

**"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 11-17-24 Pentecost Week 27, 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B
Eschatology Week 1 of 6
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: Daniel 12:1-3 NRSV 1st Test. Pg. 834

Psalm: Psalm 16:5,8,9-11 Responsorial Psalm inside bulletin.

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:11-18 NRSV 2nd Test. Pg. 224

Gospel: Mark 13:24-32 NRSV 2ND Testament page 50

***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.**

All Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc. online presentations and accompanying bulletin programs are covered by our Onelicense Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278, our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121, and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152. Copyright credits and U.S. Copyright Fair Use statements are in the presented materials. We are making every effort to comply with all regulations. Please contact us with questions, concerns, and suggestions to improve our copyright practices. Thank you.



CALL TO WORSHIP

Visit and greet one another until the bell rings.

Bell's 1st 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. 1st 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. To facilitate your full participation, please look for today's bulletin, Order of Worship, and Music Supplement 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. For people watching on the Internet, 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. Right-click on this Skype Link: <https://join.skype.com/qt6Y1PQvj04I>.

You do not need an account on Skype to "enter as a guest" when prompted. 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. Take a moment now and gather these items.

This morning, Ed Askins will play the piece "Surround Me," a song by Clint Brown, as a prelude to help us prayerfully prepare for worship. We ask everyone to refrain from visiting and spend this time in prayer; thank you.

Music Prelude played by Ed Askins. "Surround Me" Words and Music by Clint Brown. © 1996 Curb Dayspring Music (Admin. by Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp.) CCLI Song # 931965. Used with permission through our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121 and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.



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

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



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

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 instruct us to:

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 Rathbun. 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, God's love, and the Holy Spirit's fellowship is 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 11-17-24, Pentecost Week 27, the 33rd of 34 Sundays in the Church year, Year B. Next Sunday is the Feast of Christ The King, the last Sunday of the Church Year. December 1st is the First Sunday of the New Church Year and is World AIDS Day.

The Church Calendar takes up the Theology of Eschatology for the remaining six Sundays to Christmas. Today, November 17, 2024, is the First Sunday of Eschatology, the study of the final events, the End Times as revealed in Scripture.

Also, we observe Transgender Awareness Week, November 13 – 19, an annual observance to help increase an understanding of the lives of people who understand themselves as somewhere on the gender spectrum that may or may not fit perfectly into the traditional binary model. Transgender Awareness Week is followed by Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 20 each year.

Ray Of Hope Church stands on the principles that all people are equal in God's Creation and that this congregation will always welcome and embrace everyone. Therefore, we support all persons of every sexual orientation and every gender expression of one's state in life as holy and uniquely created by God as we endeavor 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: For You Are My God. G&P 612

For You Are My God

Words and Music by John Foley, S.J.

Refrain

For you are my God;
you alone are my joy.
Defend me, O Lord.

1. You give marvelous comrades to me;
the faithful who dwell in your land.

Those who choose alien gods
have chosen an alien band.

2. You are my portion and cup;
it is you that I claim for my prize.

Your heritage is my delight,
the lot you have given to me.

3. Glad are my heart and my soul;
securely my body shall rest.

For you will not leave me for dead,
nor lead your beloved astray.

4. You show me the path for my life;
in your presence the fullness of joy.

To be at your right hand forever
for me would be happiness always.

For You Are My God. G&P 612 Text based on Psalm 16. Text and music © 1970, John B. Foley, S.J. Published by OCP. All rights reserved. OCP Octavo/Bonus Music. Onelicense Song #81275 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 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 the panel names on Block # 133.



Names (panel number) on Block # 133

- Don Harrison (1)
- Richard Hauk (2)
 - Doug (3)
- Ramona (4)
- Ed Denk (5)
- Ronathan Price (6)
- Robin Jacobsen (7)
- Rick Flack (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: Glory & Praise Second Edition 349

Change Our Hearts

Rory Cooney/Jeffrey Honoré

Refrain

Change our hearts this time,
your word says it can be.

Change our minds this time,
your life could make us free.

We are the people your call set apart,
Lord, this time change our hearts.

