

Order for the Public Worship of God
December 16, 2018
3rd 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)* Chris Curvin, Pastor

Leader: My soul magnifies the Lord;
People: my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.
Leader: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
People: God sends good news to the oppressed.
Leader: Rejoice in the Lord; again, rejoice!
People: Be gentle to all: the Lord is near.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

“Deck the Hall” arr. Jack W. Jones
(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 #123** “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” CAROL
(stanzas 1,3,5)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Paul Means, Associate Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Together)*

Everlasting One, whose glory and majesty we dare to approach only with fear and trembling, hear our cries. We are poor and needy in spite of your generous mercy, for we have followed our own passions and tried to shape our destinies with our own hands. We have created structures and procedures to secure and protect advantages for ourselves. Forgive us, Mighty God, and strengthen us for fuller service. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

ADESTE FIDELIS

Sing out, all God’s people! Shout what God is doing!
We need not fear the things that hurt or destroy;
God is here with us, healing and renewing.
O Lord, we know your presence, we trust that you are with us,
We thank you that you bless us, giving us joy.

*--words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
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THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY

Lighting the Candle
(8:15 & 11:00) The Presbyterian Women
The reader offers words about the candle of joy.

CALL TO OFFERING/PRAYER

MUSICAL OFFERING “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

arr. David Cherwien

“The Carols of John Rutter”

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

(all) 1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

(all) 2. O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan’s tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save, and give them victory o’er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

(choir only) 3. O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by
thine advent here; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark
shadows put to flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

(all) 4. O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly
home; Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Luke 2: 1-7 (NRSV)

Reflection

“Away in a Manger”

Luke 2: 8-14

Reflection

“How Great Our Joy”

Carol Zaffiri, Soprano

Isaiah 7:14

Matthew 1:18-25

Reflection

“Angels’ Carol”

Luke 2:15-20

Reflection

“O Holy Night”

Michele White, Soprano

Matthew 2:1-11

Reflection

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

John 1:1-9

Reflection

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

***BENEDICTION**

***HYMN #133** “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELIS
O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye; O come ye to
Bethlehem! Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!

(Refrain) O come let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

God of God, Light of Light, Lo! He abhors not the virgin’s womb;
Very God, begotten, not created: *(Refrain)*

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation; Sing, all ye citizens of heaven
above! Glory to God in the highest! *(Refrain)*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus to thee be all
glory given. Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing. *(Refrain)*

CLOSING VOLUNTARY “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

arr. 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.*

MUSIC NOTES:

John Rutter was born in 1945 in London and studied music at Clare College, Cambridge where from 1975-1979 he was Director of Music and directed the college chapel choir in various recordings and broadcasts. Since then, he has divided his time between composition and conducting. Most of his music that we are presenting today is from around 1981 and published in two collections titled *O Holy Night* and *Joy to the World*. His music is performed around the world and has featured in a number of British royal occasions, including the two most recent royal weddings. Along with Sir David Willcocks (1919-2015), Rutter co-edited four volumes of *Carols for Choirs* that have become standard arrangements for choirs worldwide. In 1983 he formed his own professional choir, The Cambridge Singers, with whom he has made numerous recordings.

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



Friends of Northwood



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!

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

THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY

The Presbyterian Women

PRAISE SONG

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

MEET & GREET

"Angels We Have Heard on High"
"It's Christmas"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

"All Is Well"
Janet & Roger Winder

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS IN PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING OFFERTORY

"He Has Come for Us"

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1: 1-16

MESSAGE

"The Best Seats in the House"
Chris Curvin, Pastor

SONG OF DEDICATION

"He Shall Reign Forevermore"

GOD'S BLESSING TO YOU

Sermon notes...

that Ignite Action!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

8:15 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-2nd 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 during the offering.

9:30 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-1st Grade, Room 3
Students will start and stay in their classroom for the Sunday school hour with Jessica Melissa Long & Joyce Curvin.
2nd-5th Grade, Room 4
Students will start in the sanctuary and then move to room 4 with Cassondra Fredrikson .

11:00 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-2nd 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 during the offering.

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

One by one we see super large companies like Sears, General Electric and General Motors fall by the wayside. Companies we felt were too large to fail. We will look at Sears and ask could this happen to our churches as well? What lessons can we learn from the private sector that may have application as we see declining attendance. Coffee and cookies will be available to add to the discussion dealing with "Today's Christian Issues."

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 meet 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 16, 2018



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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