

**"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)**

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.  
In Romans 15:7 the Scriptures exhort us to:  
"Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you,  
for the glory of God" (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 10-20-24 Pentecost Week 23, the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B  
We are celebrating Gratitude, Appreciation, and Thankfulness for everyone's  
generosity to this ministry, and to God because we know that all good gifts come  
from God's love through us.

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: \*\*\* these readings were chosen for this event.

**First Reading:** Ecclesiastes 3:1-15 NRSV 1st Test. pg. 616

**Psalm:** Psalm 96 selected verses

**Second Reading:** 2 Corinthians 9:6-14 NRSV 2<sup>nd</sup> Test. Pg. 183

**Gospel:** Luke 8:1-8 NRSV 2<sup>nd</sup> Test. Pg. 67

**\*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.**

10-20-24 Gratitude, Appreciation, and Thankfulness Pent. Wk 23, 29th Sun. in Ordinary Time Yr. B Page 2 of 40  
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## CALL TO WORSHIP

### Visit and greet one another until the bell rings.

**Bell's 1<sup>st</sup> ring.** As our 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.

Our St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi bell at Ray Of Hope Church, 380 W. 1<sup>st</sup> St. in Elmira, NY, is a gift from Michael Quinnell of Syracuse, NY, given 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 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 morning. 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. We recommend you have two Internet devices on. Set one device on Facebook Live to listen to the Music. Right-click on this link to access our [Facebook page](#). Open the Skype meeting on the second device to interact with us. 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 morning, and welcome. (\*\* Reader, please remember to look 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:** Today'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 SUNDAY WORSHIP INFORMATION at [www.rayofhopechurch.com](http://www.rayofhopechurch.com). Take a moment now and gather these items. We will start shortly; thank you.



(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 2<sup>nd</sup> ring will announce the start of the worship event.**

**Leader – 2:** (\*\* Reader, look up at the people and smile.\*\*) Thank you for choosing to spend time with us today. In Romans, Chapter 15:7, the Scriptures

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

**Leader -2:** You are as welcome here as Christ Jesus himself. (\*\* Reader, please remember to look at the people and smile.\*\*) Show the glory of God by introducing yourself and welcoming the **SAINTS** around you. To be extra careful, we observe COVID-19 safety protocols by waving across the room and into the camera for the Internet.

**Pastor:** Good Morning, **SAINTS!** I ask you, in whose Name are we meeting?

**ALL: We meet in the name of God our Creator, Christ Jesus Our Lord and Saviour, and in the name of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

**Pastor:** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you. (2 Corinthians 13:14)

**ALL: And also with you, praise the Lord.**

**Ray Of Hope Church officially began on 10/31/1983.**

**June 1, 2024, was the TWENTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF THE ELMIRA CHAPEL.**

Today is October 20, 2024, Pentecost Week 23, the 29th of 34 Sundays in Ordinary Time Year B, meaning there are only seven Sundays, including today and the first Sunday of Advent, the new Church Year, on December 1.

Today, we are celebrating gratitude, appreciation, and thankfulness for everyone's generosity in this ministry and to God because we know that all good gifts come from God's love through us. I chose these readings for this Sunday to give one example of what the Scripture says about being grateful, showing appreciation, and being thankful for being with God and each other in this particular Church community.

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One goal of this church is to show everyone how to bring Christ to every area of our lives.

**Pastor:** With our whole heart, mind, and soul, we begin to worship God in the beauty of holiness, spirit, and truth. (Psalm 96:9; John 4:23-24)

**ALL: Together, we give God thanks and praise.**



**FIRST SONG: Whatsoever You Do.** Words and Music, Willard F. Jabusch ;

© 1967, 1977. All rights reserved. Administered by OCP. Onelicense Song# 81367 Used with Onelicense Print Permission and Streaming License A-74127 Glory and Praise 2nd edition # 558, Gather Comprehensive 2 656

## + The Candle Of Hope

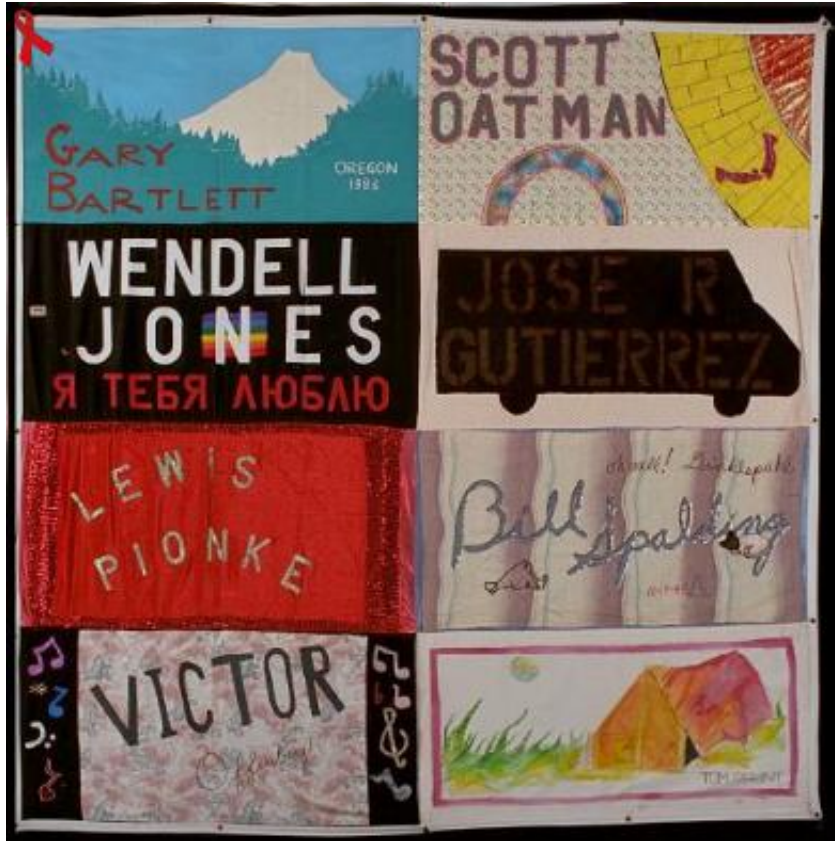
**Leader - 2:** Today, we light our Candle Of Hope to celebrate our Faith and trust in the promised "Blessed Hope," also known as "The Rapture," the return of Christ who will transform the living faithful and raise all to new life. Those viewing at home may light a special candle and bring it to your table. Now, everyone, please join me and recite these words of Jesus to celebrate the Truth they promise us. Jesus said: (John 5:25 and Titus 2:13)

**ALL: "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 -2:** In 1983, Ray Of Hope Church was started in part to form a unique ministry to persons affected by and infected with HIV and AIDS and to extend a radical welcome to all people to worship with us. Our witness to God's unconditional love for everyone is as relevant today as in 1983. Here we are forty-one years later, and still, some churches, religions, and, yes, even some countries continue rejecting the sick, lonely, and dying people with HIV and AIDS who deserve comfort and spiritual guidance.

