

*Jesus Cures
the Man Born Blind*

JESUS MAFA art comes from the Christian community in Cameroon, Africa, as a way to teach the Gospel to local populations. Scripture readings were selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by the community members. Photographs of their interpretations were made, and these were then transcribed to paintings.

March 26, 2017

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 Carr, Mel Fairchild, Jim Pettit, Bill & Ruth Reilly.

Liturgist: Elder Alyssa Murray

Sound Booth: (8:45) Cary Lippert (11:00) Jim Pettit

Last Sunday's Attendance: 170

If You Are New to New Hope

Information about our church can be found at the Outreach & Information Center 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 in Lent

March 26, 2017

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

PRELUDE

What Wondrous Love Is This

arr. John Carter

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.*

Discerner of hearts,
you look beneath our outward appearance
and see your image in each of us.
Banish in us the blindness
that prevents us from recognizing truth,
so we may see the world through your eyes
and with the compassion of Jesus Christ who redeems us. Amen.

Lent was created by the Church with Easter and baptism in mind. So, Lent is not about the small stuff, but aims to place us at the center of it all: the crucified and risen Christ and our identity given in baptism. Lent, then, is a yearly invitation to go deeper into the heart of Christianity.

*INTROIT

What Wondrous Love Is This
(11:00) Handbells

WONDROUS LOVE

*OPENING PRAYER

...one God, now and forever.
Amen.

+ *HYMN 412

God, Reveal Your Presence

ARNSBERG

*THE CONFESSION

**God of great mercy, we confess
that we have sinned against you.
You provide our daily bread;
still we hunger for other things.
You give your word to guide us;
still we surrender to temptation.
Forgive us, God of grace.
Create a clean heart within us,**

**teach us your holy way,
and restore the joy of salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

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



CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Lord, Have Mercy* Kyrie Eleison

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

...In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God. Amen.

THE PEACE

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

(11:00) ANTHEM

I Was There

Ruth Irvine, Kathy Kuehnle, Jared Spears, Lynne Snyder

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

1 Samuel 16: 1-13

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 5: 8-14

*THE GOSPEL

THE ACCLAMATION

*Cantor: Jesus says, I am the light of the world;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.*

John 8:12

GOSPEL READING

John 9: 1-41

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

During Lent we "fast" from singing the Alleluia, but we still acclaim the Gospel that brings us God's promised steadfast love.

The Gospel readings from John during this season have been proclaimed for over 1500 years to prepare the church for its baptisms at Easter.

THE EUCHARIST

OFFERING OF OURSELVES & OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC

(8:45) Offertory on MAITLAND
(11:00) *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

Edward Broughton
Lowell Mason
arr. Ronald Kauffman

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

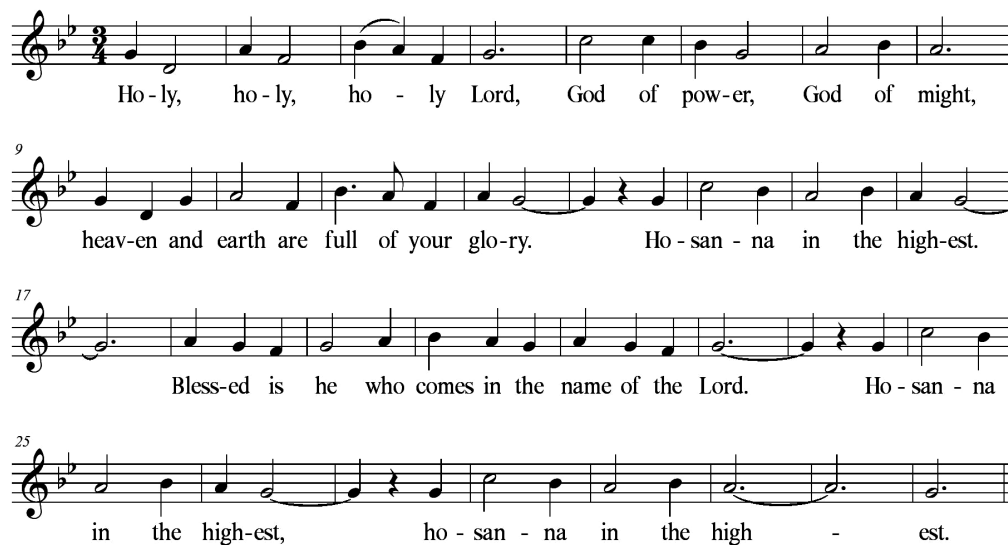
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

