

**"My House shall be a house of prayer for All People."  
(Isaiah 56:7)**

**Founded: 10/31/1983. Now in our Forty-second 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 11-3-24 Pentecost Week 25 Year B, the Feast of All Saints, Reformation  
Sunday, and the 41st Anniversary of Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ  
We are celebrating Gratitude, Appreciation, and Thankfulness for 41 years of  
ministry welcoming all people to the free gift of salvation to all.  
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:** Revelation 7:9-14 NRSV 2nd Test. page 249

**Psalms:** Psalm 34:1-11

**Second Reading:** Ephesians 2:19-22 NRSV 2nd Test. pg. 193

**Gospel:** Matthew 5:1-12 NRSV 2<sup>ND</sup> Testament page 4

\*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.

11-03-24 CORRECTED Anniversary Wk 2 of 2 Pent. Wk 25, The Feast of All Saints Yr. B Page 2 of 48  
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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.



The flower arrangement of the Cross was made and is a gift from Glenn Ruthbun. Thank you, Glenn.

**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 11-3-24 Pentecost Week 25 Year B, the Feast of All Saints, Reformation Sunday, and the 41st Anniversary of Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are celebrating Gratitude, Appreciation, and Thankfulness for 41 years of ministry welcoming all people to the free gift of salvation to all.

(Statement of Purpose <http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/purpose.htm> )

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."***

Since our actual anniversary was last Thursday, we celebrated last Sunday and today. Enjoy the fun and celebration as we appreciate, show gratitude, and give thanks to God and each other for our being gifts one to another through Christ, Our Lord. 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. Alleluia!**



**FIRST SONG: NTBK #21 For All The Saints. Ralph Vaughan Williams**

1) For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
who to the world their steadfast faith confessed,  
your name, O Jesus, be for-ever blessed.  
Alleluia! Alleluia.

2) You were their rock, their refuge, and their might:  
you, Christ, the hope that put their fears to flight;  
'mid gloom and doubt, you were their one true light.  
Alleluia! Alleluia.

3) Still may your people, faithful, true, and bold,  
live as the saints who nobly fought of old,  
and share with them a glorious crown of gold.  
Alleluia! Alleluia.

4) Ringed by this cloud of witnesses divine,  
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;  
yet in your love our faithful lives entwine.  
Alleluia! Alleluia.

5) And when this strife is fierce, the warfare long,  
steals on the ear the distant triumphant song,  
then hearts are brave again, and faith grows strong.  
Alleluia! Alleluia.

**For All The Saints.** Ralph Vaughan Williams | William W How Tune:Sine Nomine 10.10.10.4. © Words: Public Domain Music: Public Domain Type: Music; First Line: For all the saints who from their labors rest. Contributors: William W How, Ralph Vaughan Williams. Tune: SINENOMINE by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) from The English Hymnal (1906) © Oxford University Press. Reproduced by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Onelicense Song #22299 Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278

## + 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

**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 the panel names on Block # 132.



Names(panel number) on Block # 132

- David Thompson (1)
- Steven Mark Block (2)
  - Gerald Martin (3)
  - Don Howard (4)
- Mark Zambrano (5)
- Stanford University (6)
  - Jay Spears (7)
- John Mott Trowbridge (8)

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

**Leader -2:** In silent prayer, we also remember the names of family and friends 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: Notebook #33 Joyful People, Come and Worship.**

Text: June Norris

1) Joyful people, come and worship! Lift your happy hearts in song.  
Giving praise for our church family, In God's house, where all belong.  
Celebrating our uniqueness, Filled with love and pride today.  
Forth we travel on faith's journey, We, who once had turned away.

2) And today we lift our voices; Of amazing love we sing,  
Giving thanks and praise to Yahweh For the joy that love can bring!  
Praising Jesus and the Spirit, Singing of amazing grace,  
Here we see that same sweet Spirit On each sister's brother's face.

3) God, whose mercies know no boundaries; Hear our cries for liberty;



Broke the chains of fear that bound us, Lifted, loved, and set us freer!  
Learning how to love each other, How to live and how to grow,  
Children of God's new creation, Onward, upward, now we go!

**Notebook #33 Joyful People, Come and Worship.** Text: June Norris, ©1987, alt. with permission. Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; adpt. as in *The Hymnal Project*, © 1989 MCC San Francisco. Licensed to Ray Of Hope Church for use in worship. Onelicense Song #121052 Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278. Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.