1. Brought by your hand to the edge of our dreams,
one foot in paradise, one in the waste;
drawn by your promises, still we are lured by the shadows
and the chains we leave behind. But

2. Now as we watch you stretch out your hands,
off'ring abundances, fullness of joy.
Your milk and honey seem distant, unreal,
when we have bread and water in our hands. But

3. Show us the way that leads to your side,
over the mountains and sands of the soul.
Be for us manna, water from stone,
light which says we never walk alone. And

Final Refrain

This time change our hearts.
This time change our minds.
This time change our hearts,
change our hearts.

Change Our Hearts. Words and Music by Rory Cooney/Jeffrey Honoré © 1984, OCP. All rights reserved. Glory & Praise Second Edition 349 Onelicense Song #81517 Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-74127



WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS

+ Confession and Forgiveness of our sins, our failures.

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. In silent prayer, we consider our relationship with God and others, confess faults, sins, and failures to Christ, who is present in this room and our bodies, and receive His immediate forgiveness.

Pastor: Colossians 3:11b - 13 reads:

There is only Christ, who is all in all. ¹² Because you are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt compassion, with kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

¹³ Bear with one another; forgive whatever grievances you have against one another—forgive in the same way God has forgiven you. ¹⁴ 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

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."

WORDS ONLY HERE. MUSIC SCROLL DOWN

"The Gloria"

From "Music for Worship"

© Words and Music: Gaude! Liturgical Arts 7/25/19 - 1/21/24 Br. Shawn F. Benedict, O.S.B. Dedication :Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc. 40th Anniversary.

Refrain:

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to all people on earth.
Glory to God in the highest.
We give you thanks and praise. Alleluia!
We give you thanks and praise.

Verse 1:

You are the One God,
Sovereign of the Universe,
Only Holy God, we worship You,
we give You thanks,
we praise You for Your great glory!

Refrain:

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to all people on earth.
Glory to God in the highest.
We give you thanks and praise. Alleluia!
We give you thanks and praise.

Verse 2:

Lord, Jesus Christ;
The Only Begotten Son of God
You are Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of God;
receive our prayer.

Refrain:

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to all people on earth.
Glory to God in the highest.
We give you thanks and praise. Alleluia!
We give you thanks and praise.

Verse 3:

For You alone are the Holy One.
You alone are the Lord of all,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
With the Holy Spirit in the Glory of God.
In the Holy Spirit, in the Holy unity of God.

Refrain:

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to all people on earth.
Glory to God in the highest.
We give you thanks and praise. Alleluia!
We give you thanks and praise.

Verse 4:

Amen; We give you thanks and praise.

Amen; We give you thanks and praise.

Amen; We give you thanks and praise.

Amen.

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

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

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 remain standing for the opening prayer.

+ Opening Prayer

Leader-4: The Lord is with you, Alleluia!

ALL: And also with you, Alleluia!

Leader-4: Together, we lift up our hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader-4: We make this exhortation together:

ALL: Let us keep the Scriptures in mind and meditate upon them day and night, persevering in prayer, always on the watch. Let us beg the Lord to give us real knowledge of what we read and to show us not only how to understand it but how to put it into practice, so that we may deserve to obtain spiritual grace, enlightened by the law of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose power and glory will endure throughout the ages. Amen

Leader-4: Saint Origen, who lived from 185 – 254 A.D., wrote this prayer. His prayer is our prayer on this day. Please be seated now and listen with all your heart, soul, and mind as we open the Word of God.



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 Daniel, chapter 12, verses 1-4. The reading is on page 34 in the first testament of the NRSV Bible. I will be reading from The Inclusive Bible Version. Here begins the reading.

12 :¹ "At that time, Michael, the great chieftain who stands guard over your people, will stand up— and there will follow a time of great suffering the likes of which has never been known from the founding of the nation until that moment. When that time comes, your people will be rescued, every one whose name is written in the Scroll;

² and those who lie sleeping in the dust will rise up,
some to life everlasting
and some to the reproach of eternal torment.

³ The wise will shine like the bright heavens,
and leaders of justice like the stars forever more.

⁴ "But you, Daniel, must keep all of these things secret until the time
of the End.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

(Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation (pp. 2055-2056). Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. Kindle Edition. The Inclusive Bible Page 499. Copyright © 2007 by Priests for Equality. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. 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.)

+ 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 16, verses 5,8, and 9 through 11, with a
responsorial verse. This is the Psalm from which the lyrics to our first song
we sang, "For You Are My God" are developed. Today's response is, "
Lord, You are my God. You alone are my joy."

