

Worship for the Lord's Day

* Denotes all may stand if possible

Greetings & Announcements

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

Prelude – *Gloria* arranged by Frances L. Callahan

Carillon Handbell Choir

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading – *Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11*

Gathering Prayer

*Hymn (on screen) – *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Lighting the Candle of Joy

Unison Prayer (here and on screen):

Merciful God, you love justice; why, then, do we persist in wrongdoing and every form of evil? You have given us the gift of your Spirit; why, then, do we quench the Spirit among us? You have given us the words of the prophets and the Word himself; why, then, do we despise and ignore what we have heard from you? Forgive us. Restore us. Till and tend us as your garden until righteousness and praise spring up, for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

*Advent Response (here, on insert or screen) – *A Candle Shines* by Phillip M. Hayden

*A candle shines in the window for joy, to melt our hearts of stone.
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and make our hearts Your home.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
A candle shines in the window for joy, to melt our hearts of stone.*

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

Word in Music – *Gaelic Alleluia* by Craig Courtney

Chancel Choir

On Jordan's banks the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and harken, for He brings glad tidings of the King of kings. Alleluia.
Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin; Make straight the way for God within,
And let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there. Alleluia.
We hail you as our Savior, Lord, our refuge and our great reward;
Without Your grace we waste away like flow'rs that wither and decay. Alleluia.
All praise to You, eternal Son, Whose advent has our freedom won,
Whom with the Father we adore, And Holy Spirit, evermore. Alleluia.

(Children are welcome to join Children's Church at this time - Room 213)

Scripture Reading – *Mark 3:31–35*

Sermon – *Home for the Holidays*

The Rev. Dr. Matthew L. Camlin

*Song of Praise (on screen) – *Christmas Offering* by Paul Baloche

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer (...sins...)

Presentation of Offerings

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory – *God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen*

arranged by Cynthia Dobrinski

Carillon Handbell Choir

Doxology, Hymn #592

*Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

Hymn (on screen) - *'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime*

Postlude – *How Beautiful Are the Feet of Them* by G.F. Handel

*Charge and Benediction

*Benediction Response (on screen) –

May the Peace of the Lord Christ Go with You by P. Sutcliffe

WORSHIP NOTES

If you are a guest today, we pray 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 found in the bulletin racks, and personal audio receivers that provide sound amplification at the “sound booth” at the back of the sanctuary.

For Children:

1. **Welcome to our nursery care during the church service**, located through the side doors of the sanctuary to the left of the pulpit area, Room 212. *Please note* the space was thoughtfully designed for children 0-3 years of age. If your child is older than three, please refrain from including him/her with this age group. Many thanks. Providing childcare today are Diana Reed and Alasdair Camlin.
2. **Children Church**, Room 213, is a creative and developmentally appropriate worship experience for children age 4 to 4th grade. Jill Postema, Sharon Meyer, and Janine Stuart will be taking turns teaching.
3. **Children’s Worship Bulletins** for ages 3-6 & 7-12 are located at the ramp door.



December Mission Focus:

Christmas Joy Offering – received today

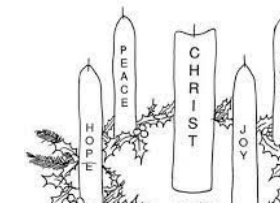
The Christmas Joy Offering honors the faithfulness of our leaders. Thanks in part to support from this offering, current and retired Presbyterian church workers and their families can receive critical financial help through the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions. **Please see today’s bulletin insert featuring Sue Anne Fairman.**



MAKE ROOM: TODAY at 5:30pm, our church family's annual tradition, the Christmas Celebration, will take place in the sanctuary for all to enjoy. Dust off your wiseman crown, your shepherd's crook, or the halo you keep on the shelf and help us to tell the story that set our faith in motion. **Make Room** is the theme of the evening, and we ask you to do just that. Make room on your calendar. Make room in your heart, and join us. Cookies and cocoa to follow in the Ligo room. Please consider bringing a plate of treats to share with everyone for this festive, thought-provoking time of connection, worship, and fun!

December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent



New Wilmington Presbyterian Church

229 S. Market Street, New Wilmington, PA 16142

www.nwpresby.org • office@nwpresby.org • 724-946-3541

Office hours: Mon-Fri, 9 am-5 pm

Worship services on radio WWNW (88.9FM)

Rev. Dr. Matthew L. Camlin (Pastor) ext. 12; matt@nwpresby.org

Anne Bruening (Music Coordinator, Director of Chancel and Handbell Choirs)
brueniap@gmail.com

Kathy Montgomery (Organist) kwmdmd@zoominternet.net

Linda McGrath (Worship Team Co-Leader), lmoosemcgrath@gmail.com and

Katie Dreyer (Worship Team Co-Leader), k.dreyer98@gmail.com

Debbie Forsberg (Christian Education Coordinator) ext. 24; debbie@nwpresby.org

Doug Phillips (Youth Leader), coachphillips30@gmail.com

Linda McGrath (Congregational Care Coordinator), lmoosemcgrath@gmail.com

Kim Romig (Church Treasurer), ext. 13, kim@nwpresby.org

Kay Taylor (Building Manager) ext. 15; kay@nwpresby.org

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, December 17, 2023 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

