

new hope
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)



December 22, 2024

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT NEW HOPE

Our worship stems from the Presbyterian/Reformed branch of the Christian faith, and you'll find much of what you need to participate in this bulletin. If you're unfamiliar with these traditions, you may simply let the prayers of the community carry you forward. There is no wrong way to come to God in prayer. We're glad you're here.

During Today's Worship

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 found in the Outreach & Information Center in the narthex or call the church office (936.2200). Parents who prefer child care will find the nursery (infant—Pre-K) in Room 204 (main level).

Worship Feast, an alternative Christian formation experience for elementary-age children is available during the service. Children who wish to participate may be dismissed after the Gospel Reading. They will exit by the side (north) door and be escorted across the hallway.

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.

Large-print bulletins are available for ease of worship. An usher will be happy to assist you.

The offering...Your financial contributions to New Hope may be placed in one of the two offering stands located at the entry to the main sanctuary doors.

The Eucharist (the Lord's Supper, Holy Communion) is open to all the baptized. The Lord's Supper and Baptism are inseparable. If you feel called by the Holy Spirit to meet Christ in Communion, we believe that you are also being called to Baptism. We will not turn anyone away from the Lord's Table, but we do invite you to speak to the pastor or a member of the Session about Baptism as soon as possible.

Restrooms are located on the south side of the building, across the hall from the kitchen. When you exit the worship space, turn left and they are down the hall on the right.

Liturgist: Sylvia Bane Malta

Tech team: Jim Pettit & Julie Nowakowski

If You Are New to New Hope

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

Wifi network: NHPCGuest

Wifi password: Reformed

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 (tjohnson@nhpres.org). To arrange for home-bound Communion, contact Pastor James at cqjames@nhpres.org or 936.2200 x.11.

New Hope broadcasts our worship livestream to our website. The video and audio of the service are recorded and may be replayed. Your participation in our worship constitutes your consent for you and/or your child(ren) to have your image and/or voice potentially recorded and replayed.

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2024

10:15 a.m.

THE GATHERING

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONGS OF THE SEASON Andrew Langasek, piano

+ GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Ave Maria* Franz Schubert, arr. Mark Hayes

☞ This prayer is offered 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.

*OPENING HYMN 88 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, v. 1 VENI EMMANUEL

*LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE John & Kristen Moore, Ben & Mackenzie

O Emmanuel,
our Sovereign and lawgiver,
desire of the nations and Savior of all:
Come and save us, O Lord our God.

Come, Lord Jesus.

God of grace,
ever faithful to your promises,
the earth rejoices in hope of our Savior's coming
and looks forward with longing
to his return at the end of time.
Prepare our hearts to receive him when he comes,
for he is Lord forever and ever.

Amen.

*HYMN 88 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, v. 1 VENI EMMANUEL

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

THE PEACE

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

Gloria

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, Sing! Glo-ry to God! _____

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth! _____

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Micah 5:2-5a

EPISTLE READING

Hebrews 10:5-10

*THE GOSPEL

THE ACCLAMATION

1st, Choir; 2nd, All

Glo - ry to you, O Word of God, Lord Je - sus Christ!

GOSPEL READING

Luke 1:39-55

SERMON

☞ A moment for silence and reflection.

*HYMN 100

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

...God of our salvation,
hear our prayer.

THE EUCHARIST

OFFERING OF OURSELVES & OUR GIFTS

☞ *Financial contributions to the mission and ministry of New Hope may be placed through the slot of the offering stand located at the entry to the sanctuary, or securely online via the QR code on page 10.*

Song of Mary

Faye Lopez

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.

...With saints, with angels, and with the whole creation,
we join the ancient and eternal hymn:



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might, heav-en and earth are



full of your glo - ry! Ho-san - na in the high - est! Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord!___ Ho-san - na in the high - est!_____

...Praise to you, Lord Jesus:



Dy - ing you de - stroyed our death, ris - ing you re - stored our life.



...all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,
now and forever.

Amen.

As Jesus teaches us, let us pray to the God who gives us birth:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

☞ Worshipers may come to the Lord's Table by rows, approaching at the center and returning by the outside aisles.

