

New Castle Presbyterian Church

25 E 2nd Street, New Castle, DE 19720

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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!

Whether you are worshiping with us in-person or joining via livestream, we gather today as a community of faith, 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.

For folks joining us for in-person worship,

A little help - Please see an usher to receive any assistance, including a personal 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 are invited to 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. All children must have an information form on file. Please see an usher for a copy of the form or if you have any questions. If your family needs to step out of the Meeting House for a time, there is a livestream feed and "pray ground" in the Fellowship Hall.

At the end of worship, please join us for Coffee Hour in 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 in front of the Meeting House are for handicapped parking only.

Please put your bulletins in the blue recycle can at the door as you leave – we recycle!

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Pastor Miriam's day of rest is on Mondays.

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

January 19, 2025

10:30 a.m.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

The Light of the World Is Jesus

arr. Mark Hayes

Bethany Faiz - Piano

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 extend Christ's greeting,

"Peace be with you".

Steeple Bell

Choral Introit

Call to Worship

God of the feast, you are always turning water into wine.

Though the work feels impossible, you accomplish wonders through us.

God of abundance, you are always turning water into fine wine.

Though many fail to perceive it, you reveal your glory among us.

God of wonders, help us to receive your good gifts this day.

Reveal your goodness and mercy that we might put our faith in you.

***Hymn #619**

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; glad of heart your
2 Praise God for the grace and fa - vor shown our fore-bears
3 Like a lov - ing par - ent car - ing, God knows well our
4 An - gels, teach us ad - o - ra - tion; you be - hold God

car - ols raise; ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
in dis - tress; God is still the same for - ev - er,
fee - ble frame, glad - ly all our bur - dens bear - ing,
face to face. Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion,

who, like me, should sing God's praise? Al - le - lu - ia!
slow to chide, and swift to bless. Al - le - lu - ia!
still to count - less years the same. Al - le - lu - ia!
dwell - ers all in time and space: Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the Mak - er all your days!
Al - le - lu - ia! Sing our Mak - er's faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! All with - in me, praise God's name!
Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

This adaptation of an older paraphrase of Psalm 103 (see no. 620) is informed by an awareness that much of the received language of religious traditions enshrines social values that obscure the goodness of God, which far transcends all our labels and categories and hierarchies.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Loving Lord, we long to be your faithful people, but our good intentions run out and we come up empty. For all the ways we fall short, forgive us, Gracious One. Change us – like water into wine – to become what the world lacks. Transform our lives – like water into good wine - that all would know your generous care... *(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

In the Light Of The Lord

Mark Patterson

Bethany Faiz - Piano

We will walk in the light of the Lord. We will find the path to glory. We will walk in the light of the Lord. We will find the pathway home. For the Lord is the way, the truth and the light; we must believe in Him. He will give us the hope to conquer the night if we walk in the light of the Lord.

The path may turn. We may stumble in the darkness, but Christ will come. He will lead us through the night. The Lord will be faithful. He is the truth and the light! We will walk in the light of the Lord. We will find the path to glory. We will walk in the light of the Lord. We will find the pathway home. For the Lord is the way, the truth and the light; we must believe in Him.

*He will give us the Hope to conquer the night, if we walk in the light of the Lord.
Come let us walk in the light of the Lord.*

Scripture Conversation with Children – Guatemala Commissioning

Do you, the members of our church family, promise to pray for and support the Guatemala Partnership Team during their travels? We do!

Prayer for Illumination

Saving God, source of our calling, your Word is full of power and glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us so that we may receive your grace and live as your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture Lesson

John 2:1-11

Page: NT 93

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” ⁴ And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to me and to you? My hour has not yet come.” ⁵ His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the person in charge of the banquet.” So they took it. ⁹ When the person in charge tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

Sermon

Cana-Grace

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

*Hymn #435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

1 There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness
2 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures
of the sea. There's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice,
of the mind. And the heart of the E - ter - nal
which is more than lib - er - ty. There is no place where earth's
is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were but more
sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place
faith - ful, we would glad - ly trust God's Word, and our lives re -
where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.
flect thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of our Lord.

These stanzas, excerpted from quite a few more, offer a reminder that the model for our dealings with others should be God's generosity rather than limited human tolerance. The text is effectively set to a broad and sturdy Dutch folk melody, probably from the 17th century.

