

HYMN NOTES:

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus” (465)

The Canadian poet, Joseph M. Scriven, composed the text around 1855 to comfort his mother “in a time of special sorrow, not intending that anyone else should see it.” There is a fourth stanza rarely included in any hymnals today that describes heaven as a place where praise will replace prayer:

*Blessed Jesus, thou hast promised Thou wilt all our burdens bear,
May we ever, Lord, be bringing all to thee in earnest prayer.
Soon in glory, bright, unclouded, there will be no need for prayer;
Rapture, praise, and endless worship shall be our sweet portion there.*

This hymn in its warm musical setting extends the intimate characterization of Jesus as a mother, gently rocking and comforting a child, to a friend who shares and bears our sorrows, hears our prayers, and carries them to God. The tune is named CONVERSE after its composer, Charles C. Converse. There have been several attempts to improve the harmonies of this tune including one by Van Denman Thompson included in the 1935 *Methodist Hymnal*. In an unparalleled action responding to thousands of complaints from church members, the uniting conference of The Methodist Church (1939) voted to remove that harmonization and restore the original in their new hymnal.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO...

Sunday, April 26: Diane Lynn, Jessie Lusk, Tom Michaels,
Rosalie Bradford, Eli Jeffre, Isaac Jeffre,
Lukas Ruisz

Monday, April 27: Troy Harris, Shaun Flaherty, Olivia French

Tuesday, April 28: Judy Hood

Wednesday, April 29: Wayne Rodewald, Jarrett Mattson

Thursday, April 30: Jane Archerd, Sarah Flaherty

Saturday, May 2: Steven Lawrence



If you see someone whose birthday is listed and you haven't seen them in church recently, give them a call!

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God by



Bill and Louise Mylin

In Honor of Our Wedding Anniversary

Flower orders & donation costs for flowers ordered for worship are made using the “2020 Flower Reservation Chart” on the bulletin board across from the kitchen. Thank you to those providing flowers each week In Honor/In Memory of someone or an anniversary/birthday!



“...those who hope in the
LORD will renew their
strength.

They will soar
on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.”

Isaiah 40:31

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- ♦ Join Miss Rosie and Youth Helpers every Tuesday from 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm for a children's story time via Zoom! Follow the link:
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/185925188>
- ♦ Children's Ministry is sending out personal notes to the children of Northwood so watch for your note in the mail. If you want to receive a note for your child or grandchild contact Justine Davis at childrensministry@northwoodpc.org.
- ♦ Please be sure to check out and “like” the Children's Ministry Facebook group. Each week we will have a children's Bible lesson posted along with other activities.
https://www.facebook.com/groups/633579497423839/?source_id=263480270372443

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Given the guidance from the Presbytery and public health officials, we have suspended all group gatherings, including Christian Education for children, youth and adults until further notice. We are exploring ways in which we can meet virtually. Please use our website for up to date information.

Experiencing God Class, led by Vicki Krueger

If you'd like to join the Experiencing God class virtually via Zoom at 10:30am on Sunday mornings, please contact Vicki Krueger via email at vickilee33@aol.com and she will send you the meeting details each week.

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Family Ministry Virtual Schedule

- ★ SUNDAY
9:30 AM & 11 AM LIVE STREAM CHURCH
10:45 AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL WITH DAN JEFFRE VIA TEAMS
7:00 PM - END OF THE DAY DEVOTION VIA INSTAGRAM & FACEBOOK
8:00 PM - CONFIRMATION CHAT VIA ZOOM
8:30 PM - JACKBOX VIA ZOOM
- ★ TUESDAY - 6:30PM CHILDREN'S STORY TIME
WITH MISS ROSIE & YOUTH HELPERS
- ★ TUESDAY & THURSDAY - 7:00 PM
#BETTERTOGETHER BIBLE STUDIES!
- YOUNG MEN'S BIBLE STUDY WITH DAN JEFFRE VIA TEAMS
- YOUNG WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY WITH ROSALIE VIA ZOOM
- ★ WEDNESDAY
7:30 PM - CITYNIGHT GROUP CHAT VIA ZOOM
- ★ FRIDAY NIGHT
4:00 PM CITYLIGHT HOME WORK OUT VIA ZOOM
8:30 PM - TRIVIA NIGHT & MAFIA

