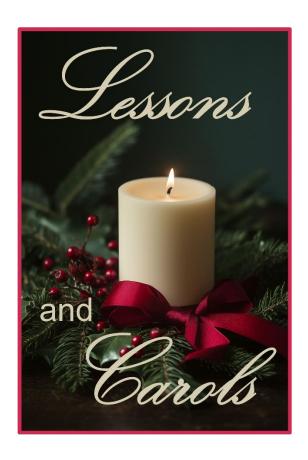
Welcome to worship at New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church

Service of Lessons and Carols

December 29, 2024



On the first Sunday of Christmas we find the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus, both in the temple, both growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind. We too have returned to the house of God "to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God," who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, "let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts." It is Christmas, still.

The Rev. Scott Staub, pastor Nicole Young, seminarian minister Patricia Nyce, director of music ministry Lindsey Waltermyer, Grace band leader

We love our neighbors with healing and feeding them!

All worship can be viewed online at newhanoverlutheran.org facebook.com/NewHanoverLutheranChurch and on YouTube.

May your worship experience strengthen you with God's love and grace.

Prelude

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

Tom McHugh, trumpet

"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" by J. S. Bach. Arr. by Stephen Bulla. © 2004 by Curnow Music Press, Inc. (ASCAP).

Welcome Pastor Scott

From the beginning, through baptism, we are called Christian. We are "Christ-ened" at the font. Bearing Christ's name, we share the same Father and are invited to address this parent intimately: Abba! Jesus bears our sins in humble obedience to the will of God. Today we pray that the mind of Christ, whose name we bear, would be our own. It is a good way to begin again, another year.

Please rise as you are able.

Prayer of the Day

Pastor Scott

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn Angels We Have Heard on High ELW #289

Please be seated.

Lesson Numbers 6:22-27 Barbara Noecker

The Aaronic Blessing

²²The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ²³Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them,

²⁴The LORD bless you and keep you;

²⁵the LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;

²⁶the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

²⁷So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

Carol Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming ELW #272

Lesson Psalm 8 Terry Santangelo

¹O LORD, our Sovereign,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

²Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.

³When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;

⁴what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

⁵Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor.

⁶You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet,

⁷all sheep and oxen,

and also the beasts of the field,

⁸the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

⁹O LORD, our Sovereign,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Lesson

Galatians 4:4-7

Carolyn Fleming

We are no longer slaves, but children

⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Carol

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

ELW #282

Lesson

Philippians 2:5-11

Janet Psota

God takes on human form

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Please rise as you are able.

Carol

The First Noel

ELW #300

Lesson Luke 2:21-38 Kaydence and Alivia Singley *Jesus receives his name*

²¹After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a

sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;

³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed — and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Please be seated.

Carol God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen
God rest you merry, gentlemen. Let nothing you dismay
Remember, Christ, our Saviour was born on Christmas day
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy

In Bethlehem, in Israel,
This blessed Babe was born
And laid within a manger
Upon this blessed morn
The which His Mother Mary
Did nothing take in scorn
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy

From God our Heavenly Father A blessed Angel came; And unto certain Shepherds Brought tidings of the same: How that in Bethlehem was born The Son of God by Name. O tidings of comfort and joy, Comfort and joy O tidings of comfort and joy

And when they came to Bethlehem Where our dear Saviour lay,
They found Him in a manger,
Where oxen feed on hay;
His Mother Mary kneeling down,
Unto the Lord did pray.
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy

Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All other doth deface.
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy

Please rise as you are able.

Lesson Matthew 2:1-11 Marsha Staub

The magi follow the star

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Carol Good Christian Friends, Rejoice ELW #288

Pastor Scott

Blessings
God bless you and keep you,
Jesus grant you grace and truth,
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
now and forever.

Amen.

Dismissal Pastor Scott

Christ the Savior is born!

Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

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Announcements

Today

The bulletin is sponsored to the glory of God and in honor of her grandson Colvin Erb's 9th birthday by Corrine Bartholomew.

The flowers are sponsored to the glory of God and in honor of their son Tom's birthday by Charlie and Donna Kehs.

