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December 20, 2015

## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT NEW HOPE**

*We are grateful you have joined us today and invite you to participate fully in the worship, education, and mission life of our church.*

### **During Today's Worship**

**Large-print bulletins and hearing enhancement equipment are available** for ease of worship. An usher will be happy to assist you. At the close of worship, please return the unit to the sound booth at the rear of the sanctuary.

**Children are especially welcome in our worship services**, because faith is formed by the practices that shape it. Red worship bags for young children (non-readers) and blue bags for older children (readers) may be found on the wall outside the sanctuary. An usher will help you locate one. If you would like a worship bag with your child's name on it, you may fill out a request form on the Information Table or call the church office (936.2200). Parents who prefer child care will find the nursery on the first floor (Room 204).

**Worship Feast**, an experience to help elementary-age children develop awareness of God's presence and openness to mystery through a variety of prayer practices, is available during the 11:00 service. Children who wish to participate will be dismissed after the Gospel Reading. They will exit by the side (north) door and be escorted to the lower-level.

**Preparing for worship...**Please silence cell phones upon entering the sanctuary. The need may arise for you to exit the service early. If so, please refrain from exiting during prayers, reading of scripture and choral anthems. Natural and appropriate exit points are during congregational hymns or sung responses. Your courtesy is appreciated. Also, as a kindness to fellow worshippers, please do not take flash photos during the worship service.

**Ushering for today's worship:** (8:45) Jerry & Rhonda Dyer, Margo VanMill (11:00) Kim & Linda Carr, Mel Fairchild, Jom Pettit, Bill & Ruth Reilly.

**Flowers:** To the glory of God and in honor of Lori Seidler's birthday, given by Joe Seidler.

**Liturgist:** Elder Linda Dencker

**Sound Booth:** (8:45) Joe Petrowsky (11:00) Bill Irvine

**Last Sunday's Attendance:** 186

### **If You Are New to New Hope**

**Information about our church** can be found at the Information Table in the foyer.

### **New Hope Cares**

**For pastoral care** and to notify the church of illness, hospitalization, or death, please contact the church office at 636/936.2200 (lbrown@nhpres.org). To arrange for home bound Communion, contact Pastor James at cqjames@nhpres.org or 936.2200 x.11.

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

December 20, 2015

8:45 & 11:00 a.m.

**THE GATHERING**

*As the people gather, worshipers greet one another, welcoming newcomers.  
Please silence electronic devices.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

+ GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

HANDBELL PRELUDE *Still, Still, Still*

Stan Rogers

Prayer of Preparation

*The start of the Prelude signals the time to enter a period of quiet reflection.*

*This prayer is offered as an aid to help worshipers center the heart and mind for worship.*

O God of Elizabeth and Mary,  
you visited your servants with news of the world's redemption  
in the coming of the Savior.  
Make our hearts leap with joy,  
and fill our mouths with songs of praise,  
that we may announce glad tidings of peace,  
and welcome the Christ in our midst. Amen.

+ \*INTROIT 88 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* v.1

VENI EMMANUEL

***O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.***

+ LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE<sup>†</sup>

(8:45) Keith, Karen, & Ellyn Yarde

Let us magnify the Lord tougher!

(11:00) Kathy Kuehnle,

Let us rejoice in God our Savior.

Bob Dencker, Lyndsay Lamey

**For a child will come from Bethlehem  
to redeem the people of God.**

+ \*HYMN 105

*People, Look East*

BESANÇON

\*THE CONFESSION

**Eternal God, we confess**

**that we resist your holy realm.**

**You look with favor on the poor**

**while we treat the lowly with disdain.**

**You scatter the plans of the proud  
while we aspire to power and privilege.  
Forgive us, God of grace.  
Teach us what you desire,  
so that our hearts may leap with joy  
at the coming of our Savior;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*Worshippers may reflect on this prayer and offer personal confession in silence.*

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

...In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
**Thanks be to God.**

THE PEACE

*Greet those around you with: "The peace of Christ be with you," responding, "And also with you."*

RESPONSE OF PRAISE 581

*Glory Be to the Father*

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.***

***THE WORD***

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Micah 5: 2-5a

EPISTLE READING

Hebrews 10: 5-10

\*THE GOSPEL

THE ACCLAMATION 100 *My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout*

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

GOSPEL READING

Luke 1: 39-45

THE ALLELUIA 586

ALLELUIA 7

***Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.***

SERMON

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

*✠ In silent prayer and reflection you may renew the covenant into which you are baptized. If you would like to learn more about this sacrament, Pastor James would welcome the opportunity to speak with you about it.*

PRAYERS OF JOY & CONCERN

***THE EUCHARIST***

OFFERING OF OURSELVES & OUR GIFTS

(11:00) OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Songs of Hope and Joy*