## 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 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 thanks, We give You praise We give You thanks 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

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 of Revelation, the last book of the Bible, chapter 7, verses 9-12. The reading is on page 249 in the second testament, in the back of the NRSV Bible. I will be reading from The Inclusive Bible Version. Here begins the reading.

<sup>9</sup> After that, I saw before me an immense crowd without number, from every nation, tribe, people and language. They stood in front of the throne and the Lamb, dressed in long white robes and holding palm branches. <sup>10</sup> And they cried out in a loud voice,  
"Salvation is of our God,  
who sits on the throne,  
and of the Lamb!"

<sup>11</sup> All the angels who were encircling the throne, as well as the elders and the four living creatures, prostrated themselves before the throne. They worshiped God <sup>12</sup> with these words: "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and strength be to our God forever and ever! Amen!"

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

**+ 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 34, verses one through eleven, with a  
responsorial verse. Today's response is, "Glorify the Lord. Praise God's  
holy Name."

**R: Glorify the Lord. Praise God's holy Name.**

<sup>2</sup> I will bless the Lord at all times,  
God's praise always on my lips;  
<sup>3</sup> in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad.

**R: Glorify the Lord. Praise God's holy Name.**

<sup>4</sup> Glorify the Lord with me.  
Together let us praise God's name.  
<sup>5</sup> I sought the Lord and was heard;  
from all my terrors set free.

**R: Glorify the Lord. Praise God's holy Name.**

<sup>6</sup> Look towards God and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.  
<sup>7</sup> When the poor cry out the Lord hears them  
and rescues them from all their distress.

**R: Glorify the Lord. Praise God's holy Name.**

<sup>8</sup> The Angel of the Lord is encamped  
around those who \*respect and love God, to rescue them.  
<sup>9</sup> Taste and see that the Lord is good.  
They are happy who seek refuge in God.

**R: Glorify the Lord. Praise God's holy Name.**

<sup>10</sup> Revere the Lord, you saints.



They lack nothing, who revere the Lord.

<sup>11</sup> Strong lions suffer want and go hungry  
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

**R: Glorify the Lord. Praise God's holy Name.**

**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 34: 2-11 (inclusive language - 1993) ©1963, 1986, 1993 The Grail (England).  
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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 in the

Book of Ephesians chapter 2, verses 17-22.

The reading is on page 193 in the second testament, in the back of the  
NRSV Bible. I will be reading from The Inclusive Bible Version Here  
begins the reading.

<sup>17</sup> Christ came and "announced the Good News of peace to you who  
were far away, and to those who were near"; <sup>18</sup> for through Christ, we  
all have access in one Spirit to our God. <sup>19</sup> This means that you are  
strangers and aliens no longer. No, you are included in God's holy  
people and are members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup> which is built on  
the foundation of the apostles and the prophets, with Christ Jesus as  
the capstone. <sup>21</sup> In Christ the whole building is joined together and  
rises to become a holy temple in our God; <sup>22</sup> in Christ you are being  
built into this temple, to become a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

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 on page 4 in the back of the NRSV Bible. The reading is in the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 5, verses 1-11. I will be reading from the Inclusive Bible.

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

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

**ALL: Glory to you, O Lord. May the Word of God be  
in our (+) minds that we will understand it,  
on our (+) lips that we will speak it, and  
in our (+) hearts that we will love it.**

5 :<sup>1</sup> When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on the mountainside, and after he sat down and the disciples had gathered around, <sup>2</sup> Jesus began to teach them:

<sup>3</sup> "Blessed are those who are poor in spirit:  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

<sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who are mourning:  
they will be consoled.

<sup>5</sup> Blessed are those who are gentle:  
they will inherit the land.

<sup>6</sup> Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice:  
they will have their fill.

<sup>7</sup> Blessed are those who show mercy to others:  
they will be shown mercy.

<sup>8</sup> Blessed are those whose hearts are clean:  
they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> Blessed are those who work for peace:  
they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup> Blessed are those who are persecuted  
because of their struggle for justice:  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

<sup>11</sup> "You are fortunate when others insult you and persecute you, and utter every kind of slander against you because of me.

<sup>12</sup> Be glad and rejoice, for your reward in heaven is great; they persecuted the prophets before you in the very same way.

**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 on a single treble clef staff. It consists of five lines of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "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

We are celebrating Gratitude, Appreciation, and Thankfulness for 41 years of ministry welcoming all people to the free gift of salvation.