R: Lord, You are my God. You alone are my joy.

⁵O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup,
it is you yourself who are my prize.

⁸ I keep you, Lord, ever in my sight;
since you are at my right hand, I shall stand firm.

R: Lord, You are my God. You alone are my joy.

⁹ And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.

¹⁰ For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know decay.

R: Lord, You are my God. You alone are my joy.

¹¹ You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,

at your right hand happiness for ever.

**R: Lord, You are my God. You alone are my joy.
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 16 (inclusive language - 1993) ©1963, 1986, 1993 The Grail (England). Onelicense song #38587 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 in the Book of Hebrews, chapter 10, verses 10-18. The reading is on page 224 in the second testament, in the back of the NRSV pew Bible. I will be reading from The Inclusive Bible Version. Here begins the reading.

¹⁰ By God's will, we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once and for all. ¹¹ Every other priest performs services every day and offers the same sacrifices many times; but these sacrifices can never take away sins. ¹² Christ, however, offered one sacrifice for sins, an offering that is effective forever. Then Christ sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ and now waits there until God puts all enemies in their rightful place. ¹⁴ With one sacrifice then, Jesus has made perfect forever those who are being sanctified. ¹⁵ The Holy Spirit also attests to this, first saying, ¹⁶ "'This is the Covenant I will make with them when those days arrive,' says our God: 'I will put my laws into their hearts and write them on their minds.'" (Jeremiah 31:33) ¹⁷ Then she adds, "I will never again remember their sins or offenses." (Jeremiah 31:34) ¹⁸ So when sins and evil deeds have been forgiven, an offering to

take away sins is no longer needed.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

(Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation (pp. 3163). Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. Kindle Edition. The Inclusive Bible Page 777. Copyright © 2007 by Priests for Equality. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. 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.)

+ 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

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

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

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

©1993 by Gaude! Liturgical Arts. All Rights Reserved. International Copyright Secured. Reprinted here under CCLI#706121

Reader: The Gospel reading is on page 50 in the back of the NRSV Bible. The reading is in the Gospel of Mark, chapter 13, verses 24-32. 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.**

The Coming of the Son of Man

²⁴ "But in those days, after that time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, ²⁵ the stars will fall from the sky and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶ Then they will see the Promised One coming in the clouds with great power and glory; ²⁷ then the angels will be sent to gather the chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

The Lesson of the Fig Tree

²⁸ "Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ In the same way, when you see these things happening, know that the Promised One is near, right at the door. ³⁰ The truth is, before this generation has passed away, all these things will have taken place. ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

The Necessity for Watchfulness

³² "But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it—neither the angels of heaven, nor the Only Begotten—no one but Abba God.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord!

ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

(Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation (pp. 2757-2758). Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. Kindle Edition. The Inclusive Bible Page 674. Copyright © 2007 by Priests for Equality. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. 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.)

Gospel Acclamation

Forever, We Are Yours!

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

"Music For Worship"

Music by: Gaude! Liturgical Arts
December 31, 1995

Glo-ry to the One God! Glo-ry to our Sa - vior Je - sus 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!

©1993 by Gaude! Liturgical Arts. All Rights Reserved. International Copyright Secured. Reprinted here under CCLI#706121

+ 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.



**STATE OF NEW YORK
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

Albany, New York

August 27, 2024

AMENDED CERTIFICATION

To the Boards of Elections of the State of New York:

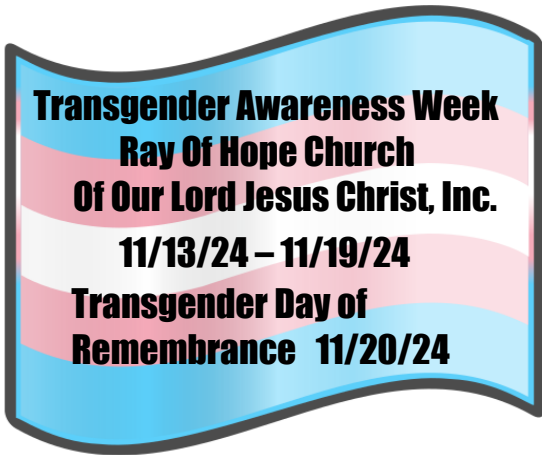
Notice is hereby given, that as to the General Election to be held in this State on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, the following proposal will be submitted to the people for their approval: Proposal Number One, an Amendment