Serving Today Head Usher: Ron Fegley, Ushers: Dee and Kyle

Singley, Acolyte: Miller Quigley

Next Sunday Head Usher: Steve Weidner, Ushers: Rick Solazzo and Brian Flack, Lector: Harry White, Children's Sermon: Nicole Ewing, Acolyte: Tom McHugh, Communion Assistants: Donna Kehs and Carolyn Fleming

Altar Guild members serving this month: Deb Solazzo, Barb Eisenhart, Corrine Bartholomew and Judy Sloan

The Weary World Rejoices! Come join us each Sunday at 10:15 AM for an Advent Group Bible Study in room 33. Each week we meet to share and discuss holiday traditions, Bible passages and how each of us cope with living in the promise of peace and hope, even though we witness this world we live in. This study is a safe place to come to share, listen and/or just hang. So come join us this Advent.

The Nursery room is located between the Welcome Center and the Fellowship Hall. Parents are welcome to use the room during

worship as needed. The room provides for a comfortable play area in a joyful environment; toys and books are included. The room has access to a changing room and a private nursing room next door.

Doors leading to fellowship hall and the education wing remain locked during the worship service for the safety of all.

Calendar

Worship Service – Today, 9:00 AM, sanctuary and online **Food Drop Off** – Today, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, kitchen **Food Delivery Pickup** – Today, 10:00 AM, portico

Prayer Ministry – Monday, 1:15 PM, sanctuary

Scout Lock-in – Tuesday, 6:00 PM

Addiction 12 Step – Wednesday, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, room 32

Addiction 12 Step – Thursday, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, room 32 **Handbell Choir** – Thursday, 6:15 – 7:30 PM, room 15

Worship Service – Next Sunday, 9:00 AM, sanctuary and online Food Drop Off – Next Sunday, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, kitchen Food Delivery Pickup – Next Sunday, 10:00 AM, portico J.A.M. – Next Sunday, 10:15 AM, room 21 Kids for Christ Rehearsal – Next Sunday, sanctuary Praise Band Rehearsal – Next Sunday, 11:15 AM, sanctuary

The church office will be closed on Tuesday, December 31st, - Wednesday, January 1st, for the holiday.

Upcoming Events

Attention Committee and Board Chair: 2024 reports are due in the church office by Monday, January 6, 2025.

New Hanover Family Learning Center Update - The Property Committee and Learning Center team have been busy making plans to get the education wing ready for construction sometime after the New Year. Large items have been identified to be claimed to keep or disposed of by being sold, donated, or trashed. The property committee will be moving these items from the

education wing on Saturday, January 4th. You may reach out to Jim Gross if you'd like to help move large items.

Donna Kehs will work with volunteers after Christmas to pack items in storage closets and small items in the classrooms. One group of volunteers will box items but will not move any heavy boxes, and another volunteer or two will move the boxes out of the education wing. If you are available on Monday, December 30th, or Thursday, January 2nd, and would like to volunteer, reach out to Donna Kehs at 610-212-2673.

New Hanover's Got Talent! Everybody is blessed with a talent. What's yours? On Sunday, March 2nd, you will have an opportunity to showcase your talent at the Fastnacht Social and Talent Show. The event will follow the 9:00 AM worship service and, of course, will include fastnachts!

Do you sing? Like to dance? Play an instrument? Tell stories or jokes? Recite poetry? Do a skit with a friend? If so, see Patricia Nyce or Jayne McHugh to sign up to showcase your talent. Folks of all ages are invited to participate. It's a fact that New Hanover's got lots of talent! We can't wait to see yours!

This event is being planned by the 325th Anniversary Committee.

Want to be a member?

Please fill out a yellow card, "Your Voice from the Pew", located in the pew rack and give to Pastor Scott or place the card in the offering plate. Check off "Interest in Church Membership."

Thank You

Angel Tree A huge thank you to everyone who participated in our Angel Tree this year. As always, our congregation is most generous and creative in their gift giving.

A very packed carload of gifts and gift cards were delivered to the Martin Luther School at Gemma Services in Plymouth meeting. The Martin Luther School provides education and support to grades k-12 students with emotional and behavioral needs. In addition, there is a residential program with sixty current residents. The staff was thrilled to see us arrive. Amanda from the school explained each resident is provided a personal Christmas bounty.

Staff make every attempt to make Christmas morning special. She added the generosity of our congregation is most appreciated. Thank you, one and all, and Merry Christmas!

Boyertown Area Multi-Service Thank you to all who contributed non-perishable items to the Boyertown Area Multi-Service during our November collection. Thanks to your generosity, NHELC donated 74 lbs. of food and personal items to help our neighbors.

