



Northwood Presbyterian Church
2875 State Road 580, Clearwater, FL 33761
727-796-8090 ~ www.northwoodpc.org



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EASTER SUNDAY April 20, 2025 ~ 11:00 AM

WE COME TO WORSHIP

(Let the congregation be silent, and in prayer as the music begins. Please silence electronic devices.)

OPENING VOLUNTARY “An Easter Celebration” setting by Joel Raney
Brass Quartet & Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Chris Curvin, Pastor

EASTER GREETING *(Responsive)*

Leader: The Lord is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: HE IS RISEN INDEED!

*PASSING THE PEACE OF THE RISEN LORD

(Please complete the bulletin insert, “FRIENDSHIP SHEET” and leave it where seated.)

*HYMN #232 “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today” EASTER HYMN

**Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!**

**Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinner to redeem and save. Alleluia!**

**But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! Our salvation have procured, Alleluia!
Now above the sky He’s King, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!**

CALL TO CONFESSION Paul Means, Associate Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Together)*

Mighty God: by your power is Christ raised from death to rule this world with love. We confess that we have not believed in Him but fall into doubt and fear. Forgive our dread of dying, our hopelessness, and set us free for joy in the victory of Jesus Christ, who was dead but lives, and will put down every power to hurt or destroy, when your promised kingdom comes. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #236

VICTORY

**The strife is o’er, the battle done; the victory of life is won;
The song of triumph has begun. Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

ANTHEM “Canonic Processional” arr. Lon Beery

*I know that my Redeemer lives: What joy the blest assurance gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my everlasting Head!*

*He lives, and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives, my mansion to prepare; He lives, to bring me safely there.*

*He lives, all glory to His Name; He lives, my Savior, still the same;
What joy the blest assurance gives: I know that my Redeemer lives! Amen!*

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 AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

(The One Great Hour of Sharing offering is also received today.)

*HYMN #233 “The Day of Resurrection!” LANCASHIRE

**The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,
the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from sin’s dominion free,
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.**

**Let hearts be purged of evil that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light,
and listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain,
his own “All hail!” and hearing, may raise the victor strain.**

**Now let the heavens be joyful; let earth its song begin;
the round world keep high triumph and all that is therein.
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that has no end.**

WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24:1-12 (NRSVUE)

SERMON

“From an Idle Tale, Hidden Easter Life Revealed”
Chris Curvin, Pastor

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

*HYMN #238

“Thine Is the Glory”

JUDAS MACCABEUS

**Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled in stone away,
kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.**

*Refrain: Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.*

**Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting. *Refrain***

**No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. *Refrain***

*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Hallelujah”
(No. 44 Chorus *from Messiah*)

G.F. Handel

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

Stephanie Carson, Traditional Worship; David Furr, Organist

Brass Quintet:

Trumpet: Ben Tobin & Brandon Desoto

Trombone: Dylan Cantin & David Sardina

Welcome Friends & Guests!

April 20, 2025

A Happy and Joyous Easter to you! Your presence adds greatly to our celebration of the victory of Christ over sin and death. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

We invite you to register your attendance today on the friendship sheet inside your bulletin. Simply leave the sheet where you are seated today as the ushers collect them following the service. If you are new to Northwood, we hope that you’ll worship with us again and consider becoming a part of our friendly and caring church family. *If you are interested in exploring membership and/or have questions, please contact me at 796-8090.* The next Discovering Northwood New Member Class is **May 18th at 9:45am** in Room 4 of the Christian Education building.

Anyone wishing to discuss a commitment/recommitment to Christ, or anyone who has a special prayer concern may speak with one of the pastors after the worship service.

The Easter Lilies (in the sanctuary and around the church today) are given to the glory of God by friends and members of Northwood Presbyterian Church in honor and in memory of their loved ones. (See insert).

We hope you will take time to look through this information provided here in our Easter bulletin about what we believe as Christians and take note of all the events listed here and on our church website. If you are visiting today for the first time, we hope you will return and worship with us soon and become involved in our church’s fellowship and mission.

He is risen!
Pastor Chris



Thank you for participating by bringing flowers today for Northwood’s flower cross!

One Great Hour of Sharing, Easter Sunday

For more than 50 years through the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering, the refugee and the stranger have found food and safe shelter, those stunned by the aftermath of disasters have found relief and help rebuilding, and communities seeking to take control of their future have found partners in development. This year 80% of the money received will be divided equally between local ministries, Metropolitan Ministries and Presbyterian Disaster Fund, and 20% will go to the Presbytery of Tampa Bay. The hundreds of millions given over the last half century have enabled a powerful witness to the love of the One who came that all might have life more abundantly.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO....

