

Hymn Notes:

“O Day of Peace” (373)

This hymn was written at the request of the text committee for *The Hymnal, 1982* (Episcopal). They asked for a text on the theme of peace that could be sung to this tune. The two stanzas deal with two aspects of peace: *pax* which is the cessation of conflict, and *shalom*, living in harmony and mutual goodwill. This hymn affirms that peace is always God’s gift, but also recognizes the importance of human responsibility in preparing an environment in which peace can flourish. Stanza 2 is a paraphrase of Isaiah 11:6-9 which is the Old Testament lectionary text for Advent 2 (today). The tune was composed in 1916 by English composer C. Hubert H. Parry and with a different text, during the interim between the world wars, this emerged as an unofficial British national anthem. It was often sung at public and patriotic events and you may remember it in the film *Chariots of Fire*. The closing voluntary is an arrangement for organ of the hymn’s tune, JERUSALEM.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO...

Sunday, December 8: Roger Snay, Wanda Fanning, Susan Glaser, Barbara Jordan, Beverly Van Zyl
Tuesday, December 10: Blake Estavil
Wednesday, December 11: David O’Leary, Mark O’Leary, Murle Whitten, Eleanor Cicerchi
Saturday, December 14: Paul Means, Kurt Kemerer



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

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



June Arnold



**In Loving Memory of My Angelic Mother,
Mabel Williams**

Flower orders & donation costs for flowers ordered for worship are made using the “2019-2020 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/

FAITHFULLY SERVING NORTHWOOD CHURCH TODAY

GREETERS:

(8:15) Jesse Loy & Ellen Stoup
(11:00) Sharon Card & Ed Puschmann

USHERS:

(8:15) Barbara Moler, Tim Beaver
Rocky Davis, Bob MacFall
(9:30) Vicki & Curtis Krueger
(11:00) Claudia Alwood & Roger Snay
Polly Brown

VAN DRIVER: John Makal

Ushers & Greeters



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

8:15 & 11:00 AM

CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-2nd Grade (19/20 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 Justine Davis.

2nd-5th Grade, Room 8

There will be NO Sunday School today, December 8th. Students will stay in the sanctuary with their families and enjoy the music and worship from the Voices in Praise Christmas program. We will resume Sunday School on December 15th.

**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 A.M. TCI (Today’s Christian Issues) Rooms 9-11

The adult class, Today’s Christian Issues (TCI), explores exactly what its name implies -- the ethical/moral challenges we face in our everyday life. This week, Nancy Marshall will share why she left her northern Methodist church, aligning, instead, with a Unitarian/Universalist church. Next week you’ll have an opportunity to learn about one of our church’s newest members, Rev. Jim Vander Slik who will explore the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit’s gifts.

11:00 A.M. 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 A.M. 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 727-409-8727 or lucindy1@aol.com. This is a discussion class and is approximately one hour in length. All are welcome! Come join us!

10:45A.M. “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 fifth session of a 6-week study *Surprised by Hope* by N.T. Wright. 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.

**Welcome To
Northwood Presbyterian
Church**

*A Stephen Ministry Church
Organized February 19, 1978*

December 8, 2019



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 8, 2019
2nd Sunday of Advent
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)

Leader: Awake from your sleep; salvation is near.
People: The night is far gone; the day is at hand.
Leader: Heaven and earth will pass away,
People: but the word of God endures forever.
Leader: The day of the Lord is surely coming;
People: the promise of God will be fulfilled.

OPENING VOLUNTARY “Canticle of the Turning” Barbara Harbach
(see the Advent hymn at #100)

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 1,5,6,7)

THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE
Lighting the Candle
(8:15) Mary Kreuziger & Beth Linville
(11:00) Cindy & Tom Huffman
The reader offers words about the candle of peace.

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

CALL TO CONFESSION Paul Means, Associate Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together)

O God, you search us and know us, and all that we are is open to you. We confess that we have sinned. We long for your coming to change the world, and yet are unwilling to change even our own hearts; when we do not listen to the prophets and angels; when we reduce our preparation of your coming to reckless spending and trivialities. Forgive us for all of our failings, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** REGENT SQUARE
**Come, O Sovereign One, in glory, come in all your healing power;
Come to change our wayward story as we gather in this hour.
Grant us sight and ears to know you; bring our faith to fuller flower.**

ANTHEM “How Brightly Shines the Morning Star” arr. Joseph M. Martin

*O, Morning Star, send forth your light. Bring heaven’s glory to our night.
Together we shall praise you.
O Righteous Star, shine through our song. Renew our voices, keep us strong.
Awake in us your music. Alleluia! Jubilate! Exultate!
Sing the story, wake the dawn. Let music shine the light of glory.*

*Oh, let the choir break forth in sound, our joy and peace with music crowned,
One voice, one song, forever.
One shining hope, one God above, one holy light, one perfect Love,
One faith binds us together. Amen. Amen.
Jubilate, exultate, alleluia!*

OUR MINISTRY WITH THE CHILDREN

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

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 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” Edwin T. Childs

***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 #373** “O Day of Peace” JERUSALEM

WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 25:1-13 NRSV *(page 806)*

SERMON “Preparing for Christmas”
Chris Curvin, Pastor

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

***HYMN #123** “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” CAROL
(stanzas 1,2,5)

***BENEDICTION**

SUNG BLESSING “Blessing” Lee Dengler
(please be seated) Barbara Jordan, Soloist

CLOSING VOLUNTARY “Jerusalem” C. Hubert H. Parry
(O Day of Peace) arr. James Welch

(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.)

**Congregation will stand. If standing is difficult for you, feel free to remain seated.*

Stephanie Carson, Music Director
Tom Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director



COUNTDOWN

WELCOME

THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE

Roxie Swartz, Gloria Whitfield, Marie Ziegler

VIDEO: “Man on the Street”

MEET & GREET

“It’s Christmas”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

“Christmas Day”

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY: “Christmas Miracle”

VIDEO: “The Miracle of God in a Manger”

“Miraculum”

PERSONAL MIRACLE STORIES

PRAYER

“Miracles”

VIDEO: “Christmas Miracle”

“Joy to the World”

GOD’S BLESSING TO YOU

Many Thanks to:

- ◆ *Voices in Praise for their leadership in this service and giving of their gifts and talents all year long, and to Horns In Praise for joining us this morning*
- ◆ *Mark Johnston for his conception of this theme and leadership back in the sound/light booth.*