

The Word in Music – *The People Who Walk in Darkness* by Pepper Choplin

The people who walk in darkness have seen a great light.

Now lift up your eyes, see the glory of the Lord,
and all flesh will see it together.

Scripture Reading – Isaiah 7:14 and Micah 5:22

Sermon – “*Prepping for the Journey*”

Rev. Jim Mohr

*Hymn (on screen) – *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (v. 1, 5-7)

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Celebration of God's Generosity

Invitation to the Offering

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

*Doxology, Hymn #592

**Prayer of Dedication*

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer (...sins...)

*Hymn (on screen) – *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

SENDING

Charge and Benediction

(*Please be seated after the Benediction*)

Postlude – *Fling Wide the Door* – Henry Balcombe

Kathy Montgomery

**Benediction Response (on screen)*

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



November 30, 2025
First Sunday in 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, Wed. 1-5 pm

Worship services on radio WWNW (88.9FM)

*The New Wilmington Presbyterian Church seeks
discipleship to Christ,
reconciliation in Christ,
divine encounter through Christ,
generosity with Christ.*

WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

* Denotes all may stand if possible

Greetings & Announcements

Matt Davis

Prelude –*Longing for Messiah* – Mark Hayes
- *Candle Lighters: Milly Renninger and Hailee Cline* -

Call to Worship

Leader: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

People: Come, O Lord, and send us your light.

Leader: O come, O come, Emmanuel.

People: Come and bring the light of God.

Leader: Come and walk among us.

People: Be our Savior and our Friend.

Leader: O come, O come, Emmanuel.

Unison: Come to bring us your peace.

Leader: Watch and wait for Christ's coming! We light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer.

*Hymn (on screen) – *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (v. 1-4)

Lighting of the Candle of Hope

Angie, Dan, Jonathan, and Jacob Urban

*Advent Response (here, on insert, & screen) – *A Candle Shines*

by Phillip M. Hayden

A candle shines in the window for hope, 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 hope, to melt our hearts of stone.

Unison Prayer of Confession in Response to God's Grace:

Holy and Gracious God, out of an abundance of love you have given us so much: life and breath; community and companionship; hope and Good News. On the fullness of time you have given us Jesus Christ, your Son, and by your Spirit, joined us with Christ in his saving work.

Worship Service, page 2

Yet despite all of these things we neglect to show gratitude, and we mistake your gifts as our possessions. Forgive us, Lord; and by your Spirit, transform us into the image of your gift of love, in Jesus Christ, the one whose birth we prepare to celebrate, your Son. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Please share God's peace with one another.

*Passing of the Peace:

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

People: And also with you.

Children's Sermon

Abby Richards

(Children are welcome to join JAM at this time – Room 213)

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith (*The Apostle's Creed*)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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 are 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. Alasdair Camlin and an adult volunteer will be in the nursery.
2. Families of **4 to 6-year-old children** are welcome to use Room 213, next to the nursery) if needed during the early part of the worship service, with a parent or guardian present. When JAM begins around 10:45 in that space, we welcome and encourage your children to stay and participate!
3. **Doodle boards for kids of all ages** to use during the service are located on either side of the transept. Children and/or parents can choose an activity page plus there is a small snack and occasional surprise inside to occupy small hands during the service. We cherish our youth and hope this is one more way that they feel at home amongst their church family.
4. **JAM (Jesus and Me) is for children in grades K-4.** Offering Scripturally based teachings, activities, and learning opportunities during the church service in Room 213. For parents who would like to participate in Sunday School classes during the before-church adult times, childcare can be provided. Please contact Debbie Forsberg to coordinate care for your child(ren) if needed.



The rose on the altar this morning is to announce the birth of Maverick Moon Morley, son of Destiny Morley on September 10, 2025. He is the grandson of Bev and Raymond Morley.

