

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 – *Angels We Have Heard on High*

Joybells Handbell Choir

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading – *Psalm 45: 17-21*

Gathering Prayer

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

Lighting the Candle of Joy

Kylee Hoffman, Elin Phillips and Allison Stuart

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 & 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 – *Come, Emmanuel* by Pepper Choplin

Ready, waiting, God is with us. Ready, waiting for Emmanuel. God is with us, come, Emmanuel.

Yearning, sighing for Emmanuel. Praying, crying “Emmanuel.” Come, Emmanuel! O come and with us dwell. For unto you a Child is born, to you a Son is given. Though He arrives through human birth, He comes with full divinity.

For unto you a Child is born, to you a Son is given. No other one has come before, born of earth, born of heav’n, born of earth and heaven.

Come, Emmanuel. O come and with us dwell. Ready, waiting, come, Emmanuel. Come

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

Scripture Reading – *Philippians 4:4-7*

Sermon – *The Lord is Near*

The Rev. Dave Hunter

Song of Praise (on screen) – *Make Room* by Mark Hall and Matt Maher

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

Presentation of Offerings

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory – *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* arranged by Phil Perkins
Tawnee Hunter, flute

*Doxology, Hymn #592

*Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

*Hymn (on screen) – *‘Twas in the Moon of Wintertime*

Postlude – *Back to Bethlehem* arranged by Marilynn Ham

*Charge and Benediction

*Benediction Response (on screen)

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

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: large print bulletins are in the bulletin racks; personal audio receivers providing sound amplification at the “sound booth” at the back of the sanctuary.

For children:

1. **The Nursery** (infants – age 3) is located through the side doors of the sanctuary to the left of the pulpit area, Room 212. The Nursery is staffed adult volunteers.
2. Families of **4 to 6-year-old children** are welcome to use Room 215, next to the NWPC Preschool classroom, during the service. A parent/guardian must be present at all times. Please feel free to use the toys, games and art supplies in the labeled cupboards. Kindly return everything at the end of the service.
3. **Children's Church** (ages 4 years – grade four), meets in Room 213 during the middle part of the adult worship service. Children's Church welcomes Joan Dawson this week. Joan will share her love of Jesus and her artistic gifts with the children as they create a Christmas decoration together. Thanks Joan!
4. **Children's Worship Bulletins** (ages 3-6 & 7-12) are found at the ramp door.

Greeting you this morning is Laura McCracken.

Thank you to Rev. Dave Hunter for leading us in worship and moderating our Congregational Meeting today while the Camlins are away.

Daily Lectionary Readings for the Week:

Monday	Psalm 90; Numbers 17:1-11; 2 Peter 3:1-18
Tuesday	Psalm 90; 2 Samuel 7:18-29; Revelation 22:12-16
Wednesday	Psalm 90; Isaiah 1:24-31; Luke 11:29-32
Thursday	Luke 1:68-79; Malachi 3:5-12; Philippians 1:12-18a
Friday	Luke 1:68-79; Malachi 3:13-18; Philippians 1:18b-26
Saturday	Luke 1:68-79; Malachi 4:1-6; Luke 9:1-6

As you read, don't ask yourself, “What am I learning?” but rather, “How does this speak to me? What does this stir up within me? Why might that be?

December 15, 2024

Third Sunday of Advent - Joy



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), kay@nwpresby.org



**December Mission Focus 2024 Christmas Joy Offering:
Prepare the Way, ISAIAH 40**

The perfect gift – Jesus – bringing joy, peace and salvation.

Since the 1930's, the Christmas Joy Offering has celebrated God's perfect gift to us with generous support of the leaders among us – past, present and future - who point us to God. The offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families. Presbyterian-related schools and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. This has been a Presbyterian commitment for nearly 140 years. The Christmas Joy Offering will be received next Sunday, December 22.