Therefore, at Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, we continue to read aloud over **110,000** names sewn into the AIDS Memorial Quilt to keep HIV/AIDS in the conscious prayers of people. Scroll the page to see





Names(panel number) on Block # 130

- Gary Bartlett (1)
- Wendell Jones (2)
- Lewis Pionke (3)
- Victor Offenberg (4)
- Scott Oatman (5)
- Jose R. Gutierrez (6)
- Bill Spalding (7)
- Tom Grant (8)

(source: <https://www.aidsmemorial.org/interactive-aids-quilt>)

**Leader -2:** In silent prayer, we also remember the names of family and friends

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who have died from COVID-19-related and other illnesses. We pray that those who feel left behind in the face of death experience a blessing from the Holy Spirit when they remember their loved ones. (\*\*pause for silent prayer.\*\*\*) May this candle's flame help bring to mind the joy and happiness known in life, the comfort offered by the Holy Spirit in our loss, and the promise of the "Blessed Hope" we have in the Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.  
**ALL: Amen**

(National AIDS Memorial website where you can visit over 48,000 panels and over 110,000 names on the Quilt virtually:  
<https://www.aidsmemorial.org/interactive-aids-quilt>)

**Second Song: Come With Me Into The Fields.** Text and music by Daniel L. Schutte. © 1971, 1974, 2007, by Daniel L. Schutte. Text: Based on Matthew 9:38; John 4:35–38; Luke 10:2–21. Published by OCP. Onelicense Song #85125 All rights reserved. Used with Onelicense Print Permission and Streaming License A-74127.



## WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS

### **+ Confession and Forgiveness of our sins.**

**Leader 3:** Please be seated. (wait) So far, we assembled, greeted one another, and praised God in song. Now, Ray Of Hope Church provides another service: Christ, being truly present among us, forgiving our sins through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit. At this time, in silent prayer, we consider our relationship with God and others, confess faults, sins, and failures to Christ, and receive His immediate forgiveness.

### **Pastor: Colossians 3:11b - 13 reads:**

There is only Christ, who is all in all. <sup>12</sup> Because you are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt compassion, with kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with one another; forgive whatever grievances you have against one another—forgive in the same way God has forgiven you. <sup>14</sup> Above all else, put on love, which binds the rest together and makes them perfect.

(Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation (p. 3115 Kindle Edition). Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. The Inclusive Bible. Page 765. Copyright © 2007 by Priests for

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Equality. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. Kindle Edition. To Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc., September 4, 2024. Please accept this correspondence as authorization and permission to use the cited material at no charge. Please do use appropriate citation and referencing protocols. The Rights & Permissions Team, Globe Pequot International Sales, Marketing & Rights, Part of the Globe Pequot Publishing Group Representing the Rowman & Littlefield Publishing Group, now part of Bloomsbury.)

**Pastor:** The Lord has heard our confession and has granted forgiveness, and so we declare together:

**ALL: The faith community of Ray Of Hope Church openly declares the forgiveness of all your confessed sins in the Name of Jesus Christ. He forgives you, we forgive you, and God rejoices over your restoration in Christ. Amen.**

**Leader - 3:** The Church now provides the service of praising God in thanksgiving together. Please rise as you are able as we sing "The Gloria."



Dedication:  
Ray Of Hope Church  
Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc.  
40th Anniversary

# The Gloria

## "Music for Worship"

Words and Music  
Gaude! Liturgical Arts  
7/25/19-1/21/24  
Br. Shawn F. Benedict, O.S.B.

**Refrain**

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and

4  
peace to all peo - ple on earth — Glo - ry to God in the high - est —

8  
We give you thanks — and praise. Al - le - lu - ia

10  
We give you thanks — and praise.

12 **Verse 1**

You are the One God, Sov - ereign of the Un - i - verse, On - ly

16  
Ho - ly God, — we wor - ship You, — we

18  
give you thanks, we praise You for Your great glo - ry!

21 **Refrain**

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, — and peace to all peo - ple on earth —

25  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est — We give you thanks — and

2

28



praise. Al-le-lu\_ia We give you thanks\_ and praise.

31 **Verse 2**



Lord, Jes - us Christ; The On - ly Be - got - ten

34



Son of God, You are Lord God,

36



Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; Have mer - cy on

41



us; You are sea-ted at the right hand of God; re - ceive our prayer.

46 **Refrain**



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to all peo - ple on\_ earth\_

50



Glo - ry to God in the high - est\_ We give you thanks\_ and

53



praise. Al-le-lu\_ia We give you thanks\_ and praise.

56 **Verse 3**




For You a-lone are the Ho - ly One You a - lone are the Lord of all,

61




You a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, With the Ho - ly

66



Spi-rit in the glo - ry of God. In the Ho - ly Spi-rit, in the

71



Ho - ly un - i - ty of God.

