# \*\*Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ "My House shall be a house of prayer for All People."

(Isaiah 56:7)

Founded: 10/31/1983. Now in our Thirty-eighth year of Ministry.

MISSION: Love God, Love your neighbor,
make disciples of every person everywhere.

(Matthew 22:37-39; Matthew 28:19)

"This is the time we need to shine."

"We are standing in Faith and Expecting Victory."

Rev. Br. Shawn F. Benedict, O.S.B, Appointed Pastor

Veronica Floyd, Moderator

A very special welcome to our visitors.
You are as welcome here as Jesus Christ Himself.
Scripture exhorts us: "Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God" Romans 15:7 (NABRE – 2011)

Guests are invited to participate in all parts of the worship service as they feel comfortable. We are building a wonderful Christ-centered Community here, and we invite you to share in our joy! After the Worship Service, please join us for a time of refreshments and sharing.

November 7, 2021 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Church Year B
Ray Of Hope Church teaches the same Christian faith of ancient
ecumenical consensus. St. Vincent of Lerins, a fifth-century monk and
theologian, described it as

"what has been believed always, everywhere, and by all."

#### **Scripture Readings for this worship event:**

First Reading: 1 Kings 17:10-16 NRSV 1st Test. Pg. 324

Responsorial Psalm 146:7-10 inside this bulletin.

Second Reading: Hebrews 9:24-28 NRSV 2nd Test. Pg. 224

Gospel: Mark 12:38-44 NRSV 2nd Testament page 49

\*We use the term 1st for the "Old" Testament and 2nd for the "New" Testament. The NRSV Bible 1st Testament numbers are found in the front portion of the Bible and the 2nd Testament numbers are found in the later portion. If this confuses you just ask someone around you to assist you. Thank you.

# CALL TO WORSHIP

## Visit and greet one another for a social time before the Bell is rung.

**Bells 1<sup>st</sup> ring.** Once the bell rings please find your seat and spend the next few minutes in silent prayer. Please refrain from conversations as these disturb those trying to pray.

The St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi bell at Ray Of Hope Church, 380 W. 1<sup>st</sup> St. in Elmira, NY was a gift from Michael Quinnell of Syracuse, NY in September 2005. The bell rings out 39 joyful rings, in contrast to tolling the bell in single rings. The 39 joyful rings are in honor of the 39 lashes Jesus endured that we now celebrate in victory and gratitude for our salvation. "The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed." (Isaiah 53:5) We always ring the bell before worship and Bible Enrichment sessions. Listen carefully and see if you can hear all 39 rings.

\*\* We will welcome the Facebook Live guests before the second bells are rung.\*\*

Bells 2<sup>nd</sup> ring to announce the start of the worship event.

## WE GATHER TO PRAISE THE LORD AND TO GIVE THANKS

+ Pastoral Welcome	
Leader - 1: Hello. My name is	and I am in the City
of in the State of	We welcome you to Ray Of Hope
Church Of Our Lord Jesus Chris	st, the faith community founded in
Central New York, and now all a	cross the world through the Internet,
where everyone is welcome. W	e extend a special welcome to our
visitors and guests. We invite yo	ou to participate in some or all of the
parts of this worship event as yo	ou feel comfortable. We are glad you
have chosen to spend this time	with us. You are as welcome here as
Christ Jesus himself. In Roman	s Chapter 15:7 the church is
commanded:	-

ALL: "Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God." (NABRE)

**Leader -1:** Please take a moment now to welcome one another, and introduce yourself to those around you for the glory of God. \*\*During COVID we may simply wave across the room and into the camera for the Internet.

**Pastor:** We begin in the name of God, Christ Our Saviour, and the Holy Spirit.

**ALL: Amen** 

**Pastor:** Grace, peace, and fellowship be with you from God, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. (1 Corinthians 1:3, 2 Corinthians 13:14, 2 Peter 1:2-4)

ALL: And also with you.

Pastor: (\*\*introduction of the theme of the day\*)



**Pastor:** We begin now to worship God in the beauty of holiness, in spirit, and in truth. (Psalm 96:9; John 4:23-24)

ALL: Together we give God thanks and praise.

**FIRST SONG:** 

### + The Candle Of Hope

**Leader -1:** Please be seated. At this time we light our Resurrection Candle Of Hope. This is a testimony to our anticipation of the resurrection of all the dead, and the transformation of the living faithful, when Christ returns.

ALL: Jesus said: "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." (John 11:25, 26)

**Leader -1:** Our faith community is looking forward and waiting "for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ."(Titus2:13 NRSV) We named this candle the Candle of Hope in honor of the "Blessed Hope," the return of Christ who will raise all to new life. (John 5:25)

<b>Leader -2:</b> Hello. My name is _	and I am in the City of
in the State of	It is our custom to read panel entries
from the Names Project Aids Mer	morial Quilt to help us remember
those who died of AIDS, especial	ly since many who were very sick and
dying were rejected by the church needed spiritual guidance. We re families.	nes, were very much alone, and emember them here and pray for their

Leader -3: Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am in the City of \_\_\_\_ in the State of \_\_\_\_. (Names are read at this time.)

