



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,

Please take basic COVID precautions with us. Masks are encouraged but not required in the Meeting House and Education building.

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

Children are always welcome in worship! Worship Bags are available for children at the back of the Meeting House. If your family needs to step out of the Meeting House for a time, there is a livestream feed available in the Fellowship Hall. Nursery and Sunday School will resume on January 8.

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

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

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

Gentle Reminders:

Please turn off all cell phones.

Parking spaces on Second Street in front of the Meeting House are for handicapped parking only.

Please put your bulletins in the basket 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
Christmas Day

December 25, 2022

10:30 a.m.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

In Dulci Jubilo
Michael Larkin - Organ

J.C. Bach

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

Call to Worship

Glory to God in the highest!

A child has been born for us!

See, our salvation comes!

We rejoice in what God has made known to us!

Let us journey to the manger together.

***Hymn #132**

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to-day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now.
 He has o-pened heav-en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Carols using two languages, like this one dating from at least the 14th century, belong to a special group called "macaronic," the original languages here being German and Latin. Though the present version is only in English, it is sung to the traditional German folk melody.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

We confess, Holy Creator, that we care more for ourselves than this world you made.

We confess, Newborn Savior, that we focus on our own wants at the expense of the needs of others.

We confess, Abundant Spirit, that we push you aside, scoffing at the idea that you are actually at work.

Forgive us and guide us as we celebrate the coming of the Christ Child, God with us, and shape us to live as your 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 #155 Raise a Song of Gladness, sung twice**

Raise a song of gladness, peoples of the earth.

Christ has come, bringing peace, joy to every heart.

Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!

Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Anthem

Rise Up Shepherd arr. by William Shimmin
Eileen Larkin – Soprano
Minerva Lermond – Alto
Amy Shimmin – Tenor
Michael Larkin - Bass

There's a star in the east on Christmas morn. Rise up shepherd and follow. It will lead to the place where the Savior's born. Rise up shepherd and follow.

Leave your ewes and leave your lambs. Rise up shepherd and follow. Leave your sheep and leave your rams. Rise up shepherd and follow.

If you take good heed to the Angel's words. Rise up shepherd and follow. You'll forget your flocks, you'll forget your herds. Rise up shepherd and follow.

Leave your ewes and leave your lambs. Rise up shepherd and follow. Leave your sheep and leave your rams. Rise up shepherd and follow.

Follow the star of Bethlehem. Rise up shepherd and follow.

Prayer for Illumination

Almighty God, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul. Pour upon us your spirit of wisdom and understanding, that we may respond to your gracious promises with faithfulness, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Scripture Conversation with Children

Scripture Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

Page: NT 58

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Hymn #140 v. 1 and 2 Once in Royal David's City

Scripture Lesson

Luke 2:8-20

Page: NT 58

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

Hymn #147 v. 1 and 6

The First Nowell

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

Hymn #113

Angels We Have Heard on High

A Christmas Story

Song of the Stars (*Lloyd-Jones/ Jay*)

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

Offerings of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

Improvisation on What Child Is This

Michael Larkin

Michael Larkin – Organ

***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 grace, we bring these offerings with joy because of the greatest gift we received on the first Christmas. As we go about giving gifts to one another during this season, we remember none is greater than Jesus and the love you showed when you sent him to us. 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 #134

Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -
her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness
and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
and heaven and na - ture sing,
and
sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.
heaven and na - ture sing,

While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4-9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.

MUSIC: Attr. George Frederick Handel, 1742; arr. Lowell Mason, 1836

ANTIOCH

CM with repeat

(alternate tune: RICHMOND, 266)

***Charge and Benediction**

Steeple Bell Postlude

Bourree

G.F. Handel

Amy Shimmin – Flute
Eileen Larkin - Piano

Please remain seated through the Postlude.

As you exit the 2nd Street door, you may recycle your bulletin in the basket at the door.

Thank you for serving today:

Worship Leader: Minerva Lermond

Ushers: Lindy & Sandy Ballance

Nursery: No Nursery

Counters: Jim Whisman/Mike Smith

Coffee Hour: Mike & Lynn Smith

Sunday School: No Sunday School

Today we remember in the Special Gifts Memorial Case:

Pauline Steele Appleby
1901-1981

Charles Matthews
1919-2002



NCPC HOLIDAY OFFICE SCHEDULE



Our church office will be closed on Monday, December 26, and Friday, December 30. Administrator Kris Krawczyk will be available Tuesday through Thursday for general assistance.

Pastor Miriam will be out of the office December 26 through January 2. If you are in need of emergency pastoral assistance, please contact the church office or Deacon Moderator Sandy Wilson.

WORSHIP WITH US IN 2023

Join us next Sunday for 10:30 am worship as we welcome NCPC member Salina Brett to share the good news from the pulpit.