- 9am Men's Bible Class studying *Psalms*, Lillian Martin Room
9:15am SALT Class-*Begin Again, James Baldwin's America and Its Lessons for Our Time* by Eddie S. Glaude via ZOOM; contact Biz Hines, ehines@westminster.edu, for a link and/or more information
9:30am Sunday School Classes for all children age 2-8th grade
10:30am WORSHIP at New Wilmington Presbyterian Church or via LiveStream (livestream.com/nwpresby) or Titan radio, at 88.9 FM
5:30pm **Annual Christmas Celebration** – “*Make Room*”, Sanctuary



MONDAY, 12-18

TUESDAY, 12-19

- No Joybells Handbell Choir Rehearsal this week
6pm Spanish Class, Room 206
No Carillon Handbell Choir, Sanctuary
7pm AA Meeting, Room 214

WEDNESDAY, 12-20

No JHYG this week

THURSDAY, 12-21

- 6pm Chancel Choir rehearsal, Sanctuary
7pm Worship Team rehearsal, Sanctuary

FRIDAY, 12-22

SATURDAY, 12-23

No Adult Bible Study until January 6, 2024

SUNDAY, December 24, 2023 – 4th Sunday of Advent

- No Men's Bible Class until January 7, 2024
No SALT Class until January 7, 2024
10:30am WORSHIP at New Wilmington Presbyterian Church or via LiveStream (livestream.com/nwpresby) or Titan radio, at 88.9 FM

CHRISTMAS EVE

- 7pm
Candle Light Service of Lessons and Carols, Sanctuary



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advent devotionals: From Frontier Fellowship, “*Go + Tell*” invites you to go deeper into the music of the season. It is available in the Ligo Room. A devotional to download as a PDF or to access online, entitled “*Bless the Advent We Actually Have*” by Kate Bowler, can be accessed at katebowler.com/advent. It is free, very thoughtful and includes music links to enhance the study time as well.



It's time to register for the 2024 Dominican Republic Mission Trip which will take place February 24 - March 2. Each traveler is responsible for his / her own air travel arrangements and expenses. **Join the team by registering with this link:**

<https://shenangopresbytery.wufoo.com/forms/q1legapdj0819b8w/>

Registration deadline is January 31, 2024. Questions? Contact Joel Postema (postemajt@westminster.edu / 724-944-3944) or Matt Camlin (724-747-7422 / matt@nwpresby.org /).

To keep the congregation informed, here is the Trustees Meeting Summary from December 6, 2023:

The trustees met on Wednesday, December 6, 2023 and approved the following:

- The trustees awarded the contract for the renovation of the social hall to Rossman Hensley Inc. for \$496,320. The work can begin as early as January and will take approximately four months.
- The trustees approved a request from the Presbytery to hold monthly committee meetings at the church. These meetings will take place on the third Tuesday of the month. A room has not been determined for these meetings.
- The air conditioning contractor will begin the work to install the chiller on the flat roof.
- The minutes of the November 1, 2023 meeting were approved

In addition, the trustees discussed the following:

- The trustees are looking into replacing the front doors to the church.
- The Boy Scouts have been informed that they won't be able to have their spaghetti dinner at the church in February due to the construction work in the social hall.



THANK YOU! Our congregation's support of the Giving Tree helps spread Christmas cheer to Wilmington Area School families and residents at The Grove and Shenango on the Green. Your responses generously filled 72 needs and requests.

Thank you for your generosity and giving spirit.

We wish you and your family a merry Christmas, The Deacons

Terms of Call insert goes here.

Update from our Treasurer:

- PER CAPITA FOR 2024 is \$39.20. *WHAT IS PER CAPITA?*
Per Capita is an annual per member apportionment assessed by the General Assembly (Book of Order, G-3.0106), and by many synods and presbyteries, to enable Presbyterians to share the ecclesiastical and administrative costs of sustaining our witness to Christ through the Presbyterian Church (USA). Contributing towards the Per Capita lessens the cost to our church making it possible to use funds for other ministries of our church. Please consider making your Per Capita contribution!
 - We have received many **2024 Estimate of Giving cards**. Thank you for your commitment to NWPC! This helps with planning the budget for next year. If you still need to turn in your estimate for next year, please do so in the next few weeks.
 - **The 2024 Giving Envelopes** are available in the Ligo Room! If possible, please grab your envelopes in the next few weeks so we can save postage in mailing them. Most online givers will not have envelopes. But if you need a few for other giving, please see Kim Romig.
 - **YEAR END GIVING** must be postmarked by December 31st. Online giving will be recorded on the date the transaction is completed.
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Community Corner: There are **five Wilmington Area School District seniors** who would like to go on their senior trip in the spring but can't pay for the trip. The cost is \$500 per student. If you would like to contribute any amount to help them, you may write a check or give online to the church with "senior trip" in the memo line. It would be helpful to have donations by December 18. If you have questions, contact Tammy Milton, senior class advisor, at milton@wasd.school. *Thank you.*