Large Print Bulletin & Announcements

Welcome To

Northwood Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Church Organized February 19, 1978

> April 6, 2025 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 **April 6, 2025** 5th Sunday in Lent 11:00 AM Worship Service

WE COME TO WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY "My Song Is Love Unknown" Celebration Ringers Cathy Moklebust

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chris Curvin, Pastor

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive, from John 12:1-8)

Leader: Six days before the Passover, Martha served Jesus dinner at Lazarus' house. There, Mary took a pound of costly perfume and anointed Jesus' feet.

People: What's that in the air?

Leader: Mary poured her perfume on Jesus' feet and then wiped his feet with her hair. She filled the air with the fragrance of her worship.

People: Today, let us raise a praise that touches the heart of God.

Leader: Let the fragrance of our worship fill the air.

God, we offer our praise as a sweet fragrance that aspires All:

to heaven. May the fragrance of our worship fill the air! The Call to Worship used today is from Kwasi Kena, The Africana Worship Book for Year C (Discipleship Resources, 2008), p 66.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

*HYMN #630 "Fairest Lord Jesus" CRUSADERS' HYMN

CALL TO CONFESSION

Paul Means, Associate Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together)

God whose love knows no boundaries: we crowd our lives with so much activity, that it is hard to find time for you. We become so focused on ourselves, we can overlook those around us who are searching for hope. We fill our spiritual emptiness with everything around us, rather than feasting on your Word. God of extravagant mercy, forgive us. Open our hearts, that we may join you in serving the broken of the world. Help us to pour out our love to others as abundantly and graciously as your love is given to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. 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

*APOSTLES' CREED

(see back panel of the Ignite Contemporary bulletin)

ANTHEM "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" arr. Alfred V. Fedak (see hymn #224)

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

WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

John 12:1-8 (NRSVUE)

SERMON "An Extravagant Gift—An Act of Faith" Chris Curvin, Pastor

My Jesus I love thee, I know thou art mine; for thee all the follies of sin I resign; my Gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love thee, because thou has first loved me, and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree, I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow; if ever I loved thee, My Jesus 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight, I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright; I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow, if ever I loved thee, My Jesus 'tis now.

WE UNITE IN PRAYER AND SACRAMENT

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE SHARING OF THE 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.)

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

*HYMN "The Lord Went to Dinner" ANGEL'S STORY

The Lord went to a dinner, and Mary took perfume. As she anointed Jesus, the fragrance filled the room. She'd sat as a disciple, she'd been a faithful friend, and now, with costly fragrance, she honored Christ again.

Soon Judas was complaining, "This gift could have been sold; We could have helped the poor here — the young ones and the old. Yet Jesus said, "My people will always help the poor, but Mary chose to give this — to me, her dying Lord."

Her gift was her expression of thankfulness and praise, and so it makes us wonder, in these long Lenten days: What would we give to Jesus if he sat at our meal? What gift would be our kindness and what would it reveal?

O Lord, today we offer the best that we can bring — our worship as a fragrance, our love, an offering. And now, as we're reminded the poor are with us still, we pray that we may serve them — to honor you, as well.

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*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY "Christ Is the Life" arr. Brenda Portman

(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