Two weeks ago, Sunday, October 20, 2024, we read from the Book Ecclesiastes, Chapter 3, verses 1-13.

There is a time or a season for everything in this Universe.

Last Sunday, October 27, 2024, we said we were continuing the celebration as we are again today, saying **there is a time to be Appreciative, Grateful, and Thankful**. Be sure to thank each person because there are many ways that people have supported this ministry over forty-one years, 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, accompanying people in their last minutes of life to their last breath, and so much more. I stand by my

statement from last week when I said the people of Ray Of Hope sow the seeds of the Word of God lavishly in God's garden and can expect a lavish response from God because we trust in God's promises. We are here by the grace, the kindness, the goodness of God, and the generosity of the people who see that we pay our bills and care for God's property, seen and unseen.

The phrase "seen and unseen" is poetic for many people. It is a phrase in a frequently used version of the Nicene Creed:

"We believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is seen and unseen."

When I say, " We are here by the grace, the kindness, the goodness of God, and the generosity of the people - I could add people "seen and unseen" who see to it that we pay our bills and take care of God's property, "seen and unseen." All things belong to Christ in God, all things, "seen and unseen."

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

The actual date of our founding is October 31st, 1983, late in the evening. Last Sunday, I remembered how Ray Of Hope officially started in the early morning of All Saints Day or on All Hallows Eve, the evening before All Saints' Day, All Hallows Day. It is also a three-day celebration known as Allhallowtide, including the day before, the day, and the day after All Saints Day. I also failed to recall that October 31 is officially Reformation Day. On October 31, 1519, Professor, Rev. Martin Luther, posted, or nailed his "Ninety-five Theses" to the door of the church in Wittenberg that happens to be named, All Saints' Church.

As with so many other celebrated events and customs, this event of Rev. Luther nailing the document to the church door has been challenged as to its historicity. The day is undoubtedly celebrated as the start of the Reformation period. (source: article Reformation [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reformation\\_Day](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reformation_Day) )

Bringing it all together then, Forty-one years ago, this Congregation was permitted to officially identify as Ray Of Hope Church on "All Hallows Eve," the early morning hours of The Feast of All Saints, on the 31st of October,

Reformation Day, a day celebrated as the start of the Protestant Reformation.

The only days I could consider more fitting would be Pentecost, Christmas, or Resurrection Sunday. You and I have come into a community of Saints that was intentionally started to proclaim the Love of God outpoured on everyone in every time and every place through the reality of sending the Only Begotten Son of God, Christ Jesus.

In the song we sang last week, "Come With Me Into the Fields," the verse reads;

"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." (G&P 553 **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.)

None of us attended the first meeting of Ray Of Hope in July of 1983 when Mr. Ted Ewald held the first meeting, which fourteen people attended.

(<http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/shorthist.htm>) I joined on September 5, 1993, thirty-one years ago, when the Congregation was in its tenth year. The seeds of Faith in the power of the Holy Word of God that were sown "by other hands" than ours have been nurtured, cared for, and they continue to grow.

In the first reading today, John can see into Heaven, where he witnesses people from every nation under the heavens. This vision he sees tells us a truth that is often not taught: God so loved the world that God saved humanity through Christ.

In the second reading, we are called members of the household of God, saints, and citizens.

In the Gospel we have "The Beatitudes" as commonly referred to. Sometimes when these proverbs and promises are taught to children, we call them "Be" attitudes, emphasizing that we should become each of these attitudes.

<sup>5</sup> <sup>1</sup> When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on the mountainside, and after he sat down and the disciples had gathered around, <sup>2</sup> Jesus began to teach them:

- <sup>3</sup> "Blessed are those who are poor in spirit:  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs.
- <sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who are mourning:  
they will be consoled.
- <sup>5</sup> Blessed are those who are gentle:  
they will inherit the land.
- <sup>6</sup> Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice:  
they will have their fill.
- <sup>7</sup> Blessed are those who show mercy to others:  
they will be shown mercy.
- <sup>8</sup> Blessed are those whose hearts are clean:  
they will see God.
- <sup>9</sup> Blessed are those who work for peace:  
they will be called children of God.
- <sup>10</sup> Blessed are those who are persecuted  
because of their struggle for justice:  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs.
- <sup>11</sup> "You are fortunate when others insult you and persecute you,  
and utter every kind of slander against you because of me.
- <sup>12</sup> Be glad and rejoice, for your reward in heaven is great; they  
persecuted the prophets before you in the very same way.