**Leader -2:** We also remember in our hearts the names of our family and friends who have passed. May the candle's flame remind us of the joy and happiness known in life, the comfort offered us by the Holy Spirit in our loss, and the "Blessed Hope" we have in the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

#### **ALL: Amen**

(NAMES Project website where you can visit over 48,000 panels, over 100,000 names on the Quilt virtually:

https://www.aidsmemorial.org/interactive-aids-quilt)

#### **SECOND SONG:**



+ Confession and Forgiveness of our sins.

**Leader -2:** Please be seated. (wait) At this time we prepare our hearts to be renewed by receiving God in Word and Sacrament by confessing our sins to Christ in silent prayer. (silent prayer)

#### **Leader -2:** We pray together:

ALL: I confess to Almighty God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned through my own fault in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do. I declare in the midst of this assembly of believers that I am truly sorry for having offended God in any way. I ask you, my brothers and sisters, all the angels and the saints to pray for me to the Lord our God.

**Leader - 2:** Almighty and Eternal God, you sent your Only Begotten Son, our Lord and Saviour to be the offering for the sin of world. All humanity should give you unending thanks and praise for giving us Salvation. Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

**Leader - 3:** Christ Jesus, you personally are with us every minute of our lives. You continue to form and grow your church. All people should be pounding down the doors to get in and hear your Word and receive you in the Sacraments. Christ, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

**Leader - 4:** Holy Spirit, you are with us, and live within us. Help us to use the spiritual gifts you give us to show forth God's living presence to those who need it most. Help us to encourage people who do not understand your love for all of us. Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

**Pastor:** May Almighty God have mercy on all of us, forgive all our sins, and keep us in everlasting life.

ALL: Amen.

**Pastor:** Please rise as you are able to give thanks and praise to God for the forgiveness of our sins by praying the Gloria.

### Spoken:

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. You are the One God, Sovereign of the universe,

Only Holy God, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of God:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord of all, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,

with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of the Holy Unity of God. Amen.

#### + Opening Prayer



We read to recall, reflect on, and rejoice in the action of God in life.

### + First Reading

Reader: Hello. My name is	and I am in the City of
in the State of	. The first reading is in the Book of
First Kings, chapter 17, verses 10-1	6. The reading is on page 324 in

the second testament, in the back of the NRSV Bible. Here begins the reading:

<sup>10</sup> So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink." 11 As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." 12 But she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die." 13 Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. <sup>14</sup> For thus says the LORD the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth." 15 She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. <sup>16</sup> The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

**Reader:** This is the Word of the Lord!

**ALL: Thanks be to God!** 

Reader: Hello.	My name is	and I am in the City of
in the State of _	The	Psalm today is number 146, verses 7-10 with a
responsorial ve	rse. The resp	oonse today is praise the Lord, my soul.

## R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

The LORD keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets captives free.

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

The LORD gives sight to the blind.
The LORD raises up those who were bowed down; the LORD loves the just.
The LORD protects strangers.
R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

The fatherless and the widow he sustains, but the way of the wicked he thwarts.
The LORD shall reign forever; your God, O Zion, through all generations. Alleluia. R. **Praise the Lord, my soul!** 

### + Second Reading

Reader: Hello. My name is	and I am in the City of
in the State of	The second reading is in the
Book of Hebrews chapter 9, v	verses 24-28.
The reading is on page 224 i	n the second testament, in the back of the
NRSV Bible. Here begins t	he reading:

<sup>24</sup> For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. <sup>25</sup> Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; <sup>26</sup> for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. <sup>27</sup> And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, <sup>28</sup> so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

**Judgement** GR 2920 krisis – subjectively or objectively, for or against; by extension a tribunal; by implication justice (specifically divine law): - accusation, condemnation, damnation, judgement.

### + The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

**Reader:** We sing an acclamation before and one after the reading of the Gospel. Please rise as you are able for the Gospel Acclamation.

#### **Gospel Acclamation**



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**Reader:** The Gospel reading is on page 49 in the back of the NRSV Bible. The reading is in the Gospel of Mark, chapter 12, verses 38-44.

Reader: Truly present among us, the Lord is with you.

ALL: And also with you.

**Reader:** A reading of the Holy Gospel according to Mark.

ALL: Glory to you, O Lord. May the Word of God be

in our (+) minds that we will understand it, on our (+) lips that we will speak it, and in our (+) hearts that we will love it.

#### Jesus Denounces the Scribes

<sup>38</sup> As he taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, <sup>39</sup> and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! <sup>40</sup> They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

### The Widow's Offering

<sup>41</sup> He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup> A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. <sup>43</sup> Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. <sup>44</sup> For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord!

ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**Gospel Acclamation** 

## 11-7-21 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Church Year B page: 11 Forever, We Are Yours!

To my friends in Christ at Ray Of Hope Church for the 1996 New Year,
The Year of The Holy Spirit!

Slower Spirit S

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### **+ Sermon** -----NOTES---

\*\*\* Millennial Series by Dr. John F. Walvoord https://walvoord.com/series/328

The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. Isaiah 9:7 This is all God's fault, God's design, God's doing from start to end.

Br. Benedict at the time of Renewal of Vows, June 20, 2021: "Looking forward, I like to say the first twenty-five years were spent on **stabilization**, **survival**, and **sustainability**. The second twenty-five years will be spent on growth to help Ray Of Hope **thrive**, **train**, and **transplant** this Congregation to new leadership. The founders and foundresses successfully transferred the leadership to a new generation, us, and now we must do the same. I plan to fade into the Congregation and continue providing support to the new leadership. My goal is to leave the Congregation with new leadership, in good standing, and thriving."