75 Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, - and peace to all peo-ple on\_ earth\_

79



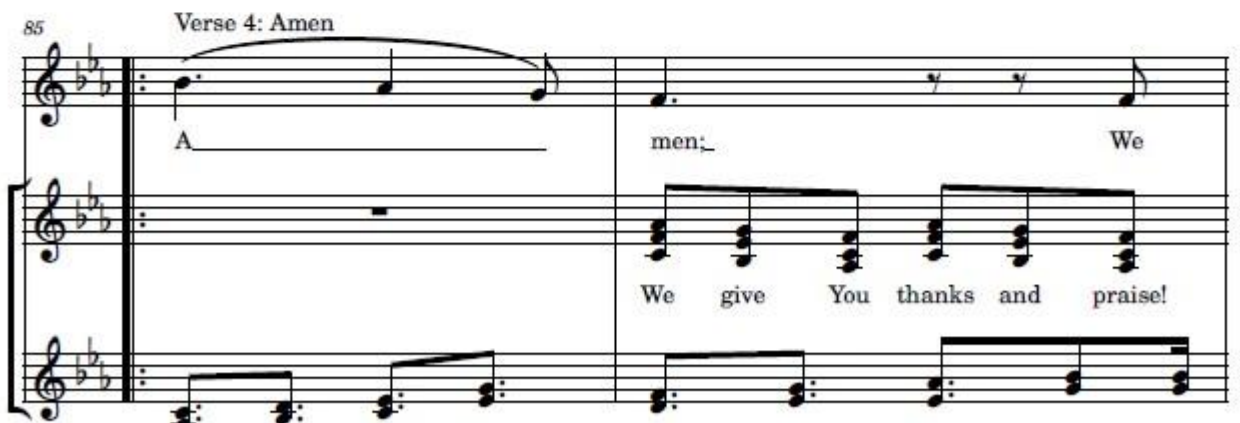
Glo-ry to God in the high-est\_ We give you thanks\_ and praise. Al-le-lu\_ia

83



We give you thanks and praise.

85 Verse 4: Amen



A\_ men\_ We

We give You thanks and praise!

Lord we praise You, Lord we bless You, We

4

87

give You thanks and praise!

We give You thanks and praise!

give You thnks, We give You praise We give You thnaks and praise

89

A - men -

A - men. Al - le - lu - ia.

Lord we praise You, Lord we bless You men. Al - le - lu - ia.

**PASTOR:** Please be seated.

**+ Opening Prayer**

**Leader-2:** Please be seated. We are prepared and ready to hear the Holy

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Scriptures for this Sunday worship gathering. Pray silently with me as I pray this opening prayer. (\*\*wait a few seconds\*\*) Come, Holy Spirit, and refresh us with a new understanding of the Holy Scriptures we are about to hear together. We ask this in the Name of God, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

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



## THE SERVICE OF THE WORD OF GOD

### + First Reading

**Reader:** \*\*\*\* If an introduction is needed:\*\*\*\* Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am in the City of \_\_\_\_\_ in the State of \_\_\_\_\_.

This morning's first reading is in the Book Ecclesiastes, Chapter 3, verses 1-13. The 1989 NRSV pew Bibles have a similar reading on page 616 in the First Testament. I will be reading from The Inclusive Bible Version Here begins the reading.

There is a time for everything,  
a season for every purpose under heaven:  
2 a season to be born and a season to die;  
a season to plant and a season to harvest;  
3 a season to hurt and a season to heal;  
a season to tear down and a season to build up;  
4 a season to cry and a season to laugh;  
a season to mourn and a season to dance;  
5 a season to scatter stones and a season gather them;  
a season for holding close and a season for holding  
back;  
6 a season to seek and a season to lose;  
a season to keep and a season throw away;  
7 a season to tear and a season to mend;  
a season to be silent and a season to speak;  
8 a season to love and a season to hate;  
a season for hostilities and a season for peace.



<sup>9</sup> What do workers gain from their efforts?

<sup>10</sup> I have reflected on this while learning all the kinds of work God gives to humankind.

<sup>11</sup> God has made everything in harmony with the divine; yet although the Almighty has imbued eternity in our soul, we are unable to grasp the totality of God's work from beginning to end.

<sup>12</sup> What I do know is that what is best for us is to be happy and enjoy life as long as we live.

<sup>13</sup> And God's gift to us is to eat and drink and find fulfillment in our work.

<sup>14</sup> I understand that whatever God does will endure for eternity; nothing can be added to it, nothing can be taken away. God makes it this way to keep reverence for the sacred alive in us.

<sup>15</sup> That which is, has always been;  
that which is to be, has already been;  
and God calls the past back into existence.

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

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**+ Psalm** \*\*\*\* **If an introduction is needed:**\*\*\*\* Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_, and I am in the City of \_\_\_\_\_ in the State of \_\_\_\_\_.

Today's Psalm reading is number 96, with selected verses and a responsorial verse. Today's response is, " Give thanks to the Lord, Alleluia."

**R.: Give thanks to the Lord, Alleluia.**

O sing a new song to the LORD,  
sing to the LORD all the earth.

O sing to the LORD, bless his name.

**R.: Give thanks to the Lord, Alleluia.**

Proclaim God's help day by day,  
tell among the nations his glory  
and his wonders among all the peoples.

**R.: Give thanks to the Lord, Alleluia.**

It was the LORD who made the heavens.  
his are majesty and honor and power  
and splendor in the holy place.

**R.: Give thanks to the Lord, Alleluia.**

Give the LORD, you families of peoples,  
give the LORD glory and power,  
give the LORD the glory of his name.

**R.: Give thanks to the Lord, Alleluia.**

**Give praise to the Living God.**  
**To God's Son, Jesus Christ, Our Lord.**  
**To the Spirit who reigns in our hearts.**  
**Both now, and for ever. Amen.**

Text of Psalm 96 (inclusive language - 1993) ©1963, 1986, 1993 The Grail (England). Onelicense song #11135 All rights reserved. Published through exclusive license agreement by G. I. A. Publications, Inc. Used with Onelicense Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278. Doxology by Br. Shawn Benedict.

**+ Second Reading**

**Reader: \*\*\*\* If an introduction is needed:\*\*\*\*** Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am in the City of \_\_\_\_\_ in the State of \_\_\_\_\_.

The second reading is 2nd Corinthians, chapter nine, verses 6 through 15. The 1989 NRSV pew Bibles have a similar reading on page 183 in the Second Testament. I will be reading from the Updated Edition of 2021. Here begins the reading.

