O God of deliverance, guide us by your Word and Spirit. In your light, may we see light. In your truth, may we find freedom. In your will, may we discover your peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture Lesson

Psalm 103:8-13

Page: OT 554

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹ The Lord will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever.

¹⁰ God does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.

¹³ As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 18:21-22

Page: NT 20

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

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

Sermon

Guess How Much I Love You Forever and Through

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

Hymn #435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

1 There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness
2 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures

of the sea. There's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice,
of the mind. And the heart of the E - ter - nal

which is more than lib - er - ty. There is no place where earth's
is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were but more

sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place
faith - ful, we would glad - ly trust God's Word, and our lives re -

where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.
flect thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of our Lord.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) for each system. The lyrics are placed between the staves. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady rhythm. The bass line provides a harmonic foundation with chords and single notes.

These stanzas, excerpted from quite a few more, offer a reminder that the model for our dealings with others should be God's generosity rather than limited human tolerance. The text is effectively set to a broad and sturdy Dutch folk melody, probably from the 17th century.

Offerings of Tithes and Gifts

Bell Offertory

A Shepherd's Love

Karen Lakey Buckwalter

Eileen Larkin – Keyboard

Celebration Ringers

***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**

Almighty God, in Christ, we are reconciled to you, and you call your church to witness to your mercy. Send your Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with your kindness and guide us as your disciples in the world. May these offerings of our lives and resources proclaim the good news of your everlasting love. 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

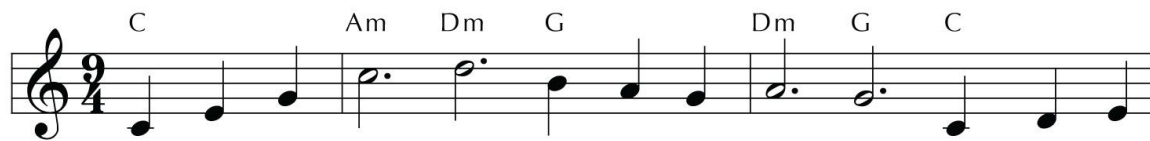
deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and

the glory, forever. Amen.

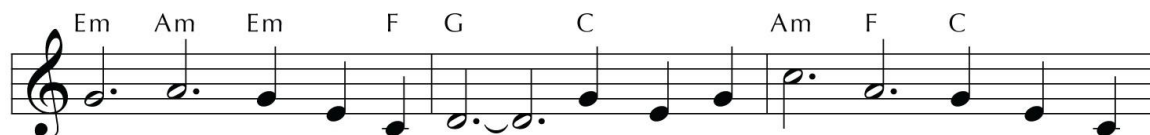
GO IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn #702

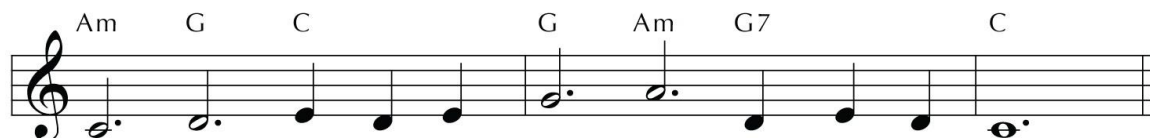
Christ Be Beside Me



1 Christ be be - side me; Christ be be - fore me; Christ be be -
2 Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all a -
3 Christ be in all hearts think - ing a - bout me; Christ be on



hind me, King of my heart. Christ be with - in me; Christ be be -
round me, shield in the strife. Christ in my sleep - ing, Christ in my
all tongues tell - ing of me. Christ be the vi - sion in eyes that



low me; Christ be a - bove me, nev - er to part.
sit - ting, Christ in my ris - ing, Light of my life.
see me; in ears that hear me Christ ev - er be.

This text adapts part of a traditional Irish prayer associated with St. Patrick (see also no. 6). Such a prayer for protection is known as a *lorica*, from a Latin word for "breastplate" or "armor." It is set to a Gaelic melody that gained wide popularity in the 1970s.

TEXT: James Quinn, SJ, 1969

MUSIC: Gaelic melody; arr. Dale Grotenhuis, 1985

Music Arr. © 1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources

BUNESSAN

5.5.5.4.D

*Charge and Benediction

Choral Benediction

Steeple Bell

Postlude

Rejoice, the Lord is King

arr. John Innes

Bethany Faiz - Piano

Please remain seated through the Postlude.

As you exit, you may recycle your bulletin in the basket at the door.

Thank you for serving today:

Worship Leader: Gary Graham Counters: Greg Fogarty/Gail Seitz
Ushers: Gail & C.J. Seitz Coffee Hour: Janet Spring/ Sandy Wilson
Nursery: Julie Barry/Rachel Handy-Hayes
Sunday School: Stephanie Foltz/Melissa Boris

Today we remember in the Special Gifts Memorial Case:

Emma McHugh
1890-1974

John W. Hopkins
1936-2012



SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER ON A SUNDAY MORNING

We are in need of ushers and worship leaders in the coming weeks.

Please sign up today: <https://www.newcastlepreschurch.org/on-line-signups>

We're also in need of volunteers for First Sunday coffee hours. Sign up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall.

BIBLE STUDY WITH THE PASTOR – THIS WEDNESDAY

Our weekly Bible Study will be this Wednesday at 2 p.m., in person in the Fellowship Hall. This fall, we'll be studying the lectionary passage for the upcoming Sunday. Reach out to Pastor Miriam if you have any questions!