**TEXT OF PROPOSAL NUMBER ONE, AN AMENDMENT
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF THE
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY**

proposing an amendment to section 11 of article 1 of the constitution, in relation to equal protection

Section 1. Resolved (if the Assembly concur), That section 11 of article 1 of the constitution be amended to read as follows:

§ 11. a. No person shall be denied the equal protection of the laws of this state or any subdivision thereof. No person shall, because of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, creed [or], religion, or sex, including sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes, and reproductive healthcare and autonomy, be subjected to any discrimination in [his or her] their civil rights by any other person or by any firm, corporation, or institution, or by the state or any agency or subdivision of the state, pursuant to law.



(Source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Nuvola_Transgender_flag.svg)

Licensing [edit]



I, the copyright holder of this work, release this work into the **public domain**. This applies worldwide.
 In some countries this may not be legally possible; if so:
 I grant anyone the right to use this work **for any purpose**, without any conditions, unless such conditions are required by law.

Legal disclaimer

This image or video file contains a symbol that represents sexual and gender minorities, including lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender.

Use of these symbols **may be subject to punishment according to applicable laws in Afghanistan, Iran, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates**, etc. In Russia, the applicable law is federal law #195-FZ.



In addition, using these symbols for the purpose of discriminating against sexual and gender minorities **may be subject to punishment under anti-discrimination laws in the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom**, etc. In the United Kingdom, the applicable law is the Public Order Act 1986 [↗](#).

Deutsch · English · español · हिन्दी · Bahasa Indonesia · 한국어 · македонски · русский · slovenščina · 中文 (简体) · +/-

Galatians 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, neither servant nor free, and neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Let me say clearly: gender is not an issue for one's salvation. Wherever you find your expression of your best self, own it, embrace it, and share it with others. It is a tragedy of our social construction that we have severely divided our Human Race into a binary system of gender expression. When we enforce a strict choice of this or that in gender and sexual orientation, we completely miss the beauty of fluidity God provides in every aspect of Nature. One example that will be sufficient is, what color is a "blue sky" actually? Which shade of "blue" defines the "blue sky" color? We may continue through every aspect of Nature; which green is the "pine green" color exactly? Of course, there is no exact color for anything in life, not even white or black. In Galatians 3:28, the Holy Spirit tells us everything is in motion, everything is in flux, and every living moment is someplace in some time that has never been before and never will be again. We have

been moving toward and away from it forever, simply because it is what was or will become. Should we expect any less from gender or sexual tension, attraction, union, or oneness? Scripture says God is "all in all" many times, and we should apply this to our understanding of all matters human and divine. We put the divisions in place, and God continues to erase what we keep putting in place, as God continues to forgive our sins of division. God calls us to be One, to be in One, with One, through the experience of One, Being, Time, Space, Energy, Life.

In Christ, there is no ethnicity, no competitive quality, and no binary impossibility, but there is life, love, and liberty. These ideas are what I think of when I apply Galatians 3:28 to my passion for living. Wherever you are today, tomorrow, or ten years from now in your experience of the full spectrum of God, the image of God; "Let us make them in our image, male and female" (Genesis 1:26 +) you are okay with me, you are fine, you are fantastic, just be the you that God has called you to be.

These are just a few reasons to observe with reverence Transgender Awareness Week and Transgender Day of Remembrance.

<https://www.hrc.org/campaigns/transgender-awareness-week-transgender-day-of-remembrance>

The topic of Eschatology is one of the most extraordinary and beautiful messages of the Holy Scriptures, for this topic is God's plan for the Universe from before the first movement of Time to the very last second of Time. Everything that God has done, is doing, and will do is revealed in the unveiling of the Mind of God in the Holy and most glorious Word of God, on paper, in prayer, in the flesh, in the Church, in the Sacraments, in the very breath we take until we take no more.

The Lectionary, the weekly readings read worldwide together each Sunday, barely touches this topic. The objective study of Prophecy is addressed adequately in Bible Study classes, which we teach many Tuesday nights here at Ray Of Hope.