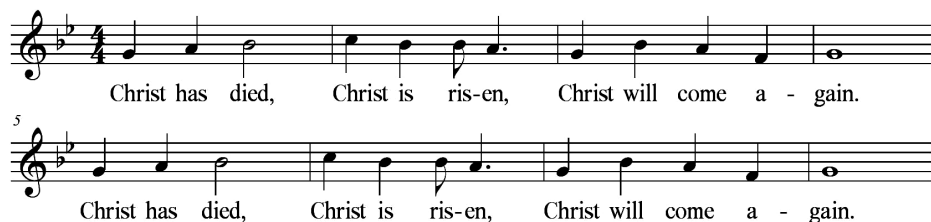
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might,
9 heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est.
17 Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
25 in the high-est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

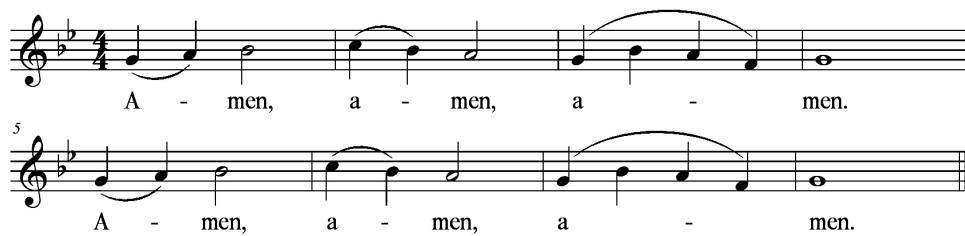
The prayer continues. After the words, "Let us proclaim the mystery of faith," the congregation sings,



Christ has died, Christ is ris-en, Christ will come a - gain.
5 Christ has died, Christ is ris-en, Christ will come a - gain.

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.**



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

THE SENDING

*HYMN 377

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

HOUSTON

"The gifts of God for the people of God," a part of the invitation to the Lord's Table, comes from the Latin, *Sancta sanctis*, meaning, literally, "The holy for the holy" or "Holy things for holy people," i.e. "Set-apart things for set-apart people."

*BLESSING & CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

Partita on Forty Days and Forty Nights

Craig Penfield

*Please rise in body or spirit.

+ Those arriving may be seated.



MUSIC NOTES

Kathleen Thomerson (b.1934) is the author and composer of today's hymn *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*. Thomerson studied at the University of Texas, Syracuse University, and the Flemish Royal Conservatory in Antwerp. She has a connection to the St. Louis area.

Thomerson directed music at the University United Methodist Church in University City and served on the organ faculties at the St. Louis Conservatory of Music and at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville. The tune name HOUSTON was chosen because the hymn was written while the author was visiting Houston, Texas in the summer of 1966.

(—C. Michael Hawn, umcdiscipleship.org. Hawn is Distinguished Professor of Church Music at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University).

WORSHIP RESOURCES

JESUS MAFA. "Jesus Cures the Man Born Blind," from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48383> (retrieved February 22, 2017).

Prayer of Preparation, as found in *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2002), 76.

Prayer of Confession, as found in as found in *Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching & the Arts*, Vol. 50.1, 54.

"Kyrie Eleison", anonymous.

"Mass of Creation-Memorial Acclamation"; "Mass of Creation-Sanctus"; "Mass of Creation-Amen": Words are traditional liturgical texts in the public domain. Music: Marty Haugen, ©1984 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-726483.

