Welcome to Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Monday, December 24, 2019
4:30 PM

The Reverend Dr. E. Chris Curvin, Pastor
The Reverend Dr. Paul D. Means, Associate Pastor
Rosalie Bradford, Director of Youth & Family Ministries
Justine Davis, Director of Schools & Director of Children’s Ministries
Stephanie Carson, Director of Music
Thomas D. Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director
Emily Cantin, Director of Communications
Chris Hurst, Business Administrator
Linda O’Leary, Bookkeeper

ORDER OF WORSHIP
(Infant Care is available in our nursery for our 4:30 service)

Tuesday, December 24, 2019
4:30 PM

PRE-SERVICE PIANO MUSIC
Ellis Cantin: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”
Gabby Zimmer: “Jolly Old St. Nicholas”
Aaron McDermott: “Silent Night”
Max Gipson: “The Star Carol”
Hannah Gipson: “The Little Drummer Boy”
Brianna Adkisson: “Mary Did You Know”
Aidan McDermott: “Silent Night”

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
Paul Means, Associate Pastor
(Please complete the bulletin insert, “FRIENDSHIP SHEET,” and pass it toward the center aisle.)

*CAROL #127 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” MENDELSSOHN
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king. Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations rise; join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic hosts proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king.

*CAROL #133 “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES
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!
O come let us adore him; O come let us adore him;
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

CAROL #113 “Angels We Have Heard on High” GLORIA
Angels, we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.
Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. (Refrain)
LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE
Charles, Alice, Henry & Carter Ellis
The reader offers words about the Christ Candle

All Singing: Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo!

CHILDREN’S MUSIC
“The First Noel”
Celestial Orff Ensemble

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE
Justine Davis & Rosalie Bradford

CHILDREN’S SONG
“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”
Northwood Children
Lukas Ruisz, Max Gipson & Skylar Weidner, Soloists

*CAROL #121
“O Little Town of Bethlehem”
ST. LOUIS

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

CALL TO OFFERING & PRAYER OF DEDICATION
The offering this evening will be used to replenish Northwood’s much-used Helping Hands Fund. Someone is taken to a nearby grocery store – we help them purchase milk, bread, and eggs. Someone else is provided a one night stay in a modest motel. Someone else has a small amount sent to Duke Energy to keep their electricity on, etc. Thank you for your generosity in the spirit of Jesus’ words in Matthew 25:31-46.

MUSICAL OFFERING
“Away in a Manger”
arr. Vernon M. Whaley
Dylan Cantin, Bassoon

CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER
Paul Means, Associate Pastor

CHILDREN’S SONG
“Unto Us a Child Is Born”
Laura Farnell
Angel Choir

NORTHWOOD PUPPET MINISTRY
“The Colors of Christmas”
adapted from Luke Gambill’s A Red-Letter Christmas

“The Colors of Christmas”
Craig Adams
Arrangement: William T. M. Whaley
Narration 1: Kelly Tighe
Narration 2: Nora Gunderman
Narration 3: Kelly Tighe
Narration 4: Nora Gunderman
Narration 5: Kelly Tighe
Arrangement: Pentatonix
Arrangement: Luke Gambill & Wes King
Arrangement: Pentatonix
Arrangement: words by Luke Gambill

Director: Kelly Tighe
Assistant Director: Abby Isler,
Northwood’s Poppin’ Puppeteers: Kelsey Cauchi, Nora Gunderman, Abby Isler,
Carissa Johnston, Jarrett Mattson, Darby Sparks, Nancy Stevens, & Kelly Tighe

LIGHTING OF CANDLES #122
“Silent Night”
STILLE NACHT
Thank you for holding lighted candles completely upright and leaning unlighted candles toward the lighted ones.

*CLOSING HYMN #134
“Joy to the World”
ANTIOCH

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.
He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, and wonder, wonders of his love.

*BENEDICTION
*Congregation will stand. If standing is difficult for you, feel free to remain seated.
TONIGHT’S OFFERING—HELPING HANDS FUND
All of the offerings received at the two Christmas Eve services will be used to replenish Northwood’s much-used Helping Hands Fund. Someone is taken to a nearby grocery store – we help them purchase milk, bread, and eggs. Someone else is provided a one night stay in a modest motel. Someone else has a small amount sent to Duke Energy to keep their electricity on, etc. Thank you for your generosity in the spirit of Jesus’ words in Matthew 25:31-46.

THE MEANING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE
For the past four Sundays we have been waiting—lighting the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. Tonight, as we see the light of the center candle, we are reminded that this is the Christ Candle, for without Christ, there would be no Christmas. The Christ Candle can remind us of the expectation of Mary, the songs of the angels, the enthusiasm of the shepherds and the hommage paid to the Christ child by the Magi. For we, too, live in joyous expectation of seeing Jesus face to face; we, too, sing alleluia to our King; we, too, run with excitement to tell others of this Shepherd King; and we, too, pay hommage to the one who came to save us. On this Christmas Eve, may we all believe, so that we might become children of God.

TODAY’S WORSHIP

ONE WORSHIP SERVICE, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29TH


CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS
Children & Youth will start a new season of activities in just a few weeks. Watch the bulletin and newsletter for programs with activities and choirs for all ages. For more information on youth activities, contact the church office or check out our website.

2019 GIVING

CONTRIBUTIONS—Giving intended for 2019 must be received in the church office by noon on December 31st or postmarked no later than December 31, 2019. Contributions which are processed electronically through your bank’s online bill pay or via our website must be initiated much earlier (probably no later than December 26) so that the transaction will fully process and qualify for deduction in 2019.
Just for Kids
Help Mary & Joseph Get to the Stable

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

NPC Guest Wi-Fi

Now live streaming our 9:30 & 11:00 services on northwoodpc.org.