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_



Salvation is God's purview.

Romans 9:14-16 <sup>14</sup> What then are we to say? Is there injustice on God's part? By no means! <sup>15</sup> For he says to Moses,

11-7-21 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Church Year B page: 12
"I will have mercy on whom I have mercy,
and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."
(Exodus 33:19)

<sup>16</sup> So it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God who shows mercy.

Salvation belongs to the Lord. (Ps. 3:8)

Only in God will my sould be at rest. From God alone comes my salvation. (Ps 62:1)

They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." (Rev. 7:10)

After this I heard a sound like the roar of a great multitude in heavn, shouting: "Halleluiha! salvation and glory and power belong to our God." (Rev. 19:1)

All souls are mine says God (Ezek 18:4)

All the animals and the birds are mine says God (Psalm 50:10, 11)

In all circumstances, give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thes 5:18)

For to this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that <u>He might be Lord</u> of both the dead and the living. (Romans 14:9) (NJKV)

How can you help free a person from this fear of death?

Jesus said: "And you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." John 8.32

## "My House shall be a house of prayer for All People."

(Isaiah 56:7)

Isaiah 25:7, 8 The Lord will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; 8 he will swallow up death forever.

#### with

Hebrews 2:14 and 15 <sup>14</sup> Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup> and release those

who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

with

1 Corinthians 15:26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

Romans 14:8,9 If we live, it is for the Lord that we live, and if we die, it is for the Lord that we die. So whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. For Christ died and rose to life in order to be the Lord of the living and of the dead. Good News Translation.

The verses at the end of the bulletin every Sunday.

Today's first reading 1 Kings 17:13-16

<sup>13</sup> Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. <sup>14</sup> For thus says the LORD the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth." <sup>15</sup> She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. <sup>16</sup> The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

This is NOT a verse that means you "give your last" finances to "take care" of your pastor and the Lord will cause you to prosper!!! This is NOT a verse that should be used in any way to infer the poor should give their utility bill money to the special offering being taken for "the man of God" or anything close to it. Why do I bring up such terrible ideas as this? It is because some "ministries" use this and today's Gospel reading of the last few cents the widow has to be a doctrine that if the people give away the money they need to survive on to the pastor and to the church, they will become rich and prosperous.

I am not going to rant on about this, though I could with many examples and may sad stories of people being evicted or spending their utility money, or spending their grocery money "in the name of the Lord." THIS is using the LORD'S NAME IN VAIN and that is about as kind as I can manage to be when thinking about this.

FOCUS: the second reading, Hebrews 9

<sup>24</sup> For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.

Christ is now serving us as our High Priest, appearing before God on our behalf.

<sup>25</sup> Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; <sup>26</sup> for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself.

Last week we spoke about the idea that the only purpose for Jesus to have given us his real presence in Holy Communion was so the church can continually (literally around the clock) represent not represent, but present again and again the suffering of Christ on the Cross to God through the hands of your local Priest as you all look on in adoration. Ray Of Hope Church does not teach this dogma.

Jesus died once for all. Lisa sent this link along for all of us to see 100 verses from Scripture that teach this Doctrine. https://www.openbible.info/topics/jesus\_died\_once\_for\_all

Today's reading makes it clear that Christ suffered once for all.

<sup>27</sup> And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, <sup>28</sup> so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

At His first coming Jesus dealt with sin. At his second coming and this one is in the air, he will come to "save those who are eagerly waiting for him" by calling us to Himself in the air.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

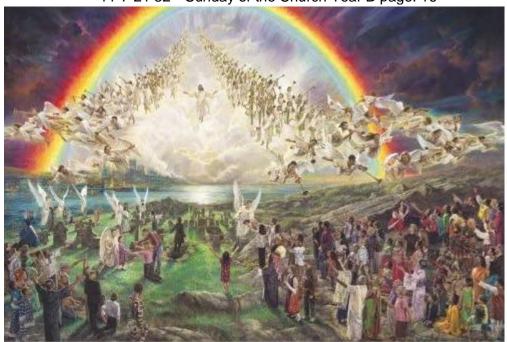
This will immediately be followed by the start of the seven year Tribulation Period. The Church will be saved out of it according to Revelation 3:10 "Because you have kept my word about paitient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth."

We, therefore, are waiting for the Blessed Hope, "the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ." (Titus 2:13)

Verses on the Blessed Hope:

https://www.openbible.info/topics/rapture

SEE HERE THE PAINTING THE BLESSED HOPE BY NATHAN GREENE <a href="http://www.nathangreenestudio.com/kingdom-collection">http://www.nathangreenestudio.com/kingdom-collection</a>



on Amazon <a href="https://www.amazon.com/LordsArt-Blessed-Hope-Nathan-Greene/dp/B06X6KH3LS">https://www.amazon.com/LordsArt-Blessed-Hope-Nathan-Greene/dp/B06X6KH3LS</a>

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### + (optional) Profession Of Faith

Creed #1: The Apostles' Creed

I believe in the One Eternal, Loving, Life-Giving, Forgiving, Good, and Gracious God, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus the Christ, the only Begotten Son of God, our Lord and Saviour.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, 11-7-21 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Church Year B page: 17 was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day, God raised Jesus from the dead.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of God.

