

New Castle Presbyterian Church

25 E 2nd Street, New Castle, DE 19720

Phone: (302) 328-3279 | Email: office@newcastlepreschurch.org

www.newcastlepreschurch.org



New Castle Presbyterian Church ~ Built 1707 ~ New Castle, Delaware

Our Mission

New Castle Presbyterian Church offers a nurturing and supportive church community where all are welcomed to join in prayer and song, study and service as all are called to demonstrate understanding, compassion, and acceptance.

By God's Spoken Word and Holy Spirit, we seek to live out the Gospel of the Risen Christ, as we grow spiritually, in strength, and with inclusiveness.

We worship God in simplicity and with clarity; we study God's Word to direct our lives; and we nurture the young and the searchers in our midst.

As a congregation and in cooperation with others, we engage in service and outreach with the local community and the world.

We work to feed, clothe, and shelter our brothers and sisters while sharing the selfless and forgiving love of Jesus Christ.

As we have been blessed, we seek to use all that we have to bless others with this good news of grace and joy.

Welcome to New Castle Presbyterian Church!

In person and via livestream, we gather as a faith community, 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.

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

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

Sunday School and Nursery will be offered today. Children begin in worship; worship bags are available at the entrance. Following the Scripture Conversation, babies through four-year-olds may go to nursery; children age Kindergarten through 5th grade may go to Sunday School. Please see an usher for a registration form or if you have any questions.

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

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

Gentle Reminders:

Please turn off all cell phones.

Parking spaces on 2nd Street are for handicapped parking only.

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 8:30am-12:30pm
Pastor Miriam's day of rest is Monday.

Prayer List:

To place a name on the confidential Prayer Chain, contact Susan Flook, 302-328-7346 suzieflook@hotmail.com or Fran Ginger, 302-994-5988 silverfran@aol.com

Continuing Care Homes / Hospitals:

Rod Denison

Coral Springs Healthcare Ctr.
505 Greenbank Rd., Room C7
Wilmington, DE 19808

Linda Twyford

ACTS Country House
4830 Kennett Pike, RG 1
Wilmington, DE 19807
(302) 328-2580

Mary Duncan

HarborChase of Wilmington
2004 Shipley Road #1107
Wilmington, DE 19803
[\(302\) 482-3547](tel:3024823547)

At Home:

Kathy Griffin-Graham

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

Anita Johnson

724 Loveville Road,
HealthCare Rm 2006
Hockessin, DE 19707

Robert Lindfors

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

Judy Hentkowski

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

Sandy Wilson

53 W. 5th Street
New Castle, DE 19720
(302) 544-6578

Gene Mayhew

17 E 5th Street
New Castle, DE 19720

On Assignment with the Coast Guard:

SN George Spock

1425 McFarland Rd.
Apt. 506
Mt. Lebanon, PA 15216

On Assignment with the Air Force:

James Boyle

1150 Bole Street,
Unit 54
JBPHH, HI 96860

**New Castle Presbyterian Church
Third Sunday after Epiphany**

February 2, 2025

10:30 a.m.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Tell Me the Stories of Jesus
Bethany Faiz - Piano

arr. Stan Pethel

**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 share Christ's greeting, "Peace be with you".

Steeple Bell

Choral Introit

Call to Worship (from Psalm 71)

In you, O Lord, let us take refuge.

In your presence, we are never put to shame.

In your righteousness, O Lord, let us find deliverance.

From age to age, we experience your saving power.

O God, let us place our trust in you.

We come praising your mighty deeds.

You are our rock and our refuge, our fortress and shield.

Almighty God, we turn to you again this day!

***Hymn #401**

Here in This Place



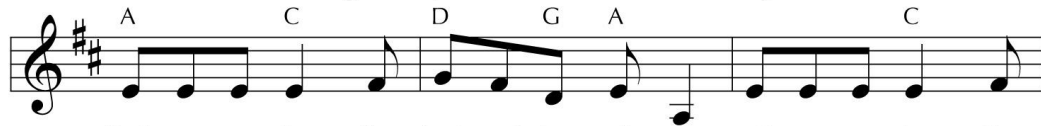
1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Generous God, when we set our tables, we imagine who belongs. We welcome our family, our neighbors, our congregation, but we limit the seating to those who make us comfortable. Yet, your love has no boundary; you set tables for us and our enemies. Soften our hearts to those we rage against. Restore us to your vision of generosity. Renew us with your abundant mercy and love, which know no end. ... (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 #582

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.**

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. (sing 3x)

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

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PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Anthem

Song of Blessings

Wilson/Dengler

Bethany Faiz - Piano

May God's grace warm your heart, dry your tears. May God's Spirit strengthen your soul, help you stand for all that's true. May God's peace comfort your mind, calm your fears. May God's joy let your feet dance, let your voice sing. May God's love be reflected in your life. May you walk hand in hand, in conversation with God. As you travel life's journey, may God be your companion today, and every tomorrow. May God's grace warm your heart, dry your tears. May God's Spirit strengthen your soul, help you stand for all that's true. May God's peace comfort your mind, calm your fears. May God's joy let your feet dance, let your voice sing. May God's love be reflected in your life.