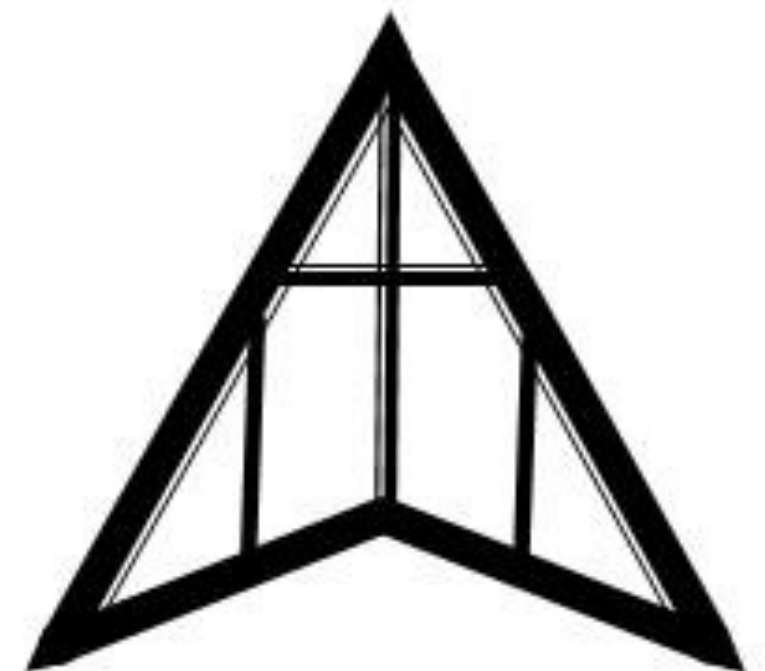
Follow the link to view our weekly email:

<https://mailchi.mp/dda723879d00/citylight-updates-1348000>

Welcome To Northwood Presbyterian Church

*A Stephen Ministry Church
Organized February 19, 1978*

April 26, 2020



Come, Grow, Go!

Ministers: All Members of the Church

E. Chris Curvin, Pastor
Paul Means, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Mission

Northwood Presbyterian Church
2875 State Road 580, Clearwater, FL 33761
(727) 796-8090 Fax (727) 797-8276
www.northwoodpc.org



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facebook.com/npc.clearwater

Order for the Worship of God
April 26, 2020
3rd Sunday of Easter
11:00 AM Worship Service

WE COME TO WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Responsive)*
Leader: Rejoice in the Lord always, again I will say, rejoice!
People: Today we choose to rejoice. Today we choose to worship and give thanks.
Leader: Seek the peace of God that will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
People: Today we choose God’s peace; today we place our trust in God.
Leader: Turn your hearts away from the distractions and disappointments of life that will always flow in and flow out like the tide.
All: We come to worship God who alone, is worthy of praise and cares for us!

OPENING VOLUNTARY “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” David Cherwien

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Chris Curvin, Pastor

HYMN #804 “Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart” MARION
(stanzas 1,3,5)

Rejoice, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.
(refrain) **Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!**

Yes, on through life’s long path, still chanting as ye go,
from youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe:
(refrain)

Then on, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.
(refrain)

CALL TO CONFESSION Paul Means, Associate Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Together)*
O God, still creating, we hear your Easter promises of a new day and abundant life, and we are skeptical. We expect things to go on the same as they always have, from bad to worse. The future makes us afraid and the present is full of the unknown. Forgive our lack of faith, our quickness to believe that you do not hear us, and our pessimism about tomorrow. Do a new thing in our hearts, and let us be glad and rejoice in your abundant care; through Christ we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SOLO “Jesus Is Walking with Me ” John W. Peterson
Barbara Jordan, Soloist

*I’ve been thru the valley, I’ve been thru the fire,
I’ve been thru deep water, I’ve bowed in the mire;
I’ve fought in the battle with courage all gone,
But this is the reason I always go on:*

*Jesus is with me—my shepherd and guide,
All that I need He is there to provide;
That makes the diff’rence—this friend by my side,
Jesus is walking with me.*

*I’ve known disappointment, I’ve suffered some loss,
I’ve felt on my shoulder the weight of a cross;
I’ve wept in the darkness and wished for the light,
But somehow His presence gave songs in the night.*

*I’ve laughed on the mountain, I’ve savored success,
Rejoiced in my blessings—in more than in less;
I’ve tasted the good life while praising His name,
But sunshine or shadow it’s always the same.*

--text by John W. Peterson © 1978 by Singspiration, Division of the Zondervan Corp

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.

CALL TO OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN “Lord of All Hopefulness” SLANE
**Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust ever child-like, no cares could destroy:
Be there at our waking and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.**

**Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:
Be there at our homing and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.**

**Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:
Be there at our sleeping and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.**

—text by Jan Struther, 1931 © 1931 Oxford University Press

WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING Philippians 4:1-13 (NRSV)

SERMON SERIES Faith in Unprecedented Times
#4 “Are You an Optimist or Pessimist?”
Chris Curvin, Pastor

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

HYMN #465 “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” CONVERSE

**What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit; O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!**

**Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!**

**Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he’ll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.**

BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY “If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee” David Cherwien

Stephanie Carson, Music Director
Tom Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director

IGNITE

ignite is a contemporary worship service at 9:30 that delivers the message of Jesus Christ through Powerful Music, Media & Scripture Based Sermons.

COUNTDOWN

WELCOME

PRAISE SONGS

“Open Up the Heavens”
“Indescribable”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISE SONG

“How Great Is Our God”

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS IN PRAYER

Paul Means, Associate Pastor

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“King of My Heart”

SCRIPTURE

Philippians 4:1–13

VIDEO

“Contentment”

MESSAGE

Sermon Series: Faith in Unprecedented Times
“Are You an Optimist or Pessimist?”
Chris Curvin, Pastor

SONG OF DEDICATION

“You Are Holy”

GOD’S BLESSING TO YOU

Sermon notes...

that Ignite Action!