



Ray Of Hope

Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ

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

(Isaiah 56:7)

Founded: 10/31/1983. Now in our Fortieth year of Ministry.

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

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

"It is time to put our faith into action."

"Faith without works is dead." (James 2:14-26)

Veronica Floyd, Moderator

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

We extend a very special welcome to our visitors.

You are as welcome here as Jesus Christ Himself.

Scripture exhorts us: "Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God" Romans 15:7 (NABRE – 2011)

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

Today is November 20, 2022 The Feast of Christ The King Yr. C
Eschatology, 2nd of 6 Sundays



Transgender Day of Remembrance

Ray Of Hope Church teaches the same Christian faith of ancient ecumenical consensus. St. Vincent of Lerins, a fifth-century monk and theologian, described it as

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

Scripture Readings for this worship event:

First Reading: Daniel 7:13-14 NRSV 1st Test. Pg. 828

Psalm: Psalm 93:1-2, 5 Responsorial psalm inside bulletin.

Second Reading: Revelation 1:4-8 NRSV 2nd Test. Pg. 245

Gospel: Mark 13:21—33 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 of the Bible and the 2nd Testament numbers are found in the later portion. If this confuses you just ask someone around you to assist you. Thank you.**

** Trans flag.png Rebecca Bettencourt Public Domain [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Trans_flag_\(Vexillo_-_Google_emoji_style\).png](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Trans_flag_(Vexillo_-_Google_emoji_style).png)



CALL TO WORSHIP

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

Bell's 1st ring. As the bell rings, please find your seat and spend the next few minutes in silent prayer. Please refrain from conversations as these disturb those trying to pray.

The St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi bell at Ray Of Hope Church, 380 W. 1st St. in Elmira, NY, was a gift from Michael Quinnell of Syracuse, NY, in September 2005. The bell rings out 39 joyful rings, in contrast to tolling the bell in single rings. The 39 joyful rings honor the 39 lashes Jesus endured that we now celebrate in victory and gratitude for our salvation. "The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes, we are healed." (Isaiah 53:5) The bell is rung 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 _____, and I am in the City of _____ in the State of _____. We welcome you 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 extend a special welcome to our visitors and guests here in the chapel and online through Skype and Facebook. Online visitors may email rayofhopechurch@aol.com to be added to our email list. Write "email list" in the Subject. Visitors in the chapel can fill out the email information form at the hospitality table and place it in the offerings/donations box.

You may participate in some parts or all of this worship event as you feel comfortable.

At Ray Of Hope Church, we assist people at various stages of visual impairment by announcing all instructions, page and song numbers, and using a psalm response verse.

Leader-2: Hello. My name is _____, and I am in the City of _____ in the State of _____. Today, those participating through the Internet may receive Holy Communion with us during this worship event. You do not need to be a Member of this church or any church to receive Holy Communion at Ray Of Hope Church. We celebrate the Lord's open table, where everyone is welcome. Those celebrating at home, please prepare the following items at this time and bring them to your table; 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. We will use these items for Holy Communion during the second half of the worship service.

Leader-1: The bulletin with the worship order is available in multiple ways. If you are watching on Facebook Live, look for the "Featured Link" in the window. Click on the icon, and the bulletin will appear in a second window. You can flip or slide between the Order of Worship bulletin and the webcast. For people watching on Skype, there is a link in the chat window, "Order of Worship." Right-click on it and choose to open it in a new window or new tab. The Order of Worship bulletin is also on our website's front page. Look for the large gold box labeled SUNDAY WORSHIP INFORMATION for the links to Skype and the Order of Worship bulletin. www.rayofhopechurch.com Take a moment now and gather these items. We will start shortly.



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

Leader – 2: We are glad you have chosen to spend this time with us. You are as welcome here as Christ Jesus himself. 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 -1: Please welcome one another, and introduce yourself to those around you for the glory of God. **During COVID, we may wave into the camera across the Internet.

Pastor: We begin in the name of God our Creator, Christ Jesus Our Lord and Saviour, and the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen

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

ALL: And also with you.

Pastor:

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

We are celebrating the fourth Sunday in our 40th year of ministry.

Welcome to the **"WOKE"** Church of Elmira, NY and the world.

Dictionary.com: <https://www.dictionary.com/browse/woke>

Verb

1) a simple past tense of [wake](#)!

adjective

- 2) having or marked by an active awareness of systemic injustices and prejudices, especially those involving the treatment of ethnic, racial, or sexual minorities: In light of incidents of police brutality, it's important to stay woke. He took one African American history class and now he thinks he's woke. This generation of kids is trying to make woke choices in life.
- 3) *Disparaging.* of or relating to a liberal progressive orthodoxy, especially promoting inclusive policies or ideologies that welcome or embrace ethnic, racial, or sexual minorities.
- 4) Slang. aware of the facts, true situation, etc. (sometimes used facetiously): The moon landing was staged. Stay woke!
- 5) awake: I had to drink lots of coffee this morning to stay woke.

