



Ray Of Hope

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 Forty-first year of Ministry.

MISSION: Love God, Love your neighbor, and make disciples of every person everywhere. (Matthew 22:37-39; Matthew 28:19) "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matt. 6:10,33)

April Struhm, Moderator

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

We extend a 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)

Participate in some or all parts of this worship event as you are 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 refreshments and sharing.

Today is March 28, 2024, Holy Thursday, Year B

Holy Week, 2024, celebrating the week that changed everything.

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."

Scientific Discovery, Academic Knowledge, the Holy Scriptures, and Spirituality are Universal and Unified. (Br. Benedict 8-6-23)

Scripture Readings for this worship event:

First Reading: 1 Corinthians Chapter 11:23-26 NRSV 2ND Test. page 173

Special Music: sung by Mrs. Christina McLaughlin

"Mary, Did You Know?" Words and Music by Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene.

Gospel: John 13:1-15 NRSV 2ND Test. page 107

*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, and the 2nd Testament numbers are found in the later portion. If this confuses you, ask someone around you to assist you. Thank you.

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CALL TO WORSHIP

Visit and greet one another until the bell rings.

Bell's 1st ring. As the bell rings, please find your seat and pray silently for the next few minutes. 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. 1st 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 honor the 39 lashes Jesus endured, and 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 ring the bell before worship and Bible Enrichment sessions. Listen carefully and see if you can hear all 39 rings.



WE GATHER TO PRAISE THE LORD AND GIVE THANKS

+ Pastoral Welcome

Leader – 1: Hello. My name is _____. I am in_(city) _____, _(State)_____. Good evening. Welcome to Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the faith community founded in Central New York and

now all across the World through the Internet, where everyone is welcome. You may participate in some or all parts of this worship event as you are comfortable. We announce all instructions, page, and song numbers and use a psalm response verse to assist people with various stages of visual impairment.

Leader-2: Hello. My name is _____. I am in_(city) _____, _(State)____. Good evening, and welcome to our Holy Thursday worship. (** Reader, stop, look up at the people, and smile.**) Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion with us during the second part of this worship event. We celebrate the Lord's open table where Membership in this or any church is not required to receive Communion. **People participating on the Internet, please bring the following items to your table at this time so you are prepared: 1) a cup with some wine or grape juice, 2) a small piece of bread, cracker, or matzo on a plate, 3) a second cup with some water, and 4) a side napkin.**

Leader-1: Tonight's bulletin order of worship and music supplement are available on Facebook Live; right-click the "Featured Links" icon. On Skype, look in the Chat window for two document icons. On our website, look at the large gold box labeled HOLY WEEK WORSHIP INFORMATION at www.rayofhopechurch.com. Take a moment now and gather these items. We will start shortly; thank you.



ALL PEOPLE HAVE RECEIVED SALVATION AS A FREE GIFT FROM GOD, ARE ETERNALLY SECURE IN GOD'S LOVE AND ARE BY MODERN TERMS, "SAVED." ALL LGBTQSIA2ss+ persons of every sexual orientation and every gender expression are SAVED and are called to live out the fullness of who they are so that God may be praised. Ray Of Hope Church, Inc. officially took this position on September 18, 2011 and changed the By-laws to secure this position. (www.rayofhopechurch.com/faith.htm) (www.rayofhopechurch.com/purpose.htm)

(The Congregation amended this By-law on September 18, 2011, and used to read: We believe that Salvation is available to all who call on the Name of Jesus Christ, and are re-born into the Life of Christ.)([Article 10 STATEMENT OF FAITH 10.01 Short Form Statement Lines 1140 – 1143](#))



Bell's 2nd ring will announce the start of the worship event.

Welcome: Veronica Floyd: Everyone is welcome to the continuation of our celebration of Holy Week, "the week that changed the world." Ephesians 5:16 calls us to redeem the time, and tonight, we will do just that together. This evening, we celebrate the tremendous gift of the Blessed Sacrament, our holy and satisfying Eucharistic feast, the banquet of God's love in Christ spread out to welcome all people. Ray Of Hope Church is committed to welcoming everyone to this Sacred Table. At the same time, we also remember this holy night was the night of the agony in the garden and the betrayal of Our Lord. Even as we celebrate this sacred feast, we recognize the real beginning of the Passion itself.