Christ will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, Who is equal with God and the Son.

I believe in the one, holy, Christian Church, the Body of Jesus Christ that is universal/catholic, and apostolic.

I believe in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen

(Revised 10-31-20 Br. Benedict)

## + The Prayers Of The People: Shared Prayer

and I am in the City
Having heard the Word Of God we
Christ, through the powerful ministry of the
elcome to pray out loud for themselves, for
e and thanksgiving, or whatever is on your
yers brief so as many people as possible
time. We invite you to speak your prayers
nay hear your prayer and join you in spirit
with
rite prayers from the various rooms in the

**Leader – 4:** (when all prayers have been heard) Lord Jesus, we lift our spoken and unspoken prayers and we ask you in intercede for us as our High Priest at the right hand of God.

**ALL: Amen** 



## + Offertory And Preparation of our at-home Holy Communion Altar/tables.

Leader - 5: Hello. My name is	and I am in the City
of in the State of At this	time we show our gratitude to God
and our dedication to the Church of Jes	us Christ, which is His Body present
in the world, by offering our financial gift	ts and support for this ministry.
Those in the chapel may use the offerin	g plate, while those worshiping with
us on the internet may go to our website	e and use the PayPal link or you may
mail a check to Ray Of Hope Church, 38	80 W. First St. Elmira NY 14901.
Please give what you can, but never giv	e your last.

At the same time, we will prepare our Holy Communion Altars and Tables at home and in the chapel. Bring to your table at home some wine, or grape juice, a small piece of bread, a little bit of water in a side cup, and a side napkin. The ideal situation is you are celebrating with us during the live webcast. We do understand you may be viewing this video at another time. We do not encourage private practice and reception of Communion as your normal, weekly worship routine. Communion is a gift for the worship community to celebrate together, an action of the local church. However, if this is an extraordinary situation, and you believe the Holy Spirit is calling you to celebrate at a time other than the live webcast, then yield to the direction of the Holy Spirit. Hopefully, you will be able to join us in a live virtual worship event soon. ('This practice policy was changed on Gaudete Sunday, December 13, 2020.')

Each of you in the chapel will find at your seat a small plate, communion wafer, plastic chalice of grape juice and a napkin. Please take the plate and wafer from the baggie and shake the chalice gently in case there has been settling of the contents. Please do not remove the top from the chalice until the Celebrant announces that Communion is served. Once you have

received Communion, place the plastic chalice on top of the plate and someone will it collect while the Table of the Lord is being cleared.

(\* The offering is received. The Altar and Tables are set. A song may be sung or silent prayer is maintained. \*)

**SONG: I Really Love The Lord** 

**Leader -2**: (\*Pray a prayer over the offering giving thanks and praise.\*) Please rise as you are able to conclude the Service Of The Word Of God with a doxology.

ALL: Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly hosts. Praise God the Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.



**Pastor:** Lord God, we ask you to receive our worship this day. We pray that you will be pleased with our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving we offer you with humble and contrite hearts.

ALL: May the Lord accept our lives as a sacrifice for the praise and glory of God's name, for our good and the good of all God's people. Amen

**Pastor:** Please lift your bread at this time as I pray this prayer. (\*Another person may be invited to say this prayer out loud.\*)

Pastor: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. It is through your goodness that we have this bread, which the Earth has given us and human hands have lovingly made. Now, through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit, this bread will become for us the Bread From Heaven (Exodus 16:2, Psalm 78:24, John 6:32, 41,50,58), the Bread of the Angels (Psalm 78:25), the Bread of God (John 6:33), the Living Bread (John 6:51), the Bread Of Life (John 6:35, 48, 58), the Bread of the New Covenant (John 6:32,

49, 50,51, 58), the Sacrament of the Eucharist, the very Body Of Christ (John 6:52-56, 1Corinthians 10:16).

#### ALL: Blessed be God forever.

Pastor: Please set down your bread.

Now pour your wine or grape juice into your cup, if you have not done so already. Then add a small amount of water to the cup. With this water, we remember Jesus is human, and with this fruit of the vine we remember He is divine forever.

Now, please lift your cup with me at this time as I pray this prayer.(\*Another person may be invited to say this prayer out loud.\*)

**Pastor:** Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. It is through your goodness that we have this fruit of the vine, which the Earth has given us and human hands have lovingly made. Now, through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit, this fruit of the vine will become for us the Cup of Our Salvation (Psalm 116:13), the Cup of Everlasting Life (John 6:54-57), the Cup of the New Covenant (Matthew 26:28, Luke 22:20, 1 Corinthians 11:25), the very Blood Of Christ (John 6:54-56; 1Corinthians 10:16).

ALL: Blessed be God forever.

Pastor: Please set down your cup.

**Pastor:** We offer ourselves, with our whole heart, our whole soul, and our whole mind unto you Almighty God. Accomplish your desires for us in our lives. Mold us to be more like you every day. Receive us along with these gifts of bread and fruit of the vine to be made holy, and through them make us into a perfect offering to you, One and Only Holy God. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

Pastor: Truly present and risen among us, the Lord is with you!

ALL: And also with you!

Pastor: As His Body, we lift up our hearts!

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord!

Pastor: As His Church, we give thanks to the Lord, our God!

ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

\*\*\*\*\* the people may be invited to offer prayers of thanks and praise.

