### HYMN NOTES:

# "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" (96)

When John Chandler (1806-1878) translated this hymn from Latin he thought that it was a medieval work, but it was by the distinguished French scholar of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, Charles Coffin (1676-1749). Coffin wrote more than 100 hymns in Latin. Its theme is John the Baptist's announcement of Christ's advent and his call to the people of Israel to repent and prepare for His coming.

The text has undergone many revisions, and today it is hard to find two hymnals in which the text is the same. Almost all hymnals include the same five verses (most modern hymnals leave out the original second stanza), but the wording changes quite significantly between texts.

The overall theme of the verses, however, is evident regardless of the version used. Stanzas one and two are a message to us, instructing us to prepare the way of the Lord today. In stanza three, we confess our need for salvation, in stanza four we pray for healing and love, and stanza five (not in our *Glory to God* hymnal) acts as a doxology. We will use the alternate tune today PUER NOBIS NASCITUR which is used for five other texts in our hymnal (ex. #152)

# **BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO...**

Sunday, December 6: Harry Seckman, Robert Fuoco,

Zachary Cox, Shane Alexander

Lacinary Cox, Shalle Alexander

Monday, December 7: Laura Turner, David Hamilton

Tuesday, December 8: Roger Snay, Wanda Fanning, Susan Glaser,

Barbara Jordan, Beverly Van Zyl

Thursday, December 10: Blake Estavil

Friday, December 11: Eleanor Cicerchi, Murle Whitten, David O'Leary

Mark O'Leary

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



# Friends of Northwood



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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. During this time when we are not meeting for in person worship, please send your information directly to communications@northwoodpc.org

Please remember to mark "flowers" and the date on your \$30 donation. Thank you to those providing flowers each week In Honor/In Memory of someone or an anniversary/birthday!

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,
"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you
who will prepare your way;
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight..'"

Mark 1:2-3

# **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

# **ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

# Wednesday Bible Study, led by Cindy Huffman

A study of the Book of Matthew meets every Wednesday at 7:00pm through Zoom. The study guide being used is *The Immersion Bible Study: Matthew* by J. Ellsworth Kalas. If you'd like to join the Wednesday Bible Study or need a study book, please email Cindy Huffman at <a href="lucindy1@aol.com">lucindy1@aol.com</a> and she will forward you the Zoom link. All are welcome!

# 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.

# Fresh Brewed

Fresh Brewed will meet on the first Friday of every month at 10:30am via Zoom. The book we are studying is "Deeply Rooted; Knowing Self, Growing in God" by Christopher Marcie. Please contact Louise Mylin for a Zoom code and if you have any questions (727) 787-9868

# MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

# Citylight Schedule 12/6 - 12/13

- SUNDAY 12/6
  9:00 AM & 11:00 AM LIVE STREAM CHURCH
  10:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL VIA TEAMS
- ★ TUESDAY 12/8 8:00 PM - YOUNG WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM
- ★ WEDNESDAY 12/9
  6:00 PM 7:00 PM OUTDOOR CITYNIGHT (PREPPING FOR DROP N SHOP)
- SUNDAY 12/13
  9:00 AM & 11:00 AM LIVE STREAM CHURCH
  10:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL VIA TEAMS
  2:00 PM 5:00 PM DROP N SHOP (YOUTH
  VOLUNTEERS ARRIVE AT 12:00 PM)
  7:30 PM YOUNG MEN'S BIBLE STUDY VIA TEAMS

# Follow the link to view our weekly email:

https://mailchi.mp/bb5a0a9ae1ee/citylightupdate-1212020

# Welcome To Northwood Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Church Organized February 19, 1978

**December 6, 2020** 



Advent

### 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



Like us on Facebook! facebook.com/npc.clearwater

# Order for the Public Worship of God December 6, 2020 2nd Sunday of Advent 11:00 AM Worship Service

WE COME TO WORSHIP

**OPENING VOLUNTARY** 

arr. Mark Hayes

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" Piano and Organ Duet

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

Chris Curvin, Pastor

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sally Ann Morris

"The People Who Walked in Darkness" Stephanie Carson, Solo

The people who walked in darkness awaken to see a great light.
The people who dwelt in the land of the shadow rise to a star shining bright.

His name is Wonderful, Counselor, Almighty God, Father forever, Prince of Peace.

For God has enlarged the nation, and prospered the fruit of its land. God's people are blest with the harvest of victory, gift from a bountiful hand.

text by Mary Louise Bringle, 2008 © GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission

PRAYER OF THE DAY

HYMN #88

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

VENI EMMANUEL

(stanzas 1,6,7)
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,

that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE

Lighting the Candle, Steve & Debbie Lang

The reader offers words about the candle of peace.

**RESPONSE** 

Reader: ....and so we offer this mysterious prayer:
All: Lord Jesus, into our darkness, quickly come.

All singing: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Paul Means, Associate Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together)

O God, you search us and know us, and all that we are is open to you. We confess that we have sinned. We long for your coming to change the world, and yet are unwilling to change even our own hearts; when we do not listen to the prophets and angels; when we reduce our preparation of your coming to reckless spending and trivialities. Forgive us for all of our failings, in Jesus' name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

PICARDY

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood, Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood, He will give to all the faithful, his own self for heavenly food.

APOSTLES' CREED (Together)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the

Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

ANTHEM "Every Valley" John Ness Beck (Chancel Choir, recorded on November 25, 2018)

CALL TO OFFERING

HYMN #96

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh; awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be every life from sin; make straight the way for God within, and let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.

We hail you as our Savior, Lord, our refuge and our great reward; without your grace we waste away like flowers that wither and decay.

Stretch forth your hand; our health restore, and make us rise to fall no more. O let your face upon us shine and fill the world with love divine.

# WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 40:1-5 NRSV Mark 1:1-8 NRSV

**SERMON** 

Advent Series: The World Is Not Yet Finished
#2 "Turning Towards Peace"
Chris Curvin, Pastor

# WE UNITE IN PRAYER AND SACRAMENT

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

# THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE SHARING OF THE CUP; THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(Please plan to celebrate communion during this livestream service by preparing a small portion of juice—or something to drink—and bread for your use at home.)

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

# WE GO OUT TO SERVE

HYMN #87 "Comfort, Comfort Now My People" GENEVAN 42 "Comfort, comfort, now my people; tell of peace!" So says our God. "Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow's load. To my people now proclaim that my pardon waits for them! Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over."

For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near, calling us to true repentance, since the reign of God is here. O, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way. Let the valleys rise in meeting and the hills bow down in greeting.

Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain. Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God's holy reign. For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad, and all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.

BENEDICTION

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY** 

Jonathan Reuss

"Comfort, Comfort Now My People"

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

# GNATE

ignite is a contemporary worship service at 9:00 that delivers the message of Jesus Christ through Powerful Music, Media & Scripture Based

# COUNTDOWN

WELCOME

# THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE

Bill & Patty Martin

**VIDEO** 

"Peace"

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chris Curvin, Pastor

### PRAISE CAROL

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

## SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS IN PRAYER

# **APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

# **CALL TO OFFERING**

# **OFFERTORY**

"Peace"

# **SCRIPTURES**

Isaiah 40:1-5 Mark 1:1-8

# **MESSAGE**

Advent Series: The World Is Not Yet Finished #2 "Turning Towards Peace" Chris Curvin, Pastor

# **HOLY COMMUNION**

(Please plan to celebrate communion during this livestream service by preparing a small portion of juice—or something to drink—and bread for your use at home.)

# SONG OF DEDICATION

"Christmas Day"

**GOD'S BLESSING TO YOU**