We are proud to be known as the "WOKE" Church of Elmira and Central NY. Popularized by African-American young men, the definition of "woke" is: having or being marked by an active awareness of systemic injustices and prejudices, a liberal progressive orthodoxy, especially promoting inclusive policies or ideologies that welcome and embrace ethnic, racial, and sexual minorities. Awake and aware. Source: Dictionary.com In Theological terms: Awakened by the Holy Spirit, alive in Christ, supporting persons of all Religions and faiths and those with no faith or religion. See the Ray Of Hope Church Statement of Purpose for more support of these ideas. Right Click Here: <http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/purpose.htm>

Next Sunday, November 27, is the start of a new Liturgical Year, the beginning of Year A in the Sunday Readings Cycle. There will be changes in the Order of Worship as we will have the Advent Wreath over the next four Sundays.

The readings scheduled for today continue on the subject of Eschatology, the study of the final events of modern times described in the Scriptures. Today is the second of six Sundays in our series on Eschatology.

In 1925, Pope Pius XI (1922 to 1939) instituted the Feast of Christ the King in the encyclical *Quas Primas* (from Latin, "In the First") to respond to secularism—the adoration of 'idols' of the earthly world, such as money and fame, above God. Though the encyclical was written 97 years ago it is clear that secularism is still a clear threat to the message of who Christ is. The Roman Catholic Church, Anglicans, Presbyterians, Lutherans, Methodists and others celebrate this on the last Sunday of the church year. Celebrating Christ the King on the last Sunday of the church calendar also calls attention to Christ coming as "King of kings and



Christ the King, St Botolph without Aldersgate, London

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:St_Botolph_without_Aldersgate_London_EC1_-_Window_-_geograph.org.uk_-_1209741.jpg (Creative Commons Attribution Share-alike license 2.0) ()

Read more information about the Common Lectionary:

<https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/faq2.php>

Who uses the Revised Common Lectionary of readings?

- American Baptist Churches/USA
- Anglican Church of Canada
- Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops
- Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
- Christian Reformed Church in North America
- Church of the Brethren
- Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
- Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
- Mennonite Church
- North American Lutheran Church
- Polish National Catholic Church
- Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
- Presbyterian Church in Canada
- Reformed Church in America
- The Episcopal Church
- The United Methodist Church
- Unitarian Universalist Christian Fellowship
- United Church of Canada

- United Church of Christ
- United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
- Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Next Sunday, November 27, is the First Sunday of Advent Year A – purple. Our Pride Sunday in the Winter, Gaudete Sunday, "Rejoice Sunday," will be on December 11. Gaudete Sunday will feel early this year.



Transgender Day of Remembrance November 20

<https://www.hrc.org/resources/trans-awareness-week>

We stop and pray for all the people in the war still raging in Ukraine. We pray for an end to these hostilities that started approximately 277 days ago. This week there was additional confusion as a missile landed in the Country of Poland. It is uncertain where the missile originated. Russia invaded Ukraine on February 24, 2022.

This week our Nation celebrates Thanksgiving. We have many reasons to give God thanks and praise.

We are not here to practice a religion. One practices the piano or goes to football practice. We are here to participate in a multi-dimensional relationship in ways far beyond our human comprehension.

Pastor: 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.

Leader -5: Hello. My name is _____ and I am in the City of _____ in the State of _____. I invite you to rise as you are able for this call to worship prayer written by Rabbi Dr. Oren Z. Steinitz of Congregation Kol Ami Synagogue in West Elmira, NY.

Leader -5: There is none like You, Adonai, among the gods,
All: and there are no deeds like Yours.

Leader -5: Your Sovereignty is everlasting,
All: and Your dominion endures through all generations.

Leader – 5: Adonai reigns; Adonai reigned,
All: Adonai will reign forever and ever.

Leader- 5: May God give strength unto our people;
All: may God bless our people with peace.

(Machzor Kol Ami For the Days of Awe, page 260

© Dr. Oren Z. Steinitz, Rabbi. 2018-5778 Elmira, NY)

Leader -5: Blessed be the Holy Name of God from this time on and
evermore.

All: From the sun's rising to its setting, may God's Name be
praised! We bless you God, both now and forever.
Amen.

FIRST SONG:

+ The Candle Of Hope

Leader -1: Please be seated. Now, we light our Resurrection Candle
Of Hope in honor of the "Blessed Hope," the return of Christ who will
transform the living faithful and raise all to new life. **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: While lighting the Candle Of Hope, it is our custom to
read panel entries from the Names Project Aids Memorial Quilt to
remember those who died of AIDS. Unfortunately, some churches
continue to reject sick, lonely, and dying people with HIV/AIDS who
need spiritual guidance.

Leader -3: Hello. My name is _____, and I am in the City of _____ in the State of _____. Today we are reading the names on Block #55.

- Danny (1)
- Tim Kane (2)
- Hoy Fowler (3)
- John Minor (4)
- Jonathan D. Currier (5)
- Gene Williams (6)
- Thom K. (7)
- Steven Clover (8)

We remember them here and pray for their families.