In Daniel Chapter 12, our First Reading today, the selected text jumps to an event that is also addressed in the Book of Revelation, written nearly six hundred years later, wherein we learn that in the future, in about the last third of the seven years known as the Tribulation Period, Michael the Archangel will have a terrible battle with the fallen angels and Lucifer the fallen Archangel. It is a battle understood in the realm of the spiritual world.

Here is the text, written nearly six hundred years after the text in the Book of Daniel. Revelation 12:7-12

Michael Defeats the Dragon

⁷ Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, ⁸ but they were defeated and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. ⁹ And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. ¹⁰ And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. ¹¹ And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. ¹² Rejoice then, O heaven and you that dwell therein! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!" (Source: RSV

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation%2012%3A7-12&version=RSV>)

I would expect any of you to ask me how this section of the last book of the Bible could align perfectly with the Book of Daniel in Chapter 12 of their books, respectively. Actually, that is how I remember where the two stories match up; they are both in chapter 12. In answer to the question of how they line up, some people have such a high opinion of themselves

that they dare to suggest these two books are impostures, dishonest pseudepigraphy, indicating they were not written by the Prophet Daniel or the Apostle John, who lived hundreds of years apart, likely 600 years apart, but rather by some unknown author from somewhere to make the books appear to be about the same events.

I certainly do not have to tell you I find those ideas to be horrifically death-defying and dishonest.

The reason the ideas in the Books of Daniel, Ezekiel, Isaiah, Psalms, Zechariah, Zephaniah, Micah, Malachi, Hosea, Genesis, and more line up with the prophecies fulfilled, being fulfilled and yet to be fulfilled in the Second Testament from Matthew to Revelation is they are all Divinely designed, intertwined, and thoroughly through-lined by the One and only God, Christ, and Holy Spirit, page one, to page none any further; call it, "One and done."

The resurrection will come after this "time of great suffering" or great tribulation as often referred to is complete.

I am skipping over many details we will look into during the next five weeks. Today, hear a message repeated throughout these readings, "When that time comes, your people will be rescued, every individual whose name is written in the Scroll.." Daniel 12:1(c).

This Scroll appears again in Chapter Five of the Book of Revelation, and only Jesus, the Lamb of God, can open it. The Scroll contains the names enrolled in the "Lamb's Book of Life," which is mentioned in Revelation 13:8, Revelation 17:8b, Revelation 20:15, Revelation 21:27. Jesus tells his disciples to rejoice that their names are written in heaven in Luke 10:20, our names are "enrolled in heaven" in Hebrews 12:23. The book of life is referenced in Philippians 4:3. Jesus has the full authority over our eternity. He has given us the simple key to security with simple cooperation with His voice and guidance, especially spelled out in John 5, verse 24:

Any person who hears my word and believes in God who sent me has eternal life, will never come under judgment, and has passed from death to life (already).

Never again will God remember the sins confessed and forgiven (today's second reading).

When will Christ return? Today's Gospel reading does not reveal The day and hour. However, when reading Matthew Chapters 24 and 25, Jesus reveals signs that the time is near.

We are instructed to be watchful, ready, and willing to see, hear, and do the will of God in this Age and the Ages to come. He will lead us as our God Shepherd.

*****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?

Veronica: 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 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: Alleluia composed by Jerry Sinclair

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

Alleluia composed by Jerry Sinclair © 1972 Manna Music, Inc. (Admin. by Gaither Copyright Management). CCLI Song #16811. All rights reserved. International copyright secured. Used with permission through our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121 and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.

Leader - 3: (**You may improvise a prayer or use this one.) God, we bless you and praise you for all the gifts we have received to support this ministry. We bless you for those who can give financially, and for those who give with their skills, prayers, and many other ways. We bless you for those who could not give at this time, 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.

©1993 by Gaude! Liturgical Arts. All Rights Reserved. International Copyright Secured. Reprinted here under CCLI#706121

+ 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

Corporation) CCLI Song#1534 Used with permission by our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121, and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.



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 **Holy and Anointed One.** Words and Music by John Barnett.

Verse 1

Jesus, Jesus.
Holy and Anointed One,
Jesus.

Verse 2

Jesus, Jesus.
Risen and Exalted One,
Jesus.