\*\*\*\* the Pastor continues with a Eucharistic Prayer.

It is right that we should give you thanks and praise always and everywhere through our Lord and Saviour, Christ Jesus. He is the image of you the invisible God, He is the first-born over all creation. In Him, all things consist and have their being. Christ has called us into this place, into his very Body, the Church. Christ continues to build His Church as He said He would, and be with us until the end of this Age.

We are grateful to celebrate Christ's Lordship over our lives and our deaths. In Christ, we have experienced the power of your love, Almighty God. Through that love, we are now able to join our voices with all the Beloved Community from every time and every place who have already passed through the valley of the shadow of death and are forever secure in your eternal presence. Accept our song as we join in their unending hymns of praise. We sing holy to You our God, holy to You our Christ, and holy to you the One Holy Spirit of God as we move and have our being in your Divine Presence.



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## + We Invoke the Blessing Of The Holy Spirit

**Pastor:** Here at Ray Of Hope Church, everyone prays together to ask the Holy Spirit to give to us the exact same gifts that Jesus gave when He instituted Holy Communion for His Church. At this time I invite you to extend your hands forward over the bread and fruit of the vine, or extend your arms out with palms turned up in prayer and say the following Invocation of the Holy Spirit with me.

ALL: O God, in the Name of Jesus, we, your faithful people, ask your Only One and Holy Spirit to bless and separate this bread and fruit of the vine for Christ's purpose. Through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit, give to us the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in precisely the exact same manner that He gave them, and

commissioned us to do often in His Holy Name. You alone, O Loving, True God, authenticate for us that this is the Messiah, Christ, New Covenant Meal that Jesus instituted for our Spiritual and physical well-being. We ask this in the Name of Jesus. Amen

#### + The Words Of The Institution Of The Holy Eucharist

**Pastor:** Please lower your hands now. Please lift at this time the Eucharistic Body Of Christ, the Bread of Salvation and together we will say aloud our Lord and Saviour's words of institution when he gave us the Blessed Sacrament.

ALL: Before He was given up to death, a death He freely accepted, He took the bread and gave you thanks. He broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

Take this, all of you, and eat it: This is my body which will

be given up for you. Do this in memory of me.

(\*\* pause for adoration\*\*) (\*\*you may bow or genuflect if you choose to\*\*)

**Pastor:** Please set down the Bread of Life. Please lift now, the cup of salvation. Now, for the cup we say aloud:

ALL: When the supper was ended, He took the cup. Again He gave you thanks and praise, gave the cup to His disciples, and said:

Take this, all of you, and drink from it: This is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.

(\*\* pause for adoration\*\*) (\*\*you may bow or genuflect if you choose to\*\*)

**Pastor:** Please set down the Cup of Salvation.

#### + A Proclamation Of Our Faith

a) Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

## d) Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free. You are the savior of the world.

## + Prayers of Dedication and/or Intercession for other Ministries.

Pastor (or other person designated): While we are gathered here together we ask your blessing on all religious leaders of every religion known to humanity. We pray that religious leaders everywhere would recognize and act upon their obligation to guide all people to you, Almighty God. We also pray that religious leaders will guide people to work for freedom, equality, and respect for everyone. We ask your blessing, Almighty God upon every community of seekers, and those with no faith or formal Religion.

We also pray for all people who have been driven from faith because of the sins of those who have misused religion to hurt others. We pray for those who have been cast aside, excommunicated, and wrongly not included. May all people everywhere come to the knowledge that they too are the living light of God. We eagerly await your promised renewal of all creation when you shall be all in all. (1 Corinthians 15:28)

### + Final Doxology

**Pastor:** Please elevate the Holy Eucharist as a gesture of praise, thanksgiving, honor, gratitude, and the offering of the entire Church, the Body Of Christ, to God.

**Pastor:** Together we pray:

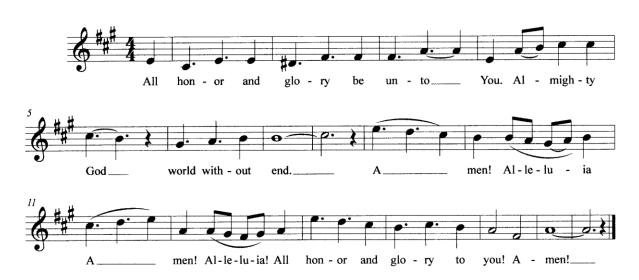
ALL: It is through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, that all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, forever and ever.

## Doxology/Amen!

To my friends in Christ at Ray Of Hope Church

"Music For Worship"

Music by: Gaude! Liturgical Arts
October 31, 1993



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# The Reception of Holy Communion

## + The Lord's Prayer

**Pastor:** Having heard the Word of God and having remembered the sacrifice of the cross, we invite everyone to pray together the prayer of Jesus.

ALL: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

## For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

### + Sign Of Peace

**Pastor:** The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ is with you.

ALL: And also with you.

**Veronica Floyd:** Please take a moment now to share a sign of Peace with those around you. \*\*During COVID we may simply wave across the room and into the camera for the Internet.

