



Ray Of Hope

Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ

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

(Isaiah 56:7)

Founded: 10/31/1983. Now in our Forty-first year of Ministry.

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

April Struhm, Moderator

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

We extend a special welcome to our visitors.

You are as welcome here as Jesus Christ Himself.

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

Participate in some or all parts of this worship event as you are comfortable. We are building a wonderful Christ-centered Community here, and we invite you to share in our joy! After the Worship Service, please join us for refreshments and sharing.

Today is Sunday, April 7, 2024, Resurrection Week Two, Year B

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

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

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

Scripture Readings for this worship event:

First Reading: Acts 3:13-26 NRSV 2nd Test. pg. 121

Psalm: 4 selected verses with responsorial in this bulletin.

Second Reading: 1 John 2: 1-6 NRSV 2nd Test. Pg. 239

Gospel: Luke 24:35-48 NRSV 2ND Test. page 90

*We use the term 1st for the "Old" Testament and 2nd for the "New" Testament. The NRSV Bible 1st Testament numbers are found in the front portion, and the 2nd Testament numbers are found in the later portion. If this confuses you, ask someone around you to assist you. Thank you.

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CALL TO WORSHIP

Visit and greet one another until the bell rings.

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

The St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi bell at Ray Of Hope Church, 380 W. 1st St. in Elmira, NY, was a gift from Michael Quinnell of Syracuse, NY, in September 2005. The bell rings out 39 joyful rings, in contrast to tolling the bell in single rings. The 39 joyful rings honor the 39 lashes Jesus endured, and we now celebrate in victory and gratitude for our Salvation. "The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes, we are healed." (Isaiah 53:5) We ring the bell before worship and Bible Enrichment sessions. Listen carefully and see if you can hear all 39 rings.



WE GATHER TO PRAISE THE LORD AND GIVE THANKS

+ Pastoral Welcome

Leader – 1: Hello. My name is _____. I am in_(city) _____, _(State)_____. Good 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. 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, stop, look up at the people, and

smile.**) Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion with us during the second part of this worship event. We celebrate the Lord's open table where Membership in this or any church is not required to receive Communion.

People participating on the Internet, please bring the following items to your table at this time so you are prepared: 1) a cup with some wine or grape juice, 2) a small piece of bread, cracker, or matzo on a plate, 3) a second cup with some water, and 4) a side napkin.

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



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

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



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

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

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

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

Pastor:

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

Today is April 14, 2024, The Third Sunday of the Resurrection Season. In Acts Chapter One, verse 3, we read the following;

³ After his suffering^[a] he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. (NRSVUE <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+1&version=NRSVUE>)

The Church provides us with a 40-day season of the resurrection to experience in real-time the number of days people experience the actual, physical Christ among them. Then, when you add the ten days following the Ascension of Christ into the heavens, we arrive at Pentecost, the day the Holy Spirit, the promised Gift of God, was given to the Church for the beginning of the ministry; we have a 50 day Season, called The Great Fifty Days. Continuing in the same place in Acts, Chapter One, starting at verse 4, we read:

⁴ While staying^[b] with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard

from me; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with^[c] the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (NRSVUE

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+1&version=NRSVUE>)

We are here to give God thanks and praise for these glorious events we have been educated in by the gifts of the Holy Scriptures, the Tradition of the Church, the deposit of faith, and the teaching power of the Holy Spirit. We thank God for Christ among us. (see 2Timothy 1:13-14:

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Timothy+1%3A13-14&version=NRSVUE>)(see John 1:14:

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+1%3A14&version=NRSVUE>)

FIRST SONG: Alleluia! Alleluia! Let the Holy Anthem Rise G&P 399, verses 1,2,4

Text: 87 87 D; Edward Caswall, 1814–1878. Music: St Basil's Hymnal, 1889. Contributor: HOLY ANTHEM Onlicense Song # 84068. Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278

+ The Candle Of Hope

Leader -1: Please be seated. 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. 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/AIDS. Forty-one years later, some churches, religions, and even some countries continue rejecting the sick, lonely, and dying people with HIV/AIDS who need spiritual guidance. In a letter from amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research, we learn every minute someone somewhere contracts HIV, and in the year 2023, 1.5 million people became newly infected, and 650,000 people, including some from the United States, died of AIDS-related causes.