Leader -2: At this time, we remember in our hearts the names of our family and friends who have died from COVID-related illness and other causes of death. May the candle's flame remind everyone of the joy and happiness known in life, the comfort offered by the Holy Spirit in our loss, and the "Blessed Hope" we have in the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

ALL: Amen

(NAMES Project website where you can visit over 48,000 panels and over 100,000 names on the Quilt virtually:
<https://www.aidsmemorial.org/interactive-aids-quilt>)

SECOND SONG:



WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS

+ Confession and Forgiveness of our sins.

Leader -2: Please be seated. (wait) After gathering, greeting one another, and praising God in song, we now prepare our hearts to

accept renewal when we listen to the Word, the Holy Scriptures. In preparation, we silently confess our sins to Christ and receive the forgiveness He promises to give us.
(silent prayer)

Leader -2: We pray together:

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

L-4: Hello. My name is _____, and I am in the City of _____ in the State of _____. Loving God, you challenge us to be the people who long for and love your future promised return. The burdens of life can easily dim our resolve. Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

L-4: Christ Jesus, you have called us to be sisters and brothers in you. At times we find it challenging to extend unconditional acceptance to others. Christ, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

L-4: Holy Spirit, you give us wisdom and understanding. Help us understand the Scriptures and to have the courage to share them with others. Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

L-4: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

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

Pastor: We pray that all of God's people may one day be united in God's Kingdom without the loss of anyone. Therefore, we ask Almighty God to have mercy on all of us, forgive all our sins, and keep us in everlasting life.

ALL: Amen.

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

Spoken:

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

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

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

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

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

+ Opening Prayer

Leader 5: O Loving, Eternal, and Holy God, our hearts and minds are open to hear these Scripture readings. May your Word cause action and change

to equip us for many more years of ministry. We ask this through Christ, our Lord;

ALL: AMEN.

Leader 5: Please be seated now as we listen attentively to the Scriptures.

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



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 _____.

The first reading is the Book of Daniel, Chapter 7, verses thirteen and fourteen. The reading is on page 828 in the first testament, in the front of the NRSV Bible. Here begins the reading:

¹³ As I watched in the night visions,

I saw one like a human being (Son of Man)
coming with the clouds of heaven.

And he came to the Ancient One
and was presented before him.

¹⁴ To him was given dominion
and glory and kingship,
that all peoples, nations, and languages
should serve him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion
that shall not pass away,
and his kingship is one
that shall never be destroyed.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

+ Psalm

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

The Psalm today is number 93, verses 1-2, and verse 5, with a responsorial verse. The response today is The LORD is king; the Christ is robed in majesty.

R. The LORD is king; the Christ is robed in majesty.

The LORD is king, in splendor robed;
and girt about with strength.

R. The LORD is king; the Christ is robed in majesty.

And LORD, You made the world firm,
not to be moved.
Your throne stands firm from of old;
from everlasting you are, O LORD.

R. The LORD is king; the Christ is robed in majesty.

Your decrees are worthy of trust indeed;
holiness befits your house,
O LORD, for the length of days eternal.

R. The LORD is king; the Christ is robed in majesty.

+ 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 Revelation, chapter 1, verses 4-8. The reading is on page 245 in the second testament, in the back of the NRSV Bible. Here begins the reading:

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne,
⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood,
⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.
So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

+ The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

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

Gospel Acclamation

We Love Your Word!

To my friends in Christ at Ray Of Hope Church "Music for Worship" Music by: Gaude! Liturgical Arts
October 31, 1993
Revised 8/2013

We love Your Word, O Lord for it set us free. We know the truth, O Lord; We are Yours e - ter - nal - ly. So we stand to hear Your Word. We praise You for Your Word. Al-le - lu - a! for Your Word. It heals our hearts, souls and minds. For Your Word, Al - le - lu - ia! Thank You Je - sus!

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Reader: The Gospel reading is John, chapter 18, verses 33-37 on page 85 in the second testament of the NRSV 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 Luke.

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

³³ Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴ Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵ Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶ Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews.

But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." 37 Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord!

ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

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!

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+ Sermon

Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc.
 The LGBTQISA2ss+ Pride Activities, and Social Events Center of Elmira, NY.
 The only Church in Central New York founded and fostered by the GLBTQISA2ss+ community for 39 years. October 31, 2022 - 39th Anniversary now in our 40th year in Ministry.

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

Sermon Notes November 20, 2022 The Sovereignty of Christ.

Today is the end of the Lectionary year, the Feast of Christ the King.

Tuesday, November 22, 6:30 p.m. Bible Enrichment Pre-Adamic World, the Gap Theory, the Pre-Adamite World.

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.*"

<http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/faith.htm>

Luke 21: 7 ⁷ They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?"

Matthew 24:3

New King James Version

The Signs of the Times and the End of the Age

³ Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what *will be* the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"

We are continuing in our 40th year. **ESCHATOLOGY WEEK 2 of 6**

Eschatology: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christian_eschatology

Christian eschatology is a major branch of study within Christian theology.

Eschatology, from two Greek words meaning "last" (ἔσχατος) and "study" (-λογία), is the study of 'end things', whether the end of an individual life, the end of the age, the end of the world and the nature of the Kingdom of God.

There are four dogmatic understandings of the one thousand year, or millennial, or Kingdom of Christ that denominations hold.