Resources

Want to keep up with all the latest news from NHELC? Subscribe to the bi-weekly Constant Contact communication emails. You will receive a weekly announcement on Monday and a worship reminder on Saturday. If you are not already receiving these emails, you can use this QR code and sign up today using a very simple, secure site.

Do you enjoy the praise band songs? Would you like to get to know them better? This playlist includes over fifty songs that our praise band has done, and more will be added in the future. You will need to download Spotify (it's free!) to listen to the songs.



Peer Support Information The Ferns Peer Run Respite is a local mental health non-profit resource in Montgomery County. The Ferns provides a supportive and calm environment for individuals in need and not able to interact in other available mental health resources. The Ferns is totally peer supported and allows individuals at the respite the time they may need to recover or seek additional treatment. If you know an individual who may need this service, contact the church and leave a message for the peer support program or reach out to Pastor Scott.

The Peer Support Ministry webpage on the church's website (newhanoverlutheran.org) offers resources for mental health and wellness. Visit the webpage for information.

Mental Health and Wellness Millions of people across the nation are affected by mental health conditions. National Alliance on

Mental Illness (NAMI) has local centers in both Reading and Lansdale. They offer in-person and online support groups. NHELC has links with helpful information available on our website (newhanoverlutheran.org) or contact NAMI Helpline or PA Addiction Helpline directly.

NAMI Help Line 1-800-950-6242 is available Monday - Friday 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM ET.

Text "Helpline" to 62640 or if in crisis call or text 988.

PA Addiction Helpline 1-800-662-HELP (4357).

Online live chat offered at 1-717-216-0905 or text

You Can Help

Pictorial Directory Send pictures of members, classes and group activities to Nance White at Nance2237@yahoo.com as soon as possible to be included in the new pictorial directory.

You can donate to NHELC ministry electronically. Simply point your smartphone camera at one of these QR codes and follow the link.

Tithe.ly QR Code



Simply Giving QR Code



Volunteers are needed to help during the church service: Ushers, Lectors, Children's Sermons, Acolytes and Communion Assistants. Contact Faye Weidner at omiweidner@gmail.com or 484-929-5958 if you can help.

Food Ministry

More than 200,000 meals have been delivered! NHELC's Loaves & Fishes Food Ministry is changing lives. And, you can be a part of the team. 1) You can donate food. Drop off your donation on Wednesdays between 1-2 PM and Sundays between 9-10 AM. Items most needed include: hamburger, chicken (thighs and breast meat), pasta (ziti, elbows, bowties), cheese (mozzarella, cheddar, parmesan), potatoes, fresh fruit (apples, oranges, bananas) and eggs. 2) Donate money through Thrivent Gift Cards. Place monetary donations on the offering plate or mail

to the church. 3) Deliver meals. Sign up at https://www.newhanoverlutheran.org/loaves-fishes-food-ministry/.

Reconciling in Christ

Recently the RIC team arranged for two presentations. The presentations, "LGBTQIA+ 101" and "Pronouns-Why They Are Important", are now on the church website under the Reconciling In Christ Journey page. In case you missed the presentations or would like to watch them again, you will find them by entering this link in your web browser: https://newhanoverlutheran.org/reconciling-in-christ/ or connect using this QR Code.

Do you want to participate in a one-to-one discussion around the possibility of New Hanover becoming a Reconciling in Christ church, welcoming to all - especially to those identifying as LGBTQIA+, racially diverse, or gender diverse? Contact Sharon Tracey, Diane Bealer, Josh Young, Janet Psota, Rick Hausch or Pastor Scott.

Got a question for the Reconciling in Christ (RIC) team about their journey? Jot down your question (paper provided at the desk) and put it in the box on the desk in the Welcome Center. The team will try to answer your question(s). Be sure to provide your preferred contact information.

"Taking a closer look: What the Bible does and doesn't say about homosexuality" January 12th at 10:15 AM in Fellowship Hall

The Bible is often used against 2sLGBTQIA+ people to prove that they are condemned by God, and sometimes to justify discrimination and even violence against them. Most often people point to a few verses scattered throughout scripture to justify this. In this workshop we will examine some of these texts, and explore how to respond when the Bible is used against 2sLGBTQIA+ people. The Rev. Bruce Davidson, a retired pastor in the ELCA, will be leading the presentation. At the end of his presentation questions will be received. We will meet in Fellowship Hall immediately following the worship service. Drinks and snacks will be available.

