EASTER SUNDAY
April 16, 2017 ~ 8:15 & 11:00 AM

WE GATHER
(LET THE CONGREGATION BE SILENT, AND IN PRAYER AT THE SERVICE BEGINS. PLEASE SILENCE ELECTRONIC DEVICES.)

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

OPENING VOLUNTARY
“Entrata Festiva”
Flor Peeters
(1903-1986)
(ACOLYTES SYMBOLICALLY BE IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST & THEN TAKE IT OUT INTO THE WORLD)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*EASTER GREETING
Leader: The Lord is risen!
People: He is risen indeed!
Leader: Christ is risen!
People: HE IS RISEN INDEED!

*PASSING THE PEACE OF THE RISEN LORD
(Please complete the bulletin insert, “FRIENDSHIP SHEET,” and pass it toward the center aisle.)

*HYMN
“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” EASTER HYMN
arr. Allen Pote

CALL TO CONFESSION

WE CONFESS
Paul Means, Associate Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)
Mighty God: by your power is Christ raised from death to rule this world with love. We confess that we have not believed in Him but fall into doubt and fear. Forgive our dread of dying, our hopeless, and set us free for joy in the victory of Jesus Christ, who was dead but lives, and will put down every power to hurt or destroy, when your promised kingdom comes. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #581 GLORIA PATRI

ANTHEM
“The Day of Resurrection”
(see appearance at Hymn #23 in Glory to God)

OUR MINISTRY WITH THE CHILDREN
Children, ages 3 years-2nd grade, are welcome to remain in service with their parents or join us in room 3 for Children’s Church.

WE UNITE IN PRAYER

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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING
“Prelude on FUER NOSIBIS” Dale Wood
(based on the tune of the next hymn)

* A 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.

WE SHARE
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION*

*HYMN* “The Sun Was Bright That Easter Dawn” Pius Nobis
Organ introduction by David Cherwien

All: The sun was bright that Easter dawn, Alleluia! Alleluia! But brighter still the risen Son, Alleluia! Alleluia!

Women: The women hurried to his tomb, Alleluia! Alleluia! But only found an empty room! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Men: The sleeping birds awoke to sing Alleluia! Alleluia! In praise of Christ, their risen King! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All: Let trumpets add their joyous sound Alleluia! Alleluia! And anthems soar the world around! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All: For Christ has conquered death’s long night Alleluia! Alleluia! And shines in resurrection light! Alleluia! Alleluia!

---text: Herman G. Stuemke © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. used by permission.

WE HEAR THE WORD

John 20:1-8 (pages 882-883)

SERMON “The Story Which Shapes Our Faith” Chris Curvin, Pastor

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

*HYMN #248 “Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!” HYMN TO JOY

All who desire are invited to come forward during the hymn to join the choir in the loft for the “Hallelujah” chorus—schedules are provided.

*BENEDICTION*

*CHORAL ACCLAMATION “Hallelujah” G.F. Handel from Messiah

CLOSING VOLUNTARY “Toccata Festiva” Franklin D. Ashdown

(You are invited to remain for the final act of worship, the closing voluntary. A closer look is welcomed if you wish to come stand next to the organ console.)

Brass players:
Trumpet I: Kirby Touchton
Trumpet II: Palmer Wilhelm
Trombone I: Eric Kemerer
Trombone II: Carl Pruettt

Stephanie Carson, Music Director
Tom Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director

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

Welcome Friends & Guests!

March 27, 2016

A Happy and Joyous Easter to you! Your presence adds greatly to our celebration of the victory of Christ over sin and death. Christ is risen! He is Risen indeed!

We invite you to register your attendance on the friend sheet at your bulletin. If you are new to Northwood, we hope that you’ll worship with us again and consider becoming a part of our friendly and caring church family. If you are interested in exploring membership and/or have questions, please call Pastor Chris Curvin or Tracy Donovan, Membership Coordinator, at 727-8090. The next Discovering Northwood New Member Class is May 21st at 10:45 AM in Room 4 of the Christian Education building.