Offerings of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

Marvelous Grace
Bethany Faiz - Piano

arr. Tom Fettke

***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**

**We praise and thank you, Lord God, for the majesty of your work,
the wisdom of your word, and the generosity of your grace. May
the gifts of our lives and hands bear witness to your goodness, your
mercy, and your steadfast love for all your children. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

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 #39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



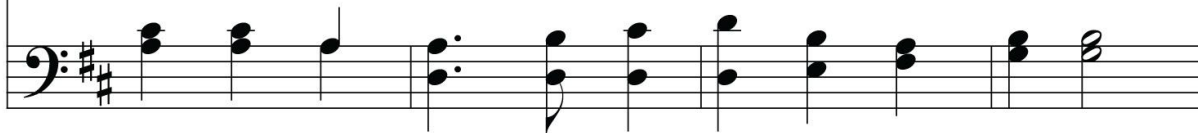
1 *Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,



Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:



As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Refrain

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 오 신 실 하 신 주

Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.
 날 마 다 자 비 를 베푸 시 며

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.
 일 용 할 모 든 것 내 려 주 시 니

Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 나 의 구 주

*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22-23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

***Charge and Benediction**

Choral Benediction

Steeple Bell

Postlude

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Patti Drennan

Bethany Faiz – Piano

Please remain seated through the Postlude. As you exit, you may recycle your bulletin in the basket at the door. Join us after worship for Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall

All printed music & performances are covered under: OneLicense #A-720755

Thank you for serving today:

Worship Leader: Nancy Kersey

Counters: Cindy Beam/Marshall Freund

Ushers: Gail & C.J. Seitz

Coffee Hour: Sunday School

Nursery: Jane Fouracre/Chris Fagles

Sunday School: Mallory Mackie/ Molly Shaw

Today we remember in the Special Gifts Memorial Case:

*James Couper
1778-1839*

*Chandler H. Gebhart, Jr.
1919-1994*



This Week's Schedule

SUNDAY	1/19	10:30am	In-Person & Live Stream Worship
		11:30am	Coffee Hour with All-Ages Card Project
		6:00 pm	Open Mic Night : MOVED TO 1/26
Monday	1/20	6:30pm	Trustees Meeting
Wednesday	1/15	3:00pm	Bible Study
		6:00pm	Worship Committee
		7:30pm	Choir
Thursday	1/16	7:00pm	Celebration Ringers
Saturday	1/18	8:00am	Tai Chi
		8:00am	Possum Pictures Production in MH
		4:00pm	Private event in Fellowship Hall
SUNDAY	1/19	10:30am	In-Person & Live Stream Worship
		11:30am	Coffee Hour

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER ON A SUNDAY MORNING

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

ALL-AGES SUNDAY SCHOOL – JANUARY 19

Our All-Ages Sunday school TODAY will be a card-writing project. Come craft notes sharing Jesus' good news – Jesus loves me, and Jesus loves you!

SECOND STREET COFFEEHOUSE: MOVED TO 1/26

Check out the next Open Mic Night at 6:30 NEXT SUNDAY in our Fellowship Hall.

JANUARY BOOK STUDY

NCPC's Book Club will be reading *Before the Coffee Gets Cold* by Kawaguchi. We'll have two opportunities to discuss the book - at Noon on Sunday, January 26 and at 3pm on Wednesday, January 29. In life and in death, we belong to God!



FILMING AT NCPC

Possum Pictures, a non-profit theater company, will be filming a Sherlock Holmes original film in the Meeting House on Saturdays 1/25, 2/1, and 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 and Winter Sanctuary. Mark your calendars for a trip on 1/16 after worship to the Clothing Bank!

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

We bless Amy and Scott Selheimer this morning as they head off to Guatemala with our partnership delegation! Follow their travel blog at: <https://ncpguatemala.com/>

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

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On Assignment with the Coast Guard:

SN George Spock

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Mt. Lebanon, PA 15216

On Assignment with the Air Force:

James Boyle

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Mallory Mackie, Sunday School Coord.

Dan Knox, Treasurer

Lyn Briggs, Recording Secretary

Eileen Larkin, Dir. of Music

Minerva Lermond, Dir. of Handbells

Bethany Faiz, Accompanist