Chorus

Your name is like honey on my lips.
Your Spirit like water to my soul.
Your Word is a lamp unto my feet.
Jesus, I love You, I love You.

Ending

Jesus, Jesus.

Holy and Anointed One. Words and Music by John Barnett. © 1988 Mercy / Vineyard Publishing, Administrators - Integrity Music. CCLI Song #1643 For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. Used with permission by our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121, and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.

All Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc. online presentations and accompanying bulletin programs are covered by our Onelicense Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278, our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121, and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152. Copyright credits and US Copyright Fair Use statements are found throughout the presented materials. Every effort is being made to comply with all regulations. Please contact us with questions, concerns, and suggestions to improve our copyright practices. Thank you.

NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION UPDATED EDITION (NRSVUE)

Publisher: National Council of the Churches of Christ. Copyright Information "Scripture quotations are 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. All rights reserved worldwide. Quotations or reprints more than five hundred (500) verses must be approved in writing by the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., 110 Maryland Ave., Suite 108, Washington, DC 20002.

New Revised Standard Version – 1989

Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Up to 500 verses of the RSV or NRSV may be quoted in any form (written, visual, electronic or audio) without charge and without obtaining written permission...Quotations or reprints more than five hundred (500) verses must be approved in writing by the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., 110 Maryland Ave., Suite 108, Washington, DC 20002.

The Inclusive Bible. 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.

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

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

General Offering for the week of November 3 \$1,300.00 Attendance 19 on Sunday
Wednesday, October 6, Attendance 6

General Offering for the week of November 10 \$310.00 Attendance 10 on Sunday
Wednesday, October 13, Attendance 4

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

****Recent Special Gifts****

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.

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.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS ON OUR CALENDAR

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

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

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

November 19, Tuesday 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Bible Enrichment

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

November 20, Wednesday 7:00 p.m. decorating the chapel for Christ the King.

November 21, Thursday Council Meeting 6:30 – 8:00 DRAFT OF BY-LAWS REVISION

Sunday, November 24, Worship 10:30 a.m. Feast of Christ The King

November 25, Monday 3:00 - 4:30 PM By-Laws Revision Committee

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

November 27, Wednesday NOON - 12:45 Mass In-Person

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

December 4 Wednesday NOON - 12:45 Mass In-Person

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

December 11 Wednesday NOON - 12:45 Mass In-Person

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 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 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

Update 11/09/2024

Praise Report:

Dear Friends and Members, it is with praise and thanksgiving to God that I can report to you that the boiler has been repaired and ALL the invoices have been paid for the repair!! The total amount paid for four invoices billed was \$5,960.75 which came out of the building improvement account. Thanks to your generosity in making this possible. This was an emergency repair in which we had to use a majority of the money we had in the account. The initial purpose of the account was to set aside funds for painting and repairing the external siding on the building and we will need to replenish the account to make these needed repairs in the Spring.

Please keep this in mind future donations will definitely be needed. Again, thank you, thank you, thank you for your past donations and we thank you in advance for future donations.

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.

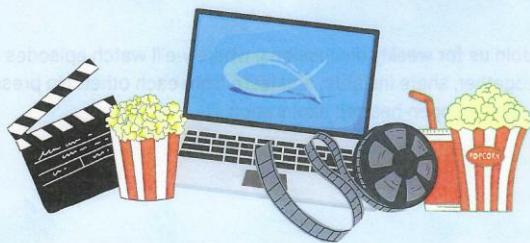
This report was given at the October 22 meeting of the Council by Mr. Edward Askins, Council Treasurer.

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.