Side-bar, page 2, *Worship Guidebook: For Lent and The Three Days* (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2009), 38.

Side-bar, page 3, *Worship Guidebook: For Lent and The Three Days* (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2009), 48, 50.

PRAYERS

of Joy

the birth of Eleanor Grace White, granddaughter of Jim & Sue White (Mar. 21)

the birth of Flynn Dempsey Pettit, grandson of Jim & Connie Pettit (Mar. 10)

the birth of Henry Robert Gonterman, son of Lindsay & Trevor Gonterman (Mar. 6)

for Healing & Wholeness

Bill Lamey

Debby Schroeder (aunt of Kelly Hantack)

Bob Trigg (father of Laurie Meinert)

Ron Steiner (cousin of Connie Pettit)

Mike Soo (friend of Jim Pettit)

Tom Wilkerson (friend of Laurie Meinert)

Alyssa Murray

Henry, Lindsay & Trevor Gonterman

John Morgan (friend of Carl & Carolyn Doerr)

Anna Mae Richardson

Diane James (friend of Joe & Susan Petrowsky)

Shari Mahon

Jim Phillips

Rose Mary Meyer (mother of Kathy Salter)

Donna Stromowsky (sister of Carolyn Rudolph)

Tammy Morales & family (friend of Bill & Martha Lamey)

Sally Usai

Anna White (granddaughter of Jim & Sue White)

Dean Dalton (father of Barb Knes and grandfather of Stacey Bordes)

Lee Cortelyou (brother of Susan Petrowsky)

Tom Clayton

Erin Murphy (daughter-in-law of Patrick & Robin Murphy)

Skyler Bazzell (grandchild of Donna Huffman's friend)

Rachael Harlan (friend of Donna Huffman)

David Routzahn (friend of Donna Huffman)

Zoey Mendenhall (granddaughter of Kathy Gibb's cousin)

Cassandra Barber (granddaughter of Allen & Carolyn Rudolph)

Dot Mandrell (friend of Ruth Reilly)

Jim McLaughlin (cousin of Jim Salter)

Pat Adelman (friend of Jim Pettit)

Marie Himmelbach (friend of Liz Resche)

Sheri Clayton

Kim Jackson (friend of Laura Eikmann)

Edd Mackin

Win Hill (grandson-in-law of Sue Stiegemeier)

Taylor Sutton (friend of Elizabeth Eikmann)

W.T. Bryant (nephew of Sue White)

Melissa Ayers (friend of Martha Lamey)

Jacob Daniel (great-nephew of Jane Cox)

Bob Mudrovic

for the Grieving

Allen & Carolyn Rudolph on the death of her sister,

Kathy & Jim Salter on the death of her mother, Rose Mary Meyer (Mar. 14)

The family of Vi Boyd on her death (Feb. 21)

Cindy Martin on the death of her friend, Ron Hopkins (Feb. 15)

Jeff & Ruth Connor and family on the death of his brother-in-law, Don Buchholz (Feb. 12)

for those preparing to present children for baptism and/or affirm their faith at Easter

Nicole & Nick Faubert Marion Hamilton

Julie Gaffney Alyssa Murray

Tara & Jared Larrew Greg Marshall

Rachel Steele

Chris Truett

Monica & Bobby Schrautemeier

for the World and its People

victims of the terrorist attack in London

victims of the tornado in Perryville

victims of the wildfires in CO, TX, KS, & OK

victims of the flooding in California

victims of the tornados in Louisiana

the people of Aleppo & Syrian refugees

FAQs about Worship

What is Lent?

Lent is a season of the church year. It is a period of 40 days (not including Sundays) that serves as a time of preparation for Easter. Lent, as is a liturgical season, is more restrained and somber than during other seasons of the year, yet the Sundays in Lent witness not only the Lord's passion and death, but also his victory over sin and death. Even so, service music containing "alleluia" is traditionally not sung during these weeks, which explains why the Doxology and the Gloria Patri ("Glory be to the Father") are omitted from the service.