#### + The Lamb Of God

**Pastor:** Please break the bread as we pray together:

ALL: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

**Pastor:** You may set the bread down and pray silently as I pray this prayer.

#### + Priestly Prayer For All People

**Pastor:** Lord Jesus Christ, trusting in your love and your mercy we now partake of your body and blood as you commanded. We pray that our participation does not bring us condemnation as St. Paul warned, but brings us sanctification and healing in mind, body, soul, and spirit. We pray that all God's people will one day be reassembled without the loss of anyone in your kingdom of love and glory. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**ALL: AMEN** 

#### + Invitation to the Lord's Table

**Pastor:** At this time I ask you to lift with me the Blessed Sacrament.

**Pastor:** Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. (John 1:29,36) Behold Jesus truly present in the Bread of Life, and the Cup of Salvation. Behold Him who said whoever eats of this Bread and drinks of this Cup though they die they shall live forever. (John 6:50, 51, 54) Blessed are those who come to His Table. All are welcome.

ALL: Lord, you make me worthy to receive you, and by your Word I am healed. (This prayer is credited to Fr. James Callan, Spiritus Christi of Rochester, NY.)

Pastor: Please set down the Bread and Cup at this time.

**Pastor:** I assure you, by the promises of Christ, that anyone who receives this Holy Communion today will surely live forever and be raised by Christ to new life.

PRIVATE PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION. Some people are watching from a location where they do not have actual Holy Communion Bread and Wine with them. We offer the following prayer for them based upon a prayer from the Episcopal National Cathedral Prayer book for a Spiritual reception of Holy Communion. This prayer assures all the benefits and blessings of a physical reception.

Oh, My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and I welcome you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and the life to come. Amen.

Spiritual Communion Prayer from the Episcopal National Cathedral Prayer Book.

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

Pastor Benedict: Communion is now served. Everyone is invited to receive Holy Communion at Ray Of Hope Church. It is not required that you be a member of this church or any other church to receive Holy Communion. This is the Table of Jesus Christ, He invites you to come and receive Him in this Eucharistic banquet.

When you come forward, the person serving you will say; "The Body and the Blood of Jesus Christ for you." Respond with "Amen" or

"Alleluia" or some other acclamation of appreciation or faith. Then take a piece of the bread and dip it into the cup and serve yourself. If you are here with family or friends you may come to Holy Communion together and serve each other. Please wait after you receive Holy Communion because the person serving you will pray with you before you return to your seat.

Serving Holy Communion today will be: \_\_\_\_\_\_ We sing during Holy Communion and maintain our worship. We begin. The Table of Christ is served.

#### SONG:

## A silent prayer one might pray during Holy Communion:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, by the will of God and the work of the Holy Spirit your death brought life to the world. By your holy body and blood free us from all our sins and from every evil. Keep us faithful to your teaching, and never let us be parted from you. Amen.



Pastor: The Lord is with you! ALL: And also with you!

Pastor: (a prayer is said) .... In the Name of God, the Christ, and the Holy

Spirit.

**ALL: Amen** 

ALL: Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

(Romans 15:13)

Pastor: We go forth in peace and love to serve the Lord ...

ALL: ... on our journey into renewal, fresh beginnings, new possibilities, and a renewed embrace of our potential! Thanks be to God.

#### SONG:

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GIFTS AND DONATIONS**

General Offering for the week of October 24, 2021 \$1,303.00. Attendance 5. We give God thanks and praise for all the gifts given.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **OUR CALENDAR**

November 9 Tuesday @ 6:30 p.m. Bible Enrichment. Study on Abraham, Part 4 Michael leading.

November 21 Feast Of The Kingship of Christ (3 weeks away)

November 28 Advent WK I

Hanukkah Starts at sundown Day 1

November 29 Hanukkah Day 2

November 30 Hanukkah Day 3

December 1 Hanukkah Day 4

December 2 Hanukkah Day 5

December 3 Hanukkah Day 6

December 4 Hanukkah Day 7

November 30 Tuesday @ 2:00 p.m. Council workshop on 2021 budget. Open to the public.

December 3, Friday, 2:00 p.m. Council for the November Meeting.

December 5 Advent WK II

December 5 Hanukkah Day 8

December 6 Hanukkah ends at sundown.

December 12 Advent WK III Gaudete Sunday Pride in the Winter

December 17 Friday @ 2:00 p.m. Council Meeting

December 19 Advent WK IV

December 26 NATIVITY

December 27 Kwanzaa day 1&2 8:45 PM service online

December 28 Kwanzaa day 3 8:45 PM service online

December 29 Kwanzaa day 48:45 PM service online

December 30 Kwanzaa day 5&6 8:45 PM service online

December 31 no service

January 1 Kwanzaa day 7 8:45 PM service online

January 2 Holy Name

January 9 Epiphany— Visitation of the Magi

January 16 The Baptism Of The Lord—30 yrs. old

January 23 new Memorial of Saint Marianne Cope of Syracuse, NY

 $\mathbf{38}^{\text{th}}$  Annual Meeting of the Congregation and burning of the mortgage.

## ===========Who can receive the Holy Spirit============= Everyone has access to the Holy Spirit, the gift of God to us.

Below is a rendering of John chapter 16, verse 7 by the translators of the Amplified Bible that I find particularly enlightening. This verse gives many of the attributes of the Holy Spirit, in English, that are all packed and hidden in the original Greek Word parakletos. Each of the capitalized words in the

verse below tells us how the Holy Spirit is ready to help us. All we have to do is ask with a short prayer like this: "Oh God, give me the awareness to know you are with me in all these ways through the Holy Spirit, Amen."