Remember, Dogmas are required beliefs that may change very slowly, even over hundreds of years. Dogmas are decided by the religious authority and are not dependent on being stated in the sacred writing, in our case, the Bible.

Four dogmatic understandings of the "kingdom of Christ."

- 1) Amillennial
- 2) Postmillennial
- 3) Premillennial
- 4) Spiritual

=====
Reminder: Ray Of Hope Church does not have a declared dogmatic position on eschatology. Each person is free to accept any understanding of eschatology. The position I have found to be the most logical and faithful to the Scriptures is Premillennial Eschatology. One very convincing factor in my acceptance of a premillennial view is this was taught from the beginning of the church until the middle of the fifth century. The reasons for abandoning the premillennial view had little to do with Scripture and were deeply bound up in politics.

In the 18th and 19th centuries a re-evaluation of eschatology led many theologians to a renewed commitment to the premillennial view of eschatology.

1) Amillennial

The a- in amillennialism negates the term; hence, amillennialism means there will not be a literal, future millennium. Amillennialists do not deny the literal return of Christ, but they reject a literal thousand-year reign of Christ on the earth. According to amillennialism, the kingdom of God is present in the church age, and at the consummation of the present age, the eternal state is inaugurated without any intervening millennium.⁸² For this reason some amillennialists suggest a term such as realized millennialism to indicate that they do not deny a millennium but believe it is fulfilled entirely in the present age.⁸³

Enns, Paul P. . The Moody Handbook of Theology (p. 409). Moody Publishers. Kindle Edition.

Amillennialists teach that the purpose of Christ's return is for "introducing the future age, the eternal state of things." ⁸⁷ This will be accomplished by the resurrection of the dead and the final judgment.

Enns, Paul P. . The Moody Handbook of Theology (p. 410). Moody Publishers. Kindle Edition.

2) Postmillennial

Postmillennialism may be defined as "that view of the last things which holds that the Kingdom of God is now being extended in the world through the preaching of the Gospel and the saving work of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of individuals, that the world eventually is to be Christianized, and that the return of Christ is to occur at the close of a long period of righteousness and peace commonly called the

Enns, Paul P. . The Moody Handbook of Theology (p. 413). Moody Publishers. Kindle Edition.

The millennium.100 Postmillennialism adopts an optimistic view with respect to this present age, envisioning a golden age of progress in the church age that affects every dimension of life: economic, social, cultural, and political. Postmillennialism envisions a church triumphant, spreading the gospel to the ends of the earth with the result that "evil in all its many forms eventually will be reduced to negligible proportions, that Christian principles will be the rule, not the exception, and that Christ will return to a truly Christianized world." 101

Enns, Paul P. . The Moody Handbook of Theology (p. 413). Moody Publishers. Kindle Edition.

Extremist view: Dominion Theology, Christian Reconstructionism

Book: Dominion Theology, Blessing or Curse? ©1988 by J. Wayne House and Thomas D. Ice. Published by Multnomah Press Portland, Oregon 97229 (https://www.amazon.com/Dominion-Theology-Blessing-Christian-Reconstructionism/dp/0880702613/ref=sr_1_6?dchild=1&keywords=Dominion+Theology&qid=1606050333&sr=8-6) Pg. 73

"One of the most controversial elements of theonomy is the advocacy of re-establishing the Mosaic penal system. What should this mean? Most prominently, the death penalty for at least the following crimes: murder, gross negligence resulting in the death of another, rape, adultery, apostasy, homosexuality, bestiality, gross incorrigibility in children, idolatry, and perhaps sabbath-breaking.Another controversy is the issue of stoning..... First, stones are plentiful at almost no cost. Second, no single blow can be traced to any person, reducing feelings of guilt. Third, it displays collective responsibility for crime prevention. Fourth, executions should be public and personal. Fifth, it is symbolic of God's crushing the head of Satan, as prophesied in Genesis 3:5."

3) Premillennial – Church Age is before the Millennial Reign Of Christ.

A Pg. 63	
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The church from the beginning was premillennial in belief. The Didache (c. A.D. 100), Clement of Rome (A.D. 96 or 97), the Shepherd of Hermas (A.D. 140–150), Ignatius of Antioch (A.D. 50–115?), Papias (A.D. 80–163), Justin Martyr (b. c. A.D. 100), Irenaeus (d. A.D. 200), Tertullian (A.D. 150–225), and other sources indicate that the early church believed in the return of Jesus Christ to personally establish His earthly kingdom.¹³⁰

(Charles C. Ryrie, *The Basis of the Premillennial Faith* (Neptune, N.J.: Loizeaux, 1953), 17–26. This is an extremely valuable source in not only tracing the history of premillennialism but also explaining the hermeneutical principles and the biblical foundation of premillennialism in the unconditional covenants of the Old Testament.

Enns, Paul P. . *The Moody Handbook of Theology* (pp. 430-431). Moody Publishers. Kindle Edition.)

Enns, Paul P. . *The Moody Handbook of Theology* (pp. 417-418). Moody Publishers. Kindle Edition.

