#### **BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO...**

Tuesday, December 14: Paul Means, Kurt Kemerer Wednesday, December 15: Christy Rickrode,



Thursday, December 16: Cheryl Roberts Friday, December 17: Melanie Brown, Don Stevens, Chris Curvin Saturday, December 18: Jack Alwood, Nicole Makal, Kelsey Propst

Stephanie Rickrode

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** 

Flower orders & donation costs for flowers ordered for worship are made using the "2021 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!

### FAITHFULLY SERVING NORTHWOOD CHURCH TODAY

#### **GREETERS:**

**USHERS:** 

(9:00)

(11:00)

(9:00)Ann & Spencer Briggs Claudia Alwood & Murle Whitten (11:00)

Linda Granata & Jenny Carlstedt

Polly Brown & Patty Martin



"And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."



## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

### **ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

#### Experiencing God Class, led by Vicki Krueger

Experiencing God Class has started!

The Experiencing God class offers you a place to connect with other believers in the study of God's word and how it applies to our daily lives. Join us on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. We will be meeting online using Zoom. Email Vicki Krueger at vickilee33@aol.com for the link and for any technical help or questions.

#### Presbyterian Women, led by Patty Martin and Sue Miskiewicz

The Presbyterian Women unified circle meets the second Tuesday of the month at 10:00am in rooms 4-8. We are studying a 9 month bible study entitled What my Grandmothers Taught Me by Merryl Blair. Chris Curvin will be teaching each lesson via Livestream, and our circle will have a follow-up discussion of the lesson. The fifth lesson will be Thursday, January 6th at 11:00am. If you'd like a book, or more information regarding the multiple activities that Presbyterian Women engage in, please contact Patty Martin at bill.martin2@verizon.net or Sue Miskiewicz at susan.miskiewicz@yahoo.com.

#### Fresh Brewed,

Fresh Brewed will meet Friday, January 7th at 10:30am. We will meet in rooms 5 & 7 of the Christian Education building. The book we are studying is From Daughters to Disciples by Lynn Japinga. If you need a book, please contact Marti Huff at marti.huff.np@gmail.com. If you have any questions, please contact Louise Mylin at (727) 787-9868 or LVNM1@hotmail.com.

> **MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**



Follow the link to view our weekly email: https://mailchi.mp/6e820a30eb3e/citylightupdate-6527471





## Welcome To Northwood Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Church **Organized February 19, 1978** 

## **December 12, 2021**



# Third Sunday of Advent

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: Jesus says: "I am coming soon." **People: Amen. Come Lord Jesus!** Leader: Look! The young woman is with child. People: He will call him Emmanuel: God is with us. Leader: Let us worship God.

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 12, 2021 3rd Sunday of Advent 11:00 AM Worship Service

#### WE COME TO WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY "In dulci jubilo" (In quiet joy) Schroeder

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chris Curvin, Pastor

#### CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive, see front cover)

\*HYMN #108 "Of the Father's Love Begotten" DIVINUM MYSTERIUM (*stanzas* 1,3,4)

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be, he is Alpha and Omega; he the source, the ending he, of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore!

O, that birth forever blessed when the Virgin, full of grace, by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race, and the babe, the world's Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face, evermore and evermore!

This is he whom seers in old time chanted of with one accord, whom the voices of the prophets promised in their faithful word. Now he shines, the long-expected. Let creation praise its Lord, evermore and evermore!

#### THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY Lighting the Candle

Kerry, Aimee, Kayla, Aidan & Aaron McDermott The reader offers words about the candle of joy.

RESPONSE

MUELLER

All singing: A candle is burning, a candle of JOY, a candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy. Our hearts fill with wonder at candles bright glow. Joy in the world that we all soon would know. Words copyright © 1986 Sandra Dean

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

Paul Means, Associate Pastor

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together)

God of joy, God of life, we come to you as a people hungry for good news. We have preoccupied ourselves with our own joys and pleasures and have overlooked the joy you offer us. As we prepare for the birth of your Son this Christmas, help us to leave room for Christ to come into our very lives. Forgive us, gracious God. Open our eyes and our hearts to receive your gift; open our lips and hands to share this good news with others, in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #581 GLORIA PATRI Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

"The Star Carol"

#### ANTHEM

Alfred Burt

Michele White, Soloist Long years ago on a deep winter night, high in the heavens a star shone bright, While in a manger a wee Baby lay, sweetly asleep on a bed of hay.

Jesus, the Lord, was that Baby so small, laid down to sleep in a humble stall; Then came the star and it stood overhead, shedding its light 'round His little bed. Dear Baby Jesus, how tiny Thou art, I'll make a place for Thee in my heart, And when the stars in the heavens I see, ever and always I think of Thee.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORDS 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

\*DOXOLOGY—#606 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN #144	"In the Bleak Midwinter"	CRANHAM
(stanzas 1,2,4)		
In the bleak m	idwinter, frosty wind made moan;	
earth stood ha	rd as iron, water like a stone;	
snow had falle	n, snow on snow, snow on snow,	
in the bleak mi	idwinter, long ago.	

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain; heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign: in the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

#### WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:39-55 (NRSV)

IRBY

Cherwien

OLD HUNDREDTH

"His Unexpected Entrance" Chris Curvin, Pastor

#### WE GO OUT TO SERVE

"Once in Royal David's City"

\*HYMN #140 (stanzas 1,2,4)

SERMON

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed, where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed: Mary was that mother mild; Jesus Christ, her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all, and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall; with the poor and weak and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

Jesus is our childhood's pattern; day by day like us he grew; he was little, weak and helpless; tears and smiles like us he knew; and he feels for all our sadness, and he shares in all our gladness

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love; for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above; and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

#### \*BENEDICTION

#### CLOSING VOLUNTARY "O Come, All Ye faithful"

\*Congregation will stand. If standing is difficult for you, feel free to remain seated.

Stephanie Carson, Music Director; Linda Pointer, Guest Organist

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



#### COUNTDOWN

#### WELCOME

#### THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY

Drew Strelcheck & Eli Jeffre

#### **PRAISE SONG**

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### VIDEO

"Joy"

#### **PRAISE SONG**

"Be Born in Me"

#### SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS IN PRAYER

#### **CALL TO OFFERING**

#### OFFERTORY

"A Strange Way to Save the World"

#### SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:39-55(NRSV)

#### MESSAGE

"His Unexpected Entrance" Chris Curvin, Pastor

#### SONG OF DEDICATION

"Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)"

#### **GOD'S BLESSING TO YOU**

Sermon notes...

that Ignite Action!