

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO...

Sunday, December 11: Eleanor Cicerchi, David O'Leary,
Emma Tighe
Wednesday, December 14: Paul Means, Kurt Kemerer
Friday, December 16: Cheryl Roberts
Saturday, December 17: Chris Curvin, Melanie Brown, Don Stevens



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



Peggy & Terry Steele In Loving Memory of Our Mothers Maxine Steele & Zella Morris



Flower orders & donation costs for flowers ordered for worship are made using the "2022 Flower Reservation Chart" on the bulletin board across from the kitchen, or you may 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:

(9:00) Ann & Spencer Briggs
(11:00) Claudia Alwood & Barbara Forsyth

Ushers & Greeters



USHERS:

(9:00) Georgia Rounding & Carol Zieres
(11:00) Mike Capito & Polly Brown

*And Mary said,
"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit
rejoices in God my Savior."*

Luke 1:46-47

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Presbyterian Women, led by Patty Martin and Sue Miskiewicz

Our monthly meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting will be December 13th at 10:00am in rooms 4,6 & 8 of the Christian education building. We are using a 9 month study titled "Celebrating Sabbath". If you need a book, they are available for purchase in the church office.

Fresh Brewed,

Fresh Brewed will meet Friday, December 2nd at 10:30am. We will meet in rooms 5&7 of the Christian Education building. The book we are studying is The Relationship Principles of Jesus by Tom Holladay. If you have any questions, please contact Louise Mylin at 787-9868 or LVNM1@hotmail.com. For help getting a book, contact Marti Huff at marti.huff.np@gmail.com.

Biblical TakeAways, led by Claudia Alwood & Garry Justice

The adult Sunday School/Bible Study class meets every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in Rooms 5 & 7. We are studying the two letters of Peter. Please bring Bible and Wright commentary book. New members are welcome!

Citylight Schedule 12/9 - 12/18

Friday 12/9

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Game Night Grades 6 & Up

Sunday 12/11

9:00 am - Contemporary Service
10:05 am - 11:45 am - Youth Sunday School,
11:00 am - Traditional Service
4:00 pm - Ring Sing & Mingle
7:00 pm - Youth & Families Christmas Party

Wednesday 12/14

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm - Citynight - Grades 6 & Up

Friday 12/16

No Game Night - Dinner, then Prism Concert at East Lake High School, if you would like to go, contact Rosalie.

Saturday 12/17

9:00 am - 1:00 pm - Drop N Shop - Volunteer to lead Kings Kid Kiddos for day of Christmas VBS!

Sunday 12/18

9:00 am - Contemporary Service
10:05 am - 11:45 am - Youth Sunday School
11:00 am - Traditional Service

Follow the link to view our weekly email:

<https://mailchi.mp/f330f1b50717/citylightupdate322022-13513696>

Welcome To Northwood Presbyterian Church

*A Stephen Ministry Church
Organized February 19, 1978*

December 11, 2022



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsive, Isaiah 35:10*)

Leader: The ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing.
People: Everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.
Leader: Let us worship our God with Joy!

Ministers: All Members of the Church

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

Northwood Presbyterian Church

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facebook.com/npc.clearwater

Order for the Public Worship of God
December 11, 2022
3rd Sunday of Advent
11:00 AM Worship Service

WE COME TO WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY “Sleepers Wake” J.S. Bach

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Chris Curvin, Pastor

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Responsive, Isaiah 35:10, see front cover)*

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

(Please complete the bulletin insert, “FRIENDSHIP SHEET,” and pass it toward the center aisle.)

*HYMN #140 “Once in Royal David’s City” IRBY
(stanzas 1,2,4)

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.

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.

THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY

Lighting the Candle

Kevin, Laura, Shannon & Liam O’Leary
The reader offers words about the candle of joy.

RESPONSE THE FIRST NOWELL

All singing: **The candle of joy reminds us to sing,
for God is at work to do a new thing.
The proud will be humbled; the lowly will rise.
God’s kingdom is one of delight and surprise.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.**

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CALL TO CONFESSION Paul Means, Associate Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(together)*

Gracious God, our doubt and despair lead us to low and longsuffering
places. Our eyes downcast, we find nothing for which to give thanks,
we find no reason to rejoice. Yet, you call us to resist the overwhelming
forces that drag us down. You call us to rejoice in a babe about to be
born. You call us to lift our eyes in hopeful anticipation of your kin-
dom to come. Forgive us. Help us. Save us. 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

ANTHEM “He Is Born, the Divine Christ Child” arr. Lloyd Larson
*He is born, the divine Christ Child, play the oboe and bagpipes merrily!
He is born, the holy Child, sing we all of the Savior mild.*

*Through long ages of the past prophets have foretold His coming;
Through long ages of the past, now the time has come at last! Refrain*

*O how lovely, O how pure is this perfect Child of heaven;
O how lovely, O how pure, gracious gift of God sent down. Refrain*

*Jesus, Lord of all the world, coming as a child among us,
Jesus, Lord of all the world, grant to us Thy heavenly peace! Refrain*

SACRAMENT OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM

Liam Michael O’Leary, Son of Kevin and Laura O’Leary

*APOSTLES’ CREED *(page 35, Hymnal)*

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 OLD HUNDREDTH

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 #129 “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” ES IST EIN’ ROS’
(stanzas 1,2)

Lo, how a rose e’er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
of Jesse’s lineage coming, by faithful prophets sung.
It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter,
when half spent was the night.

Isaiah ‘twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God’s love aright she bore for us a Savior,
when half spent was the night.

WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 1:39-56 (NRSV)

SERMON “Let Me Wish You a ‘MARY’ Christmas!”
Chris Curvin, Pastor

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

*HYMN #116 “The Snow Lay on the Ground” VENITE ADOREMUS
(stanzas 1,2,4)

The snow lay on the ground; the stars shone bright,
when Christ our Lord was born on Christmas night.
Venite adoremus Dominum. Venite adoremus Dominum.

Refrain: Venite adoremus Dominum. Venite adoremus Dominum.

“Twas gentle Mary maid, so young and strong,
who welcomed here the Christ-child with a song.
She laid him in a stall at Bethlehem;
the ass and oxen shared the roof with them. Refrain

And thus that manger poor became a throne;
for he whom Mary bore was God the Son.
O come, then, let us join the heavenly host
to praise the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Refrain

*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY “Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella” Cherwien

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

Stephanie Carson, Music Director; David Furr, Organist

IGNITE

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 JOY

Dan, Pam, Eli & Isaac Jeffre

PRAISE SONG

“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEET & GREET

PRAISE SONG

“Our God/O Come, All Ye Faithful”

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS IN PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy king-
dom 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

OFFERTORY

“Christmas Is All In the Heart”

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:39-56 (NRSV)

SERMON

“Let Me Wish You a ‘Mary’ Christmas!”

Chris Curvin, Pastor

SONG OF DEDICATION

“Joy, Unspeakable Joy”

GOD’S BLESSING TO YOU