Ray Of Hope started in response to years of persecution aimed at people who experience attraction, desire, comfort, emotional connection, spiritual connection with other people who are in one or many ways outside the scope of a construct of behavioral boundaries known as "Christian, Biblical, Traditional heteronormative sexual orientation." What we find in Scripture is the full spectrum of sexual orientation and even gender expressions that do include what we call "straight" but also include polyamorous, same-gender loving, divorced and remarried, divorced, single, asexual, and almost any modern expression of personhood we find today. It can even be argued that the Law of Moses allowed what we identify today as surrogacy. Church leadership knows these are factual statements. However, most clergy have their hands tied tightly to denominational dogmatic and teaching decisions set by others outside the "pay scale" of pastoral care that keep the pastors' tongues clinging to the roof of their mouths (see Psalm 137:6).

It's okay to say "gay" here and every other variously defined word of the colorful stain-glass window of the human rainbow. It is all God's doing from start to end.

Jesus said: "And you will know the truth, and the

truth will make you free." John 8.32 -----

----

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

(Isaiah 56:7)

Romans 8:38-39

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

<sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

[Read full chapter](#)

(Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans%208%3A38-39&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.)

Proclaiming the Doctrine that there is no separation between the love of God and the People is the theme, the motto, the purpose of Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc., and to welcome everyone just as God in Christ has welcomed us.

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)

All saints, all people, and all of creation are welcomed in this place, for this place belongs to the God of all creation, and we have been fortunate to understand the Living, Loving, Good, and Gracious God through Jesus Christ, God's Only Begotten Son, our Lord, and Saviour.

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

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

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

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

Christ died and rose again for this very purpose--to be Lord both of the living and of the dead. (New Living Translation)



## Thirty Queer and Saintly people from Church Records

Advocate magazine June 2, 2017

<https://www.advocate.com/religion/2017/6/02/30-lgbt-saints#slide-0>

1. Aelred of Rievaulx 12th C. abbot
2. Joan of Arc sexuality and gender
3. Erzulie Vantor
4. Bernard of Clairvaux and Bishop Malachi of Armagh
5. Saints Boris and George the Hungarian
6. Blessed Bernardo Francisco de Hoyos y de Sena
7. Brigid and Darlughdach
8. Francis of Assisi
9. Hildegard of Bingen
10. San Juan de la Cruz
11. John the Beloved Apostle
12. Lazarus
13. Madre Juana del la Cruz gender bending
14. John Henry Newman he "loved me with an intensity."
15. Perpetua and Felicity patron saints of lesbians
16. Walatta Petros with Ehetta Kristos two women "love for one"
17. Polyeuct and Nearchus soldier same-sex lovers in church
18. Sebastian main patron saint of gays
19. Sergius and Bacchus GK "erastiai" lovers Same-sex union
20. Symeon of Emessa and John 6th C. Byza same-sex union
21. Avertanus and Romeo 1370, blk plag same coffin Pat AIDS
22. Vivaldo and Bartolo Franci. 13th c. patron saints of AIDS +
23. Wenceslaus younger Podiven companion buried with him
24. Wilgefortis trans saint of 14th C.
25. Paulinus of Nola bisexual married to wmn, poems to man
26. Longinus the Centurion may have had rom intst in Jesus
27. Anselm of Canterbury Arch Bsp. same-sex yearnings
28. Augustine intimate with "another man"
29. King Edward II married a woman, male lovers Piers Gaveston
30. Mary Magdalene

Praying And Singing With the Holy Sprit *W. 9*

Start anywhere on the page and sing or speak these prayers.

Add your own! Make your own melody to God with all your heart!

We praise You!
I love you, Jesus!
Fill me Holy Spirit!
I glorify You my Saviour!
Alleluia!
We love You!
You are risen for ever!
Lord of lords.
We are Yours!
You are our HOPE.
You are Faithful and True.
I serve only You, Jesus!
I give you my life!
Praise you for life.
Most High God, I love you.
Glory to You, Blessed God!
We glorify You!
Glory to You!
Praise to your holy Name!
My Saviour!
You are our God!
Praise you, Lamb Of God.
I adore you, Jesus.
I serve You, Jesus!
O Prince of Peace!
Love of my soul!
You alone are True!
Almighty, Good God of all!
I worship you!
Praise to You Eternal Word!
I praise you, Holy Spirit!
We give you thanks.
Glory to you, Holy Saviour!
You have redeemed me!
Praise to You, O Jesus!
Fill us with your Holy Spirit!
I am yours, O God!
We give you praise.
Glory To You Christ!
Saviour forever!

