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June 1, 2025

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 can also 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 worshipers, 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: Deacon Bob Davenport

Tech team: Jim Pettit & Scott Truett

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

Ascension of the Lord

June 1, 2025

10:15 a.m.

THE GATHERING

As the people gather, worshipers greet one another, welcoming newcomers.

Please silence electronic devices.

CALL TO WORSHIP

+ GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

arr. Becki Slagle Mayo

✠ This prayer is offered to help worshipers center the heart and mind for worship.

Precious Love,
your ascended Son promised the gift of holy power.
Send your Spirit of revelation and wisdom,
that in the blessed freedom of hope,
we may witness to the grace of forgiveness
and sing songs of joy with the peoples of earth
to the One who makes us one body. Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

Lk. 24:34

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

The Lord Jesus Christ has risen to reign;

Eph. 1:20-21

his name is above all names.

...in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.

+ *HYMN 263

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

CORONATION

*THE CONFESSION

Almighty God,

**you have raised Jesus from death to life,
and crowned him Lord of all.**

**We confess that we have not bowed before him,
or acknowledged his rule in our lives.**

**We have gone along with the ways of the world,
and failed to give him glory. ...cont.**

Forgive us, and raise us from sin,
that we may be your faithful people,
obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who rules the world
and is head of the church, his body.

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

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

THE PEACE

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

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 1:1-11

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

*THE GOSPEL

THE ACCLAMATION

1x Choir; 2x All

David Haas

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

6
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

12
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL READING

Luke 24:44-53

SERMON

✠ A moment for silence and reflection.

*HYMN 260

Alleluia, Sing to Jesus

HYFRYDOL

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

...Lord, in your mercy.
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 8.

One Bread, One Body

John B. Foley, S.J.

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.

...we sing your praise and join the everlasting hymn:

**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.

...Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

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

Amen.

Let us pray for God's rule on earth, as Jesus taught us.

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

☞ Ushers will invite worshippers to the Lord's Table by rows. Please approach the Table at the center and return by the outside aisles.

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

Sweet Hour of Prayer

arr. Larry Shackley

PRAYER AFTER THE MEAL

...through Christ, who lives and reigns forever.
Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 543

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

GREEN TYLER

*BLESSING & CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

*All who are able may stand.

+ Those arriving may be seated.



ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Forty days after celebrating the Resurrection of the Lord, near the conclusion of the season of Easter, we commemorate the ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ into heaven. On this day in particular, we give thanks for Christ's sovereign rule over all creation, as well as his priestly intercession for us at the throne of God's mercy. We proclaim with joy that Jesus is already Lord of heaven and earth and head of the Church, and watch with longing for the day when he will come again in the glory of God's new creation.

The theological affirmation of Christ's ascension to reign and promised return is more important than the date on which the festival is observed. Prior to the end of the fourth century, when it was fixed on the fortieth day of Easter to follow the chronology of Acts, Jesus' ascension may have been celebrated earlier in the Easter season or in connection with Pentecost. Some congregations today celebrate the Ascension of the Lord on the Seventh Sunday of Easter.

-from the *Book of Common Worship* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2018), 337.

WORSHIP RESOURCES

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing." Music: MADRID, arr. Becki Slagle Mayo. ©2006 Hope Publishing Co.

Prayer of Preparation. *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2002), 124.

Prayer of Confession, *Book of Common Worship* (Louisville, Westminster John Knox Press, 2018), 339.

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow." Text: Brian Wren. ©1989 Hope Publishing Co. Music harm. Hal H. Hopson: ©1998 Hope Publishing Co.

"Alleluia." Text: trad. liturgical. Music: Mass for the Life of the World, David Haas. ©1993 GIA Publications, Inc.

"One Bread, One Body." Text and music: John B. Foley, S.J. This arr: Lloyd Larson. ©1978 and this arr. ©2011 John B. Foley, S.J.

"Sweet Hour of Prayer." Music: William Bradbury, arr. Larry Shackley. ©2018 The Lorenz Corp.

"God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me." Text and music; Richard Bruxvoort Colligan. ©2004 This Here Music, Worldmaking.net.

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See our latest News & Opportunities e-newsletter by scanning here.





*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

2025
Lindsay Gonterman
Tracy Grundy
Tara Larrew
Greg Marshall

2026
Jeff Connor
Lynn Harmon
Holly Martinez
Stan Whiteley

2027
Rick Getz
Bill Lamey
Deb Mackin, Clerk of Session
Colleen Shear

Diaconate

2025
John Cusumano
Bob Dencker
Jerry Dyer
Martha Lamey

2026
Bryan Eikmann
Shari Mahon
Joe Seidler, Moderator
Amie Tilk

2027
Ruth Connor
Bob Davenport
Jane Johnston
Robin Murphy

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