FALL RETREAT WORSHIP – SEPT 24

Next Sunday, you have two worship options! Come join us for breakfast and morning worship from 8:30-10:30 a.m. at Pecometh Camp. RSVP to Greg Fogarty for more details. Or join folks in the Meeting House for a worship service for all ages. (No Sunday School or Nursery will be offered.)

SPECIAL CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – OCT 1

Session has called a special meeting on Sunday, October 1, following worship to elect Miranda Matthews as a Deacon, Class of 2024.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS - OCT 4

Good Doggie, Kitty, Fishy, Ground Hoggie! On Wednesday, October 4th (St. Francis of Assisi Day) at 6pm, 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!

CLOTHING DRIVE IN SEPTEMBER

Refresh your life (and your closets!) by donating your new or gently used, clean clothing and school uniforms to Friendship House. Donations can be 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!



MENTORING THIS FALL – A CHILD NEEDS YOU

Creative Mentoring provides the needed training for you to make a difference in a child's life. Mentoring involves only half an hour to an hour once a week with a child who may be in need of only a caring adult to listen, play games, talk to or help with school work or organizational skills. This is not tutoring, it's more of an opportunity for a child to connect with a caring adult. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, email Candy Dunson - ddunson2@aol.com.

MEALS ON WHEELS

In Matthew 25, Christ calls us to feed the hungry and visit the sick, and through Meals on Wheels, we get to do Christ's work of feeding and visiting our homebound neighbors. We are so grateful for all of our volunteers' service! We are looking for a few additional volunteers to deliver meals regularly and on a substitute basis. Please give this volunteer opportunity your thoughtful and prayerful consideration. It means so much to those being served. If you are interested or want more information, please contact me at 302-328-7346 or email me at suzieflook@hotmail.com. Thank you! Susan Flook, Meals on Wheels Coord.

COVENANT CONVERSATION – NOV 11

Members of New Castle Presbytery are organizing a "Covenant Conversation" event to support the people and congregations of our presbytery as we seek to become more authentic and creative in our welcome, affirmation and support of LGBTQIA+ people. The date has been set for Saturday, November 11, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at The Presbyterian Church of Dover. Let Pastor Miriam know if you plan to attend and sign up today:

<https://covnetpres.org/event/covenant-conversation-new-castle-presbytery/>



Prayer List:

To place a name on the confidential Prayer Chain, contact Susan Flook, 302-328-7346 suzieflook@hotmail.com

Continuing Care Homes / Hospitals:

Joan Smith

Kentmere Rehab & HC
1900 Lovering Avenue
Wilmington, DE 19806

Rod Denison

Coral Springs Healthcare Ctr.
505 Greenbank Road
Room D14
Wilmington, DE 19808

At Home:

Kathy Griffin-Graham

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

Anita Johnson

Cokesbury
HealthCare Rm 2006
726 Loveville Road,
Hockessin, DE 19707

Janet Reed

106 Colesbery Drive
New Castle, DE 19720
(302) 328-6749

Mary Duncan

1323 Richard's Alley
Wilmington, DE 19806
(302) 888-0282

Linda Twyford

New Castle Nursing & Rehab
32 Buena Vista Dr,
New Castle, DE 19720
(302) 328-2580

Judy Hentkowski

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

Robert Lindfors

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

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	09/17	10:30am	In-Person & Live Stream Worship
		10:50am	Sunday School
		11:30am	Coffee Hour
		12:00pm	Young-ish Women Gathering
Monday	09/18	6:30pm	Trustee Meeting
Tuesday	09/19	7:00pm	Christian Education Meeting via Zoom
Wednesday	09/20		NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
		2:00pm	Bible Study with the Pastor
		7:30pm	Choir
Thursday	09/21	7:00pm	Celebration Ringers
Friday	09/22	3:00pm	Fall Retreat @ Pecometh Camp
Saturday	09/23		Fall Retreat at Pecometh
		8:00am	Tai Chi
		10:00am	Presbytery Meeting @ St Andrews, Newark, DE
SUNDAY	09/24	9:30am	Fall Retreat Worship
		10:30am	In-Person & Live Stream Worship
		11:30am	Coffee Hour

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New Castle Presbyterian Church

25 E. 2nd Street
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Phone: (302) 328-3279

Fax: (302) 328-5670

E-mail: office@newcastlepreschurch.org

Pastor E-mail: pastor@newcastlepreschurch.org

Website: www.newcastlepreschurch.org

Rev. Miriam Foltz, Pastor

Kris Krawczyk, Admin. Assistant

Eileen Larkin, Dir. of Music

Dan Knox, Treasurer

Minerva Lermond, Dir. of Handbells

Shirley Knox, Recording Secretary

Bethany Faiz, Accompanist

SESSION

2024	2025	2026
Rob Barry	Melissa Boris	Cynthia Beam
Chris Fagles	Jennifer Dunham	Peter McCurdy
Greg Fogarty	Connie Reese	Walt Sparrow-Hood
Scott Selheimer		

Session meets the 1st Tuesday of the month

DEACONS

2024	2025	2026
Susan Fogarty	Toni Marley	Lindy Ballance
Julia Spock	Janet Spring	Liz Toto
Sandy Wilson		

Deacons meet the 2nd Sunday of the month

TRUSTEES

2024	2025	2026
Lyn Briggs	Marshall Freund	Mary Fontinha
Gary Graham	Mike Smith	Gail Seitz
Barbara Whisman		

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