We hope you will join us for fellowship, coffee, juice and cookies between services in the hallway outside the kitchen.

Anyone wishing to discuss a commitment/recommitment to Christ, or anyone who has a special prayer concern may speak with one of the pastors after the worship service.

The Easter Lilies (in the sanctuary and around the church today) are given to the glory of God by friends and members of Northwood Presbyterian Church in honor and in memory of their loved ones. (See insert).

We hope you will take time to look through this information and take note of all the events taking place in the life of Northwood. If you are visiting, we hope to see you again soon!

He is Risen!
Pastor Chris

Thank you for participating by bringing flowers today for Northwood’s flower cross!
For more than 50 years through the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering, the refugee and the stranger have found food and safe shelter, those stunned by the aftermath of disasters have found relief and help rebuilding, and communities seeking to take control of their future have found partners in development. This year 80% of the money received will be divided equally between local ministries RCS and Thornwell Building Families Program, and 20% will go to the Presbyterian Church of Tampa Bay. The hundreds of millions given over the last half century have enabled a powerful witness to the love of the One who came that all might have life more abundantly. There are offering envelopes located in the holders in the pew.

**HYMN NOTES:**

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

This text by Charles Wesley was first published in 1739 under the title "Hymn for Easter Day" in eleven four-line stanzas. 100 years after its first appearance the text went into a great eclipse. In 1831 it resurfaced in British Methodist hymnals and U.S. hymnals in 1849. Much of the interest since then has probably been the result of its pairing with the tune EASTER HYMN (which we sing today). The composer of the music has never been identified. The joyous 'alleluia' at the end of each line were added by some hymn editor to make the words fit the tune. The tune also has a history from the 18th century of being named CHRISTMAS DAY and coupled with another of Wesley's hymn "Hark, how all the welkin rings," later altered to "Hark, the herald angels sing." In our Gloria to God hymnal, the famous Easter words are coupled with a different tune, so we have printed the text in the bulletin to avoid confusion.

**FAITHFULLY SERVING NORTHWOOD TODAY**

**ACOLYTES:**

(8:15) Jade Johnson
(11:00) Adam Booth

**GREETERS:**

(8:15) Joanna Spigarelli, Jay Bavanger
(11:00) Wally & Nancy Erisson

**USHERS:**

(8:15) Fred Herder, Eddie Link
Bill & Margaret Lewis
(11:00) Ernie & Carol Kirkwood
Polly Brown & Jane Winnie

**VAN DRIVER:** Ed Puschmann

**OFFICE CLOSED**

The office will be closed tomorrow. Monday, April 17. The office will reopen Tuesday, April 18 at 9:00 a.m.

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God by:
Terry & Peggy Steele
Our Mothers,
Maxine Steele & Zella Morris

**BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO...**

Sunday, April 16th:
Jeannie Smith, Fred Schuler, Lars Greff

Monday, April 17th:
Linda Howard, David Johnson

Tuesday, April 18th:
Ruth Schmidt, Terry Czarneck, Lex Long, Blake Harris

Wednesday, April 19th:
Anna Hyden, Ed Puschmann, Farah Garcia

Thursday, April 20th:
Agnieszka Biala

Friday, April 21st:
Edwin Smith, Gamy Justice

If you see someone whose birthday is listed and you have'nt seen them in church recently, give them a call!
About our Children's Ministry:
Welcome to Northwood Presbyterian Church! Our mission is to join with parents to help kids develop a faith in Jesus Christ that lasts a lifetime! We invite you to take a look at our website, www.northwoodopc.org, for more information about what we offer and join us for some of our exciting upcoming events! If you have any questions, please contact Justine Ruiz, Director of Children's Ministry.

