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 18th 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
Monday, December 7: Laura Turner, David Hamilton
Tuesday, December 8: Roger Snavy, 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!

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 lucindy1@aol.com 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
  8:00 PM - 7:00 PM - OUTDOOR CITYLIGHT (PREPPING FOR DROP N SHOP)
- SUNDAY 12/13
  9:00 AM & 11:00 AM LIVE STREAM CHURCH
  10:15 AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL VIA TEAMS

Follow the link to view our weekly email:
https://mailchi.mp/bb5a0a9ae1ee/citylightupdate-1212020

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

Welcome To
Northwood Presbyterian Church
A Stephen Ministry Church
Organized February 19, 1978

December 6, 2020

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/nnpc.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  
“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”  
Piano and Organ Duet

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS  
Chris Curvin, Pastor

CALL TO WORSHIP

“The People Who Walked in Darkness”  
Sally Ann Morris

The people who walked in darkness awaken to see a great light.  
The people who dwelt in 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.  
The people who walked in darkness awaken to see a great light.  
For God has enlarged the nation, and prospered the fruit of its land.

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.  
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.

For God has enlarged the nation, and prospered the fruit of its land.  
The people who walked in darkness awaken to see a great light.  
For God has enlarged the nation, and prospered the fruit of its land.

O, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way.  
 calling us to true repentance, since the reign of God is here.  
 calling us to true repentance, since the reign of God is here.

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 communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

ANthem  
“Every Valley”  
John Ness Beck

CALL TO OFFERING

HYMN #86  
“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”  
Pier Nobis Nascitur

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

PEACE

WE UNITE IN PRAYER AND SACRAMENT

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER


(The 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 cry is rising 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.

HOLY COMMUNION

(Plwae 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

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

(Plwae 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

PREACHER

Chris Curvin, Pastor

WEB SITE

www.ibcok.org

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Comfort, Comfort Now My People”  
Jonathan Reuss

Stephanie Carson, Music Director

Tom Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director

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