HIV/AIDS is still with us; therefore, 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.

(for more information about amfAR: <https://www.amfar.org/about-amfar/>)

Leader -3: Hello. My name is _____. I am in_(city) _____, _____(State)_____. Scroll the page to see the panel names on Block # 109.



Names on Block # 109

- Kyle Johnson (1)
 - John Willis (2)
- Another Time, Another Place (3)
 - Greg Clark (4)
 - Skipper (4)
 - Roger Ellis (6)
- David Johnson (7)
 - Herb Pruett (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 "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: O Sons and Daughters G&P 379

Text: O filii et filiae; Jean Tisserand, d.1494; tr. by John M. Neale, 1818-1866, alt.
Contributors: Richard Proulx; Onlicense # 92302 Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278



WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS

+ Confession and Forgiveness of our sins.

Leader -2: 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 forgiving our sins through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Leader – 3: Hear the Word of God in First John, Chapter One, verses eight and nine: "⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, Jesus, who is present, faithful, and just, will forgive and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

(Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=i+John+1%3A8-10&version=NRSVUE>
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Leader -2: At this time, we consider our relationship with God and others in silent prayer. Then, confess faults, sins, and failures to Christ, who will forgive us immediately.

(silent prayer for time to confess our sins.) (**Leader, please count to 20**.)

Leader -2: Now, 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.

Leader -4: Hello. My name is _____. I am in_(city) _____, _(State)_____.

The lust to exert human power over others has led to wars, suffering, poverty, and so many other sins against humanity. When governments prioritize weapons of mass destruction over food, shelter, work, and peace

for all, we witness a growing disregard for human life; we pray, Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

Leader -4: All discrimination is learned behaviors, chosen lifestyles, and intentionally promoted. When we discriminate, we dismiss the spectrum of gifts God has given the Human Race. We pray: Christ, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

Leader -4: During this Season of the Resurrection, we have many opportunities to share the truth that Jesus is truly present 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 reunited in God's Kingdom without losing 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.

Leader -4: Through confession and forgiveness, we have prepared our hearts to accept the renewal God offers when we listen to the Word, the Holy Scriptures. The Church now provides the service of praising God in thanksgiving together.

Pastor: Please rise as you are able to sing "The Gloria."

Ray of Hope Church, Inc. *The Gloria* Winds and Music
10th Annual Meeting "Music for Worship" 7/25/17
Handwritten: 11/21/24

Refrain

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

GLO-ry to God in the high-est, AND
 peace to all peo-ple on Earth.

GLO-ry to God in the high-est.

We give You thankS - and praise. Al-le-lu-ia.

We give You thanks and praise

Verso 1

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

D.C.

7/25/17, 11/24 Cant. Liturgical Arts by [Signature]

2. = 6/8 Refrain *1/21/24*

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

VERSE 2 The Gloria, Pg 2

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

2. = 6/8 *Refrain* *1/21/24*

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

Verse 3

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

(TO REFRAIN)
 © 7/25/17-1/1/24 Gaudes! Liturgical Arts *R. B. Benson*

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

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

Verse 4: Amen

The Gloria, Pg 3

ALL: A ————— men; we give you thanks and

We give you thanks and praise

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

ALL: Praise!

We give you thank and praise

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

ALL: men

men al-le-lu-ia

Primo 7/25/17 - 11/24/20

Gaudete! - 1/19/16

Quia Bona Gloria

+ Opening Prayer

Leader: Eternal Word of God, speak to us as we listen to the Sacred Scriptures read aloud. We ask the Holy Spirit to open our minds to understand what we hear so we may apply it in our lives, and give honor and glory to God in all we do through Christ, our Lord.

ALL: AMEN.