<sup>6</sup> Keep this in mind: if you plant sparingly, you will reap sparingly, and if you plant bountifully, you will reap bountifully. <sup>7</sup>

You must give according to what you have inwardly decided— not sadly, not reluctantly, for God loves a giver who gives cheerfully.<sup>8</sup> There are no limits to the grace of God, who will make sure you will always have enough of everything and even a surplus for good works,<sup>9</sup> as scripture says:

"God scattered abroad and gave to poor people; God's justice endures forever." (Psalm 112:9)

<sup>10</sup> The One who provides seed for the planter and bread for food will also supply and enlarge your store of seed and increase your harvest of justice.<sup>11</sup> You will be made rich in every way for your generosity, for which we give thanks to God.<sup>12</sup> For the administration of this service not only supplies fully the needs of the holy ones, but also overflows in thanksgivings to God.<sup>13</sup> By offering this service, you prove yourselves. And that makes them give glory to God for the way you obey and profess the Gospel of Christ, and for your generosity to them and to everyone.<sup>14</sup> And their prayers also show how they are drawn to you because of the exceeding grace of God in you.<sup>15</sup> Thanks be to God for such an indescribable gift!

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

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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 Luke, Chapter 8, verses 1-8. The NRSV1989 pew Bibles have a similar reading on page 67. I will be reading from the Updated Edition of 2021.

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

**ALL: And also with you.**

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

**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.**

8 :1 Now soon after this, Jesus journeyed through the towns and villages proclaiming the Good News of God's reign. With Jesus went the Twelve, 2 as well as some women he had healed of evil spirits and sicknesses; Mary of Magdala, from whom he had cast out seven demons; 3 Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza; Suzanna; and many others who were contributing to the support of Jesus and the Twelve with their own funds. 4 With a large crowd

gathering, and people from every town finding their way to him, Jesus used this parable: 5 "A farmer went out to sow some seed. In the sowing, some seed fell on the footpath where it was walked on, and the birds of the air ate it up. 6 Some fell on rocky ground, sprouted up, then withered through lack of moisture. 7 Some fell among thorns, and the thorns growing up with it stifled it. 8 But some seed fell on good ground, grew up and yielded grain a hundredfold." Whenever Jesus would say something like this, he would exclaim, "Whoever has ears to hear, hear this!"

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

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## 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

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are as follows:

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

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## + Sermon: Br. Shawn Benedict

Today, we are celebrating gratitude, appreciation, and thankfulness for everyone's generosity in this ministry and to God because we know that all good gifts come from God's love through us. I chose these readings for this Sunday to give one example of what the Scripture says about being grateful, showing appreciation, and being thankful for being with God and each other in this particular Church community.

There is a time for everything in this Universe. Comment on using "season" rather than a "time" for everything.

### **Come with Me into the Fields**

Dan Schutte

1. The fields are high and summer's days are few;  
green fields have turned to gold.  
The time is here for the harvesting,  
for gathering home into barns.

#### Refrain

The harvest is plenty, laborers are few.  
Come with me into the fields.  
Your arms may grow weary,  
your shoes will wear thin.  
Come with me into the fields.

2. The seeds were sown by other hands than yours;  
nurtured and cared for, they grew.  
But those who have sown will not harvest them;  
the reaping will not be their care.

3. Your eyes have seen the holy face of God,  
hidden from these who are wise.  
The reign of God is within your heart;  
the kingdom of heaven is near!

**Come With Me Into The Fields.** Text and music by Daniel L. Schutte. © 1971, 1974, 2007, by Daniel L. Schutte. Text: Based on Matthew 9:38; John 4:35–38; Luke 10:2–21. Published by OCP. Onelicense Song #85125 All rights reserved. Used with Onelicense Print Permission and Streaming License A-74127.

There is a time for sowing and a time for harvesting, as our first song reminded us. This year, we did not sow bulbs and seeds in the front or side gardens. The result has been as expected: fewer flowers and more weeds. We did not invest the time and energy it would have required to make a beautiful garden as it has been in the past.

2 Corinthians 9:6-14

6 Keep this in mind: if you plant sparingly, you will reap sparingly, and if you plant bountifully, you will reap bountifully. 7 You must give according to what you have inwardly decided—not sadly, not reluctantly, for God loves a giver who gives cheerfully. 8 There are no limits to the grace of God, who will make sure you will always have enough of everything and even a surplus for good works,

10-20-24 Gratitude, Appreciation, and Thankfulness Pent. Wk 23, 29th Sun. in Ordinary Time Yr. B Page 20 of 40  
Of course, we also see in verses such as these the idea of investing and sowing to establish, build, and ultimately pass on a ministry to the Word of God and the Sacraments, the community of the beloved people: the Church. There are promises to provide everything the sower needs, and even a surplus, directly from God. God will not be outdone in generosity but will reward the generous with even more grace and financial support.

You are exceedingly generous and steady in supporting Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc. You do not need to support this ministry to have Paradise, or Heaven opened to you. The eternal Grace of God secures Your Salvation, made known to us in Christ, our Lord and Saviour. What support we give to Ray Of Hope Church is entirely voluntary, and we intend for the experience of giving and investing in this ministry to be joyful.

I have noticed some people find the subjects of financial support and the Church to be disconnected, at odds with each other, or almost in the shadows of shame. Today's readings I selected clarify the doctrine of maintaining the financial support that allows the organized Church to be in the world but not of the world.

From the Gospel reading, it is evident that women and men supported the ministry of Jesus. Women were important in every aspect of the public and private life of Jesus, even in the hours of his death and resurrection. Women have been the heartbeat of the people in the Church since the first day. Beginning with Moses and the new ministry of worship that developed, starting with the moveable worship space called the Tabernacle to the building of Temples in Jerusalem, to the building of Churches all over the world, God has determined and put into the hearts of people the desire to joyfully and faithfully support the people who do all the background work providing liturgical worship.

No conflict is outlined in the Scriptures between financial support, joyful charitable giving, and the Church. Scripture takes the opposite approach, and we are encouraged to give and support ministry as part of our expression of praise, worship of God, and service to God's people.

You have raised almost \$3,000.00 in just over two weeks by donating extra to the unexpected boiler repairs. The donations for this project continue to come in, and we all want to express our thanks and gratitude to everyone who has helped us over this hurdle. Thank you, thank you, thank you. Be sure to thank each person because there are many ways that people have supported this ministry, such as time, talent, skill, hours working on paperwork, legal work, rehearsals, research, paying down an upside-down mortgage, praying for people's intentions, visiting the sick, listening to people share their difficulties, and so much more. You sow lavishly in God's garden, and you can expect an increase due to your trust in God's promises. We are soon to celebrate our 41<sup>st</sup> Anniversary and the start of our 42<sup>nd</sup> year of ministry, and we are here by the grace of God and the generosity of the people who see to it that we pay our bills and take care of God's property, seen and unseen.

