

Northwood Presbyterian Church

Presbyterian Church (USA)
2875 State Road 580, Clearwater, Florida 33761
www.northwoodpc.org

Welcome to Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Thursday, December 24, 2020
7:30 PM



The Reverend Dr. E. Chris Curvin, Pastor
The Reverend Dr. Paul D. Means, Associate Pastor
Rosalie Bradford, Director of Youth & Family Ministries
Laura Garcia, Director of Schools
Stephanie Carson, Director of Music
Thomas D. Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director
Emily Cantin, Director of Communications
Chris Hurst, Business Administrator
Linda O'Leary, Bookkeeper

Order for the Public Worship of God
December 24, 2020
Christmas Eve
7:30 PM Worship Service

PRE SERVICE MUSIC (7:20)

“Silent Night”
“O Christmas Tree”
“The First Noel”
“God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”
“Silent Night”
“God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen”
“The First Noel”

Ellis Cantin

Brianna Adkisson

Aidan McDermott
Dylan Cantin
Celestial Orff

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

“Bring a Torch, Jeannette Isabella”

Keith Chapman

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chris Curvin, Pastor

PRAYER OF THE DAY

HYMN #133
(stanzas 1,2,3,)

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

ADESTE FIDELIS

O Come, All Ye Faithful 133

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come
2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -

ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,
of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -
all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all
sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

Refrain

born the King of an - gels!
got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let
glo - ry in the high - est!
now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Lighting the Candle, Tom & Cindy Huffman

The reader offers words about the Christ Candle

RESPONSE

All singing: 'Gloria' from Angels We Have Heard on High



OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY —Paul Means, Associate Pastor

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

TRIO

“The Birthday of a King”

W.H. Neidlinger

Michele White, Barbara Jordan, Stephanie Carson

ANNUNCIATION

Luke 1:26-33

MAGNIFICAT

Luke 1:46-55

(read responsively)

L: "My heart praises the Lord, my soul is glad because of my Savior.

P: For he has remembered me, his lowly servant!

L: And from now on all people shall call me blessed

P: because of the great things the mighty God has done for me.

L: His name is holy; he shows mercy to all who fear him,
from one generation to another.

**P: He stretched out his mighty arm and scattered the proud people
with all their plans.**

L: He brought down mighty kings from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly.

P: He filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away with empty hands.

L: He kept the promise he made to our ancestors;
he came to the help of his servant Israel,

**P: And remembered to show mercy to Abraham,
and to tell his descendants forever!"**

CAROL MEDLEY

(All singing first stanzas)

#113 Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

#115 Away in a Manger

AWAY IN A MANGER

#121 O Little Town of Bethlehem


ST. LOUIS

#132 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice


IN DULCI JUBILO

Carol Singers: Michele White, Barbara Jordan, Dennis Rasmussen, Garry Justice

113 Angels We Have Heard on High



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro-long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad-some ti - dings be which in-spire your heaven-ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain



Glo - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo -



- - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Away in a Manger

Capo 3: (D) F (G) B \flat (D) F



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the poor ba - by wakes,
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay

(A7) C7 (D) F



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
 but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.
 close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.

(G) B \flat (D) F



The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
 I love thee, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky,
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

(A7) C7 (D) F (Em) Gm (A7) C7 (D) F



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is night.
 and fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

Though erroneously attributed to Martin Luther, this anonymous carol has North American roots, probably originating among Pennsylvania Lutherans. Although more than forty melodies have been connected with these words, this tune was among the earliest written for them.

121 O Little Town of Bethlehem

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y and, gath - ered all a - bove,
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
 4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by.
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
 cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.

Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light;
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings tell;

the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us; a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Though he was famed during his lifetime as a great preacher, no sermon Phillips Brooks ever preached has been heard or read by as many people as have sung this carol he wrote in December 1868 for the Sunday School children of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Philadelphia.

TEXT: Phillips Brooks, 1868
 MUSIC: Lewis Henry Redner, 1868

ST. LOUIS
 8.6.8.6.7.6.8.6
 (alternate tune: FOREST GREEN)

132 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now.
 He has o-pened heav-en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Carols using two languages, like this one dating from at least the 14th century, belong to a special group called "macaronic" the original languages here being German and Latin. Though the present version is only in English, it is sung to the traditional German folk melody.

BIRTH

Luke 2:1-17

QUARTET

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”
Rachelle Cox, Stephanie Carson, Bill Martin, Dick Casper

arr. Howard Helvey

OFFERING WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS —The Helping Hands Fund

SERMON

Advent Series: The World Is Not Yet Finished
#5 “Turning Towards Christ”

Chris Curvin, Pastor

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES (recording from December 24, 2018)

CAROL #122

“Silent Night”

STILLE NACHT

Silent Night, Holy Night! 122

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight;
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light
4 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;
'round yon vir - gin moth - er and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and
glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - en - ly hosts sing "Al - le - lu -
ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing
with the an - gels let us sing Al - le - lu - ia to our
mild, sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
ia: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born!"
grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.
King: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born.

REDEDICATION OF OUR LIVES TO OUR LORD AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CAROL # 134

"Joy to the World"

ANTIOCH

134 Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -

her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
and heaven and na - ture sing,

and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

"Carol of the Bells"

Douglas Wagner

Tracey Birch, Emily Cantin, Stephanie Carson, Linda Feller, Cindy Huffman



*The Pastors, Church Officers & Staff
of Northwood Presbyterian Church
wish you a very joyous Christmas and New Year.*

The Meaning of the Christ Candle

For the past four Sundays we have been waiting—lighting the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. Tonight, as we see the light of the center candle, we are reminded that this is the Christ Candle, for without Christ, there would be no Christmas. The Christ Candle can remind us of the expectation of Mary, the songs of the angels, the enthusiasm of the shepherds and the homage paid to the Christ child by the Magi. For we, too, live in joyous expectation of seeing Jesus face to face; we, too, sing alleluia to our King; we, too, run with excitement to tell others of this Shepherd King; and we, too, pay homage to the one who came to save us. On this Christmas Eve, may we all believe, so that we might become children of God.

The Helping Hands Fund

Tonight's Christmas Eve Offering is for the Helping Hands Fund. Gifts given this evening are used to help those in our community with significant needs who come to our church office during the year. Thank you for your generosity in the spirit of Jesus' words in Matthew 25:31-46.

Worship Services, December 27th

There will be Worship Services on Sunday, December 27th LIVESTREAMED at 9:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. Pastor Paul will provide a sermon entitled "The Staggering Declaration of Christmas" based on the passage from Luke 2: 22-40.

Sunday, January 3rd we will continue with both worship services, 9:00 A.M. contemporary & 11:00 A.M. traditional.



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NPC Guest Wi-Fi Now live streaming our 9:00 & 11:00
services on northwoodpc.org.



LIVE STREAMING