

Worship for the Lord's Day

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

* Denotes all may stand if possible

Greetings & Announcements

Beth Mickle

Refrain: God is good / *All the time* / All the time / *God is good*

Prelude – *How Beautiful Are The Feet Of Them (from "The Messiah")* by G.F. Handel

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading, *Isaiah 64: 1-9*, pew Bible O.T., p. 791-792

*Hymn #2 - *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Advent Candle Lighting

Unison Prayer:

Thank you, God, for the hope you give us in this season. As we wait for the fulfillment of all your promises, and the return of Christ our Lord, remain ever present with us. Help us today, and every day, to amend our sinful lives, to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your hope with the world. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem, the one who is to come. Amen.

*Response (on insert) – *Trisagion*

*Passing of the Peace:

Leader: May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: *And also with you.*

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

*The children are invited to Children's Church at this time.
They will return after the sermon.*

Second Scripture Reading, *Mark 13:24-37*, pew Bible N.T., p. 1081

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Matthew L. Camlin

O Little Town: Thy Deep and Dreamless Sleep

*O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in the dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*

*Song of Praise (on insert), *Offering* by Paul Baloche

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Presentation of Offerings (If you haven't already, please pass the Friendship pads.)

Offertory Anthem

Chancel Choir

I Hear the Prophet Callin' by Pepper Choplin

I hear the prophet callin', "Prepare the way of the Lord."

Come and make straight the way in the dessert, a highway for our God.

Prepare the way of the Lord.

I hear Isaiah callin', "Fear not, your God has come."

I hear Isaiah callin', Fear not, your God will come."

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened. The ears of the deaf will hear.

And then the mute will shout for joy.

And the desert will be joyful and blossom as a rose.

We shall rejoice with joy and singing and see the glory of God.

**Doxology, Hymn #592*

*Prayer of Dedication

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: ...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

People: Holy God, Holy and Mighty,

Holy Immortal One,

We praise thee, we praise thee. Amen.

Leader: ... Great is the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again

Words of Institution

The Communion of the People

The Prayer after Communion

SENDING OUT THE WORD

*Hymn #291 – *O God of Earth and Altar*

Congregational Meeting

Report of the Nominating Committee (Election of Officers)

Report of the Personnel Committee (Pastor's Terms of Call for 2018)

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude – *Fling Wide The Door* by Henry Balcombe

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Worship services on radio WWNW (88.9FM)

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“Capital Campaign Buzz” at the Pot Luck Lunch today:

After worship all are encouraged to stay for the Pot Luck Lunch in the Social Hall being sponsored by the Capital Campaign Committee. Conversation around the table will enable you to express your ideas about church repairs and improvements that you feel need to be done in order to accomplish the ministry of NWPC.



The United States of America is December's Mission Focus of the NWPC Mission Committee. We display the smaller U.S. flag from the Ligo Room in the chancel area, drawing our attentions to the many missional outreaches that our Church supports throughout the nation.

The recent hurricanes have led us to support not only Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, but we have also entered into relationship with the congregation of the **First Presbyterian Church of Dickinson, TX.** The Church was heavily damaged by the flood waters and was in desperate need of building materials and replacement of the contents. Even during the clean up and rebuilding process the church continues to run their diaper ministry for those in need. We thank Wayne and Peggy Gordon for being our liaisons to this church and bringing us into relationship with them.

Most recently we received a request from **Mr. Ken Jewell**, a district administrator in our own **New Wilmington School District** to help with his mission brainchild. During his vacation to the South Dakota Badlands, Mr. Jewell had an encounter with a park ranger, who was also a teacher in one of the nation's poorest schools, the **Wolf Creek Elementary School on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.** Comparing teaching notes and districts, Ken became shockingly aware of the poverty and need of the children there. Pulaski Elementary School was closing and had over 3,500 books in its' library that were no longer needed. Ken knew just the place for them, but how to get the books into the hands of the Indian children? He would need a truck, gas, and expense money. He would be the driver if he could get the help he needed. Presenting his cause to the Board of Education and seeking the help of individuals and local churches, Ken was given approval by the School Board to send the books. Churches and individuals granted the money needed to make the trip. Our students happily helped pack the books into the van and also sent greetings and post cards in hopes of encouraging the recipients of the books to write back and kindle relationships. Ken made the journey to South Dakota to share 3,500 books with the school that had no library. Ken saw a broader picture, a missional picture, to develop a relationship between the students in New Wilmington and the students at Wolf Creek School. In the future Mr. Jewell hopes to foster that relationship with work trips to the reservation involving students and other community members. We look forward to hearing Ken Jewell's personal account of his experiences on his recent trip and the impact it has had. We are glad that NWPC was able to help with this project that has far reaching missional implications.

Mission opportunities are endless, whether across the nation, around the world, or to our neighbor. We can be the hands and feet of Christ, bringing comfort, hope, and most importantly the good news of Jesus' love and salvation to a needy world.

Worship Notes

If you are a guest today we pray that God will bless you through your presence with us. Please sign the pew pad, including contact information, so we may welcome you. **Assistance for worship** is available including large print bulletins and hymnals. We also have personal audio receivers that provide sound amplification.

Childcare: The Nursery for babies and toddlers (infants-age 2) is located through the side doors of the sanctuary to the left of the pulpit area. Thanks" to **Marilyn Reeher** for staffing our Nursery and to **Sue Anne Fairman** for assisting today. **Children's Church** is a gathering where children engage a Bible story in a creative and developmentally focused way. There are two groups: preschool and kindergarten students go to the NWPC Preschool Room, #216; students in 1st - 3rd grades are in the Children's Church Room, #213. Teachers are **Joel & Jill Postema** and **Diane Camlin**.