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

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



THE SERVICE OF THE WORD OF GOD

Reader: Hello. My name is _____. I am in_(city) _____, _____(State)_____. The first reading is the Book of Acts, chapter 3, verses 13-26. It is on page 120 in the back of the 1989 NRSV Bible. I will read the 2021 updated edition. Here begins the reading:

¹³ The God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob,^[a] the God of our ancestors, has glorified his servant^[b] Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴ But you rejected the holy and righteous^[c] one and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵ and you killed the author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶ And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus^[d] has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷ "And now, brothers and sisters, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸ In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah^[e] would suffer. ¹⁹ Repent, therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out, ²⁰ so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord and that he may send the Messiah^[f] appointed for you, that is, Jesus, ²¹ who must remain in heaven until the time of universal restoration that God announced long ago through his holy

prophets. ²² Moses said, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you from your own people a prophet like me. You must listen to whatever he tells you. ²³ And it will be that everyone who does not listen to that prophet will be utterly rooted out of the people.' ²⁴ And all the prophets, as many as have spoken, from Samuel and those after him, also predicted these days. ²⁵ You are the descendants of the prophets and of the covenant that God gave to your ancestors, saying to Abraham, 'And in your descendants all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' ²⁶ When God raised up his servant,^[g] he sent him first to you, to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

[Read full chapter](#)

Footnotes

- a. 3.13 Other ancient authorities read *and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob*
- b. 3.13 Or *child*
- c. 3.14 Or *innocent*
- d. 3.16 Gk *him*
- e. 3.18 Or *his Christ*
- f. 3.20 Or *the Christ*
- g. 3.26 Or *child*

(Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+3%3A13-26&version=NRSVUE>
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+ Psalm

Reader: Hello. My name is _____. I am in_(city) _____,
_(State)_____. Today, the Psalm is 4, verses 1, 4, 7-8, 9. The response is,
"Alleluia. Shine in our hearts, Lord."

R. Alleluia. Shine in our hearts, Lord.

¹ Answer me when I call, O God of my right!

You gave me room when I was in distress.
Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

R. Alleluia. Shine in our hearts, Lord.

know that the LORD has set apart the faithful for himself;
the LORD hears when I call to him.

R. Alleluia. Shine in our hearts, Lord.

Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!"

⁷You have put gladness in my heart
more than when their grain and wine abound.

R. Alleluia. Shine in our hearts, Lord.

I will both lie down and sleep in peace,
for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.

R. Alleluia. Shine in our hearts, Lord.

[Read full chapter](#)

Footnotes

- a. 118.12 Gk: Heb *were extinguished*
- b. 118.13 Gk Syr Jerome: Heb *You pushed me hard*
- c. 118.24 Or *in him*
- d. 118.26 Or *Blessed in the name of the LORD is the one who comes*
- e. 118.27 Meaning of Heb uncertain

(Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+4&version=NRSVUE>)

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+ Second Reading

Reader: Hello. My name is _____. I am in_(city) _____,
_(State)_____. The second reading is in the Book of the First Letter of
John chapter 2, verses 1-6. The reading is on page 239 in the second
testament, in the back of the NRSV Bible. Here begins the reading:

2 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may
not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father,

Jesus Christ the righteous, ² and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

³ Now by this we know that we have come to know him, if we obey his commandments. ⁴ Whoever says, "I have come to know him," but does not obey his commandments is a liar, and in such a person the truth does not exist; ⁵ but whoever obeys his word, truly in this person the love of God has reached perfection. By this we know that we are in him: ⁶ whoever says, "I abide in him," ought to walk in the same way as he walked.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

[Read full chapter](#)

(Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+John+2%3A1-6&version=NRSVUE>
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SPECIAL MUSIC Sung by Mrs. Christina McLaughlin: "Shepherd Of My Heart" Words and Music by Mark Baldwin and Dick Tunney, © 1985 Universal Music – Brentwood Benson Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) Pamela Kay Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing). CCLI Song # 14679 Used with permission through our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121 and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.

+ The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

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

Gospel Acclamation

We Love Your Word!

To my friends in Christ
at Ray Of Hope Church

"Music for Worship"

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

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

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Reader: The Gospel reading is Luke, chapter 24, verses 35-48, on page 90 in the back of the 1989 NRSV Bible. I will read the 2021 updated version.

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

ALL: And also with you.

Reader: A reading of the Holy Gospel according to 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.

**This is a continuation of last Sunday's Gospel, the disciples on the Road to Emmaus.

³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

³⁶ While they were talking about this, Jesus^[a] himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ^[b] ³⁷ They were startled

and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost.³⁸ He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?"