The Lenten season is a journey with Jesus along the path to Jerusalem and the cross. It is a time to repent, which literally means "to turn around," to turn again to God with renewed trust and gratitude for the steadfast love and faithfulness of God. As such, Lent serves as a time of preparing for baptism and the renewal of the baptismal covenant in the journey toward Easter. The color of the season is purple, the color of royalty—and also the color of the robe put on Jesus when he was mocked and beaten (John 19:2). Thus, purple has become the color of sacrifice and penitence.

Why do we "bury" the alleluias for the season of Lent?

What we do with alleluias only makes sense in context with the larger meaning of Lent. So let's start there. Lent arrives each year as the earth prepares to awaken from its winter slumber. So, too, does the church prepare itself for renewal in the springtime of Christ's resurrection. Lent is about the church recovering its center in the dying and rising of Christ as well as preparing candidates being called by God to the waters of baptism. In short, we all learn again how deep is our hunger for God. Marking this spiritual journey are faith practices: communion with God, restraint from excess, and generous sharing. We know these practices as prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. When we bury alleluias (removing them from our worship) for the season of Lent, we begin a "fast" from using a word which is pungent with the fragrance of Easter. Like seed planted in the soil, we put away our alleluias until that time (at the Great Vigil) when their return to the liturgy trumpets the glory of the resurrection. So, on Transfiguration Sunday, we sing an entire feast of alleluias and, then, with reverence and joy, place them in a "coffin" for 40 days.

HOLY WEEK AT NEW HOPE

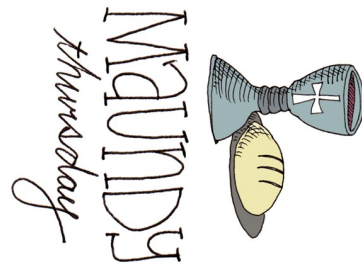
April 9

8:45 a.m. Service of Word & Sacrament
 11:00 Service of Word & Sacrament
 12:00 p.m. Easter Egg Hunt



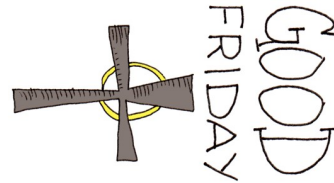
April 13

7:00 p.m. Service of Word & Sacrament



April 14

7:00 p.m. Service of the Word



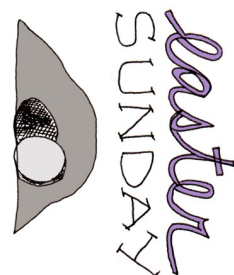
April 15

7:50 p.m. Great Vigil of Easter
 Services of Light, Readings,
 Baptism & Eucharist



April 16

8:45 & 11:00 a.m. Service of Word & Sacrament





*Striving to welcome and include all,
worship God,
grow in Christian faith,
serve others,
and be God's love in the world.*

The Rev. Dr. Christopher Q. James, *Pastor*
Dr. Gay Holmes Spears, *Director of Music Ministries*
Laura Meinert, *Office Manager*

Session

2017
Jim Cox
Jennifer Everly
Clark Hurrell
Lynne Snyder
Margo Van Mill

2018
Bryan Eikmann
Kathy Gibbs, Clerk of Session
Cindy Martin
Del Phillips
Rick Waldo

2019
Jerry Dyer
Kirk Garten
Bill Lamey
Alyssa Murray
Sue White

Diaconate

2017
Laura Eikmann
Donna Huffman
Kay McCarthy
Kurt Romkey
Stan Whiteley

2018
Mark Besselman
Bill Irvine, Moderator
Kelley Hurrell
Martha Lamey
Chris Truett

2019
Sharon Barnes
Jennifer Bommarito
Robert Dencker
Carolyn Doerr
Linda Judd

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