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>



NURSERY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATES

Sunday School and Nursery will not be offered on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1; we will resume during worship on Sunday, January 8.

As we begin a new year, volunteers are needed through the coming months. Please contact:

For Sunday School: Diana Kenis-Reilly – dckr0680@gmail.com

For Nursery: Molly Shaw – mollypaige1@aol.com



GIFTS OF LOVE

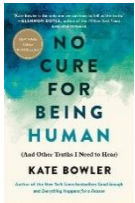


Thanks to everyone who gave a Gift of Love this year! Our goal was to provide \$3,600 in emergency financial assistance to our neighbors in need, and we have exceeded that goal for 2022, giving just over \$4000 to St Vincent De Paul at St Peter's Church! We pray that our neighbors' days will be merry and bright this Christmas season.

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS REJOICING

A resounding thank you to everyone who helped make Spirit of Christmas possible! We rejoice that the day brought joy to all of our visitors and will bring joy to our neighbors at Friendship House, especially as we raised over \$2,500 for their incredible ministry. Keep up with Friendship House throughout the year: www.friendshiphousede.org

JANUARY 15 BOOK DISCUSSION



Kate Bowler has a recent book called [No Cure for Being Human \(and Other Truths I Need to Hear\)](#). Start reading now and join us after worship on January 15 for a time of conversation and resource sharing as we all acknowledge - there's no cure for being human, but in life and in death, we belong to God!

LGBTQIA+ TASK FORCE

Every June during Pride month we decorate the walkway with the rainbow flags as an outward sign of our support and love for the broader LGBTQIA+ community, but there is still so much more we can do throughout the year! We would love for you to join us in creating new events, reaching out to our friends in the community; and becoming a part of this fun, yet important ministry!



If you are interested in being a part of the LGBTQIA+ Task Force please contact Diana Reilly.

SOUPS, STEWS AND STORIES

On Sunday, January 29, during Coffee Hour, we'll gather for a soup-stravaganza and "Word to Word Workshop" with Sharon Moore.

Sign up in the Fellowship Hall to bring a crockpot of soup or stew and compete for illustrious prizes as coordinated by Congregational Life.

Plan to stay from 12 to 1:15 as storyteller Sharon Moore prompts us to begin writing our own stories.

¡VAMOS A GUATEMALA!

Candy and Amy travel to Guatemala with our Presbytery's delegation in later January. As they meet with our mission partners, learn about the challenges facing our Guatemalan neighbors, and see the impact of our partnership projects, keep up with their travel blog through the partnership's website: <https://ncpguatemala.com/blog/>

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

Barbara Quillen

Cokesbury
HealthCare Rm 2010
726 Loveville Road
Hockessin, DE 19707

Rod Denison

Christiana Care
4755 Ogletown Stanton Rd
Newark, DE 19718

At Home:

Kathy Griffin-Graham

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

Anita Johnson

726 Loveville Road,
Apartment 703
Hockessin, DE 19707
(302) 239-5139

Janet Reed

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

Mary Duncan

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

Doug & Linda Twyford

513 East Roosevelt Ave.
New Castle, DE 19720
(302) 328-6824

Judy Hentkowski

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

Bev Denison

134 Spring Meadow Dr
Smyrna, DE 19977
(302) 389-6919

Robert Lindfors

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

On Assignment with the Coast Guard:

George Spock

1346 Crocker St.
Coos Bay, OR 97420

This Week's Schedule

SUNDAY	12/25		CHRISTMAS DAY
		10:30am	In-Person & Live Stream Worship
		11:30am	Coffee Hour
Monday	12/26		OFFICE CLOSED
Wednesday	12/28	7:30pm	Choir
Thursday	12/29	7:00pm	Celebration Ringers
Friday	12/30		OFFICE CLOSED
Saturday	12/31		NEW YEAR'S EVE
		8:00am	Tai Chi
SUNDAY	01/01		NEW YEAR'S DAY
		10:30am	In-Person & Live Stream Worship
		11:30am	Coffee Hour

All printed music & performances are covered under

OneLicense #A-720755 Used by permission

New Castle Presbyterian Church

25 E. 2nd Street
New Castle, DE 19720

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

2023	2024	2025
Candy Dunson	Rob Barry	Melissa Boris
Steve Martin	Chris Fagles	Jennifer Dunham
Beverly Stoudt	Greg Fogarty	Connie Reese
Jim Whisman	Scott Selheimer	

Session meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month

DEACONS

2023	2024	2025
Lindy Ballance	Salina Brett	Toni Marley
Liz Parziale	Susan Fogarty	Janet Spring
Conchita Showell	Sandy Wilson	

Deacons meets the 2nd Sunday of the month

TRUSTEES

2023	2024	2025
Dan Dunson	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)

