

# NEW HEMPSTEAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



## **The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Dr. Lori Knight-Whitehouse  
Pastor

Lois Anderson  
Music Director

To give online, click on [www.nhpchurch.org](http://www.nhpchurch.org) or  
scan the QR code:



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
LONGING  
December 20, 2020**

Please remember that only Sue Rentz is singing, masked and behind a screen, in order to make our worship service safer.

\*All who are able are invited to stand.

**TIME OF SILENT MEDITATION** **10:55-11 AM**

**PRELUDE** *“A Medley of Carols”*

**GREETING** Worship Leader

**WELCOME**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTROIT** *“Creation Will Be At Peace”*  
NHPC Choir Anna Laura Page

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)** Worship Leader

God, Your steadfast love is better than life,  
**and our lips will praise you.**  
So we will bless you as long as we live;  
**We will lift up our hands and call on your name.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER (In Unison)**

**God, your creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of your sons and daughters.  
We desire the coming of your son, Jesus, and the completion of the new heaven and earth.  
We praise you that you have always fulfilled your promises, and eagerly await the return  
of our Lord Jesus. In his name we pray, Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN** *“Away in a Manger”* **#25**

Away in a manger, no crib for His bed,  
The little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head.  
The stars in the sky look down where He lay,  
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever And love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children In Thy tender care,  
And fit us for Heaven to live with Thee there.

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

You desire mercy, and not sacrifice, Holy One. Hear us as we confess our sin to you and our neighbor.

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)**

**God of compassion, you have given us Jesus Christ, the great physician, who made the broken whole and healed the sick. Touch our wounds, relieve our hurts, and restore us to wholeness of life, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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**\*MOMENT FOR SILENT CONFESSION**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Worship Leader

God's steadfast love endures forever. God's love is eternal. Though our time is short, love will see us through, and love will see us beyond death into eternal life. Live with gratitude, love as if your love will never end, and work for peace and justice. Go, live, forgive, and love. **Amen.**

--- Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, rev-o-lution.org."

Please be seated

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (In Unison)**

Worship Leader

**God, of your goodness, give me yourself; you are enough for me, and anything less that I could ask for would not do you full honor. And if I ask anything that is less, I shall always lack something, but in you alone I have everything.**

— Julian of Norwich, Revelations of Divine Love

**FIRST READING**

**Psalm 63: 1-3**

Worship Leader

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*"Old Christmas Carol"*

Cesar Franck

**A MOMENT WITH THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

Dr. Knight-Whitehouse

**SECOND READING**

**Matthew 23: 37-39**

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

Dr. Knight-Whitehouse

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**Apostles Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Minister: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

**\*HYMN**

*“In the Bleak Midwinter”*

**#36**

In the bleak mid-winter, Frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron, Water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, Snow on snow,  
In the bleak mid-winter, Long ago.  
What can I give Him, Poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb,  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part,  
Yet what I can I give Him, Give my heart.

**MINUTE FOR THE DEACONS: “Warm Their Soles” Sock Drive**

**MINUTE FOR CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING**

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS**

If you would like to submit an offering online, use the QR code found in the announcements.

**PRAYER CARDS** Please share prayer requests on YT comments using first names only.

**OFFERTORY** *“Christmas Chimes”* Niels Gade

**\*DOXOLOGY** **#592**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**For the desert places in which we walk, the streets we roam,  
the paths we cross guide our feet.**

**Take us to places where you would go**

**Give us words that you would use that in this Advent season of promise and  
preparation**

**We might point the way with John the Baptist**

**To the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** *“It came Upon a Midnight Clear”* vs. 1 & 3 **#38**

It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth, To touch their harps of gold:  
“Peace on the earth, good will to all, From heav’n’s all-gracious King.”  
The world in solemn stillness lay, To hear the angels sing.

And ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,  
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,  
Look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing.  
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!

**\*CHARGE**

**\*BLESSING**

**\*POSTLUDE** *“Once in Royal David's City”* Henry Gauntlett

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WELCOME VISITORS

We welcome all visitors. We are glad you were able to be with us today and look forward to seeing you again.

### MAILING LIST

If you would like to be on our mailing or phone list please write your name, address, e-mail and/or phone number on a Welcome Card, located in the pew or contact us online at NHPCHURCH.ORG home page.

**Sunday Bible Study is at 12:30.**

**There will be Fellowship Breakfast on Saturday, December 26 at 8:30 AM at City Line.**

*We will have a "Longest Night" Service on Monday night, Dec 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 PM Virtually. Dec 21 is the Winter Solstice, the longest night of the year. It's a time for quiet music, prayer, reflection, and scripture reading. The service will be live-streamed on our YouTube channel, New Hempstead Presbyterian Church.*



### **Choir rehearsal; will resume in January.**

**Christmas Eve worship will be virtual this year on our YouTube channel, Thursday Dec. 24 at 8:00PM. We will celebrate Eucharist, so be prepared with your bread and wine/juice.**

**Sunday, Dec. 27, we will also worship virtually with the congregations of Hudson River Presbytery.**

**Our virtual choir is participating in this service, so be sure to tune in at 11:00 AM on our You Tube Channel, New Hempstead Presbyterian Church.**

### **Christmas Joy Offering**

#### **Supporting Past, Present, and Future Leaders**

The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. The Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families. Presbyterian-related schools and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. This has been a Presbyterian commitment for nearly 140 years.

Can't make it to church? Join us via Livestream on YouTube! Use the link below or just search for "New Hempstead Presbyterian Church" **All are advised** that the front of the church from the lectern to the piano are visible on our livestream. To avoid being seen on the livestream, the pews and the driveway-side aisle are not visible.

**<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1uJu-RJ5343dvTGRE7Nt5A>**