Kaiden Benedict: Before we proceed with this night's festivities, we will take a few moments to share a Holy Greeting and Holy Welcome. Introduce yourself to those you do not know by first name, and welcome everyone!
**To observe COVID protocols, we may wave across the room and into the camera for the Internet.

FIRST SONG: At That First Eucharist Before You Died G&P 511

Text: William H. Turton, 1859 – 1938, alt

Music: UNDE ET MEMORLES: William H. Monk, 1823 – 1889, alt. Onelicense Song # 92100 Lead Me, Guide Me 2nd Edition 755 Used with permission.

Onelicense # 81048 Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278

Lisa Frost: All are welcome to this Holy Table. There is a place setting and name card for everyone. Jesus is our host and High Priest. Together, we pray this opening prayer:

ALL: O Loving God, who was and is and who is to come, we accept your invitation to this banquet of love with grateful hearts. We have come here with expectant faith. We are ready to experience anew the refreshing gift of yourself in the breaking of the bread and in the cup of salvation. On this holy night, we remember your giving us this

spiritual food and going to the garden to pray for us. Once again, we present ourselves to you as servants of the Gospel. We renew our commitment to be your holy people, the Church. In the name of God and of the Christ and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Br. Benedict: On this night, we give God all the praise as we rise together to sing "The Gloria."

Ray of Hope Church, Inc. *The Gloria* Winds and Music
10th Annual Meeting Music for worship 7/25/17
V. 21/24

$\frac{2}{4} = \frac{6}{8}$ Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, AND
 peace to all peo-ple on Earth.
 Glo-ry to God in the high-est.
 We give You thanks and praise. Al-le-lu-ia.
 We give You thanks and praise

Verses 1

You are the One God, Sov-er-ign of the
 Uni-verse, On-ly Ho-ly God, We wor-ship You, We
 give You thanks, We praise You for Your great glo-ry! (Refrain)

7/25/17, 1/1/24 Could. fit in and be happy

$\frac{3}{8} = \frac{6}{8}$ Refrain V 21/24

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, AND
 peace to all peo-ple on Earth.
 Glo-ry to God in the high-est.
 We give You thank- and praise. Al-le-lu-ia.
 We give You thanks and praise

VERSE 2 The Gloria, Pg 2

LORD, Jes-us Christ, The on-ly Be-got-ten Son of God, You are
 LORD God, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the
 world: HAVE MER-cy on us; you are seated at the
 right hand of God; re-ceive our prayer. (to Refrain)

f = $\frac{6}{8}$ Refrain $\frac{1}{2}$ 21/24

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, And
 peace to all peo-ple on Earth.
 Glo-ry to God in the high-est.
 We give You thank- and praise. Al-le-lu-ia.
 We give You thanks and praise

Verse 3

For You a-lone are the hol-y one, You a-lone are the
 LORD of all, You a-lone are the Most High,
 Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly
 spir-it, in the glo-ry of God. In the
 Ho-ly spi-rits in the HO-ly uni-ty of

(TO REFRAIN.)
 © 7/25/17 1/24 Gaudete! Liturgical Arts *RuBera*

$\frac{2}{4} = \frac{6}{8}$ Refrain 1/21/24

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, And
peace to all peo-ple on Earth.
Glo-ry to God in the high-est.
We give You thank-s and praise. Al-le-lu-ia.
We give You thanks and praise

The Gloria, Pg 3

Verse 4: Amen

ALL: A — men ; we give you thanks and

We give you thanks and praise

LORD, we praise you LORD we bless you, We give you thank we give praise

ALL: PRAISE!

A —

We give you thank and praise

We give you thank and praise LORD, we praise you. LORD we bless you

ALL: men

men al-le-lu-ia

Gloria
 7/25/17 - 4/1/24
 Gaudete! Liturgy
 Ours Bishop Johnson

+ Opening Prayer

Leader-3: O Loving, Eternal, and Creating God, lead us to the truth, your Word, and help us initiate action and change in our lives, so we are

transformed and equipped for service.

ALL: AMEN.

Leader 3: Please be seated now as we listen attentively to the Scriptures.

ALL: We read God's Word to recall, reflect on, and rejoice in the action of God in life.



THE SERVICE OF THE WORD OF GOD

+ First Reading

Reader: Hello. My name is _____. I am in_(city) _____,
_(State)_____.

