

**HYMN NOTES:**

**“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (129)**

This German carol dates at least to the 15<sup>th</sup> century but the earliest known copy of the text made in the 1580's comes from a manuscript prayer book found at St. Alban's monastery in Trier (Germany). That manuscript contains 19 stanzas with the likely intent of praising Mary drawing on the “Rose of Sharon” imagery. But it is unclear whether that first line was “ein Ros” (a rose) or “ein Reis” (a branch), strengthening the associations with the “rod” and “branch” of Jesse in Isaiah 11:1. That would also be more compatible with Protestant views. The music is the famous setting by Michael Praetorius from 1609.

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



**Marcy & Eric Kemerer**  
**In Honor of Kurt's 16th Birthday**  
**and Amy's 18th Birthday**



Flower orders & donation costs for flowers ordered for worship are made using the “2018-2019 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 10:** Blake Estavil
- Tuesday, December 11:** Eleanor Cicerchi, Murle Whitten, David O'Leary, Mark O'Leary
- Friday, December 14:** Paul Means, Kurt Kemerer
- Saturday, December 15:** Christy Rickrode, Stephanie Rickrode

*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**

**GREETERS:**

- (8:15) Anna & Dan Hyden
- (11:00) Kim Blackmore & Nancy Marshall

**USHERS:**

- (8:15) Fred & Charlotte McQuown  
Barbara Moler & Herman Gaillard
- (9:30) Vicki & Curtis Krueger
- (11:00) Ed Puschmann, Dean Rabenstine & Sharon Card



**VAN DRIVER:** John Makal

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

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

**3 Yr. Olds-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade** (18/19 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-1<sup>st</sup> Grade, Room 3**  
Students will start and stay in their classroom for the Sunday school hour with Jessica Jones & Jane Winne  
**2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade, Room 4**  
There will be NO Sunday School today, December 9th. Students will stay in the sanctuary with their families and enjoy the music and worship from the Voices in Praise Christmas Cantata. We will resume Sunday School on December 16th.

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

**3 Yr. Olds-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade** (18/19 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.

**11:00 AM MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

The Middle & High School youth (6th-12th graders) are meeting this week for Sunday School. All youth are welcome to worship together in the center-right-side of the Sanctuary at the 9:30 Ignite service. After the service, youth will meet in the City at 10:45am for Sunday School where we are currently studying the Book of Exodus.

**ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**9:30 A.M. TCI (Today's Christian Issues) Rooms 13-15**

The lesson today will be on "Prosperity Christianity". Ken Tobiassen will lead the discussion. Come and join us and enjoy a cup of coffee and cookies. We hope to see you there. \*\*note the room change this week to rooms 13-15\*\*

**11:00 A.M. Experiencing God Class Room 15**, led by Vicki Krueger,

Each day brings new questions. Should I stay? Should I go? Buy it? Sell it? Start it? Stop it? There is one question you can ask that makes it easy to determine the answer to all the other questions. In our video and discussion series, we will learn how asking this question has the potential to save us time, money and tears. All we have to do is ask it. Come join us!

**10:45 A.M. "Journey Through" Room 4**, led by Vanessa Celotto.

*Journey Through* is an adult Sunday school class that meet in room 4 from 10:45-11:30 that coincides with the youth Sunday school class. We will continue our study of the book of Exodus.

**6:30 P.M. Sunday Evening Bible Study, Parlor**

**\*\*This Bible study will NOT during the month of December. We will resume in January.**

We are studying the Book of Isaiah, using the study guide *Isaiah: Trusting God in Troubled Times* by Howard Peskett. This is a discussion study where we use the ancient writings of Isaiah, discuss his prophecy regarding the future coming of Christ and learn the meaning to us today. Please contact Cindy Huffman 727-409-8727 for more information. Come join us!

**Welcome To**  
**Northwood Presbyterian**  
**Church**

*A Stephen Ministry Church*  
*Organized February 19, 1978*

**December 9, 2018**



**SECOND 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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**Order for the Public Worship of God**  
**December 9, 2018**  
**2nd Sunday of Advent**  
**8:15 & 11:00 AM Worship Services**

**THE GATHERING**

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

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Responsive)* Paul Means, Associate Pastor

Leader: A voice cries out in the wilderness:

**People: Prepare the way of the Lord!**

Leader: God has promised us a new creation

**People: where righteousness will be at home.**

Leader: Blessed is the Holy One our God,

**People: who has sent a mighty Savior to redeem us.**

**OPENING VOLUNTARY**

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” Michael Burkhardt  
*(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 #108**

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” DIVINUM MYSTERIUM  
stanzas 1,2—all  
stanza 3—women  
stanza 4—men  
stanza 5—choir  
stanza 6—all

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(Together)*

Sovereign God, we confess that we have not turned away from sin. We dress ourselves in fine clothing while others sit in tattered rags. We fill ourselves with rich food while others beg for scraps of bread. Forgive us, God of grace. Make us rich in good works, generous, and eager to share all the blessings of abundant life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #88** *(stanza 7)*

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.

**THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE**

Lighting the Candle

(8:15) Don & Nancy Stevens

(11:00) Cindy Huffman & Barbara Jordan

*The reader offers words about the candle of peace.*

**All Singing: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**ANTHEM**

“Dakota Hymn” arr. Heather Sorenson  
Heather Wood, Soloist  
Linda Granata, Penny Whistle  
Dick Casper, Violin

*Many and great, O God, are Thy works, Maker of earth and sky.  
Thy hands have set the heavens with stars;  
Thy fingers spread the mountains and plains.  
Lo, at Thy word the waters were formed; deep seas obey Thy voice.*

*Thy will, mysterious and so strong, brings growth to all the earth.  
Food for our souls and clothing to wear, are like Thy cup that blesses and fills.  
Provide for us each day of our lives, sufficient for our needs.*

*Grant unto us communion with Thee, Thou star abiding One.  
Come unto us, and dwell with us. With Thee are found the gifts of life.  
Bless us with life that has no end, eternal life with Thee.*

*That day you came to dwell on the earth, bringing us all great joy!  
All nations scattered over the world, to them You gave the Light of all life.  
O Lord, Compassionate One. We offer praise to Thee!*

**OUR MINISTRY WITH THE CHILDREN**

*(Children ages 3yrs – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, are welcome to remain in service with their  
parents or join us in room 3 for Children’s Church.)*

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**MUSICAL OFFERING** “Sussex Carol” Dale Wood  
*(based on the carol at #112)*

**\*DOXOLOGY—#606**

OLD HUNDRETH

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 #129** “Lo How a Rose E’er Blooming” ES IST EIN’ ROS’

**WE HEAR THE WORD**

**SCRIPTURE READING** Matthew 1:1-16 NRSV *(page 783)*

**SERMON** “The Best Seats in the House”  
Chris Curvin, Pastor

**WE GO OUT TO SERVE**

**\*HYMN #93** “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” TRURO

**\*BENEDICTION**

**SUNG BLESSING** “Even So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come” Paul Manz  
*(please be seated)* Michele White, Soloist

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY**

“Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying” Michael Burkhardt

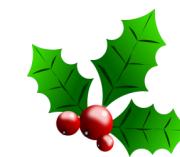
*(You are invited to reflect on the worship service during the closing voluntary. If you must  
leave before the end of the service, please respect those who remain and leave quietly.)*

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**



**COUNTDOWN & WELCOME**

**THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE**

*Experiencing God Sunday School Class*

**PRAISE CAROL**

“Carol of the Bells”

Trans-Siberian Orchestra

Lex Long, Lead Guitar; Mitchell Johnston, piano; Mark Johnston, Violin;  
Thi Frantzis, cello; David Hamilton & Isaac Jeffre, Guitars;  
Bass, Gary Granata; Stephanie Carson, Synth; Dave Basti, Drums

**MEET & GREET**

**WORSHIP SONGS**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

“Emmanuel”

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**“GIVE YOUR HEART THIS CHRISTMAS”**

**GIVE TIME: FAMILY**

**Video-** “The Gift of Time”

“Family Tree” by Dave Barnes

Mark Johnston, Soloist

**GIVE TALENTS: USE THE GIFTS GOD GAVE YOU**

**Video-** “I Heard the Bells”

“Little Drummer Boy” arr. For King and Country  
Duet, Dan Jeffre & Will Parker  
Drummers, Dylan Cantin, Kurt Kemerer, Jarrett Mattson

**GIVE RESOURCES: GIVE TO THOSE IN NEED AND TO OUR  
CHURCH**

**Video-** “Christmas Gifts for the Homeless”

**OFFERTORY**

“Give This Christmas Away”

Emily Cantin, Stephanie Carson, Cindy Huffman, Janet Winder

**SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS IN PRAYER**

**GIVE: TAKE ACTION**

**Video-** “Christ in Christmas”

**COMMITMENT ORNAMENT-** “The First Noel”

**SONG OF DEDICATION**

“Joy to the World” *(Unspeakable Joy)*

**Many Thanks to:**

- ◆ Voices in Praise for their leadership in this service and giving of their gifts and talents all year long.
- ◆ Mark Johnston for his conception of this theme and leadership back in the sound/light booth.
- ◆ Linda Granata for creating our commitment ornaments.
- ◆ All of our “extra players” in this service, giving of their gifts this season.