Here is the verse in the Amplified Bible
Jesus taught, saying: "But I tell you the truth, it is to your
advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper
(Comforter, Advocate, Intercessor-Counselor, Strengthener,
Standby) will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him (the Holy
Spirit) to you [to be in close fellowship with you]." John 16:7

Did you realize the Holy Spirit is with you to bring you all those actions of God? If we understand the Real Presence of God is with us in Christ through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit, we will experience more confidence, love of ourselves and our neighbors, and be able to feel better about our lived experience. You can have all this and more. Start with that simple prayer above.

Signed: Pastor Benedict, 3-6-21. Read this on our website. Right Click Here.

## WHO SHOULD RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION, THE

## EUCHARIST, AT RAY OF HOPE CHURCH?

Everyone is invited to receive Holy Communion, also known as The Eucharist, The Lord's Table, or The Blessed Sacrament at Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc.

It is not required that you be a member of this church or any other church, to receive Holy Communion at / or with Ray Of Hope Church.

This Holy Communion is the Table of Jesus Christ, who is really present among us. Jesus invites you to receive Him in this Eucharistic banquet. If this is your first time receiving The

Blessed Sacrament, let us know before you receive or right after, so we might pray a special prayer of thanksgiving with you.

Unfortunately, through the centuries many institutional churches have established rules, teachings, and practices that would exclude people from Holy Communion. There has been an almost endless list of reasons to exclude people from the Blessed Sacrament. Yet, together, during the worship service, we recite the very words of Jesus, the Words of Institution, "This is my body. This is my blood," and we rehear Christ present with us saying: "Take this, all of you and eat; Take this all of you and drink" of this gift.

I have thought about this extensively and have decided to take these words "Take this, all of you.." as a command to the church to give, and bring, the Eucharistic Gift to everyone who will receive. This approach also requires us to teach people about this gift. I have stated in other places, it is uniquely and deliberately the work of Christ in His Church to offer the necessary education, guidance, and practices that help people live a life centered and purposed on finding and sharing the Will of God. The Lord's Table is central in that life.

The Eucharist belongs to the Church. The Blessed Sacrament is Christ in us, through us, and with us; made known in the breaking of the Bread of Life and drinking of the Cup of Salvation. We are to take this gift to the whole world.

We begin by inviting those who are on the fringe of society, those who have been pushed aside, those who are poor, who are not accepted, who are sick, who need God's help in special ways. We welcome and bring the Eucharist to everyone who has been told they cannot receive it by other Denominations. In conclusion, to all persons who have ever been told "no you cannot" go to Communion in any other church, hear us, "yes you can" at Ray Of Hope. All are welcome. Or as we like to say as one of our mottos, when we quote Fr. Bartholomew J. O'Brien; "You are as welcome here as Christ Himself."

Come to the Table of the Lord. There is a place set for you too. (Excerpted from the Pastoral Report given at the Annual Meeting 34 on January 28, 2018 by Pastor Br. Shawn F. Benedict, updated 3-6-21)

Visit our page on the Sacraments. Right Click Here.

See this in a PDF format from our website and share it with others or download it to your computer / device. Right Click Here.



The following information, published by the Secular Coalition for America, is included by me, personally, as part of my response to the Ray Of Hope Church Statement of Purpose. Ray Of Hope has not endorsed the Secular Coalition For America in any way, officially or implied. I am including this information here to assist people who may want to take action now to encourage their members of the Senate of the United States to know the facts and identify the false information being put forth in the hearings that are happening now on the Equality Act. SIGNED: Rev. Br. Shawn F. Benedict, Pastor, 3-20-21 7:00 p.m.



Dear Friend,

Last month the House passed the Equality Act (H.R. 5). For those unaware, this important legislation

would amend existing civil rights laws, such as the *Civil Rights Act of 1964*, to include sexual orientation, and gender identity as protected characteristics under law. The bill also expands federal non-discrimination protections regarding discrimination based on race, color, national origin, **religion**, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity in public settings, and protects against sex-based discrimination in government services and federally-funded programs.

This week, the Senate held its first ever hearing on the <u>Equality Act</u> and as expected, the debate was heated. It seems opponents of the bill (Senate Republicans) are promoting <u>several misconceptions</u> about its purpose and scope which include:

- "The Equality Act would destroy religious freedom in this country."
  - NOT TRUE. Freedom of religion is already protected by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Nothing in the Equality Act would change that. The bill simply extends those rights that most vulnerable groups are already afforded to those who have been denied them, such as the LGBTQ community. In fact, the bill actually protects freedom of religion by preventing the imposing of one's religion upon another.
- "The Equality Act will make athletics unfair for females."
  - NOT TRUE. Schools across the nation already have policies in place to ensure a level playing field for all students, and they are working. Additionally, except for a very small percentage, most students who participate in high school sports do not continue on with their athletic endeavours after high school. The possibility that perhaps one or two transgender students in an entire student body would ruin that opportunity for another is almost nonexistent. Title IX is extremely important in regards to girls athletics, and the bottom line is that nothing in the Equality Act changes that. Instead, we should be calling for increased funding for girls athletics.
- "The Equality Act\_will allow men to harass women in public restrooms."
  - NOT TRUE. We already have laws in place to prevent such acts, and the Equality Act does nothing to change that. Additionally, 21 states have had similar nondiscrimination laws on the books for decades now and they have worked, as there have been no increases in public safety incidents in bathrooms since they were codified.