The first reading is First Corinthians, chapter 11, verses 23-26.

We are reading from the NRSV Updated Edition of ©2021. The NRSV pew bibles have a similar reading in the second Testament on page 173. Here begins the reading:

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for^[a] you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

[Read full chapter](#)

Footnotes

- a. 11.24 Other ancient authorities read *is broken for*

(<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1Corinthians+11%3A23-26&version=NRSVUE>) Scripture quotations are taken from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. See notice above announcements in this bulletin.

Special Music sung by Mrs. Christina McLaughlin

"Mary, Did You Know?" Words and Music by Mark Lowry and Buddy

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+ 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

We Love Your Word!

To my friends in Christ
at Ray Of Hope Church

"Music for Worship"

Music by: Gaude! Liturgical Arts
October 31, 1993
Revised 8/2013

We love Your Word, O Lord for it set us free. We know the

truth, O Lord; We are Yours e - ter - nal - ly. So we stand to hear Your

Word. We praise You for Your Word. Al-le - lu - a! for Your Word. It heals our

hearts, souls and minds. For Your Word, Al - le - lu - ia! Thank You Je - sus!

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Reader: The Gospel reading is John, chapter 13:1-15, on page 107 in the back of the 1989 NRSV Bible. I will read the 2021 updated version.

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

ALL: And also with you.

Reader: A reading of the Holy Gospel according to John.

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 Washes the Disciples' Feet

13 Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ² The devil had already decided^[a] that Judas son of Simon Iscariot would betray Jesus. And during supper ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴ got up from supper, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵ Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸ Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹ Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet,^[b] but is entirely clean. And you^[c] are clean, though not all of you." ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹² After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had reclined again, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? ¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord!
ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

[Read full chapter](#)

Footnotes

- a. [13.2](#) Gk put it into his heart
- b. [13.10](#) Other ancient authorities lack *except for the feet*
- c. [13.10](#) The Greek word for *you* here is plural

(Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+13%3A1-15&version=NRSVUE> Scripture quotations are taken from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. See notice above the announcements in this bulletin.)

Gospel Acclamation

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!

"Music For Worship"

Music by: Gaude! Liturgical Arts
December 31, 1995

Glo-ry to the One God! Glo-ry to our Sa - vior Je - sds the
 5 Christ! And, to the Ho - ly Spi - rit, for - ev - er You're Our God!
 9 You brought us out of dark - ness, in - to Your mar - ve - lous Light! Your Word is our
 13 joy! For this we give You glo - ry, both now and ev - er more!
 17 For - ev - er we are Yours! For - ev - er we are Yours!

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 **Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc.** 
 The LGBTQSIAN2ss+ Pride Activities, and Social Events Center of Elmira, NY
 The only Church in Central New York founded and fostered by the GLBTQSIAN2ss+ community for 40 years. October 31, 2023 - 40th Anniversary now in our 41st year in Ministry.

But by the grace of God I am what I am, and God's grace toward me has not been in vain. 1 Cor. 5:10

+ Sermon: Veronica Floyd (Member of Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ for 23 years, previously served as

Moderator and currently serves as Clerk of the Council)

Holy Thursday

Order of Events: (Scofield Reference Notes Matthew 26:20)

The order of events on the night of the Passover supper appears to have been:

- (1) The taking by our Lord and the disciples of their places at the table;
- (2) the institution of the Lord's supper or Eucharist;
- (3) the feet washing;
- (4) the contention who should be greatest;
- (5) the identification Judas as the traitor;
- (6) the withdrawal of Judas;
- (7) the words of Jesus while still in the room Matthew 26:26-29; Luke 22:35-38; John 13:3-35; Matthew 14:1-31
- (8) the words of Jesus between the room and the garden Matthew 26:31-35; Mark 14:26-31; John 15:16; John 15:17 it seems probable that the high-priestly prayer John 17:1-26 was uttered after they reached the garden;
- (9) the agony in the garden;
- (10) the betrayal and arrest;
- (11) Jesus before Caiaphas; Peter's denial.

There was a lot happening on Holy Thursday as you can see above that we should **recall, reflect on, and rejoice in the action of God in Life.**

My message tonight will focus on the Institution of the Holy Eucharist and the washing of the feet which were in the readings we had this evening as well as the women who played big roles in the anointing and preparation of Jesus for burial. I will highlight some of the **Commands, Commemorations, Covenants and Celebrations** that were woven throughout.