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord!

ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

[Read full chapter](#)

Footnotes

- a. 24.36 Gk *he*
- b. 24.36 Other ancient authorities lack *and said to them, "Peace be with you."*

(Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+24%3A35-48&version=NRSVUE>
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Gospel Acclamation

Forever, We Are Yours!

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

"Music For Worship"

Music by: Gaude! Liturgical Arts
December 31, 1995

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



Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc.

The LGBTQSIAN2ss+ Pride Activities, and Social Events Center of Elmira, NY.



The only Church in Central New York founded and fostered by the GLBTQSIAN2ss+ community for 40 years. October 31, 2023 - 40th Anniversary now in our 41st year in Ministry.

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

+ Sermon

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

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

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

God raised Jesus from the dead. Acts 3:15 ".. the author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. "

Key verse for Dominionism, Theocracy, Postmillennial Eschatology

Acts 3:19-21 ¹⁹ Repent, therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out, ²⁰ so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord and that he may send the Messiah^[f] appointed for you, that is, Jesus, ²¹ who must remain in heaven until the time of universal restoration that God announced long ago through his holy prophets.

Agenda of the Postmillennialist: 1) force people to repent so that sin can be wiped out. "Make" people do what is right! This is very different than Make America Great Again: - this could be done through positive thinking, freedom for all, public education for all, employment for all, lifting people out of social despair with social programs that provide education and retraining, intervention and improvement. However, Make America Pray Again implies that the law and forces will enshrine a certain religion into required social behavior and restrain or remove anyone who does not willingly cooperate.



Another verse that is taken completely out of context and used along side is: II Chronicles 7:14 ¹⁴ if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

There is a historical setting for II Chronicles 7:14 that does not fully translate to 2024. Additionally, before the death of Jesus, we were under the Dispensation of the Law of Moses. Indeed, during the Dispensation of the Law, salvation was by Nation, or national salvation or loss. After the death and resurrection of Jesus we are in the Dispensation of Grace, the Church, the Age of the Holy Spirit. Salvation has been achieved. Now, each individual has to open their desire their heart to receive the fullness of the experience of the presence of Christ. One's sin or acceptance no longer has any effect on the salvation or loss of the entire nation.

- 1) Friday, April 5, 2024 Earthquake 4.8 magnitude.
- 2) Monday, April 8, 2024 eclipse
- 3) Monday, April 8, 2024 Declaration of the Dicastery of the Doctrine of the Faith "Dignitas Infinita" on Human Dignity.
- 4) Tuesday, April 9, 2024 Metro Weekly runs a story:

https://www.metroweekly.com/2024/04/vatican-calls-gender-affirming-care-a-violation-of-human-dignity/?utm_source=Metro+Weekly&utm_campaign=150db4e1ef-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_VATICAN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_e1ac56f0d0-150db4e1ef-277080284&mc_cid=150db4e1ef&mc_eid=7e55257280

Vatican Calls Gender-Affirming Care a "Violation of Human Dignity"
Document from the Vatican's doctrinal office likens surrogacy and transition-related treatments to human trafficking, torture, and genocide.

By *John Riley* on April 9, 2024 @JRileyMW

READ the actual document from the Vatican:

<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2024/04/08/240408c.html>

The previous week we noted the following article:

1) **Detroit's Catholic archbishop calls trans identity 'gender confusion' in letter**

Niraj Warikoo

Detroit Free Press Published 6:07 a.m. ET March 28, 2024 | Updated 8:55 p.m. ET March 30, 2024

(<https://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2024/03/28/detroit-catholic-archbishop-letter-transgender-people/73067577007/>) reprinted in the Elmira Star-

Gazette Tuesday, April 2, 2024 Page 4A, Volume 60 | No. 129. The story appeared in many forms of local media. The article is hopeful in hearing the voices of the laity speaking positively about their experiences with Trans family members. However, the article clearly shows where the worldwide Roman Church stands on the issue. The problems this article could cause with families is immeasurable. The Roman Church has no plans to alter the Teaching on this subject. many "Protestant" churches will simply take on the position of the Roman Church rather than stand up for a better Truth on this subject of Gender Identity. (My summary and opinion - Br. Benedict)

