Hymn Notes:  
“I Love to Tell the Story” (462) 
Many people sing this hymn vigorously but do little to go out and “tell the story” beyond the church walls. Katherine Hankey (1834-1911) startled England by the unheard of thing of starting a Bible class for working girls in London. She also served as a nurse in South Africa and turned over all proceeds from her writings to Christian missions. She lived what she wrote! 
The hymn had its origins in an extended poem the author wrote in 1866 during a long convalescence. One verse not represented in our book reads: 
I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems 
Than all the golden fancies of all our golden dreams. 
I love to tell the story; it did so much for me! 
And that is just the reason I tell it now to thee. 
The hymn became very popular after the present tune was written for it in 1869 by William Fischer (1835-1912). Fischer dedicated the tune to Chaplain C.C. McCabe. Charles Caldwell McCabe (1836-1906) eventually became a Methodist Episcopal bishop, had been held in a Confederate prison during the Civil War but emerged to become a well-known motivational speaker and fund-raiser. Julia Ward Howe regarded him as the great popularizer of her “Battle Hymn of the Republic” because he sang it at all his events.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

8:15 & 11:00 AM 
CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 
3 Yr. Olds-2nd Grade (9/20 School Year) 
Children 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-1st Grade, Room 3 
Students will start and stay in their classroom for the Sunday school hour with Jane Winne and Carissa Johnston.

2nd-5th Grade, Room 8 
Students will start in the sanctuary and then move to room 8 with Justine Davis.

11:00 AM MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 
The Middle & High Schoolers (6th-12th graders) are meeting this week for Sunday School. All youth are welcome to worship together in the back-left-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 will be studying our series, Amplify.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

9:30 AM. TCI (Today’s Christian Issues) Rooms 9-11 
TCI is an adult class that 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. Today, Fred Heider will lead a discussion of a recent survey’s conflicting findings regarding our need to be in a community of Christians.

11:00 AM. Experiencing God Class Room 15, led by Vicki Krueger 
The Experiencing God class offers you a place to connect with other believers in the study of God’s word and how it applies to our daily lives. Our goals: to grow in our understanding of the Bible, as Jesus’ own group of disciples did; to meet the needs of others in our group in prayer and ministry; to become equipped for evangelism; and to let the living Word of God dwell richly in us.

11:30 AM. Sunday Morning Bible Study: This Bible study meets at 11:30am on Sunday mornings in room 8 of the Christian Education Building. We are studying the minor prophets from the Old Testament. We are looking at God’s message of hope and reconciliation to God’s people while they were in exile. The book we are using is part of the Immersion Bible Studies— Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, and Jonah by Bruce Epperly. If you have any questions or would like to purchase a book for the study, please contact Cindy Huffman 727-409-8722 or lucindy1@aol.com. This is a discussion class and is approximately one hour in length. All are welcome! Come join us!

10:45 AM. “Defenders” 
The “Defenders” meets in rooms 5 & 7 at 10:45am. This class is taught by Michael Jahosky, who is a Humanities Professor at St. Petersburg College. Today’s class is the second session of a 6-week study Surprised by Hope by N.T. Wright. A schedule of assigned readings and accompanying reflective questions as well as discussion questions are available on the Christian Education bulletin board located across from the kitchen. It is important that you have the book, Surprised by Hope, which can be purchased through Amazon. For more information, you may contact Spencer Briggs at spencer.briggs1@gmail.com.

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

BETH LINVILLE 
Praise and Thanks to My Supportive Family 

Flower orders & donation costs for flowers ordered for worship are made using the “2019 Flower Reservation Chart” on the bulletin board across from the kitchen. Thank you to those providing flowers each Sunday.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO... 
Sunday, November 17: Mary Torrisi, Beth Linville, Don Booth
Wednesday, November 20: Betty O’Shea 
Thursday, November 21: Don Macleman, Muriel Antonakes 
Friday, November 22: Jane Winne, Tracey Birch, Joshua Luther, Shayna Davis
Saturday, November 23: Steve Fisher, Chris Means
If you see someone whose birthday is listed and you haven’t seen them in church recently, give them a call!

Welcome To 
Northwood Presbyterian Church 
A Stephen Ministry Church 
Organized February 19, 1978 
November 17, 2019 

Come, Grow, Go!

Ministers: All Members of the Church 
E. Chris Curvin, Pastor 
Paul Means, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Mission 

Northwood Presbyterian Church 
2875 State Road 550, Clearwater, FL 33761 
(727) 796-8909 Fax (727) 797-8276 
www.northwoodpc.org 

Like us on Facebook! 
facebook.com/npc.clearwater 

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Like us on Facebook! 
facebook.com/npc.clearwater
Order for the Public Worship of God
November 17, 2019
23rd Sunday after Pentecost
8:15 & 11:00 AM Worship Services

WE COME TO WORSHIP
(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: All praise and honor is due your holy name, O Lord.
People: for you are the One who answers our prayers!
Leader: You are the One who forgives and heals our sin,
People: and you are the One who brings peace to a troubled world!
Leader: We praise you for you are the God who saves,
People: for salvation is offered to all who call upon your name! Let us
joyfully worship God!

OPENING VOLUNTARY  “Largo”  Antonio Vivaldi
Mark Prater, Guest Organist

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
Chris Curvin, Pastor (8:15)
Paul Means, Associate Pastor (11:00)

MINUTE FOR MISSION
Ring, Sing and Mingle, Stephanie Carson

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST
(please complete the bulletin insert, “FRIENDSHIP SHEET,” and pass it toward the center aisle.)

*HYMN #305  “Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!”  DARWALL’S 148TH

CALL TO CONFESSION
Reverend James A. Vander Slik (11:00)

*HYMN #353  “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”  SOLID ROCK

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together)
Merciful God, you take us and our choices very seriously. Forgive us, dear Lord, for treating you like an “add-on” to life’s otherwise seemingly more important matters. Forgive our attempt to find life on our own, apart from you. And kindle within us, by your Holy Spirit, a heart that loves you, and a desire to embrace that life offered abundantly through Jesus our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
*GREATOREX

*HYMN #462  “I Love to Tell the Story”  HANKEY

WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING  Acts 1:1-11 NRSV (page 884)

SERMON  “Has God Given You a Story to Tell?”  Paul Means, Associate Pastor

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

*HYMN #353  “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”  SOLID ROCK

*Benediction

Sung Blessing  “Irish Blessing”  Linda Spevacek-Avery
(please be seated)
Stephanie Carson, Soloist

May the road rise up to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
May the rain fall softly on your fields, until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand. Amen.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY  “Fugue” (Sonata VI)  Felix Mendelssohn
(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.)

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.

CALL TO OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING  “Minuet” (Water Music)  G.F. Handel
Mark Prater, Guest Organist

*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 #353  “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”  SOLID ROCK

COUNTDOWN
WELCOME
PRAISE SONG
“Thrive”
“Has God Given You a Story to Tell?”

MEET AND GREET

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION
Ring, Sing and Mingle, Stephanie Carson

PRAISE SONG
“O Come to the Altar”

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS IN PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY
“Awkward Invites”

VIDEO

SCRIPTURE
Acts 1:1-3

MESSAGE
“Has God Given You a Story to Tell?”  Paul Means, Associate Pastor

SONG OF DEDICATION
“Greater”

GOD’S BLESSING TO YOU

Sermon notes...

that Ignite Action!