HYMN NOTES:

So today we come to the end of the Christmas season as we celebrate Epiphany of the Lord (January 6). Epiphany is a fixed date, like Christmas, and occurs after 'the twelve days of Christmas'—made famous in our time by the longer than desired carol of the same name. Today we sing carols and hymns about the Wise men and the light of the Star which is one focus of Epiphany.

"The First Nowell" (147) originally had nine stanzas, the three omitted stanzas can be characterized as "unpolished" much like the original first line which read "The first Nowell that the Angel did say/Was to three poor shepherds in field as they lay." The whole text blends the birth narratives of Luke 2:1-20 and Matthew 2:1-12, even going so far as to have a nonscriptural star appear to the shepherds, then regain its biblical role as a guide for the Magi.

William Dix (1837-1898), composer of "As with Gladness Men of Old" (150), did not intend for the hymn to end with the fourth stanza. He wrote a fifth stanza celebrating the unhidden glory of Christ longed for in the final phrase of stanza four: "...where no clouds thy glory hide."

In the heavenly country bright need they no created light; Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun that goes not down; There for ever may we sing Alleluias to our King.

The rose on the baptismal font is in honor of

Shannon Noelle O'Leary

infant daughter of Kevin & Laura O'Leary, born on December 27 weighing 8 lbs, 8 oz. and 21 inches long.



The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God by



Friends of Northwood

Flower orders & donation costs for flowers ordered for worship are made using the "2018 Flower Reservation Chart" on the bulletin board across from the kitchen. Thank you to those providing flowers each week In Honor/In Memory of someone or an anniversary/birthday!

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO....

Sunday, Jan. 7th: Kristen Faulkner

Monday, Jan. 8th: Pat Speer, Joe Cernansky

Tuesday, Jan. 9th: Susan Gajentan, Cody Carson, Steven Cole

Wednesday, Jan. 10th: Patrick Turner, Riley Nigels

Thursday, Jan. 11th: Elaine Findley, Shannon Dipolito,

Chelsea Luther, Andrew Carlstedt

Friday, Jan. 12th: Michele White, Megan Giese Kristen Kelly, Alice Nisk

If you see someone whose birthday is listed and you haven't seen

them in church recently, give them a call!

FAITHFULLY SERVING NORTHWOOD CHURCH TODAY

ACOLYTES:

(8:15) Dylan Cantin

(11:00) Claire Cantin

GREETERS:

USHERS:

(8:15) Dick & Connie Evans, Don & Nancy Stevens

(9:30) Candy & Rich Spoenlein

(11:00) Brian & Nicole Bullis, Ken & Martha Tobiassen

VAN DRIVER: Curtis Kreuger

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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 Kelly Tighe & Kim Blackmore.

1st & 2nd Grade, Room 2

Students will start and stay in their classroom for the Sunday school hour with Bree & Dan Greff.

3rd-5th Grade, Room 4

Students will start in the sanctuary and then move to room 4 with Todd & Tanya Adkisson.

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

Childcare for children 3yrs-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 will NOT meet this week! All youth are invited to attend worship together in the Sanctuary for the 9:30 Ignite service.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

9:30 TCI (Today's Christian Issues) Class- Join us for class!

11:00 A.M. Experiencing God Class will meet today in room 15, led by Vicki Krueger.

Welcome To Northwood Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Church

January 7, 2018



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



Like us on Facebook! facebook.com/npc.clearwater

Order for the Public Worship of God January 7, 2018 The Epiphany of the Lord 8:15 & 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service

WE GATHER

(Let the congregation be silent, and in prayer as the music begins.

Please silence electronic devices.)

CALL TO WORSHIP Chris Curvin, Pastor

Leader: Come, let us close the doors to our past that we might enter

fully into God's new day.

People: We pause in the midst of time to ponder the vast reaches

of eternity.

Leader: For everything there is a season: a time to mourn and weep,

a time to dance and laugh.

People: God has made everything beautiful; how wonderful,

beyond our knowing, are all God's works!

