

Welcome

to Norcross Presbyterian Church

Come as you are. You won't be a stranger long.

Celebration of Worship—March 22, 2020

GATHERING

Prelude

Call to Worship (*in unison*)

We gather online today, most of us. Many of us at 11:00, and some of us at a time more convenient. We know that no matter where we are, God's presence is with us. One of the ways we experience the presence of God is with interactions with others, especially as a community. So, while this feels different, we know that You are worshipped, dear God, through our words, our actions, and our thoughts. We beseech you, Sacred Being, to hear our words, and know our hearts as we worship you. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the *Digital Peace*

† Hymn #645 (*Glory To God Hymnal*)

Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above

- 1. 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.**

**2. What God's almighty power has made
God's gracious mercy keepeth;
by morning glow or evening shade
God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.
Within the kingdom of God's might,
lo! all is just and all is right:
To God all praise and glory.**

**3. 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.**

**4. Thus all my toilsome way along,
I sing aloud thy praises,
that all may hear the grateful song
my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart,
both soul and body take your part:
To God all praise and glory.**

A time for meditation

LITURGY OF THE WORD

† Prayer for Illumination

**Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in you light we
may see light. Send out your light and truth, great Lord, and let
them lead us. Amen**

Scripture Reading

1 John 4.18-21

There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear, because fear expects punishment. The person who is afraid has not been made perfect in love. We love because God first loved us. Those who say, “I love God” and hate their brothers or sisters are liars. After all, those who don’t love their brothers or sisters whom they have seen can hardly love God whom they have not seen! This commandment we have from him: Those who claim to love God ought to love their brother and sister also.

Sermon

by Rev. Dr. Matthew M. Fry

† Hymn #815 (*Glory To God Hymnal*)

Give to the Winds Thy Fears

- 1. Give to the winds thy fears;
hope and be undismayed.
God hears thy sighs and counts thy tears,
God shall lift up thy head.***

- 2. Through waves and clouds and storms,
God gently clears the way;
wait patiently; so shall this night
soon end in joyous day.***

- 3. Leave to God's sovereign sway
to choose and to command;
so shalt thou, wondering, own God's way,
how wise, how strong God's hand.***

**4. Let us in life, in death,
thy steadfast truth declare,
and publish with our final breath
thy love and guardian care.**

Prayers of the People (send in your prayer requests on Facebook Live)

Silent Prayer

Corporate Prayer

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.

Explanation of Congregational Meeting

(Meeting starts today and to be completed next Sunday)

SENDING

† Hymn #286 (*Glory To God Hymnal*)

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

**1. *Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Fill me with life anew,
That I may love what Thou dost love,
And do what Thou wouldst do.***

**2. *Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Until my heart is pure,
Until with Thee I will one will,
To do and to endure.***

**3. *Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Till I am wholly Thine,
Until this earthly part of me
Glows with Thy fire divine.***

**4. *Breathe on me, Breath of God,
So shall I never die,
But live with Thee the perfect life
Of Thine eternity.***

† Charge and Blessing

Postlude

This Week at NPC

Sunday, March 22, 2020—4th Sunday of Lent

11:00 A.M. **NPC Worship Service - online**

12:00-1 P.M. Kwang-Ya Bible Study, Covenant Room

1-2:30 P.M. Kwang-Ya Worship, Sanctuary

Monday, March 23, 2020

6:30 P.M. **Boy Scouts**

Tuesday, March 24, 2020

6:30 P.M. **CANCELLED - Community YOGA Class**

7:00 P.M. Kwang Ya Counseling Class

Wednesday, March 25, 2020

6:00 P.M. **CANCELLED - Wednesday Night Activities**

8:00 P.M. Kwang Ya Bible Study

Thursday, March 26, 2020

7:00 P.M. Kwang Ya English Class

Friday, March 27, 2020

8:30 P.M. Kwang Ya Prayer Meeting

Saturday, March 28, 2020

Announcements

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ONLINE THE WEEK OF MARCH 22 - On