You are my joy!
Praise you, Holy Spirit!
Saviour of my heart!
Use me Jesus!
I give you thanks.
We worship You!
O Jesus!
We praise You for your great glory!
I adore you!
Praise to You!
We adore you, Jesus.
You are the Great Amen!
Praise you, Holy Saviour!
You have set me free!
King of kings.
You're my strength, O God.
I praise You!
Praise You Word Of God.
You are my life, dear God.
You alone are Saviour!
You are my Shepherd!
I say yes, Lord!
You alone are Righteous!
O, Lamb Of God!
Rock of safety
You alone are Worthy.
Thank you Holy Saviour!
You alone one the One God!
Alpha and Omega!
I love You, O my Lord!
You reign forever!
Hallelujah, Lord Jesus!
Lion Of Judah!
O Loving God!
The Way, The Truth, The Life now and forever!
My Redeemer!
Jesus is the Holy One!
Lord God, Heavenly King.

All are welcome to avail themselves to our services of worship.

(<http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/Worship.htm>)

Authentic Scripture is known when it progresses in three levels:

1—the actual historicity of the events described for the people of that time and place; 2—the voice of Jesus in prophecy in the First Testament, the voice of Jesus as Head of His Church, and prophecy fulfilled in the Gospel. 3—the

universal truths applicable to God's people in every time and place. The Scriptures are here as our divine guide to living out God's will.

Salvation is God's purview.

Romans 9:14-16 <sup>14</sup> What then are we to say? Is there injustice on God's part? By no means! <sup>15</sup> For he says to Moses,  
"I will have mercy on whom I have mercy,  
and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."  
(Exodus 33:19)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

38th anniversary— beginning our 39th year of ministry.

UFMCC

**Calling** people to new life through the liberating Gospel of Jesus Christ...

**Confronting** the injustice of poverty, sexism, racism, and homophobia through Christian social action...

**Creating** a community of healing and reconciliation through faith, hope, and love

Perfect day: Reformation Sunday—an ongoing way of life in the Holy Spirit, every year, every month, every day should be a reformation, a reorientation, a new and focused emphasis on God's holy will in our lives and the lives of this congregation.

Feast of All Saints—the absolute, complete message of the work of God made

known through God's own Eternal Word Incarnate, our Lord and Saviour Jesus the Christ, that all will be resurrected, and that there will be a New Heaven and a New Earth where God will be "all in all."

**Prayers for the salvation of all people to be made holy and live forever.**

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who have the most need of your mercy. (Fatima prayer)

Lord Jesus Christ, with faith in your love and your mercy we partake of your Body and Blood as you command. May this not bring us condemnation, as Scripture warns, but bring us health in mind, body, soul and spirit. And we pray that all people will be re-assembled without the loss of anyone in your Kingdom of love and glory. We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen

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

**Brother: PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE:** Hurricanes, floods, war, disease and healing, prayers for Annie and Gary -car accident, Josef Post for healing and guidance, who else should we pray for?

**Lisa:** 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, and our presence on the Internet platforms. All are welcome to avail themselves of our services of worship. (<http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/Worship.htm>)

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

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 #93** Lord I Lift Your Name On High. Words and Music by Rick Founds

**Verse**

Lord I lift Your name on high  
Lord I love to sing Your praises  
I'm so glad You're in my life  
I'm so glad You came to save us

**Chorus**

You came from heaven to earth  
To show the way  
From the earth to the cross  
My debt to pay  
From the cross to the grave  
From the grave to the sky  
Lord I lift Your name on high

**Lord I Lift Your Name On High.** Words and Music by Rick Founds

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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  
might. Hea-ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -  
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: Alleluia composed by Jerry Sinclair**

- 1) Alleluia
- 2) Lord, we praise you.
- 3) Lord, we thank you.
- 4) Alleluia

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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 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

**General Offering** for the week of October 20 \$295.00 Attendance 19 on Sunday  
Wednesday, October 23, Attendance 5

**General Offering** for the week of October 27 \$840.00 Attendance 12 on Sunday  
Wednesday, October 30, Attendance 5

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

Ian and Christina made a \$450.00 donation to the Building Improvement Fund. Thank you.  
Kaiden Benedict made a \$450.00 donation to the Building Fund. Thank you.  
Br. Benedict made a \$640.00 to the Building Fund. Thank you.