You are a wonderful, beautiful, and generous people, and I hope you appreciate one another.

\*\*\*\*\*OPEN MICROPHONE \*\*\*\*\*

**Brother: PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE: Hurricanes, floods, war, disease and healing, Josef Post**

**Lisa Frost:** Worship is our primary activity as a church. The church has an old standard, *lex orandi, lex credendi*, which means that "the law of prayer is the law of faith" or "that which we pray is that which we believe." Our prayer, our worship is the key to understanding what God has revealed for us to accept as Eternal Truth. Our Congregation serves the general public by providing qualified leadership, an organization accountable to its members, teachings based on ancient ecumenical consensus, the presentation of worship experiences, the physical building space for worship and education in spirituality,

10-20-24 Gratitude, Appreciation, and Thankfulness Pent. Wk 23, 29th Sun. in Ordinary Time Yr. B Page 21 of 40 and our presence on the Internet platforms. All are welcome to avail themselves of our services of worship. We are an independent organization founded and funded by anyone who appreciates what we offer. Your support is one way to give God thanks and praise for this unique ministry for all people.

There are many convenient ways to participate with your donation, including



this QRCode, this link in the bulletin: [Donate to Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ](#); other live links on [our website](#), the envelopes and donation box next to the door always available in the Chapel. Checks sent in the mail are also accepted. [Right-Click Here](#) for our contact information, including our street address. We always say, "Give what you can, but never give your last."

Also, at this time, we will set our altars and communion tables at home and in the Chapel. Those viewing at home, please turn to the highlighted text on page three of this bulletin to review the instructions for items needed for Holy Communion. In the Chapel here, everyone may assist in setting the Table of the Lord together. We begin now.

**Offertory Song: NOTEBOOK 40 I Believe In Jesus Words and Music by Marc Nelson**

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**Leader - 3:** (\*\*You may improvise a prayer or use this one.) God, we bless you and praise you for all the gifts you have received to support this ministry. We bless you for those who can give financially, with their skills, prayers, and many other ways. We bless you for those who could not give and pray that all their needs will be met. We dedicate all this to the Name of Jesus, Amen.

(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 or?:** Blessed are you, Lord, God of all Creation. Through your goodness, 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.**

**Kaiden:** Please set down your Bread. For those at home, pour your wine or grape juice into your cup if you have not already done so. Then, add a small amount of water to the cup. With this water, we remember Jesus is human. With this fruit of the vine, we remember He is divine forever.

**Brother Benedict:** Now, please lift your cup with me as I pray this prayer. Blessed are you, Lord, God of all Creation. Through your goodness, 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.**

**Kaiden:** Please set down your cup.

**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: (An improvised prayer is said here.)**

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 - 3:** At Ray Of Hope Church, we pray together and ask the Holy Spirit to give us the same gifts 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 - 1:** 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 Lord's Prayer**

**Kaiden:** 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**

Music setting information: **The Lord's Prayer Composed by Albert Hay Malotte.** ©1935 G. Schirmer, Inc. (Admin. by Music Sales

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## The Reception of Holy Communion

**Pastor:** Please raise the Blessed Sacrament as a sign of praise and pray together:

**ALL: Behold the Lamb of God. Behold the Christ 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, and I will raise them up on the last day.**

**Leader - 2:** Blessed are those who come to this table; everyone is welcome.

**ALL: Lord, you make me worthy to receive you, and by your Word, I am healed.** 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! \_\_\_\_

**Kaiden:** Please open your kit and receive Holy Communion at this time. Receive now the Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the Gift of God for the People of God. Receive these gifts of love to strengthen your resolve to serve others and God and to fortify your Salvation. 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, and will be raised by Christ to new life, and live forever.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

### **PRIVATE PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION.**

**Veronica:** 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.

### **+ Sign Of Peace**

**Leader-1:** The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ is with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

**Leader-1:** 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.

**Leader-1:** 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: NTBK#6**

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**NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION UPDATED EDITION (NRSVUE)**

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**New Revised Standard Version – 1989**

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NOTES OF THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR GENEROSITY GIVEN TO THE LORD THROUGH RAY OF HOPE

**General Offering** for the week of September 15 \$550.00 Attendance 9 on Sunday  
Wednesday, September 18, Attendance 5

**General Offering** for the week of September 22 \$358.06 Attendance 9 on Sunday  
Wednesday, September 25, Attendance 7

**General Offering** for the week of September 29 \$1,150.00 Attendance 11 on Sunday  
Wednesday, October 2, Attendance 5  
(some people give monthly rather than weekly)

**General Offering** for the week of October 6 \$435.00 Attendance 11 on Sunday  
Wednesday, October 9, Attendance 5

**General Offering** for the week of October 13 \$110.37 Attendance 13 on Sunday  
Wednesday, October 16, Attendance 7

**\*\* Special Gifts this week\*\***

Thank you, Katrina, for welcoming Kaiden, Brother, and Christina into your home for nearly half of the week when it was so cold as we waited for the boiler to be fixed. It was very kind of you to welcome us and to share with us your talents at cooking.

Ed Askins made a \$500.00 donation to the Building Improvement Fund (boiler and painting). Thank you, Ed.

An Anonymous Donation of \$200.00 was made for the boiler repairs. Thank you, Donor.

An Anonymous Donation of \$500.00 was made for the boiler repairs. Thank you, Donor.

Thank you Katrina and Kaiden, for the deep cleaning on Saturday.

**\*\*Recent Special Gifts\*\***

Rev. Evan and Mrs. Kate Hansen made a \$500.00 donation to the boiler repair. Thank you both very much. Ray Of Hope Church appreciates your friendship.

Ian McLaughlin made a \$200.00 donation to the Building Improvement Fund (boiler and painting). Thank you, Ian.

Lisa Frost made a \$1,000.00 donation to the Building Improvement Fund (boiler and painting). Thank you, Lisa.

Brother made a \$700.00 donation to the Building Fund. Thank you, Brother.

