HYMN NOTES: “Christ Is Alive!” (246)

This text by Brian Wren was written in 1968 with some revisions of stanzas 3 and 5 later. It was written for the Easter worship of Wren’s congregation that was just ten days after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The hymn pictures the resurrected Christ as deeply involved in the life and pain of humanity and not remote from us. Wren has been called the most successful English hymn writer since Charles Wesley.

For more than four decades now, this hymn text has undergone changes (with the author’s blessing) that show both the maturing and accommodation of hymn writing to be inclusive in regard to people. It also reflects the beginnings of a concern in the USA for the nonexisten rendering of forms of address and metaphors for deity.

Welcome To
Northwood Presbyterian
A Stephen Ministry Church

May 4, 2014

Hi from Kid’s Corner Pre-School. I wanted to write and share the good news that Kid’s Corner will have been in the community for 28 years. We were established in August 1986 with 10 children and have been growing ever since. Over the years we have educated, loved, nurtured, and shared the word of Christ to thousands of children. Many pre-school families have joined the church and we are also seeing our graduates bringing their children back to us. Northwood has always used the schools as an outreach to the community to serve and support the families that live here. Pre-school today is not what it was 28 years ago, but we are still a House of God and that leads us in all we do here at Kid’s Corner.

As a result of our reputation for excellence, we are growing again. We are adding a new classroom. These are exciting times as we continue to be a positive and loving presence in our community. We are looking for a teacher for the five-day class for three-year-olds. I need someone who, at the very least, has an A.S. in Early Childhood Education or a B.S. or B.A. in Education. We are a N.A.E.Y.C. accredited school, and we must meet certain standards to maintain that accreditation. Please contact me at 727-723-7679 or at vicki@northwoodpc.org for any questions or to apply for the position.

Thank you again for being supportive of the schools and we will continue to aim for the highest standards in all we do. Thank you!

Vicki Conolly, Director of Schools

Jonathan’s Family
In Honor of Jonathan’s 30th Birthday

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

Teachers: Nathan Rodewald & Kelsey Propst
3 Yr. Olds-5th Grade (13/14 School Year) Room 3, dismissed to
Room 8

Please plan ahead and prepare for the celebration of the Sacrament of Communion on the first Sunday of the month. It is a prayerful time for giving thanks and confessing our sins, renewing our commitment to God, and hearing the Word proclaimed. Parents, if you wish for your children to receive communion please have them remain with you in the worship service on Communion Sunday. If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact elder Jackie Koski (jackieandjerry@verizon.net), Chair of the Worship Team.

 Ninth DAY OF ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SERENDIPITY—Rooms 13 & 15 TODAY: After completing the Gospel of John, we will study Jesus’ two special prayers for his disciples and for us in chapter 17 of John. Class starts at 9:30, but come a little early for coffee and a time to chat. Our teacher is Bob Meier.

TCI (Today's Christian Issues)—Rooms 9 & 11 TODAY: The United Methodist Church and its clergy are being challenged with threats of a split within their entire denomination over position taken both pro and con that is caused by the issue of same sex marriages. It is being said by important voices in the UMC that the divide over homosexuality is now too wide to bridge. Bill Bittner will lead the discussion of the specifics facing one of the largest Protestant denominations in the US. Rooms 9 & 11 at 9:30 AM.

11:00 AM ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

EXPERIENCING GOD – Rooms 13 & 15 TODAY: “Christian.” Ask 100 people to define what it means, and you’ll get 100 different answers. In this series, we will explore the truth and fiction behind one of the most famous brands in all of history. Led by Vicki Krueger.
Order for the Public Worship of God  
May 4, 2014  
3rd Sunday of Easter  
8:15 & 11:00 AM Worship Services  
WE SHARE  
(LET THE CONGREGATION BE SILENT, AND IN PRAYER AS THE MUSIC BEGINS. PLEASE SILENCE ELECTRONIC DEVICES.)  
PRAYER OF PREPARATION  
OPENING VOLUNTARY  “Rise Up, O Church of God”  arr. Tammy Waldrop  Celebration Ringers  
(Acolytes symbolically bring in the light of Christ & then take it out into the world.)  
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS  
MINUTE FOR MISSION—Vicki Conolly, Director of Schools  
*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST  
(Please complete the bulletin insert, “FRIENDSHIP SHEET,” and place it in the offering plate later in the service.)  
*HYMN #246  “Christ Is Alive!”  TRURO  
WE HEAR THE WORD  
SERMON  Chris Curvin, Pastor  
PELL  
“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.”  
PRAYERS OF PRAISE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER  
O Jesus Christ we confess that sometimes we are so busy talking with each other that we fail to realize that you are with us, beside us. We walk on, so focused on our questions or blinded by our preoccupation with life that we do not create the silent spaces which would allow us to recognize you. Stay with us, enlighten our lives and invite us to pause close to you. Open our hearts to receive the grace and peace which Christ alone can give us. In Jesus name we pray, 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.”  
ANTHEM  “Festival Canticle: Worthy Is Christ”  Richard Hilbert  
*REFRAIN: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.  
Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.  
Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:  “Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.”  
For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign, Alleluia.  
FAITH SHARING WITH THE CHILDREN  Justine Rusz, Director of Children’s Ministry  (Children age 3 (by 9/13) through fifth grade may go to Room 3 for Children’s Sunday School.)  
11:00—CHILDREN SING  “Bwana Asifiwe”  (Praise the Lord)  arr. Mark Burrows  Angel Choir (3rd-5th Grade)  
WE CONFESS  
CALL TO CONFESSION  
PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together)  O Jesus Christ we confess that sometimes we are so busy talking with each other that we fail to realize that you are with us, beside us. We walk on, so focused on our questions or blinded by our preoccupation with life that we do not create the silent spaces which would allow us to recognize you. Stay with us, enlighten our lives and invite us to pause close to you. Open our hearts to receive the grace and peace which Christ alone can give us. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.  
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