

NATRONA HEIGHTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Richard Harbaugh

Order of Worship, Sunday, December 31, 2023, 10 AM

“A stir begins as soon as Christ is born. He has not spoken a word; he has not wrought a miracle; he has not proclaimed a single doctrine; but ‘when Jesus was born,’ at the very first, while as yet you hear nothing but infant cries, and can see nothing but infant weakness, still his influence upon the world is manifest. ‘When Jesus was born, there came wise men from the east,’ and so on. There is infinite power even in an infant Savior.” –Spurgeon

GATHERING TO WORSHIP THE RISEN CHRIST

THE PRELUDE – Musical Selections by Charlotte Rudolph

THE WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND MOMENT FOR MISSION

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let your praise of God sound to the heavens!

PEOPLE: WE SHOUT THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD’S MIGHTY LOVE!

Leader: Let all the stars, the sun, the moon sing praise to God!

PEOPLE: THE UNIVERSE THAT GOD CREATED SINGS ITS PRAISE!

Leader: Praise the Lord!

PEOPLE: HALLELUJAH! AMEN.

*PROCLAIMING PRAISE AND WORSHIP

**“The First Noel”
“In the Bleak Midwinter”**

*THE TIME OF CHRISTIAN GREETING

THE PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S CHURCH – Children ages 3 through 12 may go upstairs to the Sunday School room for Children’s Church.

DEDICATION

THE RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

(Please pass the friendship pads down the pew. We invite all to sign names and write down contact info. Please pass the book back to the middle aisle when you’re finished. Thanks!)

THE PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY – Musical Selections by Charlotte Rudolph

*THE DOXOLOGY

*THE OFFERING PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*THE HYMN OF PREPARATION

“Joy to the World!”

No. 125

THE WORD

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 2:1-12

THE MESSAGE

“Joy to the World the Lord Is Come”

–The Rev. Richard Harbaugh

SCATTERING TO SERVE OUR RISEN SAVIOR

*THE HYMN OF COMMITMENT

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

No. 138

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“Emmanuel”

No. 134

THE POSTLUDE – Musical Selections by Charlotte Rudolph

*Please stand if you are able

“Jesus of Nazareth is so potent a factor in the world of mind that, no sooner is he there in his utmost weakness, a now-born King, than he begins to reign. Before he mounts the throne, friends bring him presents, and his enemies compass his death.” –Spurgeon

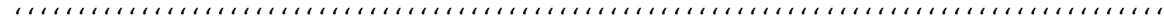
PARTICIPATING IN TODAY’S SERVICE:

-Pianist: Charlotte Rudolph

-Praise Band Leader: Kevin Rudolph

-Online Filming: Marcy Korb

-Sound & Production: Ed Heintz



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO Natrona Heights Presbyterian Church, and thank you for joining us as we worship on New Year's Eve.

THE BULLETIN COVER was created by Jesse Ankney, a member of youth group.

PLEASE NOTE: The Nursery is closed today, so our volunteers can attend worship with their families. Thank you!

YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS are held on Sunday evenings for those in 5th through 12th grades. If you have any questions, please contact Toni Brooks at 724-766-1950.

- 12/31 – No Youth Group—Happy New Year!
- 1/07 – Regular Meeting
- 1/12-15 – Youth Group Retreat
- 1/14 – No Youth Group

ALL DONATIONS FOR 2023 must be received by the office TODAY. Any donations received after today will be credited to your 2024 statement. Thank you for your understanding.

YOUTH GROUP FUNDRAISER - MARIANNA'S HOAGIES & PIZZAS: Orders and Money Due for Youth Group Fundraiser by January 7th. Toni will be in available in the narthex to collect payments after the service today... You again have an opportunity to bless two ministries in the church with one fundraiser. First the proceeds of your purchase will go to help our youth to be able to help pay for their portion of retreat and activity fees. And secondly you can purchase additional hoagies to donate to the Women's Conference *This is Us...Armed with Praise* that will be held on January 27th. We provide a soup and sandwich lunch and these will be our sandwiches. The cost for hoagies and pizzas are \$10 each. Orders and money are due 1/7/23. Pick up will be 1/24/23 10:00am-10:30am and 5pm-5:30pm. There is an order form in the narthex or you can email, call or text Toni at nhpcyg@yahoo.com or 724-766-1950 with your order and for Venmo or Zelle payment options.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

PLEASE FIND YOUR OFFERING ENVELOPES on the table in the narthex. If yours are not there or you do not currently receive envelopes but would like to, please contact the church office at 724-224-7338 or nhpcsecretary@aol.com. Thank you!

A DIVINE CHRISTMAS GHOST STORY’s third book has just been released. The first three books of the six titles in the holiday series can be ordered through the church office. These books, written by Rev. Cam Malcolm, are similar in genre to Charles Dickens’ *Christmas Carol*. Also, copies of Cam’s book “Mary Magdalene: New Testament Eve” can be ordered through the church office. All four books can be purchased for \$19.95 apiece.

JOIN US IN PRAISING OUR GREAT GOD! This year we are going to arm ourselves with the power of praise. Come expecting to experience the presence of God and the love of Christ that is palpable in the presence of your sisters in Christ at the *This Is Us* Women's Conference January 27th, 2024. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/this-is-usarmed-with-praise-registration-684794868887?aff=oddtcreator>



COMING UP: Sunday, January 7th – Hoagie Orders and Money Due
Wednesday, January 24th – Hoagie Pickup (10-10:30 AM & 5-5:30 PM)
Saturday, January 27th – Women’s Conference

CLERK OF SESSION: Deb Lehew – 724-664-1256

ELDERS: -Donna Crowe – 724-882-5003 -Kevin Gourley – 724-596-2169
-Doug Deemer – 412-335-0185 -Marcy Korb – 412-334-1173
-Chad Gourley – 412-443-0682 -Jack Miller – 724-272-4787

WEEKLY FINANCIAL BUDGET TO RECEIPTS:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NEEDED</u>	<u>RECEIPTS</u>
Dec. 17	\$ 3,486.59	\$ 1,232.80

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS: DECEMBER 31 – JANUARY 7

TODAY:

10:00AM – Worship Service

MONDAY:

6:30PM – Couples Connect

THURSDAY:

3:00PM – Middle School After-School Youth Group

5:15PM – Bible Bunch

7:00PM – Informal Service

NEXT SUNDAY, January 7TH:

Hoagie Orders and Money Due

9:00AM – Adult Sunday School

10:00AM – Worship Service

6:00PM – Youth Group Meeting

SCAN THE QR CODE to make a donation from your phone!