☞ Please cup your hands to receive the bread. Gluten-free bread is available at the plate in the center.

Gesu Bambino

Pietro A. Yon, arr. Lloyd Larson

PRAYER AFTER THE MEAL

THE SENDING

Love Has Come


*HYMN 110

BRING A TORCH

*BLESSING & CHARGE

*CHORAL RESPONSE *O Come to My Heart, Lord Jesus*

MARGARET



O come to my heart, Lord Je - sus, there is room in my heart for you. O



come to my heart, Lord Je - sus, there is room in my heart for you.

*All who are able may stand.

+ Those arriving may be seated.



THE SEASON OF ADVENT

O ANTIPHONS

The season of Advent is characterized by waiting in expectant hope for the coming of the Savior at Christmas. That waiting and expectancy is revealed in the O Antiphons, a litany for the season of Advent with a recurring cry of “Come, Lord Jesus.” The O Antiphons are so named because each of them begins with the interjection “O.” Of uncertain origin, they were in use by the eighth century, and were highly regarded during the Middle Ages. Making use of Old Testament images as descriptors of Christ, the O Antiphons were sung before and after the chanting of the *Magnificat* (Mary’s song, Luke 1:46-55) in evening prayer during the last week of Advent, from December 17th through 23rd. The first letters of the key Latin words—Sapientia (Wisdom, Proverbs 8:22), Adonai (Lord, Exodus 20:2), Radix Jesse (Root of Jesse, Isaiah 11:1, 10), Clavis David (Key of David, Isaiah 22:22), Oriens (Sunrise, Zechariah 6:12), Rex Gentium (King of Nations, Haggai 2:8), and Emmanuel (God with us, Isaiah 7:14)—when read backward, spell “Ero cras,” “I shall be there tomorrow,” that is, on December 24th.

Meaning “God is with us,” the name I/Emmanuel appears once in the Old Testament in Isaiah 7:14 (Hebrew spelling, Immanuel) and once in the New Testament in Matthew 1:23 (Greek spelling, Emmanuel).

The paintings depicting each of the O Antiphons were created by New Hope member, Bob Dencker.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

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 to symbolize hope, peace, joy, and love, and remembering the promises of God with prayer.

WORSHIP RESOURCES

Prayer of Preparation, *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2002), 34.

"Ave Maria." Music: Franz Schubert, arr. Mark Hayes. ©2013 Hope Publishing Co.

Prayer of Confession. *Connections: Worship Companion* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2021), 12.

"Kyrie, Gloria, Gospel Acclamation, Sanctus, and Memorial Acclamation from Mass of Light." Texts: trad. liturgical. Music: David Haas. ©1987 GIA Publications, Inc.

"My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout." Text: Rory Cooney. Music: Irish melody, arr. Rory Cooney. Text and music arr. ©1990 GIA Publications, Inc.

"Song of Mary." Text: Patricia Mock and Faye Lopez, based on Luke 1:46-55. Music: Faye Lopez, incorporating "Vocalise" by Sergei Rachmaninoff. ©2014 Lorenz Publishing Co.

"Gesù Bambino." Music: Pietro A. Yon, arr. Lloyd Larson. ©2007 Hope Publishing Co.

"Love Has Come." Text: Ken Bible. ©1996 LNWhymns. com. Music: French melody, arr. Eric T. Myers. Music arr. ©2012 Eric T. Myers.

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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

*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*
Trudi Johnson, *Office Manager*

Session

2024
Deb Garten
Marion Hamilton
Deb Mackin, Clerk of Session
Jim Phillips
Patrick Tilk

2025
Lindsay Gonterman
Tracy Grundy
Tara Larrew
Greg Marshall

2026
Jeff Connor
Lynn Harmon
Holly Martinez
Stan Whiteley

Diaconate

2024
Jackie Etling
Donna Huffman
Bill Irvine
Cindy Martin

2025
John Cusumano, Moderator
Bob Dencker
Jerry Dyer
Martha Lamey

2026
Bryan Eikmann
Shari Mahon
Joe Seidler
Amie Tilk

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