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

Thanks is overdue for a TV/Monitor Katrina donated for our use. It is currently in the Frasier Room.  
Thank you, Katrina.

Thank you Travis Askins for repairing our access elevator gate and making it safe again. We appreciate your talent.

Thank you, Ed Askins for your donation to the Building Fund of \$40.00

Veronica's Family: Denise Robinson, Diane Housley, Tejuana McMillian, Tami Whatley and Veronica Floyd donated \$325.00 to the Building Improvement Fund. Thank you, all of you.

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.

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.

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/>

November 4, Monday no scheduled events.

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.)

Sunday, November 10, Worship 10:30 a.m. Veterans Day Weekend

November 11, Monday 3:00 - 4:30 PM By-Laws Revision Committee

November 12, Tuesday NAACP meets so Bible Enrichment 7:15 - 8:45 p.m.

November 13, Wednesday NOON - 12:45 Mass In-Person

Sunday, November 17, Worship 10:30 a.m.

November 18, Monday 3:00 - 4:30 PM By-Laws Revision Committee

November 19, Tuesday NAACP meets so Bible Enrichment 7:15 - 8:45 p.m.

November 20, Wednesday NOON - 12:45 Mass In-Person

**PLEASE BE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING DATES**

**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**

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 Wk 4 Reverend Mother's Day in the Winter, Mary, - purple

December 23, Monday 3:00 - 4:30 PM By-Laws Revision Committee if needed.

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 MASS????? 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 WORSHIP???????????

Inquiries Class #1 Friday March 7, 2025 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Statement of Purpose, Statement of Faith

Inquiries Class #2 Friday March 14, 2025 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Worship and Common Threads

Inquiries Class #3 Friday March 21, 2025 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Polity & Practice (Liturgical Calendar +)

Inquiries Class #4 Friday March 28, 2025 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Human Sexuality and the Bible

Inquiries Class #5 Friday April 4, 2025 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. 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



**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.**

**General Fund** opening balance at the beginning of the month of September, 2024 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.

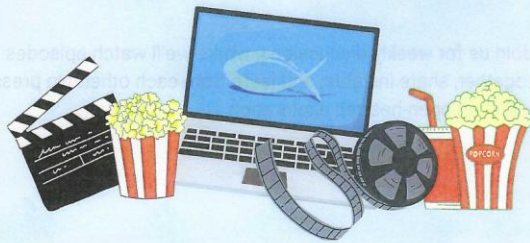
This report was given at the October 22 meeting of the Council by Mr. Edward Askins, Council Treasurer.

