HYMN NOTES:
When she was only nineteen years old, Julia C. Cory (1882–1963) was asked by J. Archer Gibson, the organist of the Brick Presbyterian Church in New York City, to create a new text for the Kremsner tune. He was looking for a new Thanksgiving text with less conflict than the customary one usually sung to that music (“We Gather Together”, #336). By her own account she “struggled along for two weeks” to produce the three stanzas at #612 in Glory to God. This new text was first sung on Thanksgiving Day, November 27, 1902 at two New York Presbyterian churches, The Brick Church and the Church of the Covenant.

Soon after the text was written, the author’s father who was head of the Sunday School at Church of the Covenant, asked her to create a Christmas stanza for use there. So she wrote the following, which has seldom been used:

Thy love Thou didst show us, Thine only Son sending,
Who came as a babe and whose bed was a stall.
His blest life He gave us and then died to save us;
We praise Thee, O Lord, for thy gift to us all.

The tune is an anonymous Dutch melody first published in 1626.

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY NEWS
8:15 AM CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
3 Yr. Olds-2nd Grade (17/18 School Year)
Children may remain in service with their family or join us in room 3 for a multi-age Sunday School worship following the anthem.

9:30 AM CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
3 Yr. Olds–Kindergarten, Room 3
Students will start and stay in their classroom for the Sunday school hour with Dan Gipson & Mauricio Estavil.

1st & 2nd Grade, Room 2
Students will start and stay in their classroom for the Sunday school hour with Claudia Alwood & Chrissy Raborn.

3rd-5th Grade, Room 4
Students will start in the sanctuary and then move to room 4 with Cassandra Fredriksen & Jean Swintek.

11:00 AM CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
3 Yr. Olds-2nd Grade (17/18 School Year)
Children may remain in service with their family or join us in room 3 for a multi-age Sunday School worship following the anthem.

CHILDREN FOR CHILDREN 3Yr-5th grade who attended Sunday school at 9:30 will be in room 2.

Parents, if you wish for your children to receive communion please have them remain with you in the worship service on Communion Sundays. If you have any questions regarding the process, please contact Elder Dawn Winder, Chair of Worship Team.

9:30 AM MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
Middle & High School Sunday school will meet this week! All youth are invited to attend worship together in the Sanctuary at 9:30 Ignite service for the first 20 minutes, then move to the Youth Room for Bible Study.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
9:30 TCI (Today’s Christian Issues) Class – TCI Class will meet today in rooms 9&11 Justine Ruisz will be sharing her faith journey and talking about the Children’s Ministry at Northwood. There will be cookies and coffee as always!

11:00 AM EXPERIENCING GOD Class will meet today in room 15, led by Vicki Krueger.

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
We gather

Paul Means, Associate Pastor
Leader: Here we are Lord!
People: We come into your house this morning praising your faithfulness and seeking your joy.
Leader: In this hour of worship, help us to become who we are meant to be.
People: A community that breathes thankfulness, voicing your praise in all we do.
Leader: Let us worship God!

Opening voluntary

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” arr. Valerie Stephenson

Jubilation Ringers; Steve Cantin, Trumpet

Welcome & Announcements

(11:00) New Member introductions

Minute for mission – Food Pantry

Cookie Roffey

Passing the peace of Christ

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

People:
Leader:
Leader:


Let us worship God!

Call to Confession

Our ministry with the children

(Children ages 3 yrs – 5th Grade, are welcome to remain in service with their parents or see back panel for classroom information.)

We confess

Our Lord and God, you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples creating fullness and seeking your joy.

We come into your house this morning praising your faithfulness, voicing your praise in all we do.

We confess that we oftentimes resist the movement and work of your Spirit among us. We live as a people made one in Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit, and fill us with a flaming desire to be your faithful people, doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

Assurance of pardon

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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

We confess

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small.
All things wise and wonderful: the Lord God made them all.
God gave us eyes to see them and lips that we might tell:
How great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.
For the joy of human love, brother sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild;
Lord of all to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

Our ministry with the children

(Children ages 3 yrs – 5th Grade, are welcome to remain in service with their parents or see back panel for classroom information.)

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

We share

We hear the word

Scripture reading

Isaiah 55 (page 598)

Sermon

“The Word Sprouts and Grows” Jack Alwood, Guest Pastor

We go out to serve

*Hymn #250 “In the Bulb There Is a Flower” Promise

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild;
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.

Sung blessing (please be seated)

“May the Lord bless You and Keep You” Lloyd Larson
Stephanie Carson, Soloist

May the Lord bless you and keep you;
may the Lord make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
may the Lord turn His face toward you and grant you peace. Amen.
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Closing voluntary

“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”
(based on the hymn at #394) arr. David Cherwien

(The closing voluntary is the final act of worship. If you must leave before the end of the service, please respect those who are listening and leave quietly.)

Stephanie Carson, Music Director

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