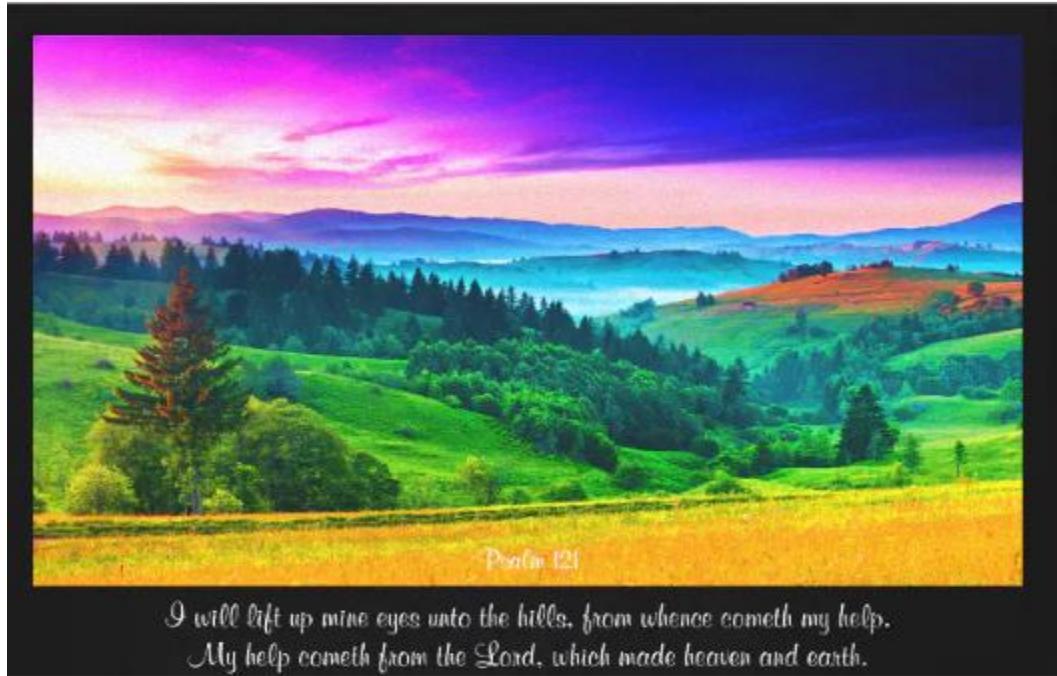


The Church of the Nativity & St. Stephen

Second Sunday in Lent March 1, 2026



Mission of Nativity and St. Stephen

To seek and serve Christ through service to others.

To manage responsibly the financial resources of our parish as loving and caring stewards.

To welcome and involve all persons into our parish family valuing both diversity and unity.

To enable nurture and learning in the Episcopal heritage of Scripture, tradition and reason.

To foster a community of faith for worship, spiritual growth, ministry and mission.

We invite your prayers before our mass begins. Please be reminded of the importance of Holy silence that prepares us to listen to God. Conversation, food, and fellowship following worship. All are welcome.

The Rev. Ryan M. Tobin

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 717-216-0148, ryan@tobin.church

Michele Neibert - Parish Administrator

Office: 717-567-6514 **E-mail:** chnatss@pa.net

<https://nativityandststephen.org>

159 South Second Street, Newport, PA 17074

Today we welcome our guest musician Ezra Thrush, from St. Stephen's Cathedral in Harrisburg.

Welcome and Announcements

Processional Hymn

“Bless the Lord, my soul”

insert

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: His mercy endures for ever.

Collect for Purity BCP 355

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

insert

People: Amen

Lector:

A Reading from Genesis 12:1-4a

insert

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121

insert

Lector: A Reading from Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

insert

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn *“Wait for the Lord”*

insert

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John 3:1-17 insert

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon The Rev. Ryan M. Tobin

The Nicene Creed BCP 358

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People and Confession of Sin BCP 392

The Prayers of the People follow Form VI on page 392 of the Book of Common Prayer. Please stand or kneel.

The Peace BCP 360

(Stand and greet each other.)

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

The Offertory Sentence BCP 376

Offertory Hymn “O Lord, hear my prayer” insert

The Doxology Hymnal 380, v.3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer A

The Great Thanksgiving is found on page 361 of the Book of Common Prayer.

The Lord’s Prayer BCP 364

The Breaking of the Bread BCP 364

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

***Celebrant and People:** Dearest Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since we all cannot receive communion in the consecrated bread and wine, we pray you to come into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with our hearts, souls, and minds. Let us serve you in this life until, by your grace, we come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.*

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Holy gifts for holy people.

After Communion, the Celebrant says: Let us pray.

Post Communion Prayer

BCP 365

Celebrant and People: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing**Recessional Hymn**

“Amazing grace! how sweet the sound” Hymnal 671

Dismissal

BCP 366

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Announcements

Today we accept an additional offering for Caring for Nativity's Neighbors Heating and Health. Donations are sent to Join Hands, so people in our community have support for their needs.

Please include the following in your daily prayers.

Wendy, Tootser, Mary Jeanne, Jan, Bob, Jim, Lynne, Tammy, Kim, Marie, Sue, Robert, Monty, Ray, Kate, and Kevin.

The start of Daylight Savings Time is March 8, 2026. Turn clocks ahead before going to bed on Saturday, March 7.

Flowers for Easter, April 5.

Donations for Easter flowers will be taken through March 29. If you have an envelope, you can use for the donation, including marking if they are "in honor of" or "in memory of" someone. There are also envelopes at the back of the church.

Weekly Conversation and Devotions

Wednesday, March 4, 9am, Zoom

Wednesday, March 11, 9am, Newport Family Restaurant

Wednesday, March 18, 9am, Zoom

Wednesday, March 25, 9am, Newport Family Restaurant

Dedication of Communion Elements

The church is now offering the opportunity for you to dedicate the Communion Elements in honor of, or in memory of, a person or event that is important to you (e.g., birthdays, wedding anniversaries, and other special occasions). The dedication will be printed in the bulletin and announced by the celebrant during the service. Please contact Michele at the church office to select a date and arrange your dedication. An offering of \$60 for this dedication will be collected to support the Worship and Music program at Nativity & St. Stephen.

Rejoice! Music Ministry, Incarnation UCC, 47 N. 4th Street, Newport

All concerts are free and start at 2pm followed by refreshments.

March 22 – The Miller's (Southern Gospel)

Steps to Stability, Saturday, April 18, 10am, Little Buffalo State Park

This 5K is a joint fundraiser for Join Hands Ministry and Perry Human Services. The registration fee is \$25 through February 28 and \$30 beginning March 1. Sign up at

<https://runsignup.com/Race/Events/PA/Newport/StepsToStability>

Service Participants

Guest Musician: Ezra Thrush

Greeter: Gail Shull

Lector: Mary Price

Prayers of the People: Susan Rice

Acolyte and Eucharistic Minister: Bill Day

Tech Assistant: Aiden Shiffer

Coffee Hour: Pat Szabo

Altar Guild: Karen Kern

Counters: Rick Rasmussen and Terry Stanton



Church of the
Nativity &
St. Stephen

Vestry

Bill Day, Sr. Warden

Jill Hoover, Jr. Warden

Wendy Day

Mary Price

Rick Rasmussen

Charlene Robbins

Terry Stanton

Rebecca Gephart-Crup, Treasurer