# 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



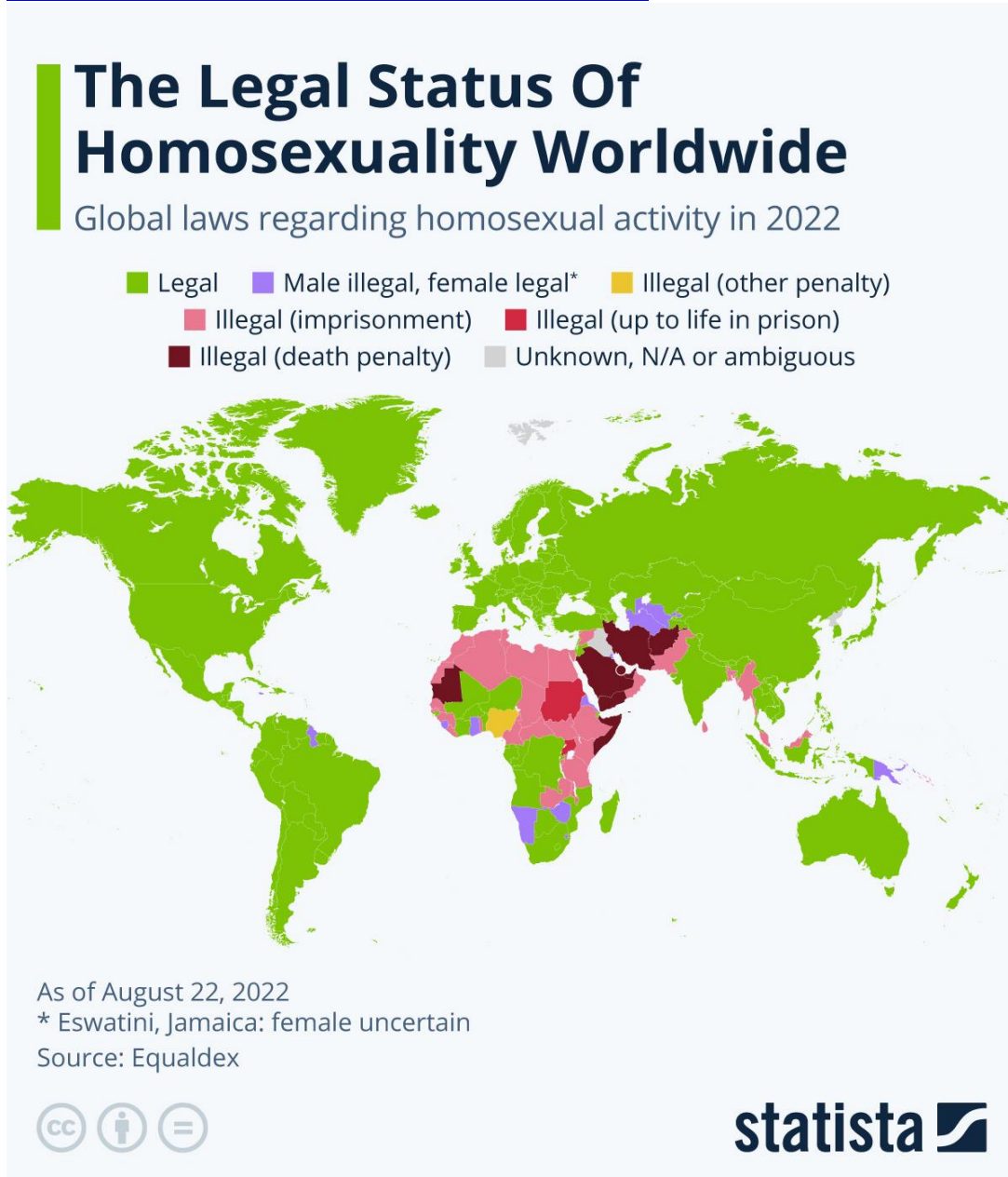
The First Presbyterian  
Church of Elmira  
presents a joy filled  
exuberant service of  
worship and praise.

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.

website: <https://www.statista.com/chart/4310/global-laws-against-homosexuality-visualised/>  
<https://cdn.statcdn.com/Infographic/images/normal/4310.jpeg>



**We Are Sent Forth To Serve**

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

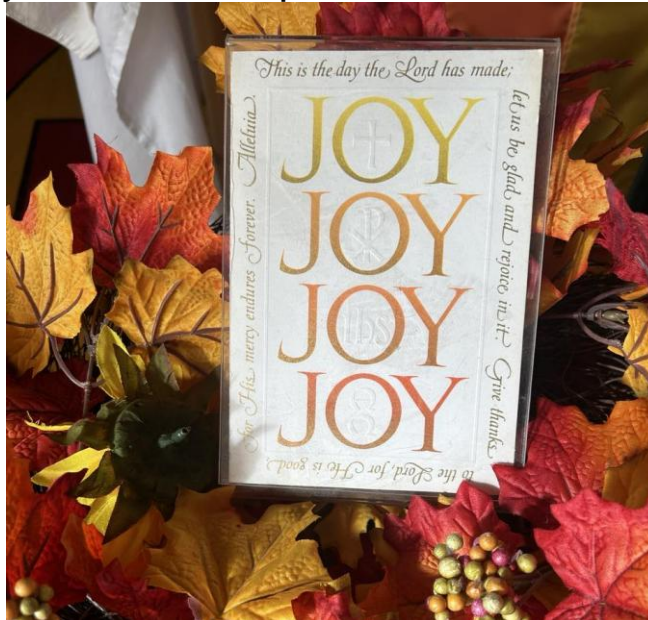
**ALL:** And also with you!

**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

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: Be Not Afraid.** Text: Based on Isaiah 43:2–3; Luke 6:20ff. Text and music © 1975, 1978, Robert J. Dufford, SJ, and OCP. **G&P #602** Used with permission. Onelicense #80666 Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278.

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)