5) Also on Tuesday, April 9, 2024 I became aware of an article published on

April 4, 2024 by Ministry Watch a website that states: "MinistryWatch is an advocate for **TRANSPARENCY**, **ACCOUNTABILITY**, and the renewed **CREDIBILITY** of Christian ministries. " (source: <https://ministrywatch.com/about-ministry-watch/>) The article titled: "**Another Missouri Boarding School Closes Following Abuse Claims**" (source: <https://ministrywatch.com/another-missouri-boarding-school-closes-following-abuse-claims/>) The article discloses four schools shuttered since 2020 in Missouri. There are so many things I find troubling about these reports, one being these schools are almost always associated with a "Christian ministry" of one kind or another. Another aspect that seems consistent is the school is often outside the oversight of the Board of Education of the State it operates in. Usually there are exemptions in civil laws that allow ministries to operate schools with very minimal oversight. While reading, one link led me to another and then another until I found a story about just such a school here in New York State named Ivy Ridge. there is a Netflix docuseries about this school that was in Ogdensburg, NY, titled; "The Program: Cons, Cults and Kidnapping" by filmmaker Katherine Kubler.

Forbes website information: " "The Program: Cons, Cults and Kidnapping" about New York's Academy at Ivy Ridge—leading to a wave of abuse reports and an investigation into the school by local law enforcement." " **The Academy at Ivy Ridge opened in 2001** as part of the World Wide Association of Specialty Programs and Schools (WWASPS), a Utah-based organization that included programs for troubled teens across the nation." " The industry of programs, schools and homes for troubled teens have been increasingly pushed into the spotlight in recent years. Called the "troubled teen industry," the term encompasses a wide variety of wellness centers, wilderness programs, boot camps, residential treatment centers and other programs that see families pay tens of thousands of dollars to rehabilitate children who've had problems with drugs or alcohol, behavioral issues, mental illness or other struggles.

The industry is worth an estimated \$23 billion, [according to](#) the Citizens Commission on Human Rights International. " (SOURCE FOR ALL FORBES INFORMATION ABOVE:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/maryroeloffs/2024/03/13/the-program-docuseries-is-among-netflixs-most-watched-what-to-know-about-the-real-academy-at-ivy-ridge/?sh=4bd1694713cf>) SEE

THE FILM Trailer here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pgk5l2nOegU>

** NO HIGH SCHOOL DEGREE! Supposedly Religious program, main feeder line from Evangelical Churches, troubled Christian youth. No worship that I have seen in the documentary or mention of it. Former Sisters Of St. Joseph of Rochester two year college and Novitiate.

SEARCH:WWASP

[https://www.google.com/search?q=world+wide+association+of+specialty+programs+and+schools+\(wwasps\)&og=World+Wide+Association+of+Specialty+Programs+and+Schools+\(WWASPS\)&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUqBwgAEAAyGAAQyBwgAEAAyGASoAgiwAqE&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8](https://www.google.com/search?q=world+wide+association+of+specialty+programs+and+schools+(wwasps)&og=World+Wide+Association+of+Specialty+Programs+and+Schools+(WWASPS)&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUqBwgAEAAyGAAQyBwgAEAAyGASoAgiwAqE&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8)

6) Tuesday, April 9, 2024 article; "Lawmakers OK bill to make adultery legal."

7) Arizona returning to 1800's anti-abortion law: Postmillennialism.

We are here because of those original fourteen people who clearly experienced the Risen Christ in their lives. They wanted to leave a living and vibrant witness to the fact that God loves all of us and God is responsible for the glorious spectrum of sexual orientation and gender expression. Speak up and speak out for God as you give witness that Christ is risen indeed and He lives within our hearts.

=====

*****OPEN MICROPHONE *****

=====



WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

+ The Prayers of the People

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

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


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

ALL: Amen.

Leader - 5: Hello. My name is _____. I am in_(city) _____, _(State)_____. 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.

There are many convenient ways to participate with your donation. Anyone



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

Offertory Song: Bless His Holy Name Words and Music by Andrae Crouch

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A prayer of thanksgiving for the offering is said here.