Leader: How majestic is God's name in all the earth! Let us worship God.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

"Greensleeves" Richard Purvis (What Child Is This) (1915-1994)

(Acolytes symbolically bring in the light of Christ & then take it out into the world.)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST (Please complete the bulletin insert, "FRIENDSHIP SHEET," and pass it toward the center aisle.)

*HYMN #147

"The First Nowell"

THE FIRST NOWELL

(stanzas 1,4,5,6)

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Paul Means, Associate Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together)

Eternal God: you make all things new, and forgive old wrongs we can't forget. We confess we have spent time without loving, and years without purpose; and the calendar condemns us. Daily we have done wrong, and failed to do what you demand. Forgive the past; do not let evil cripple or shame us. Lead us into the future, free from sin, free to love, and ready to work for your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ the 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.

*THE APOSTLES' CREED (Together, page 35)

ANTHEM "When the Angels' Song Is Silent" by Mary Kay Beall

When the angels' song is silent, and the star is not so bright, When the stable door stands open in the cold mid-morning light, When the angels' song is silent, and the shepherds have gone home, Then the promise of Christmas begins.

When the angels' song is silent, and the prophecy's fulfilled, When the swaddling clothes are folded, and the baby's cry is stilled; When the angels' song is silent, and the drama is all done, Then the promise of Christmas begins.

For the promise is more than a child in the hay, More than shepherds and kings and a glad Christmas Day. Yes, the promise is more than a bright star above. It's a cross! And a tomb! And a Father's great love! When the angels' song is silent, and the kings have come and gone, All the world is changed forever, for the echo lingers on.
When the angels' song is silent, God is nearer than before, And the promise of Christmas, the wonder of Christmas, The glory of Christmas begins.

OUR MINISTRY WITH THE CHILDREN

(Children ages $3yrs - 2^{nd}$ Grade, are welcome to remain in service with their parents or join us in room 3 for Children's Church.)

WE SHARE

CALL TO OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING "We Three Kings" arr. David Maxwell

*DOXOLOGY—#606

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*DEDICATION FOR THE OFFERING AND ALTERNATIVE GIFTS WE HEAR THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 2:1-12, Jeremiah 29:11-13 (pages 783-784, 639)

SERMON

Chris Curvin, Pastor

"What Are Your Plans For This New Year?"

*HYMN #145

"What Child Is This"

GREENSLEEVES

WE UNITE IN PRAYER AND SACRAMENT

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYERS OF PRAISE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(page 35)

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE SHARING OF THE CUP; THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(To symbolize our unity in Christ, we hold the bread until the Elders and Deacons are served and then all partake as one body. To symbolize our personal relationship with the Lord, we drink of the cup, as the Spirit leads.)

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

"Three German Christmas Carols" Helmut Walcha

- 1. Shepherds Came, Their Praises Bringing (1907-1991)
- 2. All My Heart This Day Rejoices
- 3. In Bethlehem's Low Stable

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

*HYMN #150 "As with Gladness Men of Old" DIX

*BENEDICTION

SUNG BLESSING "Come, Gracious Spirit" Paul Sjolund (please be seated) Stephanie Carson, Soloist

CLOSING VOLUNTARY "Fanfare Toccata on DIX" David Lasky

(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.)

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

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



ignite is a contemporary worship service at 9:30 that delivers the message of Jesus Christ through Powerful Music, Media & Scripture Based Sermons.

COUNTDOWN

WELCOME

PRAISE SONG

"The First Noel"
"What Child Is This"

MEET & GREET

ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Winter Snow" Stephanie Carson, Soloist

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS IN PRAYER

(3rd-5th Grade Children move to Sunday School)

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Christmas Offertory"

VIDEO

"New Year's Resolutions"

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2:1-12, Jeremiah 29:11-13

MESSAGE

"What Are Your Plans For This New Year?"

Chris Curvin, Pastor

COMMUNION

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

"Carol Of The Bells"

"In The Bleak Midwinter"

SONG OF DEDICATION

"He Shall Reign Forevermore"

GOD'S BLESSING TO YOU