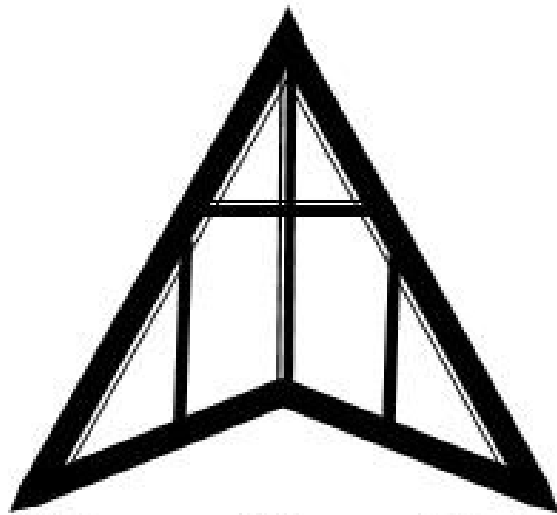


Large Print Bulletin & Announcements

Welcome To
Northwood Presbyterian
Church

A Stephen Ministry Church
Organized February 19, 1978

May 14, 2023
11:00am



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 580, Clearwater, FL 33761

(727) 796-8090 Fax (727) 797-8276

www.northwoodpc.org

Like us on Facebook!

Order for the Public Worship of God
May 14, 2023
6th Sunday of Easter
11:00 AM Worship Service

WE COME TO WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY arr. Kevin McChesney
“Come, Thou Almighty King”
Celebration Ringers

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Paul Means, Associate Pastor

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Leader: God is love.

People: Since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

Leader: God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the
Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

People: And so, we know and rely on the love God has for us.

Leader: Let us worship God!

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*(Please complete the bulletin insert, “FRIENDSHIP SHEET,”
and pass it toward the center aisle.)*

***HYMN** “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” BEECHER

**Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down.
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.**

**Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit, let us find the promised rest;
take away the love of sinning, Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.**

**Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love and praise.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(together)*

Almighty God, you have shown us such love, and stretched out your arms to draw us into your embrace. Yet we so often fail to show that love within our lives. Forgive our short-sightedness and misplaced loyalties when we honor you with our lips, but our hearts are far from you. Be merciful, dear Lord, when we have little regard and little love for our neighbors. By your grace, quicken our hearts with your love and give us eyes to see and hands to reach out to those you bring into our lives. We ask all of this in the name of Jesus Christ, the One who knows us the best and loves us the most. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #581

GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen**

ANTHEM

“If You Love Me”

John Ness Beck

*If you love me keep my commandments. If you love me heed my law.
If you love me, if you love me, if you love me, keep my commandments.*

*If you seek me, you shall surely find me; if you search for me with all
your heart.*

If you seek me, you shall find me, if you search with all your heart.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORDS 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

*DOXOLOGY—#606

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

*HYMN #645 “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

(stanzas 1,3)

MIT FREUDEN ZART

**Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled, and every faithless murmur
stilled: to God all praise and glory!**

**The Lord is never far away, but, through all grief distressing,
an ever present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing,
as with a mother’s tender hand God gently leads the chosen band:
to God all praise and glory!**

WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

John 14:15-21 (NRSV)

SERMON

“How Does Jesus Define Love?”

Paul Means, Associate Pastor

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

*HYMN #643 “Now thank We All Our God” NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

**Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers’ arms, hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.**

**O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in God’s grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.**

**All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.**

***BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” HYFRYDOL
arr. Stephen Burtonwood**

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

Stephanie Carson, Music Director; David Furr, Organist