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

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



WE CELEBRATE THE SACRED MEAL OF CHRIST

Pastor: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all Creation. Through your goodness, we have this bread, and fruit of the vine, which the Earth has given us and human hands have lovingly made.

Now, through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit, this bread will become for us the Bread From Heaven (Exodus 16:2, Psalm 78:24, John 6:32, 41,50,58), and this fruit of the vine will become for us the Cup of Our Salvation (Psalm 116:13), the Cup of Everlasting Life (John 6:54-57), and together they will be the Sacrament of the Eucharist, the very Body and Blood Of Christ (John 6:54-56; 1Corinthians 10:16).

ALL: Blessed be God forever.

(Other titles include the Bread of the Angels (Psalm 78:25), the Bread of God (John 6:33), Cup of Our Salvation (Psalm 116:13), the Cup of Everlasting Life (John 6:54- 57), the Cup of the New Covenant (Matthew 26:28, Luke 22:20, 1 Corinthians 11:25)

Pastor: Please set down your communion kit.

Pastor: Truly present and risen among us; **SAINTS** the Lord is with you!

ALL: And also with you!

Pastor: As His Body, we lift up our hearts!

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord!

Pastor: As His Church, we give thanks to the Lord, our God!

ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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

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

Holy, Holy, Lord!

To my friends in Christ
at Ray Of Hope Church

"Music for Worship"

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

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

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+ We Invoke the Blessing Of The Holy Spirit

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

ALL: O God, in the Name of Jesus, we, your faithful people, ask your Only One and Holy Spirit to bless and separate this bread and fruit of the vine for Christ's purpose. Through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit, give to us the Body and Blood of Jesus

Christ in precisely the exact same manner that He gave them, and commissioned us to do often in His Holy Name. You alone, O Loving, True God, authenticate for us that this is the Messiah, Christ, New Covenant Meal that Jesus instituted for **our physical and spiritual well-being. We ask this in the Name of Jesus. Amen**

Leader: You may relax your arms and hands.

+ The Words Of The Institution Of The Holy Eucharist

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



The Reception of Holy Communion

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

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

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

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

PRIVATE PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION.

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

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

Spiritual Communion Prayer from the Episcopal National Cathedral Prayer Book.

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment. Still, circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

+ The Lord's Prayer

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

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

forever and ever. Amen

+ Final Doxology

Pastor: Together, we pray:

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

Doxology/Amen!

To my friends in Christ
at Ray Of Hope Church

"Music For Worship"

Music by: Gaude! Liturgical Arts
October 31, 1993

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

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+ Sign Of Peace

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

ALL: And also with you.

Leader: 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: 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:

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New Revised Standard Version – 1989

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General Offering for the week of March 17 \$30.00 Attendance 8 Sunday;
Wednesday, March 13, Attendance 4

General Offering for the week of March 24 \$760.00 Holy Thursday March 28 special offering for Liturgical Supplies: \$30.00 Attendance 8 Sunday; Holy Thursday Attendance 6, Good Friday Attendance 13

General Offering for the week of March 31 \$1,045.00 Attendance 10 Vigil on Saturday; Wednesday, April 3, Attendance 4
(some people give monthly rather than weekly)

****Special Gifts****

Kaiden Benedict donated \$400 to the Building Fund on April 2, thank you Kaiden. On March 25 we received a special gift from Matthew and Carol Papkov of Endicott, NY. Matt is a friend of April Struhm. Matt and Carol have participated on the Internet. We thank them both for their generous donation.

We are grateful for these gifts received this week.

****Recent Special Gifts****

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

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

UPCOMING EVENTS ON OUR CALENDAR

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

***** <https://www.christiansagainstchristiannationalism.org/> Christians
Against Christian Nationalism

April 15, Monday, 4:00 p.m. By-Laws Revision Committee meeting.

April 16, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. Bible Enrichment.

April 17, Wednesday, Noon Traditional Mass in English - in person.

April 25, Thursday, 2:00 p.m. Chemung County Office of the Aging, see below.

April 26, Friday, 2:00 p.m. Council



We Are Sent Forth To Serve

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

ALL: And also with you!

Leader - 2: We bless you 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.