Greeting you today at the main entrance are **Art & Denise Gerber**. Denise has been a life-long member of NWPC and Art joined in 2003 when they were married. Denise is in her 13th year as an associate professor of business at Geneva College teaching Marketing and International Business courses. Denise is also the Department Chair. Art is in his 25th year at Ward Trucking and is currently a Trustee of the church. Art and Denise have two daughters, Jennifer and Amanda, and pets Harley (Springer Spaniel), Bubba and Mi Amour (kitties). Jennifer lives next door to Art & Denise with her adorable and crazy Jack Russell terrier mix named Macie. Macie and Harley are very spoiled. Between the two fenced-in yards, they have almost two acres in which to run and play. Amanda lives in Austintown, Ohio and is newly married to Ryan Marlin so Art and Denise welcomed a son-in-law to the family this year. The Gerber's love to go camping, to travel and go on vacations.

We are very pleased to have our middle school students serve as **acolytes** in worship. This morning **Sam Mistretta** and **Noah Postema** are lighting the candles.

Advent Worship Bags – for parents worshipping with children ages 4 to 8 or 9 years of age: Worship Bags, one per family, can be picked up on one of the tables in the Ligo Room for your child/children to use during worship during the Advent season. A laminated note in the bag explains what is within the bag for your child to keep and what should be returned in the bag at the end of the service. The bags will be replenished each Sunday of Advent.

The **2017 Advent Devotional Booklet** was written by local area pastors, and formatted and edited by Rev. Camlin. It can be found at all entrances to the church. Please take one for your family. An electronic PDF version is available by emailing Kim Romig (kim@nwpresby.org).

Today

Sunday, December 3, 2017 – First Sunday of Advent

- 9:30am Sunday School classes for all ages!
 9:30am UKirk Brunch, Social Hall
10:30am Worship – Communion
 11:45am Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary
 Noon Congregational Pot Luck Lunch, Social Hall
 5pm Blue Christmas Service (*See announcement below.*)
 6pm SHYG, Youth Room
 7pm WC Wallace Memorial Chapel: Music of the Season Worship Celebration

As the holidays approach, many of us experience feelings of joyful anticipation, but others in our midst who have experienced the loss of a loved one, or some other loss, this time of year can be a struggle filled with sadness and fear. **The Blue Christmas service today at 5pm in the Ligo Room** is for anyone feeling the need for support. If you are in that place, please plan to come and bring friends or family who might also be seeking healing.



This Week

Monday (4) Reminder – December 4th is the deadline for ordering poinsettias.

Tuesday (5)

- 5:30pm Joybells Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
 6pm JHYG, Social Hall
 7pm Carillon Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
 7pm Wilmington Area Soccer Club, Room 214
 7pm AA Meeting, balcony Room 309 (at the top of the stairs)

Wednesday (6)

Noon Staff Brown Bag Lunch, Room 206

Thursday (7)

- 6pm 🎵 Chancel Choir, Choir Room 🎵
 7:30pm Worship Team, Sanctuary

Next Sunday: RETURN GIVING TREE TAGS & GIFT BAGS

Sunday, December 10, 2017 – Second Sunday of Advent

- 9:30am Sunday School classes for all ages!
10:30am Worship
 11:45am Lunch and Caroling (*See insert.*)
 4pm Christmas Vespers, Westminster College Wallace Memorial Chapel
 6pm SHYG, Youth Room

Thank you: THREE FULL trunk loads of Thanksgiving Basket foods were taken to the City Rescue Mission! \$335 was collected for turkeys. The Mission Committee thanks everyone who donated items. Many needy families were able to have a Thanksgiving meal.



MEMO to Church Officers—Next Sunday, December 10th Greeters:

<u>N.W. Door</u>	<u>N.E. Door</u>	<u>S. E. Door</u>	<u>S. W. Door</u>
(by Ramp)	(Maple & Market corner)	(by Nursery)	(by Church Library)
Beth Mickle	Nancy Welker	Tim Cuff	Charlene List

Sunday School classes for all ages continue!

In this month of December, watch for a special Sunday morning gathering in Room 214 from 9:30-10:15am with a focus on preparing our hearts for Christmas. Devotional readings with accompanying music tracks by Andrew Peterson will allow a respite from the hurried, pressured preparations that sometimes overtake our lives in the busy holiday season. A limited number of books are available in the classroom for \$12. You may also download the eBook at Amazon for \$5.99

Please note: All children and youth classes, as well as SALT and the Men's Bible study will continue through December (on the 3rd, 10th and 17th).

Sunday School classes **will not meet** on December 24th or 31st.

Advent is here:

NWPC's 27th annual **Christmas Celebration** is Sunday, December 17th. *Find 2 inserts: one for ways you can participate in program and the other to RSVP & to volunteer your help with the meal.*



Christmas Eve Sunday at NWPC:

Morning Worship, 10:30am
 Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols, 7pm

Community Events

The **Shenango on the Green Bake Sale** takes place Thursday, December 7th and Friday, December 8th in the Market Street Lobby from 9-3pm both days. Proceeds will benefit the SeniorCare Fund, which is for benevolence.

Shenango Valley Chorale presents their Christmas Concert on Friday, December 8th at Wallace Memorial Chapel and Saturday, December 9th at First Presbyterian Church of Sharon. Both concerts begin at 7:30pm. Tickets are available at the door.