

HYMN NOTES

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” (108)

This hymn—one of the oldest in our hymnal—was written by Spanish poet Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-ca. 413) who became a Christian at age 57 after serving as a judge and chief of the Imperial Guard to Emperor Honorius. He was the first great poet of the Latin Church. Because Prudentius wrote when orthodox Christianity was still threatened by the lingering influence of the Roman emperors and in the midst of the development of the Apostles’ and Nicene Creeds, he was careful to emphasize important doctrinal considerations in his hymn. The translator John Mason Neale kept this in mind and rendered the opening line “Of the Father sole begotten.” Originally it was “corde natus ex Parentis” more accurately translated as “from the heart of the Parent”—an interesting ungendered divine reference long before the God language debates of the 20th century.

The hymn is about the Incarnation, the divine Christ coming to us in human form—not a carol about the Nativity and all its characters. This is a hymn to teach theology of the faith while celebrating the Word made Flesh—the Alpha and Omega.

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



Elaine Cornillaud

In Memory of Larry W. Cornillaud



Flower orders & donation costs for flowers ordered for worship are made using the “2016/2017 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, December 11th:** Eleanor Cicerchi, Murle Whitten, Amy Saperstein, David O’Leary, Mark O’Leary
Wednesday, December 14th: Paul Means, Kurt Kemerer
Thursday, December 15th: Lois Marsh, Christy Rickrode, Stephanie Rickrode
Friday, December 16th: Bailey Shields, Cheryl Roberts
Saturday, December 17th: Melanie Brown, Don Stevens, Chris Curvin

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

ACOLYTE:

- (8:15) Nyden Rodewald
(11:00) Kylie Crossley

GREETERS:

- (8:15) Ellen Stoup, Joyce Lange
(11:00) Ed Puscmann

USHERS:

- (8:15) Dennis & Betty O’Shea
Bill Lewis, Bob MacFall
(9:30) Curtis & Vicki Krueger
(11:00) Elaine Cornillaud, Sue Miskiewicz
Steve & Dawn Winder

VAN DRIVER: Art Holloway



CHILDREN’S MINISTRY NEWS

8:15 AM CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-2nd Grade (16/17 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 Jane Frame & Justine Ruisz.

1st-2nd Grade, Room 2

Students will start and stay in their classroom for the Sunday school hour with Kristen Williamson & Nancy Stevens.

3rd-5th Grades

Students gather to worship at the beginning of the service with their teachers, in the front Sanctuary rows, closest to the band. They will remain in service today with Tanya & Todd Adkisson.

11:00 AM CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-2nd Grade (16/17 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.

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 during the 9:30am service will meet in the sanctuary to worship together for the first 30 minutes, then move to the youth room for the lesson with Youth Director, Jon Drawdy.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

9:30 A.M. TCI (Today’s Christian Issues) Class & Serendipity Class

Researchers at the University of California have discovered that the current way much scientific research is incentivized and funded tends to reward bad science and shoddy practices. Is this a symptom of a larger problem for our society? Join the discussion with TCI and Serendipity class members while enjoying coffee and cookies. **PLEASE NOTE:** TCI class will not meet December 25 or January 1. Lively discussions, fueled by coffee and cookies, will resume January 8, 2017.

11:00 A.M. Experiencing God Class

in room 15 led by Vicki Krueger.

6:30-7:30 P.M. Bible Study in rooms 12 & 14

Will resume on Sunday, January 15. Please contact Cindy at (727) 409-8727 if you have any questions.

Welcome To Northwood Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Church

December 11, 2016



THIRD SUNDAY OF

ADVENT

Ministers: All Members of the Church

E. Chris Curvin, Pastor
Paul Means, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Mission

Northwood Presbyterian Church
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www.northwoodpc.org



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facebook.com/npc.clearwater

Order for the Public Worship of God
December 11, 2016
3rd Sunday of Advent
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: Jesus says: I am coming soon.
People: Amen. Come Lord Jesus!
Leader: Look! The young woman is with child;
People: she will call him Emmanuel: God is with us.
Leader: Let us worship God.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

“A Festive Prelude on VENI EMMANUEL” George Schafer
(based on the opening hymn #88) (1919-2001)
(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 #88 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”** VENI EMMANUEL
(stanzas 1,2,6,7)

THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY

Lighting the Candle
(8:15) Dallas, Pam, Robert & Heather Wood
(11:00) Missy, Alex & Hayden Turner

HYMN #654 “In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful” Taize, 1986
(sing three times)

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, you search us out and know us, and all that we are is open to you. We confess that we have sinned: when we long for your coming to change the world, and yet are unwilling to change even our own hearts; when we dismiss prophets and angels; when we reduce our preparation for your coming to reckless expense and trivialities. Forgive us for all of our failings, in Jesus’ name, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

CAROL

Come home with shouts of joyous praise;
Let now your weeping cease.
Good news will come to broken hearts,
Good news of love and peace.

Proclaim God’s favor every day,
And comfort those who mourn.
Oppressed will hear of liberty,
And hope will be reborn.

—by Lavon Bayler, Reprinted by permission of United Church Press, from *Led by Love*. ©1996 by United Church Press

ANTHEM

“Glory to God in the Highest” Giovanni B. Pergolesi
Liana Stephen, soprano; Alyssa Long, mezzo-soprano

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!

OUR MINISTRY WITH THE CHILDREN

(Children age 3 (by 9/15) through fifth grade are welcome to go to Room 3 for Children’s Sunday School.)

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

CALL TO OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” Charles Callahan
(based on the next hymn #108)

***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.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***HYMN #108 “Of the Father’s Love Begotten”** DIVINUM MYSTERIUM
(stanzas 1,4,5,6)

WE HEAR THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 1:18-25 *(page 783)*

SERMON “What Are You GIVING for Christmas This Year?”
Chris Curvin, Pastor

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

***HYMN #123 “It Came upon the Midnight Clear”** CAROL

***BENEDICTION**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY “Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying” Wilbur Held
(based on the Advent hymn at #349) (1914-2015)

(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

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

CHRISTMAS SONG

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

MEET & GREET

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY

Nancy, Mike, Elizabeth, Pearce & Caitlyn Turner

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS IN PRAYER

For more information and classroom assignments for Children’s Sunday School, please see Children’s Ministry News on the back panel of this bulletin.

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“While by the Sheep We Watched”
arr. Lloyd Larson

**“THE CALL OF CHRISTMAS”
(FROM THE SKIT GUYS)**

VIDEO: The Call of Christmas: Zechariah

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

VIDEO: The Call of Christmas: Mary

“Noel” Solo, Cambia Carson Catarelli

VIDEO: The Call of Christmas: Joseph

“A Christmas Alleluia”

VIDEO: The Call of Christmas: Shepherds

“Miraculum”

Video and VIP rhythm section

VIDEO: The Call of Christmas: Go and Tell

“Go, Tell It On the Mountain”

Fiddle, Orinta Delain

GOD’S BLESSING TO YOU