Kaiden made a \$50.00 special offering for our participation in sponsoring The Matsiko World Orphan Choir.

Kaiden Benedict made a \$400.00 donation to the Building Fund. Thank you, Kaiden.

Christina and Ian made a \$436.50 donation to the Building Improvement Fund, thank you both.

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](mailto: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://nextgenamerica.org/>



<https://www.momsrising.org/>

**WHAT IS PROJECT MOBILIZE?**

Project Mobilize is a network of leaders working to create change both within the current systems and organizations that already exist as well as investing in new ideas on the local, state and national level that will break through the stagnate and partisan rhetoric in order to create a more unified, inclusive and forward-thinking nation.

<https://www.mobilize.org/>

October 21, Monday 3:00 - 4:30 PM By-Laws Revision Committee

October 22, Tuesday 6:30 - 8:00 PM Bible Enrichment - continuing Bible Translations and Angels

October 23, Wednesday NOON - 12:45 Mass In-Person

**October 24, Thursday 6:30 - 8:00 PM COUNCIL MEETING**

- DATE TO BE SET FOR OUR NATIVITY CELEBRATION CHRISTMAS**
- DATE TO BE SET FOR KWANZAA**
- DATE TO BE SET FOR ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 2025**

(\*October 26, Saturday 4:30- 6:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church  
The Chosen - see flyer below.)

Sunday, October 27, Worship 10:30 a.m.

October 28, Monday 3:00 - 4:30 PM By-Laws Revision Committee

October 29, Tuesday 6:30 - 8:00 PM Bible Enrichment - continuing Bible Translations and Angels

October 30, Wednesday NOON - 12:45 Mass In-Person

(\*November 2, Saturday 4:30- 6:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church  
The Chosen - see flyer below.)

Sunday, November 3, Worship 10:30 a.m. **FEAST OF ALL SAINTS & 41st Anniversary of the founding of Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc. The start of our 42nd year of ministry.**

November 4, Monday 3:00 - 4:30 PM By-Laws Revision Committee

November 5, Tuesday Election Night, no scheduled events.

November 6, Wednesday NOON - 12:45 Mass In-Person

(\*November 9, Saturday 4:30- 6:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church  
The Chosen - see flyer below.)

**PLEASE BE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING DATES**

**November 21, Thursday 6:30 - 8:00 PM COUNCIL MEETING**

**TUESDAY NOVEMBER 26 6:30 - 8:00 PM NEW By-Laws Discussion 1 of 4**

Sunday, December 1, Advent Week 1 World AIDS Day, the Candle of Hope. - purple

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 3 6:30 - 8:00 PM NEW By-Laws Discussion 2 of 4**

10-20-24 Gratitude, Appreciation, and Thankfulness Pent. Wk 23, 29th Sun. in Ordinary Time Yr. B Page 32 of 40  
Sunday, December 8, Advent Week 2 The Candle of Peace, praying for world peace. - purple

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 10 7:15 - 8:45 PM NEW By-Laws Discussion 3 of 4**

Sunday, December 15, Advent Week 3 **GAUDETE REJOICE SUNDAY PRIDE PARTY IN THE WINTER. PINK DAY! GIFT EXCHANGE AND DINNER TOGETHER - PINK CANDLE**

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 17 6:30 - 8:00 PM NEW By-Laws Discussion 4 of 4**

**December 19, Thursday 6:30 - 8:00 PM COUNCIL MEETING** Council final recommendation for new By-Laws, and recommendation for 2025 Budget

Sunday, December 22, Advent Week 4 Reverend Mother's Day in the Winter, Mary, - purple  
December 23, Monday 3:00 - 4:30 PM By-Laws Revision Committee  
December 24, Tuesday no scheduled events.

**December 25, Wednesday, NOON MASS???????**

December 25, Wednesday 5:00 PM Hanukkah Night 1 of 8 live on Facebook

December 26, Thursday 5:00 PM Hanukkah Night 2 of 8 live on Facebook

December 27, Friday 5:00 PM 5:00 PM Hanukkah Night 3 of 8 live on Facebook

December 28, Saturday 5:00 PM Hanukkah Night 4 of 8 live on Facebook

**December 29, Sunday CHRISTMAS AT RAY OF HOPE?????????**

December 30, Monday 5:00 PM Hanukkah Night 5 of 8 live on Facebook

December 31, Tuesday 5:00 PM Hanukkah Night 6 of 8 live on Facebook

January 1, Wednesday 5:00 PM Hanukkah Night 7 of 8 live on Facebook

January 2, Thursday 5:00 PM Hanukkah Night 8 of 8 live on Facebook

Sunday, January 5, Orthodox Christmas EPIPHANY?????????

Sunday, January 12, The Baptism Of The Lord ???????

Sunday, January 19, Dr. Martin Luther King and Civil Rights Sunday

**January 23, Thursday 6:30 - 8:00 PM COUNCIL MEETING COUNCIL Votes on new By-Laws and 2025 Budget**

**SUNDAY JANUARY 26 ANNUAL MEETING AND PASSING NEW By-Laws 2025**

**MARCH 5, 2025 ASH WEDNESDAY**

Inquiries Class #1 Tuesday March 11, 2025 7:15 - 8:45 Statement of Purpose, Statement of Faith

Inquiries Class #2 Tuesday March 18, 2025 6:30 - 8:00 Worship and Common Threads

Inquiries Class #3 Tuesday March 25, 2025 6:30 - 8:00 Polity and Practice (Liturgical Calendar +)

Inquiries Class #4 Tuesday April 1, 2025 6:30 - 8:00 Human Sexuality and the Bible

Inquiries Class #5 Tuesday April 8, 2025 6:30 - 8:00 Human Sexuality and the Bible

**??? APRIL COUNCIL MEETING BEFORE GREAT VIGIL MEMBERSHIP SO, APRIL 10?????**

**APRIL 13, 2025 Palm Sunday 10:30 AM HOLY WEEK**

**APRIL 17, 2025 HOLY THURSDAY 7:00 PM**

**APRIL 18, 2025 PASSION FRIDAY 7:00 PM**

**APRIL 19, 2023 GREAT VIGIL OF THE RESURRECTION OUR EASTER EVENT MEMBERSHIP**

May 11, Sunday Mother's Day and Foundresses Day

June 1, Sunday Ascension Sunday

June 7, Saturday, Pride Elmira

June 8, Sunday Pentecost

June 14, Saturday, Pride Corning

June 15, Sunday, Father's Day and 29th Ordination Anniversary

June 22, Sunday Juneteenth Celebration (19th)

