HYMN NOTES:
“God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand” (331)
Written by Daniel Crane Roberts (1841-1907) for the 1876 centennial celebration of the writing of the Declaration of Independence, this hymn was first sung in Brandon, Vermont where the author was the rector of the local Episcopal church. In 1886, he submitted this text to the committee producing a new Episcopal hymnal but with no indication that he was the author. After the still-anonymous text was approved as part of the committee’s report to the 1892 General Convention, he identified himself in time for his name to appear in the published hymnal. George Warren (1828-1902) wrote the music for the 1892 centennial of the adoption of the U.S. Constitution. The musical directions in the first printing imply that the trumpets are not optional; in fact, there is a note, “before each stanza.” The first four measures of sung text are marked “Voices alone,” and only after the next trumpet fanfare comes the direction “With Organ.”

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Children’s Ministry is sending out personal notes to the children of Northwood so watch for your note in the mail. If you want to receive a note for your child or grandchild contact Justine Davis at childrensministrty@northwoodpc.org.
- Please be sure to check out and “like” the Children’s Ministry Facebook group. Each week we will have a children’s Bible lesson posted along with other activities.
  https://www.facebook.com/groups/633579497423839/?source_id=263480270372443

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Given the guidance from the Presbytery and public health officials, we have suspended all group gatherings, including Christian Education for children, youth and adults until further notice. Please use our website for up to date information.

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.

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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“God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand” (331)
Written by Daniel Crane Roberts (1841-1907) for the 1876 centennial celebration of the writing of the Declaration of Independence, this hymn was first sung in Brandon, Vermont where the author was the rector of the local Episcopal church. In 1886, he submitted this text to the committee producing a new Episcopal hymnal but with no indication that he was the author. After the still-anonymous text was approved as part of the committee’s report to the 1892 General Convention, he identified himself in time for his name to appear in the published hymnal. George Warren (1828-1902) wrote the music for the 1892 centennial of the adoption of the U.S. Constitution. The musical directions in the first printing imply that the trumpets are not optional; in fact, there is a note, “before each stanza.” The first four measures of sung text are marked “Voices alone,” and only after the next trumpet fanfare comes the direction “With Organ.”

“They will have NO FEAR of bad news; their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the LORD.”

Psalm 112:7
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN #331

OPENING VOLUNTARY

“America the Beautiful” arr. Mark Johnston

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

CALL TO WORSHIP

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

HYMN #331 “God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand” NATIONAL HYMN (stanzas 1,3,4)

God of the ages, whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
Our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

From war’s alarms, from deadly pestilence,
Be thy strong arm our ever sure defense.
Thy true religion in our hearts increase.
Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh thy people on their toilsome way.
Lead us from night to never ending day.
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,
And glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.

WE COME TO WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: Blessed is God, who hears our prayers,
All: whose steadfast love endures forever.
Leader: There is no greater love than this.
All: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.
Leader: God calls us to proclaim the good news.
All: Let us open our hearts to hear God’s word.

OPENING VOLUNTARY “Battle Hymn of the Republic” Charles W. Ore

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S 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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN #329 “God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength” WINCHESTER OLD (stanzas 1,3,4)

God is our refuge and our strength, our ever present aid,
In Jesus’ name we pray, from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
O Trinity of love and power, all travelers guard in danger’s hour;
Secure and safe with God’s sure help, when trouble is at hand.

WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCROLL READINGS Genesis 50:20 (NRSV)
Ephesians 3:20-21 (NRSV)

SERMON “An Ingenious Alchemist”
Chris Curvin, Pastor

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

HYMN #8 “Eternal Father, Strong to Save” MELITA (stanzas 1,4)

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm has bound the restless wave,
Who bade the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power, all travelers guard in danger’s hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them where they go;
Thrice evermore shall rise to thee
glad praise from air and land and sea.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

“America the Beautiful” arr. Mark Johnston

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain.
For purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain.
America, America! God shed His grace on thee.
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife.
Who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life.
America, America, may God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness and every gain divine.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

“America the Beautiful” arr. Mark Johnston

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years.
Thine alabaster cities gleam undimmed by human tears.
America, America! God shed His grace on thee.
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S 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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN #329 “God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength” WINCHESTER OLD (stanzas 1,3,4)

God is our refuge and our strength, our ever present aid,
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.
America, America!

Till all success be nobleness and every gain divine.

America, America, may God thy gold refine
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.

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