

Large Print
Bulletin
&
Announcements

Welcome To
Northwood Presbyterian
Church
A Stephen Ministry Church
Organized February 19, 1978
December 29, 2024
11:00am



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 29, 2024
1st Sunday of Christmas
11:00 AM Worship Service**

WE COME TO WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY “Shepherd’s Pipe Carol” arr. Dale Wood

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Paul Means, Associate Pastor

***CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsive*)**

Leader: Let us proclaim the gracious deeds of God;

People: for the steadfast love of the Lord is great.

Leader: Now we have seen the saving love of the Lord,

People: the glory of God’s people and a light to all.

Leader: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts;

People: in faith let us worship God!

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

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

***HYMN #140**
(stanzas 1,2,4)

“Once In Royal David’s City”

IRBY

CALL TO CONFESSION

Paul Means, Associate Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*together*)

God of love, as we reflect back on this past year and look forward to living lives of faith in the upcoming year, we confess our weaknesses, failures, and transgressions, our broken promises, our selfishness, and our lack of faith in your goodness and grace. O Dear Lord, for these sins of commission and omission, may you show us mercy, grant us forgiveness and by your grace empower us to live faithful lives that make a difference for Jesus’ sake in whose name we pray. 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

“Take Him From the Manger”

Craig Balden

Duet: Randy Ball & Craig Balden

*We were taking down the Christmas tree on a cold and wintry night;
packing up the ornaments, and all the colored lights.
When we came to the manger, we looked hard all around,
but the little baby Jesus was nowhere to be found.*

*My youngest one spoke up and said “Dad I took him down the street.
Our neighbors, they don’t know him – I wanted them to meet.
He’s sitting on their front porch now. I’ll get him right away.”
I said “Son, just leave him there. I’m sure he’ll be okay.”*

*I felt the tears well up behind my eyes, I know I must have smiled.
‘Cause I saw this as a lesson, that a dad learns from his child.
And later on that evening, when I crawled into my bed,
the words my son had spoken still echoed in my head (sayin’)*

Refrain: *Take him from the manger out into the street.
Take him from the manger for everyone to meet.
There are millions in the world who don’t know what he came
here for.
Take him from the manger, he doesn’t live there anymore.*

*I know each year we celebrate that day that Christ was born.
But there’s much more to the story that begins on Christmas morn.
It’s all about a rugged cross on a hill called calvary.
And of his sacred promise to return for you and me.
But to many he’s a stranger just another name they’ve heard,
till the day that they discover he’s a man who keeps his word.* Refrain

*The lesson from that winter's night, has followed me along.
I think about it often; I sing it in my songs.
The message is quite simple. It's what I'm here to say;
that if you want to keep your faith you must give it away. Refrain*

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, for ever. 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 #145

“What Child Is This?”

GREENSLEEVES

WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:41-52 (NRSV)

SERMON

“Growing in Wisdom”
Paul Means, Associate Pastor

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

*HYMN #134

“Joy to the World”

ANTIOCH

*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Deck the Halls”

arr. Diane Bish

(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.*

(Please ensure all electronic devices are on silent during the service.)

Stephanie Carson, Music Director; David Furr, Organist