CLOSING SONG: : Alleluia! Alleluia! Give Thanks by Donald Fishel. G&P

389 Contributors: Donald Fishel Text: Donald Fishel, b.1950, © 1973, Word of God Music. Tune: © 1973, International Liturgy Publications Text: © 1973, International Liturgy Publications. Oneliscence Song # 71342 Ritual Song 581 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



Chemung County
Department of Aging and Long Term Care



2024 Public Hearing

What is a Public Hearing?

Each year Chemung County Department of Aging and Long Term Care holds a Public Hearing. The primary purpose of the public hearing is to obtain public testimony and/or comment before significant decisions are made for the development of the Annual Plan for services and programs. It also provides an opportunity for Community education on topics that most impact our aging community.

What does the Department of Aging and Long Term Care do with all the comments provided?

Public testimonials and comments gathered throughout the Public Hearing period will be taken into consideration when the Annual Plan for programs and services is being developed. In previous years, public comments and testimonials were used to advocate for additional funding for in-home services.

April 25, 2024

2:00 PM

Meals on Wheels of Chemung County
Event Center
409 William St., Elmira, NY

This Public Hearing regards the Chemung County Area Plan on Aging funded under various titles of the Older Americans Act of 1965, and the New York State Elder Law.

This is an opportunity for community members to influence the programs and services that are necessary to support older adults in order to live independently in their community.

At this Public Hearing, Attorney John Maloney will provide a presentation on Elder Law & the importance of Estate Planning.

Sheila Brewer-Montero, Fraud Prevention Coordinator with Lifespan of Greater Rochester Inc. will provide a presentation on SCAM prevention for older adults.

There will be an opportunity for Questions and Answers at the end of the presentations.

RSVP: Please call (607) 737-5520 by April 19th to register!

Light refreshments will be served!

These events are made possible through support from Chemung County, NYSOFA, Administration for Community Living and donations.

Ray Of Hope Church Weekly Schedule

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

Bible Enrichment- Tuesday 6:30–8 p.m.-380 W. First St. Parsonage
/Monastery. Or Join us live on SKYPE: rayofhope26 is our contact name. Sign
on by 6:15 p.m. [Click Here](#).

**** to call the Pastor: Rev. Shawn Benedict: 607-280-0374***

Policy Concerning Minors at Events

Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ welcomes all youth and children to worship with us and participate in our activities. We endeavor to provide a safe and non-threatening environment for all children. To this end, we have a Policy Concerning Minors at Events, which is available from the Clerk upon request and is on our website;
http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/Minors_At_Events.htm. Please enjoy your visit with us, and we hope you will return.

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

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

Visitors: Please feel free to fill out the information slip below and place it in the collection plate. Please indicate any special needs you may have. All information will be used for church purposes *only*.

(Optional) Name: _____

(Optional) Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

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

I would like to schedule an appointment with the Pastor.



Ray Of Hope Church Statement Of Purpose

In the Spirit of God, and in the footsteps of Christ Jesus, we the Faith Community at Ray Of Hope Church commit to:

- **guide** and welcome all people to the Free Gift of Salvation in Christ Jesus, with a God-ordained celebration of all sexual orientations, and gender expressions, with an open ministry to persons affected by or infected with HIV/AIDS, their families and friends,
- **declare** and openly assert the truth that same-sex relationships, founded and fostered in God-centered Love, are holy and blessed, and in fact originate by the work of the Holy Spirit; and, that God equally uses blessed same-sex and heterosexual Holy Unions and Marriages to bring God's own Love and good news of "Salvation to all who believe" into the World,
- **uphold**, proclaim, and teach the historic Biblical Christian Doctrine, build community through worship and prayer, break the bread, and live the ministry of the Holy Spirit,
- **change** the World around us by living Gospel principles of social justice in everything we do, thereby exposing all forms of prejudice, oppression, racism, homophobia, sexism, and misogyny,
- **proclaim** the ray of hope, which is the soon coming return of Christ Jesus, and the fullness of His Eternal Community where the Will of God will establish liberty, justice, equity, and peace for all God's People and the Universe.

Visit us online:

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

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

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

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

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

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

"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"
(Isaiah 43:19 ESV)

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

