Nassau Presbyterian Church

October 8, 2023  9:15 & 11:00 AM
Gathering

Prelude  Piano Sonata in B-flat Major  W.A. Mozart

- Introit  Jesus, We Are Here  Red Hymnal 392

   Jesus, we are here; Jesus, we are here;
   Jesus, we are here; we are here for you.

- Call to Worship  Hebrews 4:14-16

   Since then we have a great high priest
   who has passed through the heavens,
   Jesus, the Son of God,
   let us hold fast to our confession.
   For we do not have a high priest
   who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses,
   but we have one who in every respect
   has been tested as we are, yet without sin.
   Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness
   so that we may receive mercy
   and find grace to help in time of need.
   People of God, come, and let us worship God!

- Opening Hymn  Be Thou My Vision  Red Hymnal 450

If you are worshiping with us in the Sanctuary at 9:15 AM, please be aware that you may be visible on the livestream camera at any time during worship.

A large print bulletin with scripture and hymns for those who require it is available in the narthex.

At the sign ◆ you may stand. Bold text is read or sung in unison.
Prayer of Confession

Eternal God,

we confess we have praised you with our lips
but have not glorified you with our lives.
Have mercy on us, we pray,
for our weak faith that fades under pressure,
for our quick enthusiasm that just as quickly dies,
for the hopes we proclaim but do not pursue.
Forgive us, Lord God,
and give us new trust in your power,
that we may live for justice
and tell of your loving-kindness
by our acts as by our words,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends in Christ, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

Response of Praise Know That God is Good

Verse 1: Mungu ni mwema
Verse 2: Know that God is good
Verse 3: Halle, hallelujah

Words of Welcome

We invite you to fill out the fellowship pads you will find in the pews. If you
are watching the livestream we invite you to fill out the virtual fellowship pad:
nassauchurch.org/check-in.
Proclaiming the Word

Time With Children

9:15 Children may leave for Church School classes. Teachers and ushers can assist in finding classrooms.

11:00 Children age three to grade three may leave for Worship Explorers, room 302, third floor.

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, Lord, speak to us your word,
that hearing it,
our hearts may be transformed,
our lips may prophesy,
our feet follow your path
for the sake of Jesus Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen.

First Scripture Lesson       Psalm 19       pg 498

Second Scripture Lesson       Philippians 3:4b-14        pg 198

Sermon       Aspirational Longing        David A. Davis

Thanksgiving

• Sermon Hymn       When I Survey the Wondrous Cross       Red Hymnal 223
Affirmation of Faith from the Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, Fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.
Fight the good fight with all thy might. 
Christ is thy strength and Christ thy right. 
Lay hold on life, and it shall be thy joy and crown eternally.

Run the straight race through God’s good grace; lift up thine eyes and seek Christ’s face. 
Life with its way before you lies; Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.

Cast care aside, lean on thy guide. 
His boundless mercy will provide. Trust, and thy trusting soul shall prove Christ is its life, and Christ its love.

Faint not nor fear, his arms are near. He changeth not, and thou art dear. Only believe, and thou shalt see that Christ is all in all to thee.
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer
Sending

- Closing Hymn  Lift High the Cross  Red Hymnal 826
- Benediction
- Response  Bless the Lord  Red Hymnal 544

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God’s holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

Postlude  Pasticcio  Jean Langlais

Preacher  Adult Choir  Sound Engineer
David A. Davis  Noel Werner, director  Nick Mastalesz
Liturgists  Don Dolan, organist
9:15: Len Scales  Livestream
11:00: Lauren J. McFeaters  Peter Spelda
Time with Children  Tom Coogan
Heather Riehl  Cover Art

“Cross (Ethiopian)” a linocut
by Elizabeth Steele Halstead.
# The Week Ahead

## Monday, October 9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Embodied Faith Small Group</td>
<td>Music Room</td>
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## Tuesday, October 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30 AM</td>
<td>Staff Meeting/Devotions</td>
<td>Niles Chapel; Conference Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 PM</td>
<td>Grace Notes Singers</td>
<td>Stonebridge at Montgomery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Adult Education Committee</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
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## Wednesday, October 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:15 PM</td>
<td>Carol Choir</td>
<td>Music Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:15 PM</td>
<td>Homework Hangout</td>
<td>Room 302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:15 PM</td>
<td>Choir 3-4-5</td>
<td>Music Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Adult Choir</td>
<td>Music Room</td>
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## Thursday, October 12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Al-Anon</td>
<td>Assembly Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Youth Ministry Committee</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
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## Friday, October 13

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>Men’s Breakfast</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
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## Saturday, October 14

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>Confirmation Retreat #1</td>
<td>Room 304</td>
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## Sunday, October 15

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:15 AM</td>
<td>Worship</td>
<td>Sanctuary &amp; Livestream</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15 AM</td>
<td>Inquirers Class</td>
<td>Conference Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:05 AM</td>
<td>Joyful Noise</td>
<td>Niles Chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 AM</td>
<td>Fellowship</td>
<td>Assembly Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>Carol Choir</td>
<td>Niles Chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>Worship</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15 AM</td>
<td>Worship Explorers</td>
<td>Room 302</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 PM</td>
<td>Nassau Book Group</td>
<td>Conference Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td>Robeson House Benefit Concert</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>Cantorei</td>
<td>Music Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>Middle School Fellowship</td>
<td>Room 304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Youth Fellowship Dinner</td>
<td>Room 303</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Breaking Bread Worship</td>
<td>Niles Chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:40 PM</td>
<td>Chorale</td>
<td>Music Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:40 PM</td>
<td>Senior High Fellowship</td>
<td>Room 304</td>
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## Office Closed - Holiday

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Welcome to Nassau Church

Children are always welcome in our services of worship.

Childcare is available for infants and toddlers in the Nursery (Lower Level), 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM.

Church School takes place during the 9:15 AM service. Classes for grades 6 to 12 begin at 9:15 AM. Preschoolers to grade 5 participate in the first part of the service and are then dismissed to their classes. All classes conclude at 10:30 AM.

Worship Explorers is a child-focused alternative worship setting during 11:00 AM worship for children age 3 to grade 3. Children attend the first part of the service and are then dismissed to Room 302 (Third Floor).

Order CDs of the service. Stop by the sound room.

Livestream Worship. Livestream worship can be found at NassauChurch.org/livestream-worship. If you are worshiping with us in person, please be aware that you may be visible on camera at any time.

Connect to our online community life. Visit nassauchurch.org for information and join our Facebook group for community life. Follow our Facebook page and Instagram feeds (@nassauchurch) for news, recaps of events, and snapshots of life at Nassau.

Connect to pastors or staff. Contact the office.

Online giving. See “Give Now” on the website or give via the Church Life app.

Accessibility. The church lot has reserved parking, and there are six reserved street spaces on Sundays. Ramp access to the building is from the parking lot. Ask an usher for an assistive hearing device, a large-print bulletin or hymnal, an accessible pew, or a wheelchair. Ushers can also direct you to the elevator to access other floors.

Tending the Flock

Death — Larry Kettelkamp, father of Keith Kettelkamp, father-in-law of Joan, and grandfather of Kara, Allegra, Tessa and Trent, on September 30, 2023, in Cranbury, New Jersey.