June 29th PRIDE SUNDAY

DATE TO BE SET FOR OUR NATIVITY CELEBRATION CHRISTMAS

DATE TO BE SET FOR KWANZAA

DATE TO BE SET FOR ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 2025

**SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A GIFT DONATION. FROM VERONICA FLOYD, CLERK**

October 11, 2024

Dear Friends and Members,

This is the 3rd and hopefully final update regarding the boiler repair needs at the church and monastery. The initial parts were ordered and as the Isaac's technicians were on site to install, they discovered that the original exhaust pipe system was installed incorrectly. They found that the protection grate on the exhaust pipe had been vandalized and that if people have been stuffing things in the pipe this would help explain the cause of the system overheating and destroying the furnace. Additionally, we have known that a bolt was broken off by the last technician from the previous company. He promised to return to fix it and after many attempts we were unsuccessful in getting him to return. We now understand the broken bolt was the primary cause of the Carbon Monoxide leaking, and the stuffing items into the exhaust pipe a secondary cause. The Isaac's technician said that "because of the carbon monoxide leaking", it could have fatally harmed those in the monastery. As a result of the placement of the air intake and the exhaust pipes not being seven feet up from the ground as required, the entire piping exhaust system must be re-designed to meet that requirement, and new grate on the end of new pipes to prevent someone from breaking into it and stuffing things in it. The new pipes will be placed as high up as possible and be twelve feet under the windows above as required by Code. This will require a ladder to reach and not be at ankle height where they are currently installed. The additional cost of these corrections is \$2,373.97 bringing the final total to \$7,624.00 inclusive of a \$310 service call.

There have already been several major donations given towards this emergency repair and we give God thanks and praise for the generosity and support of our friends and members. We are currently \$2000 short of being able to pay for the repair in full and are asking for any additional donations that can be given at this time. The Council is working through a few scenarios to come up with payment options and we wanted to share this with you now for your thoughts and consideration as well.

The chapel was 54 degrees and frigid inside this morning and we want to do everything we can to keep the doors open to all as long as we can without putting anyone in a very uncomfortable environment due to the internal temperature while the boiler remains off line.

The individuals that live in the monastery have already made financial contributions for which we are very grateful and will continue to do so. We need your support as well as anyone you know who would be inclined to make a tax deductible donation to a charitable organization for a good cause. Help us to keep the building open and the environment safe for all. Any amount given will be of great support.

On behalf of the council,

Veronica Floyd, Clerk of Ray Of Hope Church, Inc.

380 W. 1st St.

Elmira, NY 14901

rayofhopechurch@aol.com

www.rayofhopechurch.com

**Treasurer's Report for the month of September 2024.** (This report will be given at the October 22 meeting of the Council)

**General Fund** opening balance at the beginning of the month was \$265.34. Donations to the General Fund for the month were \$3,008.50. Pastoral compensation of \$495.00 per week for 4 week was paid, Verizon \$62.13. Children's Choir reimbursement to the building fund was done of \$200.00, Cyrus bill for annual web hosting of \$450.00 and Paypal charges of \$15.44 came out of this account. After these were paid the ending balance of this account at the end of the month was \$1,016.27. Undeposited funds went into this account 10/3 of 122.66.

**Building Fund** opening balance was \$1,341.34. Donations to the Building Fund were as follows: Brother Shawn Benedict \$700.00, Kaiden Benedict \$400.00 and transferred in \$200 from the General Fund. Regular bills that came out of the fund this month was the Credit Card bill with Key Bank of \$62.01, electric \$233.92, gas bill \$253.00, transferred \$450.00 for Cyrus as stated above and the original check of \$200.00 for the Children's Choir was written from this account. I also transferred \$200.00 into savings to save for the liability insurance bill that will be due the beginning of December. Ending balance of this fund was \$1,242.41.

**Building Improvement Fund** opening balance on this account was \$2,452.49. Donations to this account for this month were as follows: Ian and Christina \$436.50 the beginning of September, Lisa Frost \$1,000.00, Ed & Phyl Askins \$500.00 and Evan & Kate Hansen \$500.00. The ending balance on this account is \$4,888.99. Undeposited funds went into this account on 10/3 of \$627.34 from Ian and Christina.

**Savings (Council) Account** opening balance \$43.65. I transferred in \$200.00 from the building to cover the upcoming liability insurance payment, so the ending balance in this account is \$243.65.

These balances do equal the ending bank balances.

(This report will be given at the October 22 meeting of the Council)  
by Mr. Edward Askins, Council Treasurer.

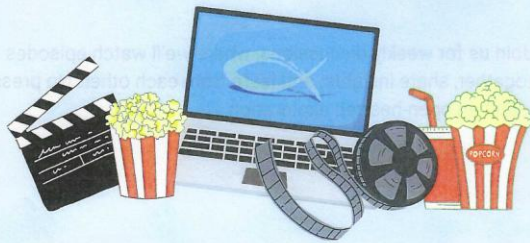


# SHOW TIME ELMIRA PRESENTS The CHOSEN

**Location:** First Presbyterian Church of Elmira  
1054 W. Clinton St. Elmira, NY 14905  
**Dates:** Saturday afternoons, Oct 5 - Nov 23  
**Time:** 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Get ready to dive into the epic saga of "The Chosen" with our first screening on Saturday, October 5th at 4:30 PM! Join us every Saturday at this time to catch all of Season One, ending on November 23rd. That's 8 chances to get together to enjoy, explore and discuss this fantastic, ground-breaking series.

Gather your friends and family and mark your calendars for this unforgettable adventure of friendship and faith.  
Can't wait to see you there!



The First Presbyterian Church  
North Presbyterian Church  
And Elmira Community Leaders

*are embarking on an exciting journey together,  
and we'd love for you to join us!*

**What?**

We're diving into the acclaimed series "The Chosen." This groundbreaking show beautifully portrays the life of Jesus and those around Him.

But here's the best part:  
it's not just for one faith—it's for everyone.

**Why?**

Because we believe that stories have the power to unite us.