Scripture Conversation with Children

Prayer for Illumination

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom by giving your kingdom to the lowly and pure in heart. May your Word give us a deep hunger for justice and a strong thirst for righteousness. Energize us, that by our words and deeds the world may see the promise of your kingdom, revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture Lesson 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Page: NT 175

If I speak in the tongues of humans and of angels but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers and understand all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all my possessions and if I hand over my body so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; ⁶ it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹ For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part, ¹⁰ but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. ¹² For now we see only a reflection, as in a mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. ¹³ And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love. *This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God*

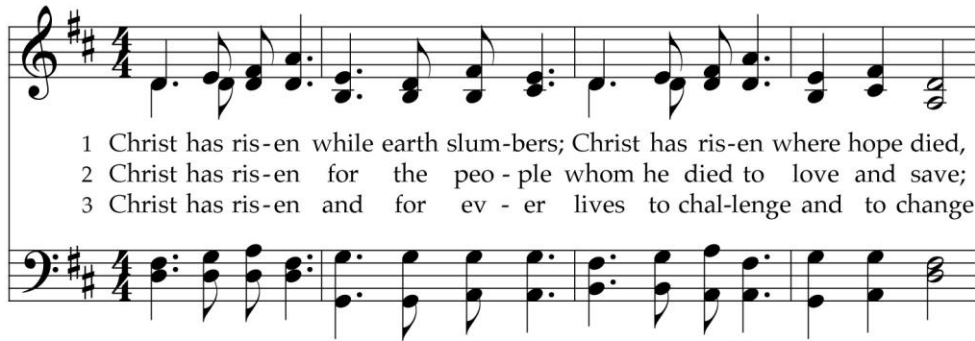
Sermon

To Have and To Hold

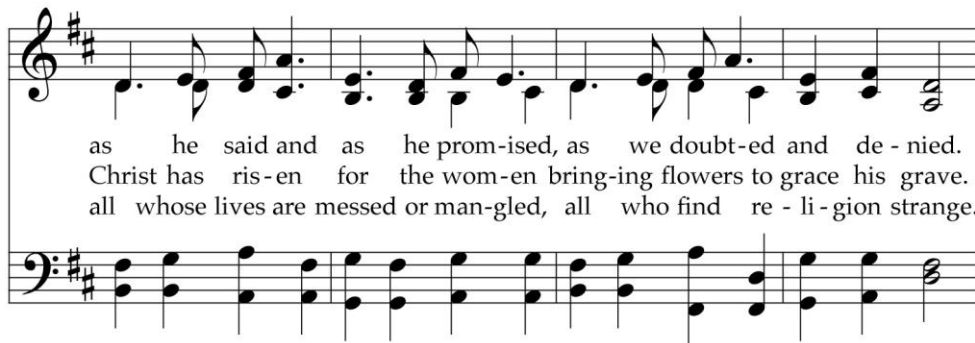
GIVE THANKS TO GOD

*Hymn #231

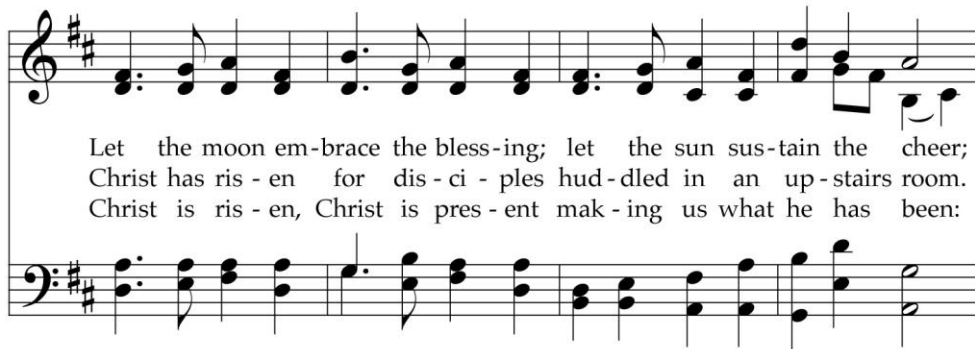
Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers



