

HYMN NOTES:

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light, #377

Words and music by Kathleen Thomerson, 1966

This hymn was first sung in the summer of 1966 in the Church of the Redeemer, Houston, Texas, the home of Mrs. Thomerson's family and "the location of...the church to which the composer has deep emotional ties." Written in a gospel song style with strong musical phrases and memorable biblical images about light, the coming—and second coming—of Christ, makes this a good choice for the First Sunday of Advent. Numerous references from scripture include, "For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light" (Ephesians 5:8b-9a); "and there will be no night there," (Revelation 21:25b) and "they need no light of lamp or sun" (Rev. 22:5b).

EDUCATION MINISTRY FOR ALL AGES

8:15 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-5th Grade (13/14 School Year) Room 3, dismissed to the multi-age Sunday School class after the Children's Message.
Teachers: Nathan Rodewald & Kelsey Propst

9:30 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-Kindergarten (13/14 School Year) Room 3
Teachers: Joyce Curvin & Jana Davis, Melissa Patel

1st & 2nd Grades Room 16
Teachers: Mr. Bill Sutton & Jean Swintek

3rd-5th Grades Room 8
Students gather to worship at the beginning of the service with their teachers, in the front Sanctuary rows, closest to the band. After the Prayers of Joys & Concerns, they will move to room 8.
Teachers: Eric & Amy Kemerer

11:00 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-5th Grade (13/14 School Year) Room 3, dismissed to the multi-age Sunday School class after the Children's Message.
Teachers: Barbara Englehart & Carissa Johnston

The vision for the children of NPC is to attend worship with their parent or guardian, plus one hour of Sunday School. Please see above for the schedule of classes available. All three hours of the Children's Sunday School study the same lesson.

9:30 AM ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SERENDIPITY—Rooms 13 & 15

TODAY: We continue to see the unusual and interesting style of John's Gospel. John arranges some events for his purpose. Jesus has broken the sacred Law of Moses and continues to do so. We'll look at chapter 8 as the plot thickens. Join us as we study together. Class starts at 9:45 but come a little early for coffee and chat time. Our leader today is Jane Sutton.

TCI (Today's Christian Issues)—Rooms 9 & 11

TODAY: It is said that they will know we are Christian by our love. In October we found out that they will know we are Reformed by our tenets. Join us today as Garry Justice leads a discussion on how they will know we are Presbyterian. The class meets in rooms 9 & 11 with coffee and cookies.

11:00 AM ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

EXPERIENCING GOD – Rooms 13 & 15

TODAY: "Christian." Ask 100 people to define what it means, and you'll get 100 different answers. In this series, we will explore the truth and fiction behind one of the most famous brands in all of history. Led by Vicki Krueger.

**Welcome To
Northwood Presbyterian
Church**

A Stephen Ministry Church

December 1, 2013

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



*Jody Beattie
In Honor of
Betty Beattie's Birthday*



*Naomi Cline
In Memory of
My Husband and Son*

Flower orders & donation costs for flowers ordered for worship are made using the "2013 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!

PLEASE REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO....

- Sunday, December 1st:** Roland Watkins, Martha Carland
- Tuesday, December 3rd:** Stacy Atkison, Betty Beattie, Kerry McDermott, Sue Miskiewicz, Bob Redpath, Jonathan Stevens
- Wednesday, December 4th:** Jonathan Irion
- Thursday, December 5th:** Jackie Rice
- Friday, December 6th:** Shane Alexander, Zachary Cox, Robert Fuoco, Harry Seckman
- Saturday, December 7th:** David Hamilton, Jr., Holden Patel, Nancy Phillips

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

ACOLYTES:

- (8:15) Eli Jeffre
- (11:00) Bryce Fulford

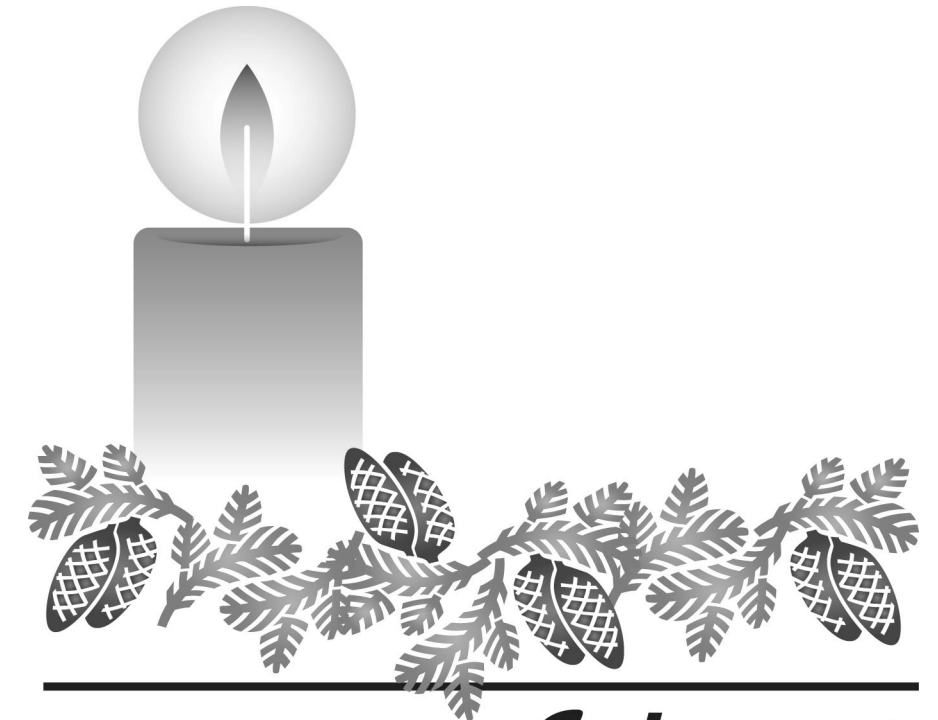
GREETERS:

- (8:15) Dot & Buddy Brown
- (11:00) Ben & Billie Nesmith

USHERS:

- (8:15) Ellen Stoup, Patty Martin, Dennis & Betty O'Shea
- (9:30) Sam & Barb Musgrave
- (11:00) Brooke Allison, Nancy Johnson, Dane & Vicki Phillips

VAN DRIVER: Art Holloway



FIRST 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 1, 2013
1st Sunday of Advent
8:15 & 11:00 AM Worship Services

WE GATHER

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

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

OPENING VOLUNTARY arr. John A. Behnke
“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”
(based on the tune of the opening hymn, #377)

(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 place it in the offering plate later in the service).

***HYMN #377 “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”** HOUSTON

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE—Jeremiah 33:14-16
(8:15) The Huffman Family: Tom & Cindy
(11:00) The Winder Family: Steve, Dawn, Ethan & Kylie

CANDLELIGHTING HYMN #85 TIF IN VELDELE
“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”
(stanza 1)

WE CONFESS

SILENT MEDITATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together)

Almighty God, we confess that we live life with mixed motives, expressed through both sharing and selfishness. We are often impatient and thin-skinned. We rush into condemnations without understanding. We take our family and friends for granted. We receive good will from strangers with scant gratitude. Our hope is often centered on our personal ambitions. Our faith is measured by whether we get what we want. Our loving of others is selective and intermittent. O loving Lord, where else can we go but to you? Faithful God, with the saving grace of Christ Jesus, continue to have mercy on us, save us from our many follies and our besetting sins, and continue to fill our hearts with the joy of your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #367** (Stanza 4) ST. GEORGE’S WINDSOR
Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home.
Gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,
there forever purified, in thy presence to abide:
come, with all thine angels, come; raise the glorious harvest home!

ANTHEM “E’en So Lord Jesus, Quickly Come” Paul Manz

*Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed his blood that we might saved be,
Sing holy, holy to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come; Sing holy, holy, Lord!*

*Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth ye saints below,
For Christ is coming, is coming soon! For Christ is coming soon!
E’en so Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their All!*

FAITH SHARING WITH THE CHILDREN *(Children age 3 (by 9/12) through first grade may go to Room 3 for Children’s Worship.)*

WE SHARE

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERING “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” Mark A. Miller
Westminster Youth Choir
(text based on hymn # 83)

***DOXOLOGY—#544** OLD HUNDREDTH
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below:
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

WE HEAR THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING (page 806) Matthew 24:36-44 (NRSV)

SERMON Paul Means, Associate Pastor
“The Hope & Promise of Advent: Jesus Christ Will Come Again”

HYMN #347 “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” PICARDY
(Please Remain Seated.)

WE UNITE IN PRAYER AND SACRAMENT

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

PRAYERS OF PRAISE AND 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.”

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE SHARING OF THE CUP; THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(To symbolize our unity in Christ, we hold the bread until the Elders and Deacons are served and then all partake as one Body. To symbolize our personal relationship with the Lord, we drink of the cup, as the Spirit leads.)

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION
“Meditation on VENI EMMANUEL” John A. Behnke

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

***HYMN #88** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” VENI EMMANUEL
(stanza 1, 3, 6)

***BENEDICTION**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY “Fantasia on HOUSTON” John A. Behnke
(based on the opening hymn, #377)

(You are invited to remain for the final act of worship, the closing voluntary. A closer look is welcomed if you wish to come stand next to the organ console.)

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

ignite is a contemporary worship service at 9:30 that delivers the message of Jesus Christ through Powerful Music, Media & Scripture Based Sermons.

**LET THE COUNTDOWN BEGIN
LIGHTING THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE**

The Long Family: Lex, Melissa, Ashley, Alyssa,
Grace Michalk & Andrew Michalk

VIDEO

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

**MEET & GREET
PRAISE SONGS**

“Everlasting God”
“One Thing Remains”

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
WORSHIP CONTINUES**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

**SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS IN PRAYER
CALL TO OFFERING**

OFFERTORY
“Jesus Messiah”

SCRIPTURE READINGS
Matthew 24:36-44 (NRSV)

MESSAGE

“The Hope & Promise of Advent:
Jesus Christ Will Come Again”
Paul Means, Associate Pastor

**COMMUNION
MUSIC AT COMMUNION**

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”
Mark A. Miller
Westminster Youth Choir

SONG OF DEDICATION
“Days of Elijah”

GOD’S BLESSING TO YOU

Sermon notes...

that Ignite Action!