Veronica's Sermon Notes are here for further study: [RIGHT CLICK HERE](#).

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."

2 Corinthians 4:5-6 ⁵ For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus's sake. ⁶ For it is the God who said, "Light will shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. (NRSVUE)



WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

+ Pastoral Renewal of Promises

Vice-Moderator Christina McLaughlin: It is our privilege to help our clergy renew their vows to God, and to the Church of Jesus Christ, which we know is Christ's Body, living and truly present in this world. Therefore, we begin –

ALL: Do you promise with the help of God, to be faithful to God, to the Gospel of Jesus the Christ, and the ministry of the Holy Spirit?

Clergy: Yes, I make this promise and commitment and I ask God to help me in my weakness.

ALL: Do you promise with the help of God, to faithfully teach the Sacred Scriptures, the Word of God, as the literal truth and inspired writing of God?

Clergy: Yes, I make this promise and commitment and I ask God to help me in my weakness.

ALL: Do you promise with the help of God, to always teach Jesus the Christ as the Name above all names, the Only Begotten Son of God, eternally begotten of Almighty God; being God from God, Light from Light, and True God from True God?

Clergy: Yes, I make this promise and commitment and I ask God to

help me in my weakness.

ALL: Do you promise with the help of God, to remain faithful to the Sacraments, teaching them as expressions and manifestations of God's literal grace present in the world?

Clergy: Yes, I make this promise and commitment and I ask God to help me in my weakness.

Vice-Moderator Christina McLaughlin: Now we pray together.

ALL: O God, we thank you, and we praise you for the Church, and all those you call to serve you in the Church. Having heard these promises of faithful service to you, we ask you to accept these promises and bless your servant all the days of his life. We ask this in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen and thanks be to God.

+ The Prayers of the People

Leader – 4: Having heard the Word Of God, we pray to God in Christ through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit. Everyone is welcome to pray out loud for themselves, for others, prayers of praise and thanksgiving, or whatever is on your heart. Please keep the prayers brief so that as many people as possible may participate in the given time. We invite you to speak your prayers loud enough so everyone may hear your prayer and join you in spirit and truth. So, we begin with _____


(The person leading will invite prayers from the various rooms in the service.)

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

ALL: Amen

Ed Askins, Treasurer: Our annual Holy Thursday financial gifts are dedicated to the expenses for worship supplies during the year. There are many convenient ways to participate with your donation. Anyone may



use the QRCode  or press control + click or tap on this link: [Donate to Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ](#) in the bulletin or mail a check to Ray Of Hope Church, 380 W. First St. Elmira, NY 14901. People in the Chapel may use the envelopes and the donation box next to the door before, during, or after this worship event.

At this time, we also prepare our Holy Communion Altars and Tables at home and in the Chapel. Internet viewers, please turn to page three and follow the instructions highlighted in yellow under leader two.

We still use individual communion kits in the Chapel as part of our COVID safety protocol.

Everyone may help set the Chapel Communion Table, and you may walk to the donation box during this time.

(** Viewers on the Internet, please read the following statement. ** 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, yield to the direction of the Holy Spirit. Hopefully, you can join us in a live virtual worship event soon. (*This practice policy was changed on Gaudete Sunday, December 13, 2020.*))

OFFERTORY SONG: For You Are My God G&P 612 Words and Music
John B. Foley, S.J. Text based on Psalm 16. Text and music © 1970, John B. Foley,
S.J. Published by OCP. All rights reserved. Onelicense Song # 81275 Used with permission.

Leader -2: (* **Improvise a prayer** over the offering, giving thanks and praise.*) (When your prayer is complete, please say:) " Please rise as you are able to conclude the Service Of The Word Of God with a doxology."

(We sing **The Doxology here.**)

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.



WE CELEBRATE THE SACRED MEAL OF CHRIST

Pastor: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all Creation. Through your goodness, we have this bread, and 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 bread will become for us the Bread From Heaven (Exodus 16:2, Psalm 78:24, John 6:32, 41,50,58), and 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), and together they will be the Sacrament of the Eucharist, the very Body and Blood Of Christ (John 6:54-56; 1Corinthians 10:16).

ALL: Blessed be God forever.

(Other titles include the Bread of the Angels (Psalm 78:25), the Bread of God (John 6:33), 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)

Pastor: Please set down your communion kit.