Distinction between Israel and the church. The term Israel always refers to the physical posterity of Jacob; nowhere does it refer to the church.¹³² Although nondispensationalists frequently refer to the church as the "new Israel," there is no biblical warrant for doing so. Many passages indicate Israel was still regarded as a distinct entity after the birth of the church (Rom. 9:6; 1 Cor. 10:32). Israel was given unconditional promises (covenants) in the Old Testament that must be fulfilled with Israel in the millennial kingdom. The church, on the other hand, is a distinct New Testament entity born at Pentecost (1Cor. 12:13) and not existing in the Old Testament, nor prophesied in the Old Testament (Eph. 3:9). It exists from Pentecost (Acts 2) until the rapture (1 Thess. 4:13–18). Herein lies the reason for belief in the pretribulation rapture: the purpose of the tribulation is to judge unbelieving Gentiles and to discipline disobedient Israel (Jer. 30:7); the church does not have purpose or place in the tribulation.

Enns, Paul P. . *The Moody Handbook of Theology* (p. 418). Moody Publishers. Kindle Edition.

4) Spiritual – Details do not matter. There may be a kingdom, there may not be one, perhaps it is in our hearts, in our good works, in our being together.

The people of the time of the life of Jesus rejected Christ as king. People today reject Christ as King. People during the Tribulation period will reject the Christ. Even when He comes in the clouds many on earth will reject him. His kingdom will be brought in by God, and will be fulfilled by God's will.

King David raised with the house of Israel and he will rule with Jesus in the kingdom of Christ in Earth for 1,000 years.

[Jeremiah 30:9 context 30:1-9](#) (serve the Lord their God and David their king.)

[Isaiah 55:3-5](#);

[Ezekiel 34:23-24; 37:21-28](#) (24-25);

[Hosea 3:4-5](#)

Luke 1:26-33 "the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David."

Daniel 2:42-45

⁴²As the toes of the feet were part iron and part clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly brittle. ⁴³As you saw the iron mixed with clay, so will they mix with one another in marriage,^[c] but they will not hold together, just as iron does not mix with clay. ⁴⁴And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall this kingdom be left to another people. It shall crush all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand for ever; ⁴⁵just as you saw that a stone was cut from the mountain not by hands, and that it crushed the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold. The great God has informed the king what shall be hereafter. The dream is certain, and its interpretation trustworthy.'

https://www.vatican.va/content/pius-xi/en/encyclicals/documents/hf_p-xi_enc_11121925_quas-primas.html **QUAS PRIMAS** ENCYCLICAL OF POPE PIUS XI ON THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

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2) Page 1742 summary THE DAY OF THE LORD Revelation 19:19

19:19 THE DAY OF THE LORD, SUMMARY

The Day of the LORD is that period of time when God openly intervenes in the affairs of men—in judgment and in blessing. See Joel 1:15, *note*. It will begin with the translation of the Church and will terminate with the cleansing of the heavens and the earth preparatory to the bringing into being of the new heavens and the new earth.

The order of events appears to be:

- (1) the rapture of the Church just preceding the beginning of the Day of the LORD (1 Thess. 4:13–17);
- (2) the fulfillment of Daniel’s seventieth week (Dan. 9:27), the latter half of which is the great tribulation (Matt. 24:21; see Rev. 7:14, *note*);
- (3) the return of the Lord in glory to establish the millennial kingdom (Matt. 24:29–30);
- (4) the destruction of the beast, the false prophet, and their armies, which is the “great and awesome” aspect of the day (Rev. 19:11–21);
- (5) the judgment of individual Gentiles according to their treatment of Christ’s brethren, the Jewish people (Zech. 14:1–9; Matt. 25:31–46) and the judgment of Israel (Ezek. 20:34–38);
- (6) the millennial reign of Christ on earth (Rev. 20:4–6);
- (7) the satanic revolt and its judgment (Rev. 20:7–10);
- (8) the resurrection and final judgment of the wicked (Rev. 20:11–15);
- (9) the destruction of the present earth and heaven by fire preparatory for the future “day of God” (2 Pet. 3:10–12); and
- (10) the creation of the new heavens and the new earth (Is. 65:17–19; 66:22; 2 Pet. 3:13; Rev. 21:1).

Hebrews 9:28 so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.



WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Leader – 3: Having heard the Word Of God, we bring our prayers to God in Christ through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit. Today we will offer communal prayers. Our response will be: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 3: Oh God, thank you for giving us another week of ministry and service. In thanksgiving, we pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 3: We give you thanks and praise for the changing times and seasons we enjoy; we pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 4: We continue to pray for the children and people of all ages whose lives have been changed forever by war. We ask God to heal and strengthen the people traumatized by the destruction of their homes, schools, and towns. For these intentions, we pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 4: We thank you for the possibility of peace, and we pray that world leaders will work toward peace; we pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 4: We thank you for our Country, the United States of America. May liberty and freedom increase for all; we pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader -2: We ask your blessing on all people suffering from climate change's effects, especially the loss of sources of food and shelter. We pray the leaders of the World to respond to this emergency. We pray to the Lord.

