Northwood Presbyterian Church

Presbyterian Church (USA)

2875 State Road 580, Clearwater, Florida 33761

Welcome to Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Thursday, December 24, 2015 7:30 PM



The Reverend Dr. E. Chris Curvin, Senior Pastor
The Reverend Dr. Paul D. Means, Associate Pastor
Troy Harris, Director of Youth & Young Adults
Justine Ruisz, Director of Children's Ministries
Stephanie Carson, Director of Music
Thomas D. Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director
Tracy Donovan, Director of Communications & Membership Coordinator
Chris Hurst, Business Administrator
Linda O'Leary, Bookkeeper
Vicki Conolly, Director of Schools
Amy McDermott, Director of Nursery

ORDER OF WORSHIP

(Infant Care is available in our nursery tonight for our 7:30 service)

OPENING VOLUNTARY

"Jov to the World"

Robert J. Powell

Heather Wood, Clarinet

Darrell Day

"Away in a Manger"

Tracey Birch and Cindy Huffman, Handbells "A Christmas Prelude"

Charles Callahan

Robert Wood, Oboe

CHRISTMAS EVE CALL TO WORSHIP

CAROL #140

"Once in Royal David's City"

stanza 1: Solo

*all stand as the organ begins and sing with the choir

*stanzas 2, 3, 4: all singing

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 meek 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.

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

WORDS OF WELCOME & CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Jon & Vickie Mills and Eric, Amy, McKenna & Matthew Mills

*CAROL #133

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

ADESTE FIDELIS

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;

O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!

Come, and behold him, born the King of angels! (refrain)

Refrain: O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation; sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest. (refrain)

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be all glory given; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! (refrain)

THE PROMISE OF THE LIGHT

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE 1:26-33

Patrick Hurst

ANTHEM

"Mary Did You Know?" Liana Stephen, Soprano

arr. Craig Courtney

Mary, did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on water?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters?

Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new?

This child that you delivered will soon deliver you.

Mary, did you know that your baby boy will give sight to a blind man?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy will calm a storm with his hand?

Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod?

When you kissed your little baby, then you kissed the face of God.

The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the dead will live again: The lame will leap, the dumb will speak the praises of the Lamb.

Mary, did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy will one day rule the nations?

Did you know that your baby boy was heaven's perfect Lamb?

This sleeping child you're holding is the great I AM!

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE 2:1-7

SOLO

"No Golden Carriage, No Bright Toy" Barbara Jordan, Alto

Gilbert M. Martin

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS-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.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly/He Is Born" Cody Carson, Clarinet

arr. Brant Adams

THE COMING OF THE LIGHT

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE 2:8-16

*CAROL #119 "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" MENDELSSOHN

Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the new-born King, Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled. Joyful, all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies; With the angelic host proclaim, 'Christ is born in Bethlehem.' Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the new-born King.

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, Late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see: hail, the incarnate Deity, Pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the new-born King.

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace: hail, the Sun of Righteousness.
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the new-born King.

THE TRIUMPH OF THE LIGHT

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN 3:14-21

THE CHRISTMAS EVE MESSAGE

E. Chris Curvin, Pastor

"Gazing into the Heart of God"

DUET "All Is Well" Kirkpatrick/Smith

Liana Stephen, Soprano; Stephanie Carson, Alto arr. Lloyd Larson

THE RECEIVING OF THE LIGHT

THE LETTER TO THE EPHESIANS 5:8-10, 14

Paul Means, Associate Pastor

LITANY OF DEDICATION (responsive)

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

ALL: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Leader: Jesus said, "I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in me

will not remain in darkness."

ALL: In His name I will light my candle and the Lord my God will enlighten my

darkness.

PASSING OF THE LIGHT

As the house lights are dimmed, the light from the Christ Candle will be passed to the ushers who will move to light the candle of the first worshipper in each pew. Pass the light by tipping the unlighted candle to the upright lighted one.

CAROL #122 "Silent Night" STILLE NACHT

(please remain seated)

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright

'Round yon Virgin Mother and Child! Holy Infant so tender and mild,

Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight,

Glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia!

Christ, the Savior is born, Christ, the Savior is born."

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure Light

Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,

Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Silent night, holy night, Wondrous star, lend thy light;

With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;

Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

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

*THE LORD'S PRAYER (all singing)

Albert Hay Malotte

"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 for ever. Amen."

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

*CAROL #113 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

GLORIA

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song. Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing; Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*BENEDICTION

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

David Cherwien

GREETERS:

Joyce Curvin, Pam Means

CALL TO WORSHIP VOICES:

David Hamilton, Troy Harris, Dawn Winder, Babs Bailey, Chris Hurst, Georgia Rounding, Patty Martin, Sarah Flaherty, Steve Winder

HANDBELLS:

Sarah Flaherty, Shaun Flaherty, Heather Wood, Robert Wood, Lucas Johnston



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

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