"Allyship" January 19th Allyship is an action verb defining the lifelong process of building relationships based on trust, consistency, and accountability with minoritized individuals and/or groups of people with the strategic intentions to become collaborators to promote equity.

We welcome Dr. Dee Singley, (she/they), Director for Disability Services and 504 Coordinator Institute for Student Success at Ursinus College for a Temple Talk during worship on January 19th. Afterwards, during the adult Sunday School hour, Dr. Singley and members of the RIC team will be available for questions and further discussion in Room 33 of the Christian Education Wing.

Prayer Requests

Long-term: Sarah Bowman, Keeley Staples, Logan Conley, Carol

Buchholtz Yost

Shut-in: Penny Frymoyer

Military: Shawn Dietz, Michael McHugh, Kevin Dugan, Jason Bernhard, Craig Geiser, Patrick Mathias, Steven Kane, William Zearfoss, Will Wilson V, Milton Jack Repa, Kyle Woods, Danny

Foust

Peace for violence in our area and nationally

Katy Mahon-Miller	Luann Hanley	Carol Estes
William Trotter	Kathy Kane	Maxwell Girard
Pat Fryer	Jean Renninger	Pr. Kork Moyer
Betty Lou Shadle	Julia Hauck	Tony Mancini
Raul Castro	Amy LeVan	Jeffrey Kunsch
Wilma Lahr	Melissa	Mary Lou
Doug Weaver	Joan Wagner	Robert Ganovsky
Dorothy Bingaman	Emily Ocelus	Eric & Wendy Hess
Sue Care	Deb Matthews	Marceline
Anne Eshleman	Daniel Johnson	Chris Fatzinger
Hank Droneberg	Pena family	Kim Frain
Jen Perez	Frank D.	Pam Helfrich
Barb & Tom Faust	Andy Van Dyke	Janet
Pam Abbott	Holli Muffler	Louise Karns
Pr. Jennifer Phelps	Jessica Trout	Verdie Smith
Mabel Gaugler	Sandy Wesner	Helen Foulke
Carla Hausmann	Joan Price	Betty Seroski
Ralph Borneman	Lucille Powell	Virginia Specht
Jeffrey Weems	Joan Scheffey	Arnold Amundsen
Chuck Beck	Ally Musser & family	Rich Freed
Joe	Joe	Casey Flack
Tim Mutter	Denton Quick	David Helfrich, Sr.
Tara Hauck	Patricia Kemp	Ron Seasholtz
Jennifer, Brendt, Declan & Conor Budnick		Penny Garber
Hazel LeVan	Lynn Amundsen	David Gottshall
Kate Brunick and family		

New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church

2941 Lutheran Road Gilbertsville, PA 19525

Office Hours: Mon. – Fri., 9 AM - 2 PM Call 610-326-1335 for an appointment

Contact Information
Pastor, The Rev. Scott Staub

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Director of Children, Family & Youth Ministry, Nikki Young

nikki.young@newhanoverlutheran.org

Church Office Manager, Susan Gutshall susan.gutshall@newhanoverlutheran.org

Director of Music Ministry, Patricia Nyce patricia.nyce@newhanoverlutheran.org

Food Ministry Director, Chris Fatzinger Cfatzinger@chris-cooks.com

Grace Band Director, Lindsey Waltermyer goldielw@gmail.com

Handbell Choir Director, Barbara Eisenhart eisenbarb@aol.com

Peer Support Recovery Ministry Team

peer support@newhan overluther an. org

Sexton, Jen Boyer jcboyer0408@gmail.com

Bookkeeper, Maria Boyer

mariaboyer@comcast.net

Cemetery, Norm Hunsberger nhunsberger29@gmail.com



Angels We Have Heard on High



Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864 Music: GLORIA, French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887–1958

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming



Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851-1934, sts. 1-2; Harriet R. Krauth, 1845–1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876–1948, st. 4 Music: ES IST EIN ROS, Alte catholische geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1599; arr. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming



Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851-1934, sts. 1-2; Harriet R. Krauth, 1845–1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876–1948, st. 4 Music: ES IST EIN ROS, Alte catholische geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1599; arr. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

It Came upon the Midnight Clear



Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–1876 Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900

The First Noel



The First Noel