Pastor: Truly present and risen among us; **SAINTS** 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.

Pastor: It is truly right and just....

May our voices be one with all the fabulous Faithful from every time and place as we sing our song and join their unending praise hymns.

Holy, Holy, Lord!

To my friends in Christ
at Ray Of Hope Church

"Music for Worship"

Music by: Gaude! Liturgical Arts
October 31, 1993
Revised 8/2013

Ho - ly Ho - ly Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
 5 might. Hea-ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
 10 high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 16 Bless - ed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
 22 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -
 27 san - na in the high - est.

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+ We Invoke the Blessing Of The Holy Spirit

Leader: At Ray Of Hope Church, we pray together and ask the Holy Spirit to give us the same gifts that Jesus gave when He instituted Holy Communion for His Church. We 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 physical and spiritual well-being. We ask this in the Name of Jesus. Amen**

Leader: You may relax your arms and hands.

+ The Words Of The Institution Of The Holy Eucharist

WORDS OF INSTITUTION SONG: Remember Me. Words and Music by Gerrit Gustafson and Martin J. Nystrom © 1991 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. c/o Integrity Music, Inc., P.O. Box 16813, Mobile, AL, 36695. All rights reserved. International copyright secured. CCLI Song # 451177 Used with permission through our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121 and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.



The Reception of Holy Communion

**BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD BEHOLD HIM WHO TAKES
BEHOLD THE BREAD OF LIFE AND THE CUP**

**Lord, you make me worthy to receive you and by your Word, I
am healed.**

**Pastor: Open your kit and receive Holy Communion at this time.
The Gift of God for the People of God....**

Pastor: I assure you, by the promises of Christ, that anyone who receives this Holy Communion today will indeed receive sanctification and healing in mind, body, soul, and spirit, be raised by Christ to new life, and live forever.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

PRIVATE PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION.

Pastor: We understand that some of you watching do not have actual Holy Communion Bread and Wine. We invite you to pray for a Spiritual reception of Holy Communion based upon a prayer in a Prayer Book at the Episcopal National Cathedral. This prayer assures all the benefits and blessings of a physical reception. Together;

Oh, My Jesus, I believe you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things and 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. Still, circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

+ The Lord's Prayer

Leader -4: Having heard the Word of God and remembering 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**

+ Final Doxology

Pastor: Together, we pray:

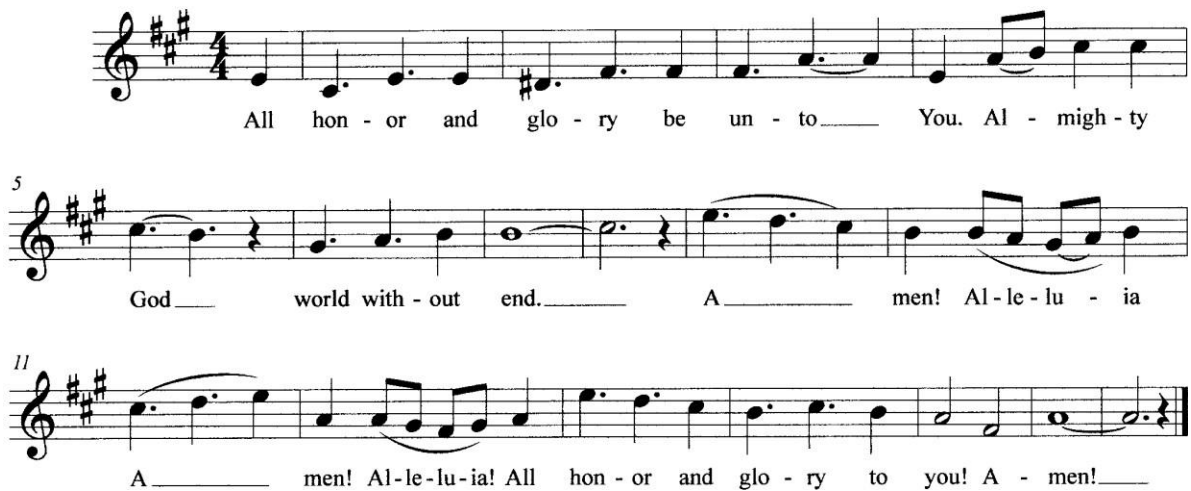
ALL: It is through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, that all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, forever and ever.