11-7-21 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Church Year B page: 34



Tell the Senate to Support the Equality Act - Secular Coalition for America

It is important that we dispel these <u>untrue myths</u> about this legislation, which seeks only to provide the same protections that most of us already are afforded to those who are not. We must always push back against these false narratives whenever they are presented. Only by doing so will we be able to do away with the myths and focus on the <u>facts of the issue</u>, which is equal treatment under the law for everyone, regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual identity, or sexual orientation.

If you would like to contact your Senators in Washington to tell them that you would appreciate their support of the *Equality Act*, you can do so by clicking the <u>link</u> provided below. We are closer than we have ever been before, and now is the time to voice your support!

#### Please click here to tell your Senators in Washington to support the Equality Act!

To be a part of our team, and celebrate with us when we secure the passage of the Equality Act in the Senate, please click the "<u>I want to help</u>" button below. Every dollar goes to representing you on Capitol Hill, and strengthening the wall of separation between religion and government. With *your* help, we can make even greater progress on the issues we care about!

I want to help!

Your advocate on the Hill,

Casey

C.

Brinck

Director of Policy & Government Affairs

Secular Coalition for America



## Ray Of Hope Church Weekly Schedule

<u>Elmira Worship</u>- Sunday 10:30 AM – 380 W. First St. Parsonage/Monastery
Join us live on SKYPE: rayofhope26 is our contact name. Sign on by 10:15 AM.

<u>Syracuse Worship</u>- looking for a host in Syracuse. For more information
<u>Click Here</u>.

<u>Bible Enrichment-</u> Tuesday 6:30-8 PM-380 W. First St. Parsonage /Monastery. Or Join us live on SKYPE: rayofhope26 is our contact name. Sign on by 6:15 PM. Click Here.

\*\* to call the Pastor: Rev. Shawn Benedict: 607-280-0374\*

#### **Policy Concerning Minors at Events**

Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ welcomes all youth and children to worship with us and participate in our activities. We endeavor to provide a safe and non-threatening environment for all children. To this end, we have a Policy Concerning Minors at Events, which is available from the Clerk upon request and is on our web site;

http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/Minors At Events.htm. Please enjoy your visit with us, and we hope you will return.

NOTE: On June 15, 1996, as a part of the Ordination Ceremony and his profession of Benedictine Vows, Rev. Leo W. McDermott, II retired the use of his secular birth name and was given a new name in religion, Brother Shawn Francis Benedict.

The Chapel is not open to the general public at this time as we try to do out part to stop the spread of COVID-19. All of our regular services will be available live on Skype and we are adding Facebook Live. To get the information on how to use Skype to participate with us <u>Click Here</u>.. Visit our Facebook page <u>Click Here</u>. As soon as it reasonably safe and prudent the chapel will be reopened. Call for an appointment if you want some time to come in and pray.

<u>Visitors</u> : Please feel free to fill out the information slip below and place it in the collection plate. Please indicate any special needs you may have. All information will be used for church purposes <i>only</i> .	
Name:	
Phone:	
Email Address:I would like to be included on the church Email listI would like to schedule an appointment with the Pastor.	

## Ray Of Hope Church Statement Of Purpose

In the Spirit of God, and in the footsteps of Christ Jesus, we the Faith Community at Ray Of Hope Church commit to:

- guide and welcome all people to the Free Gift of Salvation in Christ Jesus, with a God-ordained celebration of all sexual orientations, and gender expressions, with an open ministry to persons affected by or infected with HIV/AIDS, their families and friends.
- declare and openly assert the truth that same-sex relationships, founded and fostered in God-centered love, are holy and blessed, and in fact originate by the work of the Holy Spirit; and, that God equally uses blessed same-sex and heterosexual Holy Unions and Marriages to bring God's own love and good news of "Salvation to all who believe" into the world.
- uphold, proclaim, and teach the historic Biblical Christian Doctrine, build community through worship and prayer, break the bread, and live the ministry of the Holy Spirit,
- change the world around us by living Gospel principles of social justice in everything we do, thereby exposing all forms of prejudice, oppression, racism, homophobia, sexism, and misogyny,
- **proclaim** the ray of hope, which is the soon coming return of Christ Jesus, and the fullness of His Eternal Community where the Will of God will establish liberty, justice, equity, and peace for all God's People and the universe.

#### Visit us on line:

Our website: http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/ Facebook Page (like and follow) Click Here. Our YouTube page: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/rayofhopenyglbtqs">www.youtube.com/rayofhopenyglbtqs</a>

-Scripture verses to share with others:-

Romans 15:13 Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Titus 2:11, 3:4 The grace, the goodness, the loving-kindness of our God has appeared, bringing salvation to everyone.

John 5:24 Those who hear my word and believe in God who sent me, have eternal life, will never come under judgment and have passed from **death to life** already.

Romans 10:13 "For whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." (repeated @ Joel 2:32; Acts 2:21) "everyone, anyone who" asks. "Lord" here refers to God principally as in the book of Joel that is being quoted, so all persons who call on God shall be saved.

"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" (Isaiah 43:19 ESV)

"Behold, I make all things new." (Revelation 21:5)