Whether you're a person of faith, curious about spirituality, or simply appreciate compelling narratives, "The Chosen" invites us all to explore universal themes like forgiveness, friendship, and transformation.

**How?**

Join us for weekly discussions, where we'll watch episodes together, share insights, and learn from each other. No pressure, —just an open-hearted exploration.

Join Geneva Presbytery  
in Worship  
1:30 PM, Tue. Nov. 19, 2024

## The Swing Street Sextet



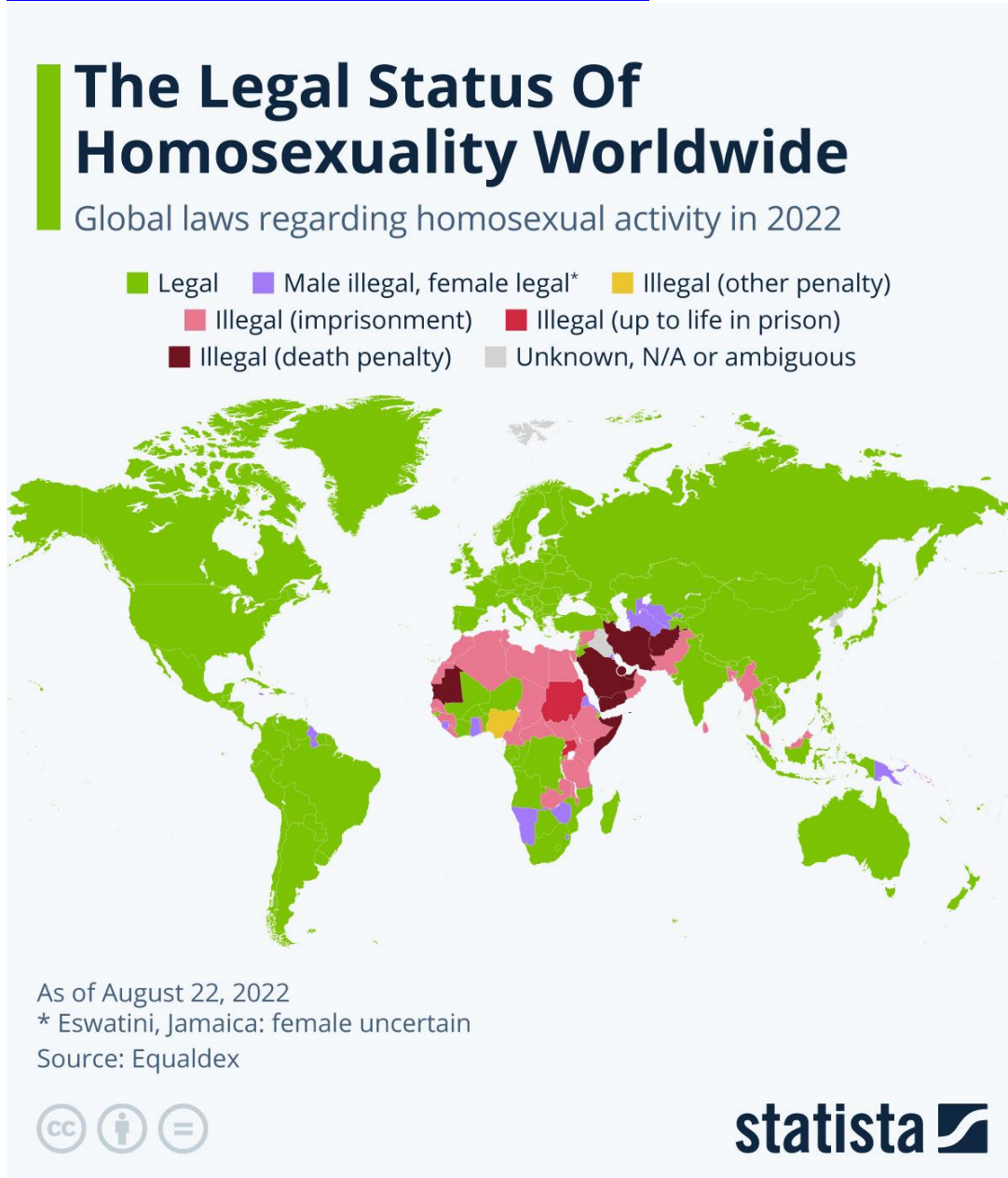
The First Presbyterian  
Church of Elmira  
presents a joy filled  
exuberant service of  
worship and praise.

Come, worship, be  
energized and refreshed  
for your many acts of  
service.

1054 West Clinton St.  
Elmira NY 14905  
607 734-1614

With gratitude to Corky and Lynn Klinko for  
their generous contributions of music.





**We Are Sent Forth To Serve**

**Leader - 2:** **SAINTS:** The Lord is with you!

**ALL:** And also with you!

**Leader - 2:** We bless and praise you, God, for this time of worship we have enjoyed together today. Send us forth now to share what we have experienced with others. We ask you, Almighty God, to bless us with quiet

10-20-24 Gratitude, Appreciation, and Thankfulness Pent. Wk 23, 29th Sun. in Ordinary Time Yr. B Page 37 of 40  
miracles, the warmth of love, and fill us with wonder and peace; (\*+\*) In the  
Name of God, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

**ALL: Amen**

**Leader - 2:** We pray Romans Chapter fifteen, verse thirteen together, saying:

**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)

**Leader-4:** We go forth in peace and Love to serve all people and the Lord ...

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

**LAST SONG: He's Worthy. Words and Music by Sandra Crouch** © 1985 Bud John Songs, Inc. (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing); Sanabella Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing). All rights reserved. CCLI Song#11191 Used with permission by our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121, and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152. For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com)

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."



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

**Bible Enrichment-** 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 website;  
[http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/Minors\\_At\\_Events.htm](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, the way it used to be from 7:00 AM to 11:59 PM daily, 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 to pray, read, or visit The Blessed Sacrament. 1-607-280-0374 Our regular services will be blended with live participation in the Chapel, live on Skype and Facebook. To read the information on how to use Skype to participate with us, [Click Here](#).. Recordings of most of our Worship events are on our Facebook page, to see [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.

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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](http://www.youtube.com/rayofhopenyglbtqs)

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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)