Sunday, April 20: Anna Hyden
Tuesday, April 22: Edwin Smith, Garry Justice, Pam Johanssen
Thursday, April 24: Keith Nadig, Kat Voss
Saturday, April 26: Diane Lynn, Jessie Lusk, Tom Michaels, Eli Jeffre, Isaac Jeffre

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:



Friends of Northwood



FAITHFULLY SERVING NORTHWOOD TODAY

GREETERS:

Elaine & Charles Rumpel & Edna Bartolucci

USHERS:

Carol & Conrad Trunzo

COFFEE SERVERS:

Bev Hyden & Hazel Vernon

Your Giving Matters

For in-person worship, the offering plates will not be passed; however, offering boxes are located in the narthex. For those worshipping online, your giving matters too. Your continued faithfulness to the mission and ministry of Northwood through your giving is critical as the church's expenses do not stop. Please commit to maintain your regular schedule of giving throughout this time by mailing your gift or using one of the online platforms below for giving electronically:

1. Text NPCHURCH to 73256 and follow the prompts.
2. Visit www.northwoodpc.org and click on the giving tab.
3. Click "Give" under the *ChurchLife app* menu options.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Presbyterian Women, led by Patty Martin and Sue Miskiewicz

The Presbyterian Women's Sisters in Christ Circle will meet on Tuesday, May 13 at 10:00am in room 5 of the Education Building. Our study books, *"Let Justice Roll Down"* are available for purchase for \$5.00. For more information about how you can be involved, contact Patty Martin or Sue Miskiewicz.

Fresh Brewed,

Fresh Brewed meets on the first Friday of the month at 10:30am in rooms 5&7. Our next meeting will take place May 2nd. The book we are reading is *Seamless*, by Angie Smith. If you need a book or have any questions, please contact Louise Mylin at LVNM1@hotmail.com or 727-787-9868.

Biblical TakeAways, led by Emily Sutphin & Earle Lusk

This Easter Sunday, we will NOT meet. We will resume next Sunday, April 27th.

Youth Sunday School, led by Dylan Cantin

The youth Sunday School meets every Sunday morning at 10:00am in the youth room. During this time, we will discuss the scripture and message and incorporate worship elements like music into our hour.

Our Mission Statement: "Come! Grow! Go!"

We are to COME to Christ and be active
in worship and fellowship together.

We are to GROW spiritually as we commit our time,
talents and finances to Him.

We are to GO out in mission and service in the name of Christ,
empowered by the Holy Spirit.

The Project Group– April 22

If you sew, knit, crochet or craft with a mission purpose (e.g. make greeting cards), you are invited! The project group meets the 4th Tuesday of the month (**April 22**) at 10:00am in room 13. We make little dresses for Haiti, lap robes, walker bags, and stuffed teddy bears. New members are always welcome. Contact Marti Huff 727-503-3783 or Evelyn Towns 727-785-3743 with any questions.

Jane Sutton Book Club—April 28

The Jane Sutton Book Club will be April 28th. The group meets the 4th Monday of the month at 10:00am in room 13 of the Christian Education building. If you are interested in joining or for more information, please contact Eleanor Cicerchi at ecicerchi@gmail.com or by phone 607-382-1781.

Northwood Photo Group—May 13

Would you like to start taking better pictures, and use photography as a way of exploring God's beauty? Please join us for the regular monthly meeting of the Northwood Photo Group on Tuesday, May 13th at 7:00pm in rooms 5 -7. All are invited, whether you're a beginner or an expert! If you have any questions, please contact David Lawrence at david@primeimagesinc.com or Curtis Krueger at curtis.krueger@gmail.com.

Kids' Corner Preschool—Registration is OPEN

Registration is currently open for the 2025-2026 school year! We have openings in our 2's, 3's, and VPK. Please share the news! You may stop in the preschool office and pick up your registration forms or download off of the church website. If you are interested in a tour of the school, please contact Roxane Fineo at 727-723-7679 or email at schooldirector@northwoodpc.org.



VBS Save the Date—July 21-25

Northwood Vacation Bible School will be held July 21-25, 2025 from 9:00am - 12:00 pm. Join us for a week of fun, faith-building activities! Our VBS is open to Pre-k - 5th grade, also welcoming grades 6 - 12 to volunteer.

Graduating High School Seniors & ALL Graduates!

Attention all graduates, please submit your graduation picture, a short write up of your accomplishments and plans after graduation. This information can be dropped off in the office or e-mailed to communications@northwoodpc.org. Please submit by May 18th.

Northwood Scholarship Application 2025

NPC members who are high school seniors, college/vocational students or grad students are encouraged to pick up guidelines/applications from Emily Cantin, online, or in the church office now. Applications must be received by email only to: jpspig1@gmail.com before June 1, 2025. Applicants need to be involved in the life of the church (either here or at college/Seminary). This scholarship can only be received twice. We give thanks to the Bakers, Gordons, Wrights and others whose generosity to Northwood was reflected in their last will and testament. Scholarship funds come from interest earned from the following: (1) The Fred and Kay Baker Scholarship Fund, (2) The Walter and Catherine Gordon Educational Endowment, (3) Clarence and Florence Wright Scholarship Fund, (4) Monies received from other sources.