Jos. Martin

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The prayer continues. After the words, "... who forever sing to the glory of your name:" the congregation sings,*

***...Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

*The prayer continues. After the words, "Great is the mystery of faith," the congregation proclaims,*

***...Christ has died;***

***Christ is risen;***

***Christ will come again.***

*The prayer continues and ends with 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.***

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*☞Coming to the Table—Ushers will invite worshipers to the Lord's Table by rows. All the baptized may come to the Table at the center and return by the outside aisles.*

*☞Receiving the elements—You may take the bread, dip it into the chalice and partake of both together (intinction), or you may partake of the bread first, and then proceed to partake of the juice separately from the tray of individual cups. Gluten-free bread is available with Pastor James from the plate in his left hand.*

☞ *After the presider and communion servers have received the elements, and before the concluding prayer, the whole assembly is invited to share a moment of silent contemplation before God.*

PRAYER AFTER THE MEAL

\*HYMN 110

***THE SENDING***  
*Love Has Come*

BRING A TORCH

\*BLESSING & CHARGE

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout*, refrain  
***My heart shall sing of the day you bring.  
Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,  
and the world is about to turn.***

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\*Please rise in body or spirit.

+ Those arriving may be seated.



## PRAYERS

### *of Joy*

the birth of Amelia Ann Yount, great-granddaughter of Allen & Carolyn Rudolph (Dec. 10)  
Marissa Malta's safe flight and arrival in Morocco  
the birth of Edith Genevieve Carron, granddaughter of Mark Phillips (Nov. 18)  
the engagement of Kaitlyn Eidal, daughter of Bill & Martha Lamey, to Jake Woods

### *for the Grieving*

Scott & Leigh Lindahl Truett on the death of his step-father, Robert Osterbur (Dec. 5)  
Kathy & Herb Gibbs and Eric on the death of her uncle, Carl Yauch (Nov. 23)  
Richard & Sharon Martin on the death of his sister-in-law, Judy Martin (Nov. 22)  
Ben & Kathy Kuehnle on the death of his sister, Shiela Kuehnle (Nov. 20)  
Barbara & Greg Newman and family on the death of her aunt, Shirley Buxton (Nov. 15)  
Steve Gerke on the death of his wife, Sally (Oct. 28)

### *for Healing & Wholeness*

Bob Mudrovic, recovery from stroke  
Ruth Irvine, thyroid testing  
Deb Mackin, thumb surgery  
Paul Hacker, knee replacement  
Bob Koehler, heart-bypass surgery (brother of Elaine Barbee and Ruth Connor)  
Tom Morgan, (brother of Vicky Koonley)  
Gerry Van Mill, cancer treatment  
Steve Marsh, pneumonia (father of Kelly Hantack)  
Susan Phillips, recovering from surgery  
Richard Amos, cancer treatment (co-worker of Chris Meinert)  
Ron Edwards, cancer treatment

### *for the World & its People*

Victims of terror attack in Paris, Colorado, and California  
Syrian refugees

† *In the ancient world, various peoples lit fires to mark the turning of the light into winter's season and to pray for the return of the light. The church has Christianized that practice in the lighting of the Advent wreath. To us, these candles are signs of the growing light of Christ who is coming again in all fullness into the darkness of our world. Until the dawning of that great day, we watch and wait in the Holy Spirit for Christ's coming into the darkness of our world, lighting candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, and remembering the promises of God with prayer.*



The Rev. Dr. Christopher Q. James, *Pastor*  
Jan Parker, *Interim Director of Music Ministries*  
Mike Greene, *Pianist*  
Laura Meinert, *Office Manager*  
Monica Schrautemeier, *Child Care Provider*  
Regina Jones, *Child Care Provider*  
Marion Hamilton, *Child Care Provider*  
Vickie Moore, *Sexton*

***Session***

*Fellowship*  
Craig Graber (2016)  
Margo Van Mill (2017)

*Formation for Discipleship*  
Deb Garten (2015)  
Shelley Geiger (2016)  
Jennifer Everly (2017)

*Ministry, Mission & Evangelism*  
Jim Salter (2016)  
Jim Cox (2017)

*Worship, Music & the Arts*  
Michael Ray (2015)  
Linda Dencker (2016)  
Lynne Snyder (2017)

*Administration & Support*  
Kathy Gibbs (2015)  
Bill Pires (2016)  
Clark Hurrell (2017)

***Diaconate***

2015  
Jerry Dyer  
Jackie Etling  
Bill Judd  
Kristen Moore  
Jim Phillips

2016  
Earl Bostic  
Ruth Connor  
Marion Hamilton  
Stan Whiteley  
Jan Parker

2017  
Laura Eikmann  
Steve Gerke  
Donna Huffman  
Kay McCarthy  
Kurt Romkey

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