SALT will respond to Roger Rosenblatt's, Cold Moon: On Life, Love and Responsibility. "The Cold Moon occurs in late December, auguring the arrival of the winter solstice. Approaching the winter solstice of his own life, Roger Rosenblatt offers a book dedicated to the three most important lessons he has learned over his many years: an appreciation of being alive, a recognition of the gift and power of love, and the necessity of exercising responsibility toward one another." SALT meets via Zoom at 9:15am. Contact Jim Hines for a link, jhines55@hotmail.com

2025 Estimate of Givings and 2025 Offering Envelopes

If you haven't already submitted your **2025 Estimate of Givings**, we kindly ask that you do so. We are grateful for and encouraged by the many responses already received! If you've misplaced your Estimate of Givings Trifold, extra copies are in the Ligo Room. **If you prefer, email your 2025 Estimate**, to our treasurer Kim Romig at kim@nwpresby.org.

Your **2025 Offering Envelopes** are also ready for pickup in the Ligo Room! If you give online/annually but would like a few envelopes for additional offerings, please take some, located near the 2025 Offering Envelopes.

The Session has called a **Congregational Meeting following worship today in the sanctuary** for the purposes of electing officers for 2025 and for approving the pastor's Terms of Call for 2025. Please plan to attend; a quorum is required.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

It is with great pleasure that the Nominating Committee introduces these nominees for church officers.

SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR NOMINATION
at the Congregational Meeting on December 15, 2024

(Serving 3 years from January, 2025 through December 31, 2027
unless otherwise indicated.)

Session: (all returning for a second term)

Scott McGrath
Tawnee Hunter
Dan Forsberg
Pam Mansell

Deacons:

Sharyn Campbell – returning for a second term
Jennifer Green – returning for a second term
Kay Crytzer
Sharyn Shaner

Trustees:

Ernie Rodgers
John Zahniser
Lyle Johnston



Please join us at the Blue Christmas service for a time of hope and healing; a quiet and peaceful reminder of God's love for each of us. The service is in the sanctuary, this evening at 6pm.



GIVING TREE REMINDERS:

Giving Tree gifts are due back TODAY - Be sure to attach the tag you took from the tree to the gift!!!

Wilmington Area School – please **DO NOT** wrap the gift but attach the tag to it and put in the box by the Giving Tree.

The Grove and Shenango on the Green – please **DO** wrap these gifts in gift bags. Attach the tag to the gift bag and return it to the Giving Tree.

Questions? Contact Don Shelenberger, (724) 946-3388.

Thank you for sharing with area students and residents.



Parents: drop your kids off at the church on Friday, December 20th from 5:30 - 8:30pm.

Need to run some errands or have a dinner out? Your kids will be having a fun time with SHYG.

Gift wrapping, food, games, crafts, movies, more!

For Kids PreK -- 6th grade
\$10 per kid



CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024 - Congregational Meeting

9:30am “*Different Brews * Different Views*”, Youth Lounge
10:30am WORSHIP: here at New Wilmington Presbyterian Church, or via
 LiveStream at vimeo.com/nwpresby or Titan radio, at 88.9 FM
10:45am Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary
6pm Blue Christmas Service, Sanctuary

MONDAY, 12-16

3:30pm Mission Committee, Room 206

TUESDAY, 12-17

10am Staff Meeting & Lunch
5:30pm Joybells Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
6pm Spanish Class, Room 206
7pm AA Meeting, Room 214

WEDNESDAY, 12-18

6pm JHYG, Youth Lounge
5pm Session Meeting, Room 214 (*Note time change.*)

THURSDAY, 12-19

6pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
7:15pm Worship Team Rehearsal, Sanctuary

FRIDAY, 12-20

5:30pm Kids Night In, Social Hall

SATURDAY, 12-21

No Adult Saturday Bible Study until January

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024 -

9:30am “*Different Brews * Different Views*”, Youth Lounge
10:30am WORSHIP: here at New Wilmington Presbyterian Church, or via
 LiveStream at vimeo.com/nwpresby or Titan radio, at 88.9 FM
 “*Sing with Us the Christmas Story*” during worship followed
 by a Special Christmas Potluck Lunch in the Social Hall (*See insert.*)



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols,

Tuesday, 12/24 – 7pm