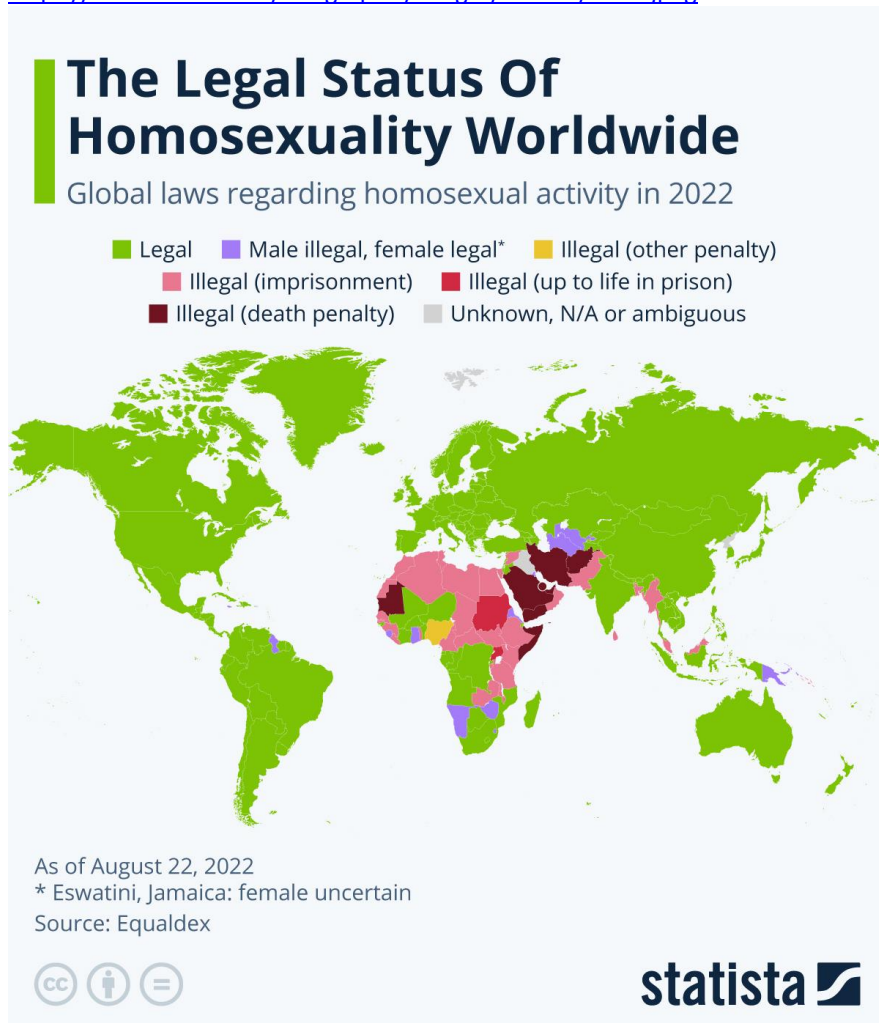
Come, worship, be
energized and refreshed
for your many acts of
service.

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

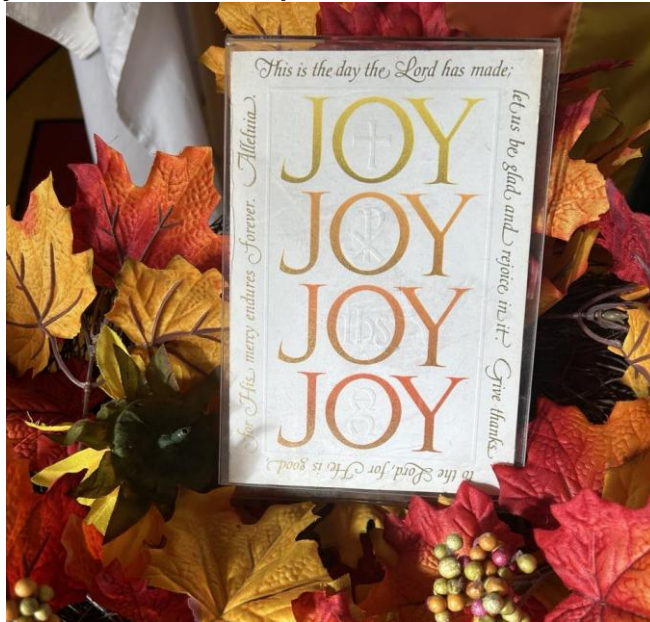
Leader - 2: **SAINTS:** The Lord is with you!

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: G&P 542

Here I Am, Lord. Words and Music by Dan Schutte

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,

Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Text: Based on Isaiah 6. Text and music © 1981, OCP.
All rights reserved. G&P 542 **Here I Am, Lord. Words and Music by Dan Schutte.** Text: Based on Isaiah 6. Text and Music ©1981, OCP. All rights reserved. Onelicense Song #80670 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. 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.

Visit us online:

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

—————Scripture verses to share with others:—————

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

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

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

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

"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"

(Isaiah 43:19 ESV)

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