Doxology/Amen!

To my friends in Christ
at Ray Of Hope Church

"Music For Worship"

Music by: Gaude! Liturgical Arts
October 31, 1993



All hon - or and glo - ry be un - to You. Al - migh - ty
 5 God world with - out end. A men! Al - le - lu - ia
 11 A men! Al - le - lu - ia! All hon - or and glo - ry to you! A - men!

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+ Sign Of Peace

Veronica Floyd: The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ is with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Veronica: Please take a moment to share a sign of Peace with

those around you. **During COVID, we wave across the room and into the camera for the Internet.

Veronica: Now, we clean our tables and altars. Please be sure all of the crumbs are in your cup. Add some water and swirl it around inside the cup. Drink the water. Dry the cup with the side napkin. Clear your worship table and altar.

COMMUNION SONG: **G&P 363 The Lord Jesus. Words and Music by Gregory Norbet, OSB,** © 1973, 1981, The Benedictine Foundation of the State of Vermont, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Onelicense Song #80937 81048 Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278



Holy Thursday Night Benediction

Pastor: God did not send the Only Begotten Son into the world to condemn the world,

ALL: but that the world be saved through Him. (John 3:17)

Pastor: Christ is with us always, as He promised in Matthew 28:20.

ALL: Christ is present in the faith community, in the Scriptures, and the Sacraments.

Pastor: We now give thanks for Christ with us by adoring Him present in the Holy Eucharist.

ALL: We adore You, most holy Lord Jesus Christ, here and in all Your churches throughout the world, and we praise You because by Your holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Pastor: You have given us the Bread from Heaven.

ALL: Giving salvation to all who receive it and believe.

Pastor: You have given us the Cup of Salvation.

ALL: Giving salvation to all who receive it and believe.

Pastor: After giving us this most holy and blessed Sacrament of your Body and Blood to sustain your Church until you come again in glory, you went to the garden of Gethsemane to pray for us and all who would believe in your most Holy Name.

ALL: So now, we come here to sit and pray on this Holy Thursday night as you prayed for us. We ask you to receive our prayers and adoration. Amen.

**** SILENT ADORATION BEGINS at 8:15 p.m. for fifteen minutes.****

**** 8:30 p.m. BELL RINGS TO CALL EVERYONE TO BENEDICTION****

Pastor: You may sit or kneel as you are comfortable. We come to worship and to adore. Together we pray:

ALL: I adore you, Jesus, true God, and true man, present in the holy Eucharist, the bread and fruit of the vine of Holy Communion. Kneeling before you and united in spirit with all the faithful on earth and all the saints in Paradise, I come in gratitude for such a great blessing. I come to you with praise and thanksgiving. I love you with all my heart, dear Jesus, for you are worthy of all praise and adoration.

Pastor: Please continue in silent prayer for a few moments.

*****silent prayer at this time*****

Pastor: We continue to pray together:

ALL: Lord Jesus Christ, may I never offend you with my lack of love. May your Eucharistic presence refresh me in body and soul. May my love for you, most gracious God Almighty, Christ our Saviour, and Holy Spirit ever increase. Amen.

Pastor: It is time for the Benediction. Please maintain a position of prayer that is most comfortable for you. You may sit or kneel during the blessing. You may make the sign of the Cross if you choose to, or fold your hands in prayer, or extend your hands in worship when the blessing is given.

BENEDICTION IS NOW GIVEN

Closing Prayer

Pastor: Please rise as you are able, and we pray together.

ALL: Lord Jesus Christ, you have given us the Blessed Sacrament as the Most Holy Food of your Real Presence to sustain us as we wait for You to gather your People at the end of the Church Age. May our worship of your Body and Blood, the Gift you have given us, help us experience the salvation you have won for us and the peace of Paradise where you live with God The Creator, and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

(Tonight, we leave in silence. The Chapel is available for silent prayer a few minutes after the final prayer.)

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General Offering for the week of March 3 \$1490.00 Attendance 11 Sunday;
Wednesday, March 6, Attendance 5

General Offering for the week of March 10 \$30.00 Attendance 7 Sunday;
Wednesday, March 13, Attendance 6

General Offering for the week of March 17 \$30.00 (some people give monthly rather than weekly) Attendance 8 Sunday; Wednesday, March 13, Attendance 4

****Special Gifts****

On March 25 we received a special gift from Matthew and Carol Papkov of Endicott, NY. Matt is a friend of April Struhm. Matt and Carol have participated on the Internet. We thank them both for their generous donation.