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, November 30, 2025 – First Sunday of Advent

Rev. Jim Mohr preaching,

Pastoral Care will be provided by Rev. Dave Hunter this week

9am Men's Bible Class, Lillian Martin Room
9:15am SALT via Zoom: Separation of Church and Hate by John Fugelsang
Contact Jim Hines for a link, jhines55@hotmail.com
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
6pm SHYG, Youth Lounge

TUESDAY, 12-2

5:30pm Joybells Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
6:30pm JHYG, Youth Lounge – delivering College Goodie Bags
7pm Carillon Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
7pm AA Meeting, Room 214

WEDNESDAY, 12-3

7pm Deacons, Room 214

THURSDAY, 12-4

11:30am SOG Memory Cafe, Fellowship Hall
6pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
7:15pm Worship Team Rehearsal, Sanctuary

SATURDAY, 12-6

9am Adult Saturday Bible Study, Church Library

SUNDAY, December 7, 2025 – Second Sunday of Advent

Rev. Brad Walters will be preaching

9am Men's Bible Class, Lillian Martin Room
9:15am SALT via Zoom: Separation of Church and Hate by John Fugelsang
Contact Jim Hines for a link, jhines55@hotmail.com
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
6pm SHYG, Youth Lounge

ANNOUNCEMENTS



On this first Sunday in Advent, many of our hearts are filled with eager anticipation as we look towards Christmas. For some in our church family who have experienced the loss of a loved one, however, this can be a very difficult time. As we seek to minister to one another, let us be sensitive to the particular kind of pain that may be experienced during the holidays. It is normal to have a multitude of emotions as one remembers past Christmases. Expressing these emotions to someone can validate the life of a loved one, and move the grieving person along in the normal process of grief. Healing comes from this kind of opening. Be aware that a grieving person may become more tired than usual, as energy is used to cope with emotions. Or thinking may not be as clear as usual, or decisions hard to make. The person experiencing this, and those around him/her need to be tolerant of these changes. Nurturing oneself, trusting that God is very near, getting enough rest, eating balanced healthy meals, and lowering expectations usually helps one move through a time when a "surge of grief" may occur. Openly allowing this process, and sharing the feelings can bring one in touch with God's comfort and peace. Christmas can still be a time of joy, but it will never be the same as it was before the death. Recognizing this and embracing this reality can be a real Christmas gift!

**CONSIDER ATTENDING "THE BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE"
ON DECEMBER 7TH**

**2026 Giving Envelopes are available for pick-up
on the table in the Ligo Room.**



**Poinsettia orders are due today!
Forms are in the bulletins and available
in the Ligo Room for your convenience.**

NEW WILMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH TRANSITION SCHEDULE

PASTORAL CARE (Mon-Sun)

11/24-30 – Jim Leuenberger
12/1 – 4 – Dave Hunter
12/5-14 – Jim Leuenberger
12/15-21 – Jim Mohr

PREACHING

11/30 – Jim Mohr
12/7 – Brad Walters
12/14 – Dave Hunter
12/21 – Christmas Celebration

**If you have pastoral needs, please call, text or email
Linda McGrath, Congregational Care Coordinator.**

**She can be reached at 724-730-3813 or Imoosemcgrath@gmail.com.
She will then notify the minister on call for the week.**

STAFF

*We welcome Rev. Jim Mohr to our pulpit this morning.
Rev. Jim Leuenberger will be providing pastoral care this week.*
Anne Bruening (Music Coordinator, Director of Chancel & Handbell Choirs)
brueniap@gmail.com
Kathy Montgomery (Organist) kwmdmd@zoominternet.net
Katie Dreyer (Worship Team 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), Imoosemcgrath@gmail.com
Autumn Imhoff (Administrative Assistant), office@nwpresby.org
Kim Romig (Church Treasurer), ext. 13, kim@nwpresby.org
Kay Taylor (Building Manager) ext. 15; kay@nwpresby.org

Services completed by the Deacons in October:

Visitations – 8
phone calls – 8
Meals delivered – 3
Mailings – 12
Grief Booklets mailed - 2



Want to spread some Christmas Cheer?

