

**MUSIC NOTES: “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” (132)**

Today we hear an organ setting of the tune and sing the carol—whose origin goes back to the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The original words are said by a 14<sup>th</sup> century writer to have been sung by angels to Henry Suso (d. 1366). He was a mystic, who “was drawn in thereby to dance with his celestial visitors.” The text uses both Latin and German—called ‘macaronic’—and was used to teach the Christmas story to uneducated people. The music was meant to be danced and church, more accustomed to austere plainsong and motets, decided that the popular music of the day was too good to miss. As Martin Luther said, “Why should the devil have all the good tunes?” The first line of each stanza was altered from “Good Christian men...” to “Good Christian friends” when published in the *Lutheran Book of Worship* (1978). The tune name, IN DULCI JUBILO means “in sweet shouting, or jubilation.” We use this carol today (perhaps a bit early) to complement the lectionary scripture readings especially, Philippians 4:4 (Rejoice in the Lord, always...) and Luke 3 (describing the good news of the Christ and his power to save).

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



Carol Curry  
In Memory of Lucille & Bert McCormick



Flower orders & donation costs for flowers ordered for worship are made using the “2015 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....**



- Monday, December 14th:** Paul Means, Kurt Kemerer
- Tuesday, December 15th:** Lois Marsh, Christy Rickrode, Stephanie Rickrode
- Wednesday, December 16th:** Bailey Shields, Cheryl Roberts
- Thursday, December 17th:** Melanie Brown, Don Stevens, Chris Curvin
- Friday, December 18th:** Helen Burke, Carol Hersh, Nicole Makal, Kelsey Propst
- Saturday, December 19th:** Jan Risberg, Stephen Williams

*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) James Birch
- (11:00) Aidan McDermott

**GREETERS:**

- (8:15) Don Morrison  
Lorrie Janusik
- (11:00) Ann & Spencer Briggs

**USHERS:**

- (8:15) Fred Heider, Earl Lusk  
Dennis & Betty O'Shea
- (9:30) Curtis & Vicki Krueger
- (11:00) Pete & Evelyn Towns  
Ed Puschmann  
Jon Mills

**VAN DRIVER:** Art Holloway



**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS**

**8:15 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

3 Yr. Olds-5<sup>th</sup> Grade (15/16 School Year), Room 3, join us in the multi-age Sunday School worship class after the Children's Message. Justine Ruisz

**9:30 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

3 Yr. Olds-VPK (15/16 School Year), Room 3. Amy Kemerer & Bree Greff

**Kindergarten- 2nd Grades, Room 4**

Students will start and stay in their classroom for the Sunday school hour. Nancy Turner & Billie Nesmith

**3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade** - Students will gather to worship for the whole service for the program. The teachers will be in the front Sanctuary rows and will be sitting with the students as a class. Your children are welcome to remain seated with you or join their class in the front pews.

**11:00 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

3 Yr. Olds - 5th grade (15/16 school year) Children are welcome to remain in worship or dismiss to room 3 for children's worship.

*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**

On the 1st Sunday we will meet in the Ignite service to enjoy worship and communion together. Middle and High Sunday School will be in the Youth Room on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays.

**ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**9:30 AM Serendipity Class**

Join us in rooms 13&15 to continue our study of Revelation led by Bob Meier and Jeanette Holloway.

**9:30 AM TCI Sunday School Class (Today's Christian Issues)**

TCI provides a respectful, civil and non-judgmental forum to explore the timely issues we face as Christians, citizens, parents and friends. We ground our discussions in Scripture and celebrate the diversity of ideas drawn from experiences and perspectives. TCI chooses topics from suggestions by participants and our leadership team. We fuel our always lively conversations with coffee and cookies in rooms 9&11.

**11:00 AM Experiencing God Class**

Join us in room 15 led by Vicki Krueger. All are welcome.

**Welcome To  
Northwood Presbyterian  
Church**

*A Stephen Ministry Church*

**December 13, 2015**



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**  
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**  
**December 13, 2015**  
**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**

**OPENING VOLUNTARY**

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” arr. James Melby  
*(based on the last hymn today, #132)*

*(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 1,2,5 and 6)*

**THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY**

Lighting the Candle  
(8:15) Kim, Shaun & Sarah Flaherty  
(11:00) Chris, Dee, Drew & Julie Bryant

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *(all singing, seated)*

The candle of joy reminds us to sing,  
for God is at work to do a new thing.  
The proud will be humbled; the lowly will rise.  
God's kingdom is one of delight and surprise.

**WE CONFESS**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of justice, we confess that often we gloss over the hard truth in the words of John the Baptist. We assume that he came to speak to those people long ago and not us. Call us once again to heed his words and to be both self-aware and less selfish. Give us courage to work for the well-being of the most vulnerable in our world. Forgive us and restore us to the joy of your salvation. 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** “And the Glory of the Lord” from ‘Messiah’ G.F. Handel

*And the glory, the glory of the Lord shall be revealed.  
And all flesh shall see it together.  
For the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.*

**FAITH SHARING WITH THE CHILDREN** Justine Ruisz, Director of Children's Ministries  
*(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** “Comfort Ye” Joseph M. Martin  
Rachelle Cox, Cindy Huffman, Robert Wood, Dick Casper

**\*DOXOLOGY** VENI EMMANUEL  
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\*HYMN #96** “On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry” WINCHESTER NEW

**WE HEAR THE WORD**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS** Isaiah 12:1-6 (pages 558-559)  
Luke 3:7-18 (page 834)

**SERMON** “The Preaching Style of John” Chris Curvin, Pastor

**WE GO OUT TO SERVE**

**\*HYMN #132** “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” IN DULCI JUBILO

**\*BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY** “People, Look East” Daryl Hollinger  
*(based on the Advent hymn, #105)*

*(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**

“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”

**MEET & GREET**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY**

Candy & Rich Spoenlein

**SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS IN PRAYER**

*(5th Grade Children move to Sunday School)*

**BAPTISM- Emma Tighe**

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

“When Love Crossed Over” Janet & Roger Winder

**“OUR COMING SAVIOR”**

“Christmastime Is Here” Dan Jeffre & Will Parker

**VIDEO: “Elizabeth and Zechariah”** (Luke 1:5-23)

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Stephanie Carson

**VIDEO: “Mary and Joseph”** (Luke 1:26-38)

“Miraculum” Lex Long and VIP Band

**VIDEO: “The Innkeeper”** (Luke 2:1-6)

“Christ Is Born” Westminster Youth Choir

**VIDEO: “The Shepherds”** (Luke 2:8-20)

“Toward the Light” Angel Choir (3rd-5th grade)

**VIDEO: “Herod”** (Matthew 2:1-12)

“He Shall Reign Forevermore” VIP Band

**GOD'S BLESSING TO YOU**