Save the Dates

Please save the dates for these events on your calendar! The Women's Retreat will be held on Jan. 9-11, 2026.

The Annual Music Ministry Garage Sale will be held January 15,16 & 17, 2026.

Youth

Every Sunday morning, the youth, which includes middle school, high school and college age students, will meet for Sunday School at 10:00am in the youth room. Wednesday evening we have Youth Group that meets at 6:00pm in the youth room. Game night is every Friday evening from 7:00pm-10:00pm in the youth room/FLC. If you have any questions, please contact Dylan Cantin at youthdirector@northwoodpc.org or 727-723-5984.

Nursery

The Nursery is available for childcare during both the 9:00am and 11:00am Worship Services. Our staff are screened and trained to provide safe, caring and entertaining supervision to your little ones while you attend Worship. If you have any questions, please contact the church office

Prayer Chain Ministry

The prayer chain is a vital ministry that uses the power of multiple people praying at once for the urgent needs of the members and friends of Northwood. During the worship service the attendance form may be completed, which has an area for prayer concerns. These prayer requests are sent to the Deacon in charge of the prayer chain by the Associate Pastor, Paul Means. The Deacon then sends the request out to the Prayer Chain volunteers. Prayer requests may also be given to the church office or Deacon Sue Miskiewicz at susan.miskiewicz@yahoo.com

PLEASE NOTE: The office will be closed, **Monday, April 21, 2025**. The office will re-open at 9am on Tuesday, April 22nd.

Learn about Being Presbyterian

What is a Presbyterian?

In the New Testament, “Presbuteros” means elder, and refers to the democratic custom of choosing leaders and advisors from among the members of the church.

Presbyterians are a group of Protestants whose church is founded on this concept of democratic rule under the Word of God. The Presbyterian denomination is a form of Christianity democratically organized to embrace the faith common to all Christians.

All that is required to be a Presbyterian is to...

- Confess the Christian faith
- Trust in Christ as our forgiving Savior
- Promise to follow Christ and Christ’s example for living
- Commit oneself to attend church and to become involved in its work.

Presbyterians have two main sources for inspiration and guidance in their faith:

1. The Bible: The Bible is an inspired record of the revelation of God to all. Presbyterians have always believed that the Bible is the most authoritative source for faith and practice for all people. Presbyterians do not believe that the authors of the Bible were “pens of God” as the pre-Christian writers believed. Instead, they believe the authors were inspired by God to reveal God to all people.
2. Creeds & Confessions: These are statements of doctrine that express the beliefs of a church or congregation. They include:
 - The Apostles’ Creed
 - The Nicene Creed
 - The Scots Confession, 1560
 - The Heidelberg Catechism
 - The Second Helvetic Confession
 - And others

Presbyterians recognize two Sacraments—as described in the Bible.

1. Baptism: This sacrament unites us with Jesus Christ and makes us members of God’s family, the Church. For Presbyterians, baptism...
 - Is an initiation into the church community, as ordered by Christ
 - Is a public confession, not a private one—it’s a statement of faith made in the presence of others
 - Does not guarantee access to heaven—un-baptized people are not denied salvation
 - Can be performed in another church—there is no need to be re-baptized in a Presbyterian Church.
2. Communion: This is also called the Lord’s Supper, Holy Communion or the Eucharist. It’s a time to renew faith and strengthen participants for the duties and privileges of Christian service. In communion, the bread and the wine represent the sacrificial body and blood of Christ and recall the last meal shared with the apostles. Together they symbolize the new covenant between God and all people.

To learn more about what it means to be a Presbyterian, and a member of Northwood, please join us for our Discovering Northwood New Member Class May 12th at 10:00 am in Room 4 of the Christian Education Building.

Church Staff Contact Information

*Staff members are available to answer any questions you might have regarding church related programs through our office phone system. Provided below are the phone extension numbers for most of our staff who are full-time. If you don’t see a phone extension we provide an email contact for you. If you call the church office when the lines are busy or the office is closed, you will be prompted to use the Dial By Name Directory **OR** the staff member’s extension number to leave a message. The church number is still 796-8090.*

Chris Curvin, Pastor/Head of Staff x2007

Paul Means, Associate Pastor x2006

Stephanie Carson, Director of Traditional Music x2009

Taryn Lumia, Director of Contemporary Music, taryn@northwoodpc.org

David Furr, Organist, dmfurr35679@gmail.com

Emily Cantin, Director of Communications x2001

Jennifer McManus, Children’s Ministry x2002

Mark Fettke, Bookkeeper x2005

Roxane Fineo, Director of Schools x2010