Well, you're in luck because it's time for the annual Giving Tree! It's easy to participate. Just select a tag from the Giving Tree in the Ligo Room. Tags note gift suggestions for residents of Kadima (formerly The Grove), Shenango on the Green, and Wilmington Area School students. There are multiple gift suggestions on the tags. This is intended to personalize the gift **BUT** you DO NOT need to provide all of the items listed.

After you select your tag(s), write your name and tag number(s) on the participant sheet on the table by the Giving Tree.

Gifts are due back by Sunday, December 14th.

How to get these gifts ready to give to students and residents:

Please place the **UNWRAPPED** gifts in a gift bag, attach the tag to the gift bag and place it near the Giving Tree in the Ligo Room.

Any questions? Contact Don Shelenberger at 724-946-3388.

Thank you in advance for brightening area students and residents Christmas this year!

A Message from Session:

1. Session is currently working to find an interim pastor during this transitional time. Our goal is to have an interim pastor in place for January 2026.
2. The NWPC congregation will elect seven members to serve on the Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC). The PNC is a group of members elected by our church congregation to find and nominate a new pastor. The NWPC PNC will consist of 7 members; three Elders, one Deacon, and three Members-at-Large. -PNC members will be elected by secret ballot during a congregational meeting around mid-January 2026.

Would you prayerfully consider nominating yourself or another congregant to serve our church in this capacity?

3. During our Nov. meeting, Session removed Samantha Zeigler from our membership roll, as she is a clergy member, working as Head of Staff at Gayton Road Christian Church in Richmond, VA. Congrats to Sam!

Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC)

NWPC congregants will nominate and elect 7 representatives (in Jan. 2026) to serve on the PNC.

Will you prayerfully consider nominating yourself or another congregant to serve in this capacity?



Names may be submitted to the church office – office@nwpresby.org.

Poinsettia Order Form

Please complete this form and return with payment in an envelope marked "flowers". You may put it in the offering plate or bring/mail it to the office. You may also use the online form on the NWPC website. **The deadline for ordering is Sunday, November 30.**

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Please order at \$11.00 each:

Red

White

Pink

Please add a bow at \$1.00 per plant

Flower total: _____

Bow total: _____

ORDER TOTAL: _____

Print dedication in bulletin as follows:

1. In memory/honor of: _____

Given by: _____

2. In memory/honor of: _____

Given by: _____

3. In memory/honor of: _____

Given by: _____

4. In memory/honor of: _____

Given by: _____

Poinsettias should be picked up after the service on

**Christmas Eve. Thank you for helping to make our
Advent worship special.**



5. In memory/honor of: _____

Given by: _____

6. In memory/honor of: _____

Given by: _____

7. In memory/honor of: _____

Given by: _____

8. In memory/honor of: _____

Given by: _____

9. In memory/honor of: _____

Given by: _____

10. In memory/honor of: _____

Given by: _____



LAST HARD-TO-RECYCLE EVENT OF 2025

December 9 9am - 1 pm

Lawrence County Recycling/Solid Waste Dept.

Gettings Annex at Lawrence Co Courthouse, New Castle, PA

YES



- Holiday Lights
- Books
- Thermostats
- Shoes
- Plastic Bags & Film
- Media
- VHS Tapes
- Cassette Tapes
- CDs and DVDs
- Floppy disks



NO

- Cell Phones
- Fluorescent Tubes
- CFLs
- Electronics
- Paint, Chemicals, etc.
- Batteries

Visit the Department's
Electronics Recycling Guide for
the proper disposal of E-Waste
and HHW.

HELP WANTED: Part time (2 hrs/wk); Help is needed in New Wilmington-- tidying apartment, food prep, and laundry. Days and hours are flexible. If interested, please contact the church office.