Leader -2: Gathered together, we ask your blessing on all religious leaders of every Religion known to humanity. We pray that religious leaders everywhere recognize and act upon their obligation to guide all people to you, Almighty God. We also pray that religious leaders will guide people to work for freedom, equality, and respect for everyone. We ask your blessing, Almighty God upon every community of seekers and those with no faith or formal Religion. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader- 2: We pray for those driven from faith because of the misuse of Religion. We pray for those who have been cast aside, excommunicated, and wrongly not included in the worship community. We hope all people grow to realize that they, too, are God's living light. We eagerly await your promised renewal of all creation when you shall be all in all. We pray to the Lord. (1 Corinthians 15:28)

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 3: We bless you, Almighty God, for all the people who have come through the doors of Ray Of Hope Church. We give you thanks for each person and organization that hosted our Congregation before we occupied our building in 2003. We thank you for every person who has labored in any way for this ministry. As we continue in the 40th year of ministry, we ask for your grace and guidance to remain faithful to this unique work of the Gospel; we pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 4: We invite you to add your petitions in silent prayer.
(silent prayer)

Leader –4: We pray to the Lord for these silent prayers.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 3: Lord Jesus, we lift our spoken and unspoken prayers to you. We ask you in intercede for us as our High Priest at the right hand of God.

ALL: Amen



(Visit our moving prayers page [Right Click Here.](#))

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

****** Leader:**

At this time, we show our gratitude to God and our dedication to the Church of Jesus Christ, His Body present in the world, by offering our financial gifts and support for this ministry. You may use the donation box next to the door in the chapel. In addition, donation envelopes are available on the hospitality table by the door. Drop your offering/donation into the box before, during, or after this worship event.

People on the Internet may use the [PayPal link](#) in your bulletin or mail a check to Ray Of Hope Church, 380 W. First St. Elmira, NY 14901. Additionally, the electronic links are always available in posted bulletins, on Facebook, and our website. So please give what you can, but never give your last.

Also, we now prepare our Holy Communion Altars and Tables at home and in the chapel. Bring to your table at home some wine, or grape juice, a small piece of bread, a little bit of water in a side cup, and a side napkin. Ideally, you are celebrating with us during the live webcast. Communion is a gift for the worship community to celebrate together, an action of the local church. However, if this is an extraordinary situation, and you believe the Holy Spirit is calling you to celebrate at a time other than the live webcast, then yield to the direction of the Holy Spirit. Hopefully, you will be able to join us in a live virtual worship event soon. (*This practice policy was changed on Gaudete Sunday, December 13, 2020.*)

Each of you in the chapel will find a small communion set at your seat. Shake the kit gently in case the contents have settled. After receiving Communion, someone will collect the cup.

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

SONG:

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

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



WE CELEBRATE THE SACRED MEAL OF CHRIST

Kaiden: Please gently hold the communion kit in your hands for the next two prayers. Those at home with bread please lift it now.

(*The Pastor may invite someone to say this prayer out loud.*)

Pastor: 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. In the chapel, please continue to hold your communion kit.

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.

Pastor: Now, please lift your cup with me as I pray this prayer.
(*The Pastor may invite someone to say this prayer out loud.*)

Pastor: 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.

Pastor: Please set down your cup.

Pastor: Truly present and risen among us; the Lord is with you!
ALL: And also with you!

Pastor: As His Body, we lift up our hearts!
ALL: We lift them up to the Lord!

Pastor: As His Church, we give thanks to the Lord, our God!
ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, almighty and eternal God. We praise You in the company of all the Faithful from every time and every place. We thank you for every person who shared in this ministry, especially our Foundresses, Founders, and those

visionaries who dared to step up and form a church where everyone is welcome when AIDS was causing a great deal of fear, even in the churches. By the way they lived their lives, you offer us an example. By our Communion with them now in Paradise, you give us companionship. By their intercession, we experience sure support so that, encouraged by so great a cloud of witnesses, we may run as victors in the race before us, and win with them the imperishable Crown of Glory through Christ our Lord. (Based upon the New Roman Missal (prayer book) Eucharistic Prayer #66, Preface I Of Saints (page 598))

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

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.

+ We Invoke the Blessing Of The Holy Spirit

Leader-1: Jesus **promised:** "..truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by God in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, I am there among them" (Matthew 18:19-21)

ALL: Further, Jesus also said: "Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these because I am going to God. I will do whatever you ask in my name so that God may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it." (John 14:12-14)

Cheryl: At Ray Of Hope Church, we pray together and ask the Holy Spirit to give us the same gifts that Jesus gave when He instituted Holy Communion for His Church. We invite you to extend your hands forward over the bread and fruit of the vine or extend your arms out with palms turned up in prayer and say the following Invocation of the Holy Spirit with me.

ALL: O God, in the Name of Jesus, we, your faithful people, ask your Only One and Holy Spirit to bless and separate this bread and fruit of the vine for Christ's purpose. Through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit, give to us the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in precisely the exact same manner that He gave them, and commissioned us to do often in His Holy Name. You alone, O Loving, True God, authenticate for us that this is the Messiah, Christ, New Covenant Meal that Jesus instituted for **our physical and spiritual** well-being. We ask this in the Name of Jesus. Amen

Cheryl: You may relax your arms and hands.