Justine Ruiz, Director of Children's Ministry
Childrensministry@northwoodopc.org 796-8090 Cell: 727-641-8140

Children's Ministry
Easter Egg Hunt Thank You!
Our 3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt was Egg-cellent! Thank you for the donation of goodies, egg fillers and prizes. Thank you to Susan Curry, Linda Ciocca, Sue Gavette, Marian Hill, Bob Meier, Laureen Meier, Nancy Stevens, Kay Scheuerman, Jane Winne and Gloria Whitfield for helping with the filling counting and hiding the eggs, and for counting and stuffing the goodie bags. I could not have done it without their help! We had 50 kids and 50 adults attend this wonderful family event and we look forward to doing it again next year!

Worship Preparation Class
This class is designed to help children feel more at home in the worship service. They will learn about the different parts of the worship service and their significance. This class is for children who are currently in 2nd grade or those who are in 3rd-5th grade that haven’t been through the class yet. Please contact Justine Ruiz for more information. The class will be held on April 30th and May 7th at 10:30 A.M. in rooms 4 & 6. The children will be presented in service on May 14th.

Vacation Bible School—June 26-30
Registration is now open on our website. www.northwoodopc.org

Justine Ruiz, Director of Children's Ministry
Childrensministry@northwoodopc.org 796-8090 Cell: 727-641-8140

Sympathy
We express our prayers and Christian sympathy to Pastor Paul Means and his entire family upon the news of the death of his mother, Ruth Means, in Tulsa, Oklahoma on April 6.

YOUTH EVENTS
Sunday, April 16: No Sunday School or Youth Group for Easter
Sunday, April 23: Youth Sunday, Pierske will be providing music along with Westminster Handbell Choir and the Youth Choir. There are many different parts of the service that we are still in need of youth volunteers.
Sunday, April 30: Youth Guide Training for VBS
10:30-12:00 for New Youth Guides
10:30-11:30 for Returning Guides
(Please sign up at www.northwoodopc.org/vbs)
Sunday, May 14: Mother’s Day Bake Sale. We are accepting baked goods for sale on Friday evening, May 12, at 7:00 P.M. and Sunday morning, May 14. We also appreciate all the purchases made that day with the proceeds going to support our summer spiritual growth retreat.
Sunday, May 21: Last Sunday School until school starts again in August.

Volunteers are always needed for youth activities! Parents, please sign up for one of our exciting events or projects by emailing either Steve Cantin (scantin13@yahoo.com) or Andy Strelcheck (Strelcheckfamily@aol.com).

Youth Summer Trip: Life Rec Camp
*Second deposit of $100 due Sunday, April 30
When: July 24th – July 28th
Where: Palm Beach Atlantic University
Cost: The cost is $300. Reservations are being accepted, based on camp availability.

Questions? Please contact Marcy Kemmer or Stephanie Strelcheck:
Marcy Kemmer, 727-455-2583, marcykem07@gmail.com
Stephanie Strelcheck, 727-417-9532, strelcheckfamily@aol.com

Congratulations to our Confirmands!
Last weekend we welcomed our four Confirmands into Membership in the Presbyterian Church. These students, grades 7 and up, started classes on February 19 to learn about the History of the Church, Presbyterian Polity, Old Testament, New Testament, Worship and more. They also spent a fun weekend out at CedarKirk and attended the February Session Meeting. On Saturday, April 8 they attended a Luncheon in their honor where they shared their faith statements. Palm Sunday we welcomed Hannah Fish, Lucas Johnston, and Emma Youngblood as brothers and sisters in Christ’s Church! (Alyssa Tobinsson was not able to be present Sunday and will be introduced to the congregation at a later time.)
Congratulations to our Confirmands!

Today we welcome our 7 Confirmands into Membership in the Presbyterian Church.

These students, grades 7 and up, started classes back in February to learn about the History of the Church, Presbyterian Polity, Old Testament, New Testament, Worship and more. They also spent a fun weekend out at Cedarkirk and attended the March Session Meeting. On Saturday, March 19 they attended a Breakfast in their honor where they shared their faith statements. And today we welcome them as brothers and sisters in Christ's Church!

Maddox Brogan Williamson, infant son of Kristen and Ryan Williamson and siblings Warrick and Delaney. Maddox was born on Saturday, March 19, 2016 and was 9 lbs 15 ounces and 20 inches long.

