

HYMN NOTES:

One of the positive aspects of our new hymnal is the wisdom of the Hymnal Committee to include many choices for various days and seasons of the church year. The Advent season—barely acknowledged by Presbyterians in the 1950's—has over thirty numbers in *Glory to God* compared to nine in our former hymnal. This gives many of us an opportunity to learn some new texts and tunes; the organ music today is all based on tunes and texts that were not in our past hymnal. I encourage a closer look at the three new numbers today, #94, #87, #106, and the paragraphs at the bottom of each hymn.

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



*Emily McMullen
In Memory of
Allen McMullen*



*Eric, Marcy & Amy Kemerer
In Honor of
Kurt's 11th Birthday*

Flower orders & donation costs for flowers ordered for worship are made using the "2013 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!

PLEASE REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO....

- Sunday, December 8th:** Wanda Fanning, Sue Glaser, Megan Jones, Barbara Jordan,
- Tuesday, December 10th:** Blake Estavil
- Wednesday, December 11th:** David O'Leary, Mark O'Leary, Ila Roberts, Amy Saperstein
- Saturday, December 14th:** Kurt Kemerer, Paul Means

If you see someone whose birthday is listed and you haven't seen them in church recently, give them a call!

Congratulations to the Nigel Family who welcomed baby Ansleigh Michele Nigels to the family. Ansleigh was born October 10, 2013 weighing 5lbs 15 oz. Parents, Mike & Michele and proud brothers, Matthew, Riley and CJ, are so excited for their new addition to the family! Her brothers have already nicknamed her "Princess!" Congratulations again!

FAITHFULLY SERVING NORTHWOOD CHURCH TODAY

ACOLYTES:

- (8:15) Nadia Rodewald
- (11:00) Douglas Caccamise



GREETERS:

- (8:15) Dot & Buddy Brown
- (11:00) Shawn & Christine Wolf



Greeters & Ushers

USHERS:

- (8:15) Ellen Stoup, Patty Martin
Dennis & Betty O'Shea
- (9:30) Sam & Barb Musgrave
- (11:00) Brooke Allison, Nancy Johnson
Dane & Vicki Phillips

VAN DRIVER: Cynthia Lawrence

EDUCATION MINISTRY FOR ALL AGES

8:15 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-5th Grade (13/14 School Year) Room 3, dismissed to the multi-age Sunday School class after the Children's Message.
Teachers: Nathan Rodewald & Kelsey Propst

9:30 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-Kindergarten (13/14 School Year) Room 3
Teachers: Kim & Sydney Blackmore

1st & 2nd Grades Room 16
Teachers: Mr. Bill Sutton & Loisanne Bilka

3rd-5th Grades Room 8
Students gather to worship at the beginning of the service with their teachers, in the front Sanctuary rows, closest to the band. After the Prayers of Joys & Concerns, they will move to room 8.
Teachers: Kay Scheuerman & Pam Wood

11:00 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-5th Grade (13/14 School Year) Room 3, dismissed to the multi-age Sunday School class after the Children's Message.
Teachers: Barbara Englehart & Carissa Johnston

The vision for the children of NPC is to attend worship with their parent or guardian, plus one hour of Sunday School. The celebration of the Lord's Supper, on the first Sunday of each month, is done together with Christ and fellow believers. It is a prayerful time for giving thanks and confessing our sins, renewing our commitment to God and hearing the proclamation of God's Word. Parents, we ask that you prayerfully consider having your children remain with you in service on Communion Sunday to prepare and receive communion, at your discretion. Our goal is that no one is excluded from communion if isolated from worship.

9:30 AM ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SERENDIPITY—Rooms 13 & 15

TODAY: Everyone knows John 3:16, but few notice the different arrangements or omission of events and why. In chapter 8 the division between Jesus and the Pharisees is paramount. The crisis will lead to our Savior's final moment. Join us as we study together. Class begins @ 9:45 but come early for coffee and chat time. Led this Sunday by Jane Sutton.

TCI (Today's Christian Issues)—Rooms 9 & 11

TODAY: Should Santa be in the Nativity scene? Should Jesus be the Grand Marshal of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade? Is Christ really being taken out of Christmas? Garry Justice is back with his "thought-provoking" style to lead a timely discussion entitled "Christmas vs. Christmas." The class meets in rooms 9 & 11 with coffee and cookies.

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.

**Welcome To
Northwood Presbyterian
Church
A Stephen Ministry Church**

December 8, 2013



Ministers: All Members of the Church

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

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**Order for the Public Worship of God
December 8, 2013
2nd Sunday of Advent
8:15 & 11:00 AM Worship Services**

WE GATHER

*(Let the congregation be silent, and in prayer as the music begins.
Please silence cell phones.)*

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

OPENING VOLUNTARY arr. Michael Burkhardt
"Now the Heavens Start to Whisper"
(based on a 2005 Advent text by Mary Louise Bringle, Hymn #94)

(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 place it in the offering plate later in the service).

***HYMN #82 "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"** HYFRYDOL

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE—Isaiah 11:1-2, 6-9
(8:15) The Birch Family: Russell, Tracey, Katie, Jimmy, Sarah
(11:00) The Winder Family: Doug & Georgianna,
Doug, Meaghan, & Preston Caccamise

CANDLELIGHTING HYMN #85 TIF IN VELDELE
"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"
(stanzas 1 & 2)

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together)
God of promises, we admit that we see the world with our own limited vision. We are haunted by sins we have not confessed and admit that we do not know the fullness of your peace. Help us to renew our relationship with You and reconcile with others. We confess all our sins through Jesus Christ, the coming Prince of Peace. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Good Christian friends, rejoice! And remember, Christ was born to save and God forgives your every sin.

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! What a present! Amen.**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #88** (Stanza 7) VENI EMMANUEL
O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

ANTHEM "Every Valley" John Ness Beck

*Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain made low;
And the crooked made straight, and the rough places plain.
And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
And all flesh shall see it together;
For the mouth of the Lord has spoken it. Amen.*

FAITH SHARING WITH THE CHILDREN *(Children age 3 (by 9/13) through first grade may go to Room 3 for Children's Worship.)*

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

OFFERING arr. Jonathan Reuss
"Comfort, Comfort Now My People"
(based on the Advent hymn at #87)

***DOXOLOGY—#606** OLD HUNDREDTH
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

WE HEAR THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING (page 924) Romans 15:4-13 (NRSV)

HYMN #129 "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" ES IST EIN' ROS'
(Please Remain Seated.)

SCRIPTURE READING (page 784) Matthew 3:1-12 (NRSV)

SERMON "Preparing the Way" Chris Curvin, Pastor

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

***HYMN #96** WINCHESTER NEW
"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

***BENEDICTION**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY
"Prepare the Way, O Zion" arr. Paul Manz
(based on the Advent Hymn #106) (1919-2009)

(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.

LET THE COUNTDOWN BEGIN

LIGHTING THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

The Experiencing God Sunday School Class

"Prepare a Place"

**MEET & GREET
PRAISE SONGS**

"Emmanuel"

"Let It Rise"

"Nothing Ever Could Separate Us"

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
WORSHIP CONTINUES**

"Lord, I Need You"

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS IN PRAYER

3rd-5th Grade Children dismissed to Sunday School

**CALL TO OFFERING
OFFERTORY**

"Our God (O Come All Ye Faithful)"

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 3:1-12 (NRSV)

MESSAGE

"Preparing the Way"

Chris Curvin, Pastor

SONG OF DEDICATION

"Here I Am to Worship"

GOD'S BLESSING TO YOU

Sermon notes...

that Ignite Action!