Wednesday the 11th of March, your session met and voted to have a congregational meeting online the week of Sunday 22 March. The purpose of that meeting is to have the congregation review and potentially vote on two different contracts. The first contract that we hope to have ready by then will be the sale of our current church facility and property. The second contract we hope to have ready by then will be to purchase our historical downtown facility in an effort to move permanently back to our old home. This Sunday (the 22nd) I will talk for a little bit, showing some pictures of the historical facility. I am happy to share all the details we know as we know them, so long as you understand that this is a work in progress and that we are figuring out some of the details as we go. We are diligently working on getting all of our work done to approve this with Presbytery, as well as have plans for how to do ministry in a new place with different opportunities while becoming financially viable and sustainable. Up to this point, it has been clear that the path for this relocation continues to open up, and I feel clearly led to follow it. We will continue to follow the call and Spirit of God as we undertake this adventure.

NPC's Worship Service is exclusively online this Sunday! As we do our part to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus, we invite you to participate in Sunday worship with your NPC family online. We are still new at this, but together we can make it work.

There had been a congregational meeting scheduled for this Sunday. After consultation with the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, we have come up with the following procedures for having the necessary discussion and voting for the issues at hand.

Please follow these FOUR SIMPLE STEPS:

1. **PARTICIPATE IN THE ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE THIS SUNDAY.** On March 22 at 11:00am, go to the NPC facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/norcrosspres/>) on either your computer or smart phone and watch the live video stream of our worship service. Matt will conduct the service. Lenard will play the hymns and a couple of hardy souls will be there to lead in the singing. Matt will be giving detailed instructions on how we will be conducting our online congregational meeting. So please tune in if you can, or watch the saved video of the service later at your convenience. If you want to follow along, the order of worship with the words to the hymns and the scripture reading is also available online at <http://www.norcrosspresbyterian.org/weekly-bulletin1.html>
2. **JOIN THE ONLINE DISCUSSION FOR THE ISSUES TO BE VOTED ON BY THE CONGREGATION.** If you are an active member of Norcross Presbyterian Church, you are urged to participate in these VERY IMPORTANT DECISIONS facing our church. You can do this by joining the Norcross Presbyterian Church

Relocation Discussion. We are limiting access to this discussion group to active members only. You will receive an email this weekend inviting you to join the group. Simply follow the instructions in the email in order to join the facebook discussion group. Then you will be able to post questions and comments about the discussion topics. If you do not use Facebook, you are invited to bring your comments and questions before the congregation by calling Matt Fry or Jason Bernardo at the church office (770)448-7744. They will be happy to either address your concerns or post your questions/comments to the discussion for you.

3. **VOTE ON THE ISSUES BROUGHT BEFORE THE CONGREGATION.** This is the most important step. Go to <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdmrtdOhqYx1kINwWEBQQEzYrQhmnjyvDEVtQIYGvv7U7CpdQ/viewform>

There you will find a ballot that active members can use to vote on the motions put forth in the online congregational meeting. You can vote any time during the week, but voting will be concluded at noon on Friday, March 27, 2020. At that time we will count all the votes cast by eligible voters (active members) and the motions will be decided based on those votes.

4. **CONTINUE TO SEND YOUR OFFERINGS TO NPC.** Even though we are not meeting at the church for these few weeks, NPC continues to meet its financial obligations for fixed expenses and community outreach. We cannot do it without your continued support. Please continue to make your weekly or monthly contributions to NPC. You have several options.
 - A. Simply mail a check to the church payable to Norcross Presbyterian Church
 - B. Instruct your bank's existing online bill pay service to send a check to Norcross Presbyterian Church, 3324 Medlock Bridge Road, Norcross GA 30092
 - C. Make an online donation using a credit card by visiting: <https://checkout.square.site/pay/641afe791fcd4f93a5ed135f4eb6b53b>
Please note that Square (the online payment service) charges a small fee for their services which will be deducted by them from your online donation.