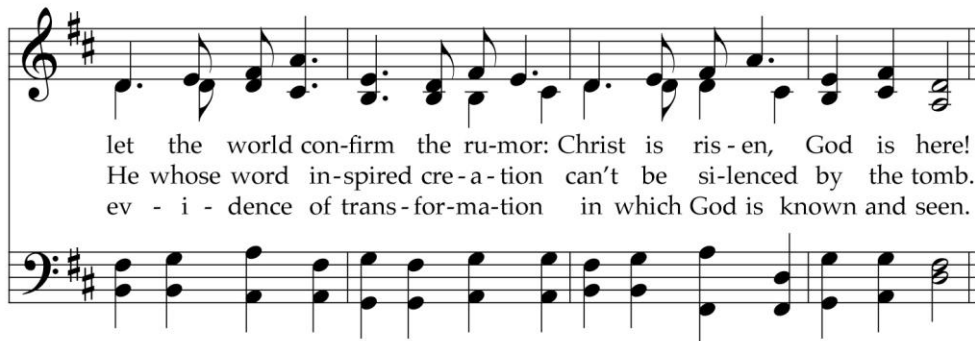
1 Christ has ris-en while earth slum-bers; Christ has ris-en where hope died,
2 Christ has ris-en for the peo - ple whom he died to love and save;
3 Christ has ris-en and for ev - er lives to chal-lenge and to change



as he said and as he prom-ised, as we doubt-ed and de - nied.
Christ has ris-en for the wom-en bring-ing flowers to grace his grave.
all whose lives are messed or man-gled, all who find re - li - gion strange.



Let the moon em-brace the bless-ing; let the sun sus-tain the cheer;
Christ has ris - en for dis - ci - ples hud-dled in an up - stairs room.
Christ is ris - en, Christ is pres - ent mak - ing us what he has been:



let the world con-firm the ru-mor: Christ is ris - en, God is here!
He whose word in-spired cre-a-tion can't be si-lenced by the tomb.
ev - i - dence of trans-for-ma-tion in which God is known and seen.

Beginning with rather conventional Easter imagery, this text moves into unexpected territory by declaring that Christ's Resurrection is for "all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange." The name of this traditional Welsh melody simply means "lullaby."

Offerings of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

arr. Cindy Berry

Bethany Faiz - Piano

***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 resurrection hope, we are grateful for life and all its gifts. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service for your kingdom. Increase in us the stuff that life is made of – faith, hope, and love, but especially love – that we may abide with you eternally through Jesus Christ, our brother and our lord. Amen.

Communion and Prayers of the People

Invitation

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

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 #526

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one; at the ta - ble he
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a



shout of joy: bread is bro - ken; the wine is poured;
sets the tone, teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless,
world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share:



Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
love in word and in deed ex - press. Je - sus lives a - gain;
God (Im - man - u - el) ev - ery - where!



earth can breathe a - gain; pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Maracas and other rhythm instruments may be used. 

This "communion calypso" (as the author called it) affirms the continuing presence of Christ both in the sacramental meal and in the lives of Christians. Because this text was written to fit a pre-existing tune, it has a rather telegraphic style that encourages pondering.

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER ON A SUNDAY MORNING

Please sign up to usher: <https://www.newcastlepreschurch.org/on-line-signups>

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - TODAY

There will be a Special Called Congregational Meeting to elect Ray Snyder on to Session on Sunday, February 2.

FILMING AT NCPC

Possum Pictures, a non-profit theater company, will be filming a Sherlock Holmes original film in the Meeting House on Saturday 2/8. Director Ray Crews and the team will be filming all around New Castle throughout this spring!

UNDIE SUNDAY UNDERWEAR DRIVE NOW UNDERWAY

Undie Sunday is back on Feb. 16! The M&O Committee is collecting new underwear (underwear, socks, bras, t-shirts, sweats, etc) for Friendship House's Clothing Bank. Mark your calendars for a trip on 1/16 after worship to the Clothing Bank! RSVP by February 9 to Scott Selheimer, selheime@udel.edu or 302-562-5129

CODE PURPLE

First & Central Presbyterian welcomes Wilmington's unhoused neighbors into their social hall every Saturday during the winter. Sign up at <https://shorturl.at/X6Vyd>

GUATEMALA PARTNERSHIP TRIP

Amy Selheimer and the Presbytery Delegation return from Guatemala this week! Check out their news about our amazing partnership on the travel blog: <https://ncpguatemala.com/>

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Check out our flyers to learn more about recent PDA responses to the wildfires in California. Support ongoing relief efforts by praying and making an online donation: <https://pcusa.org/disaster-assistance/active-responses/national-disaster/southern-california-wildfires>

FIELD TRIP TO HOCKESSIN COLORED SCHOOL - MARCH 2

Join Chief Justice Seitz and members of our church community to learn about and tour the Hockessin school – one of the schools at the center of the US Supreme Court's Brown v Board of Education decision. We'll meet at the School at 1:00 (25 minute drive from NCPC). Contact Connie Reese 302-584-4512 if you wish to carpool.

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Rev. Miriam Foltz, Pastor - pastor@newcastlepreschurch.org

Kris Krawczyk, Admin. Assistant - office@newcastlepreschurch.org

Mallory Mackie, Sunday School Coord.

Eileen Larkin, Dir. of Music

Dan Knox, Treasurer

Minerva Lermond, Dir. of Handbells

Lyn Briggs, Recording Secretary

Bethany Faiz, Accompanist