Nico Nortje, infant son of Et and Ilze Nortje, and proud grandparents Jim and Rina McGrath. Nico was born on Saturday, March 19, 2016 and was 7 lbs 14 ounces.

Declan William McMannus, infant son of Kaitlyn and Corey McMannus, and proud grandparents Gene and Lisa Weitz. Declan was born on Thursday, March 10, 2016 and was 9 lbs 11 ounces.

The roses on the baptismal font are in honor of:

Our Sympathies

We extend our Christian sympathy to Jack and Susan Curry upon the news of the death of Jack's son, XXX

The Paschal Candle

Today on the chancel is a large candle that symbolizes both the pillar of fire that led Israel by night, and the risen Lord who stands among us at Easter. This large candle sits tall and it bears a light and witness to the risen Christ. The candle is called the paschal candle. "Pasch" comes from the Hebrew word "pesah," meaning deliverance or Passover—thus connecting the Resurrection to the Exodus. As we did last year, the candle is first used on Easter and continues at each service through the Great Fifty Days—Easter through Pentecost. It is also appropriate to light it at initiation rites such as baptism, confirmation and ordinations as well as at funerals.

Learn about Being Presbyterian

What is a Presbyterian?

In the New Testament, “Presbyteros” means elder, and refers to the democratic custom of choosing leaders and advisors from among the members of the church. Presbyterian are a group of Protestants whose church is founded on this concept of democratic rule under the Word of God. The Presbyterian denomination is a form of Christianity democratically organized to embrace the faith common to all Christians.

All that is required to be a Presbyterian is to...

- Confess the Christian faith
- Trust in Christ as our forgiving Savior
- Promise to follow Christ and Christ’s example for living
- Commit oneself to attend church and to become involved in its work.

Presbyterians have two main sources for inspiration and guidance in their faith:

1. The Bible: The Bible is an inspired record of the revelation of God to all. Presbyterians have always believed that the Bible is the most authoritative source for faith and practice for all people. Presbyterians do not believe that the authors of the Bible were “pens of God” as the pre-Christian writers believed. Instead, they believe the authors were inspired by God to reveal God to all people.

2. Creeds & Confessions: These are statements of doctrine that express the beliefs of a church or congregation. They include:
   - The Apostles' Creed
   - The Nicene Creed
   - The Scots Confession, 1560
   - The Heidelberg Catechism
   - The Second Helvetic Confession
   - And others

Presbyterians recognize two Sacraments— as described in the Bible:

1. Baptism: This sacrament unites us with Jesus Christ and makes us members of God’s family, the church. For Presbyterians, baptism...
   - Is an initiation into the church community, as ordered by Christ
   - Is a public confession, not a private one—it’s a statement of faith made in the presence of others
   - Does not guarantee access to heaven—un-baptized people are not denied salvation
   - Can be performed in another church—there is no need to be re-baptized in a Presbyterian Church.

2. Communion: This is also called the Lord’s Supper, Holy Communion or the Eucharist. It’s a time to renew faith and strengthen participants for the duties and privileges of Christian service. In communion, the bread and the wine represent the sacrificial body and blood of Christ and recall the last meal shared with the apostles. Together they symbolize the new covenant between God and all people.

To learn more about what it means to be a Presbyterian, and a member of Northwood, please join us for our Discovering Northwood New Member Class May 21st at 10:45 am in Room 4 of the Christian Education Building.
NORTHWOOD CHURCH STAFF
Ministers—All the members of the church

Chris Curvin-Pastor
   Email: chriscurvin@northwoodpc.org
Paul Means-Associate Pastor for Congregational Care/Mission
   Email: paul@northwoodpc.org
Stephanie Carson-Director of Music
   Email: stephcarson@northwoodpc.org
Tom Huffman-Organist & Associate Music Director
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Justine Rusz-Director of Children’s Ministry
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Mark Johnston-Technical Arts Coordinator

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