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

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



The Reception of Holy Communion

+ The Words Of The Institution Of The Holy Eucharist

Leader-1: Push down on the tab of your kits. Open the first seal and remove the bread. Please lift the Eucharistic Body Of Christ, the Bread of Salvation, and together we will say our Lord and Saviour's words of institution when he gave us the Blessed Sacrament.

**ALL: Before He was given up to death, a death He freely accepted, He took the bread and gave you thanks. He broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
Take this, all of you, and eat it: This is my body which will be given up for you. Do this in memory of me.**

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

Pastor: You may now receive the Bread of Life, the Body of Christ. The Gift of God for the People of God.

Leader-1: We are not going to open the seal on the cup just yet. Please lift now the cup of salvation, and together we will say:

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

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

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

Pastor: Open your kit and receive the Cup of Salvation, the Blood of Christ. The Gift of God for the People of God.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

+ A Proclamation Of Our Faith

Leader-2: We proclaim our faith together.

ALL: Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free. You are the Savior of the world.

PRIVATE PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION.

Leader-3: Some people are watching from a location where they do not have actual Holy Communion Bread and Wine with them. We offer the following prayer for them based upon a prayer from the Episcopal National Cathedral Prayer book for a Spiritual reception of Holy Communion. This prayer assures all the benefits and blessings of a physical reception. Together...

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

+ The Lord's Prayer

Leader -4: Having heard the Word of God and remembering the sacrifice of the cross, we invite everyone to pray together the prayer of Jesus.

**ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

+ Final Doxology

Pastor: Together we pray:

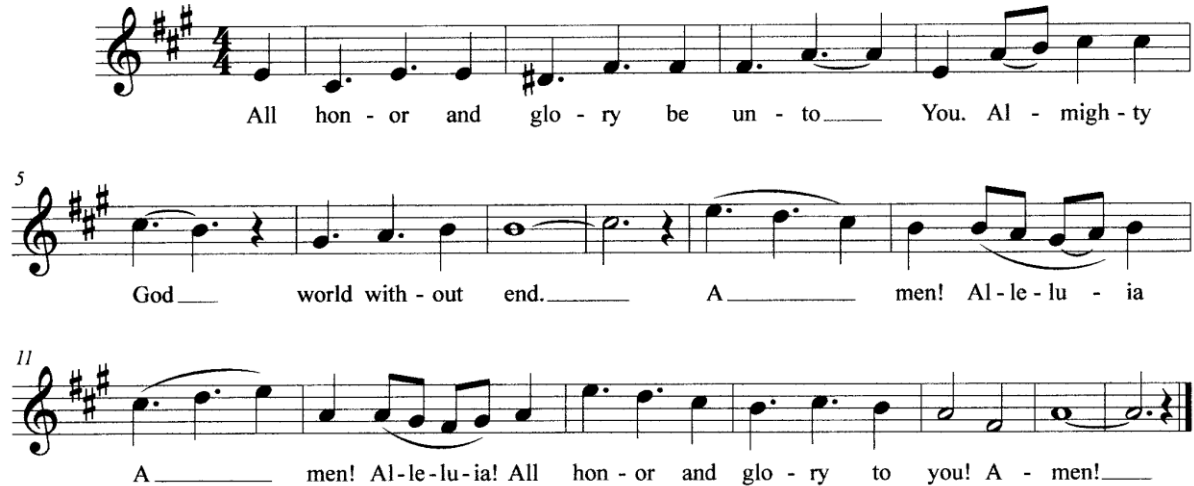
ALL: It is through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, that all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, forever and ever.

Doxology/Amen!

To my friends in Christ
at Ray Of Hope Church

"Music For Worship"

Music by: Gaude! Liturgical Arts
October 31, 1993



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

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+ Sign Of Peace

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

ALL: And also with you.

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

Veronica Floyd: 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.

SONG:

A silent prayer one might pray during Holy Communion:

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

A silent prayer one might pray during Holy Communion: Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of Hell, lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who are most in need of thy mercy.

This prayer is known as the Fatima Prayer. It is prayed thousands of times every day by people praying the Rosary. Looking closely, one can see it is a very gracious prayer that prays for the salvation of all people. Read more of my commentary on this prayer: [Click Here](#).

General Offering for the week of October 23 \$168.00 (some people give monthly rather than weekly) Attendance 6

General Offering for the week of October 30 \$1043.00 (some people give monthly rather than weekly) Attendance 6

General Offering for the week of November 6 \$ 873.14 (some people give monthly rather than weekly) Attendance 7

****Special Gifts recently given.****

We give God thanks and praise for all these gifts given. We appreciate the special gifts being made at this time.



Southern Tier Interfaith Coalition
(STIC)

Invites you to an
**Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Worship
Service**

Sunday, November 20, 2022 @ 3:30 PM

Congregation Kol Ami
1008 W Water Street, Elmira, NY 14905

A reception with dessert and fellowship will follow the service.