We are grateful for these gifts received this week.

****Additional Special Gifts****

We received a letter dated March 6, 2024 from The Winston-Salem Foundation, North Carolina, signed by Shelia Virgil, Vice President, Development & Donor Services. In part, the letter reads as follows: "On the advice of Dr. Elwood Robinson, The Winston-Salem Foundation has awarded Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ a grant of \$500.00 from .. the.. Novant Community Benefit Fund...on February 28, 2024...please note the advisor's preferred designation is as follows: general support in honor of my sister-in-law Veronica Floyd."

Veronica has directed \$250.00 to the Building Fund and \$250.00 to the Building Improvement Fund. Thank you, Veronica, Dr. Elwood and Denise Robinson. Denise is Veronica's sister.

To be added to our email list, fill out the email information form at the hospitality table and place it in the offerings/donations box at the door. Internet participants can email rayofhopechurch@aol.com and write "email list" in the Subject box.

UPCOMING EVENTS ON OUR CALENDAR

** See the Q.R. Code on the last page.**

***** <https://www.christiansagainstchristiannationalism.org/>

Christians Against Christian Nationalism

A Special Congregational Meeting was held last Sunday, March 17. The following motion passed: Strike and remove line 262 of Article 4.06 section d where it read: All bank accounts shall require two signatures for withdrawals" replace it with: The Treasurer may conduct banking transactions through all bank accounts electronically or with one signature required on checks below \$1,000.00. Any transaction above \$1,000.00 requires two approvals and must be written into the Treasurer report in the monthly Council minutes.

HOLY WEEK, 2024

Holy Thursday, March 28, 2024, 7:00 p.m. 8:15 p.m. silent prayer 8:30 p.m.
Benediction

Good Friday, March 29, 2024, The Stations of the Cross 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday, March 30, 2024, 7:45 p.m.- 9:15 p.m. **Celebrating The Vigil Of The Resurrection Of Christ.** Rite of Membership: Ian McLaughlin. *This is our "Easter Service."

* * No worship on Sunday morning, March 31, 2024 * *

** April 1, Monday, no By-Laws Revision Committee meeting.

April 2, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. Bible Enrichment.

April 3, Wednesday, Noon Traditional Mass in English - in person.



We never held a vote to decide if we would be an **INCLUSIVE** church for you.

We are not an **OPEN AND AFFIRMING** church for you.

We are not a **RECONCILING CHURCH** or
RECONCILING CONGREGATION for you.

We are not an **OPEN MINDED** or **ACCEPTING** or **WELCOMING**
Church where you can attend as long as you blend in quietly and discretely.

WE ARE YOU!

THIS is the Church where YOU belong.

Ray Of Hope Church is the Church by us, for us, and made by You.

The Third Sunday of Pride, 2019

Made by you and for you, because we are

The Third Sunday of Pride, 2019

Ray Of Hope Church Weekly Schedule

Elmira Worship- Sunday 10:30 a.m. – 380 W. First St. Parsonage/Monastery .
Join us live on SKYPE: rayofhope26 is our contact name. Sign on by 10:15 a.m.
Syracuse Worship- looking for a host in Syracuse. For more information
[Click Here](#).

Bible Enrichment- Tuesday 6:30–8 p.m.-380 W. First St. Parsonage
/Monastery. Or Join us live on SKYPE: rayofhope26 is our contact name. Sign
on by 6:15 p.m. [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 website;
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 as we try to do our part to stop the spread of COVID-19. Call for an appointment if you want some time to come in and pray. Our regular services will be blended with live participation in the Chapel and live on Skype and Facebook Live. To read the information on how to use Skype to participate with us, [Click Here](#).. Visit our Facebook page [Click Here](#). We will reopen the Chapel as soon as it is reasonably safe and prudent.

Visitors: 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 *only*.

(Optional) Name: _____

(Optional) Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

I would like to be included on the church Email list.

I 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 online:

Our website: <http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/> Mobile-Friendly website version: <http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/P2023-Bookmark.htm> Facebook Page (like and follow) [Click Here](#). Our YouTube page: www.youtube.com/rayofhopenyglbtqs

—————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)