A freewill offering will be collected and donations will be given to the
SPCA of Chemung County.

All are Welcome!

For Additional Information on STIC, please visit our website at:
<https://sticinterfaith.org/>



UPCOMING EVENTS

OUR CALENDAR

November 20, 2022, Sunday @3:30 pm Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Worship Service by the Southern Tier Interfaith Coalition. Congregation Kol Ami 1008 W. Water St. Elmira, NY 14905

November 22 Tuesday Bible Enrichment 6:30 p.m.

November 27 **Advent WK I** – **Hope** The Candle Of Hope

November 29 Tuesday Bible Enrichment 6:30 p.m.

December 1 Thursday World AIDS Day.

December 1 Thursday 3:15 p.m. Budget planning workshop (Council Members)

December 4 Sunday **Advent WK II** – **Peace**

December 6 Tuesday St. Nicholas Day Bible Enrichment 6:30 p.m.

December 11 **Advent WK III Gaudete** – **Joy** Sunday Pride in the Winter

December 13 Bible Enrichment 6:30 p.m.

December 15 Friday @ 3:15 p.m. Council Meeting

December 18 Sunday **Advent WK IV** – **Love** Reverend Mother's Day in the Winter.

Hanukkah Starts at sundown **Day 1** 5:00 p.m. service of light

December 19 Monday Hanukkah **Day 2** 5:00 p.m. service of light

December 20 Tuesday Hanukkah **Day 3** 5:00 p.m. service of light

December 20 Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Bible Enrichment

December 21 Wednesday Hanukkah **Day 4** 5:00 p.m. service of light

December 22 Thursday Hanukkah **Day 5** 5:00 p.m. service of light

December 23 Friday Hanukkah **Day 6** 5:00 p.m. service of light

December 24 Saturday Hanukkah **Day 7** 5:00 p.m.,. service of light

SUNDAY December 25 NATIVITY

Hanukkah **Day 8** 5:00 p.m. service of light

December 26 Monday Hanukkah ends at sunset.

December 26 Monday Kwanzaa **day 1 Umoja (Unity)** 7:00 PM service online

December 27 Tuesday Kwanzaa **day 2 Kujichagulia (Self determination)**

7:00 PM service online

December 27 Bible Enrichment 6:30 p.m.

December 28 Wednesday Kwanzaa **day 3 Ujima (Collective work & responsibility)**

7:00 PM service online

December 29 Thursday Kwanzaa **day 4 Ujamaa (Cooperative economics)**

7:00 PM service online

December 30 Friday Kwanzaa **day 5&6 Nia (Purpose) & Kuumba (Creativity)**

7:00 PM service online

December 31 Saturday no service

January 1 Sunday Kwanzaa **day 7 Imani (Faith)** 7:00 PM service online

January 8 Sunday Epiphany



We Are Sent Forth To Serve

Pastor: The Lord is with you!

ALL: And also with you!

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

ALL: Amen

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

Leader-4: We go forth in peace and love to serve the Lord ...

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

Visit and follow us on our new TikTok Page: [Right Click Here](#) Here is the link if you need to copy and paste it into your browser:

<https://www.tiktok.com/@rayofhopechurchlgbtqisia? t=8UgoVv5ekqg& r=1> Thank you, Heather and Michael for making this project possible and producing our videos.

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Volunteer opportunities: As discussed at our Priorities Meeting #2 there are some exterior building volunteer opportunities. There are also some first floor interior volunteer opportunities – painting, patching using drywall mud, and a larger project day for removal of carpet and replacement with new carpet. If you have some time to spare and interest in these types of work please let Brother know with advanced notice so the necessary supplies will be ready.

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

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

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

=====**Who can receive the Holy Spirit**=====

Everyone has access to the Holy Spirit, the gift of God to us.
Read this on our website. [Right Click Here](#)



WHO SHOULD RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION, THE EUCHARIST, AT RAY OF HOPE CHURCH?

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

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

This Holy Communion is the Table of Jesus Christ, who is really present among us. Jesus invites you to receive Him in this

Eucharistic banquet. If this is your first time receiving The Blessed Sacrament, let us know before you receive or right after, so we might pray a special prayer of thanksgiving with you.

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

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

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

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

November 20, 2022 Christ The King Year C page: 41
mottos, when we quote Fr. Bartholomew J. O'Brien; "You are as
welcome here as Christ Himself."

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

Visit our page on the Sacraments. [Right Click Here.](#)

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

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 web site;
http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/Minors_At_Events.htm. Please enjoy your visit with us, and we hope you will return.

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

The Chapel is not open to the general public at this time as we try to do our part to stop the spread of COVID-19. Call for an appointment if you want some time to come in and pray. All of our regular services will be blended with live participation in the chapel and live on Skype and Facebook Live. To read the information on how to use Skype to participate with us [Click Here](#).. Visit our Facebook page [Click Here](#). As soon as it reasonably safe and prudent the chapel will be reopened.

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 on line:

Our website: <http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/> Facebook Page (like and follow) [Click Here](#).
Our YouTube page: www.youtube.com/rayofhopenyqlbtqs

—————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)