



**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, May 26, 2024, Trinity and Memorial Day, 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: Deut. 4:31-40 NRSV 1st Test. pg. 161

Psalm: The responsorial psalm is inside the bulletin

Second Reading: Rom 8:14-17 NRSV 2nd Test. pg. 158

"I KNOW THAT I KNOW THAT I KNOW" 8+8=16

Romans 8:9,10,11 + 16

Third Reading: Gospel: Matt. 28:16-20 NRSV 2nd Test. pg. 34

(John 14:23-26; 15:26,27; 16:7)

***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 May 26, 2024, the second Sunday in Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, and the Memorial Day weekend. Today is the Sunday closest to Memorial Day. Therefore, we honor those service members who have fought for the freedoms we enjoy, including the freedom to assemble for worship. War is an indisputable feature of life on this side of the Kingdom of Christ. Jesus did not say the Church would bring an end to war. In fact, Jesus said there would be wars and rumors of wars right up until the day that He returned. (see Matthew 24:6+) It is an unfortunate reality of human interactions that people make and use weapons of mass destruction to create dominion and rule that is not assigned or granted by God. We are grateful to those who have fought to preserve our Country. We pray leaders entrusted to make just decisions to put our military personnel into harm's way will do so honestly and only when necessary. The actions of the Holy Trinity in our lives are an ongoing Epiphany, Theophany, and revelation.

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>)

Our first song today uses Scripture verses you will find in our second reading today, specifically Romans 8:14 ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. (NRSVUE)

FIRST SONG: Everyone Moved By The Spirit Words and Music by Carey Landry Text based on Romans 8. Text and music © 1977, Carey Landry and OCP. Glory & Praise Second Edition 412, All rights reserved. Onelicense song #85132 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. 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 # 115.



Names on Block #115

- Pat McGee (1)
 - Tom (2)
- Larry McCoy (3)
 - Kerry (4)
- Paul Malone (5)
- Andre Smith (6)
- John Carver (7)

- John Elliott (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 also remember our fallen service personnel and their families. 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: "Journeysong" G&P #581 Text: 95 95; based on Luke 24; © 1996, Bob Hurd. Published by OCP. All rights reserved. Music: Trad. American melody. Contributors: Bob Hurd, LAND OF REST Glory & Praise Second Edition 581, All rights reserved. Onelicense song #85141 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. In the Gospel of Luke, Chapter twenty-four, verse forty-seven, Jesus instructed the Church "that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."

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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notice above announcements in this bulletin.) (modified for clarity by Br. Benedict)

Leader -2: At this time, in silent prayer, we consider our relationship with God and others, confess faults, sins, and failures to Christ, and receive immediate forgiveness.

(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 Holy Spirit reminds us that millions need food, water, medical supplies, shelter, and peace. Many world leaders are ignoring the voice of God by spending billions of dollars on weapons of war rather than building up humanity. We pray, Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

Leader -4: Christ calls the Church to unity and appreciation for all the many gifts people bring to society. Discrimination and exclusion teach us to divide society and thereby miss the whole face of Christ among us. We pray: Christ, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

Leader -4: The Holy Spirit is the life, breath, and power of all ministry in the Church. Actions of the church that are not Christ-centered and spirit-

filled are flat and useless; 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 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.

Leader-3: Jesus told the Church to forgive sins in His Name. Jesus said:

ALL: If you forgive people their sins, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive people their sins, neither will your Father forgive your sins." (Matt. 6:14-15) Jesus also told us to forgive our brothers and sisters from the heart. (Matt. 18:35).

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

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

Ray of Hope Church, Inc. *The Gloria* Winds and Music
10th Annual Meeting "Music for Worship" 7/25/17
Handwritten: *Winds and Music Handwritten Liturgical Arts*
7/25/17
1/21/24

2. = 8 *Refrain*

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, 1/1/24 *Handwritten Liturgical Arts by [unclear]*

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)
 © 7/25/77-1/1/24 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!

A —————

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

mine @ 7/25/17 - 11/24/18
Gaudete! - 11/24/18
Pete Behm

+ Opening Prayer

Leader-5: Come Holy Spirit, and open our minds to understand and apply what we hear in the Holy Scriptures today. We ask this in the Name of God, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

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 Deuteronomy, chapter 4, verses 31-40. The text is on page 161 in the front of the 1989 NRSV Bible. I will read the 2021 updated edition.

³¹ Because the LORD your God is a merciful God, he will neither abandon you nor destroy you; he will not forget the covenant with your ancestors that he swore to them.

³² "For ask now about former ages, long before your own, ever since the day that God created human beings on the earth; ask from one end of heaven to the other: Has anything so great as this ever happened, or has its like ever been heard of? ³³ Has any people ever heard the voice of a god speaking out of a fire, as you have heard, and lived? ³⁴ Or has any god ever attempted to go and take a nation for himself from the midst of another nation, by trials, by signs and wonders, by war, by a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, and by terrifying displays of power, as the LORD your God did for you in Egypt before your very eyes? ³⁵ To you it was shown so that you would acknowledge that the LORD is God; there is no other besides him. ³⁶ From heaven he made you hear his voice to discipline you. On earth he showed you his great fire, while you heard his words coming out of the fire. ³⁷ And because he loved your ancestors, he chose their descendants after them. He brought you out of Egypt

with his **own presence**, by his great power, ³⁸ driving out before you nations greater and mightier than yourselves, to bring you in, **giving you their land for a possession, as it is still today.** ³⁹ So acknowledge today and take to heart that the LORD is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; there is no other. ⁴⁰ Keep his statutes and his commandments, which I am commanding you today for your own well-being and that of your descendants after you, **so that you may long remain in the land that the LORD your God is giving you for all time."**

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

[Read full chapter](#)

Footnotes

(<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Deuteronomy+4%3A31-40&version=NRSVUE>) Scripture quotations are taken from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. See notice above announcements in this bulletin.

+ Psalm

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

Today's Psalm is number 33, with selected verses and a responsorial verse: "Blessed are the people who belong to the Lord God."

R. Blessed are the people who belong to the Lord God.

⁴ The word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works done in truth

⁵ The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with love.

R. Blessed are the people who belong to the Lord God.

⁶ By God's word the heavens were made,
by the breath of his mouth all the stars.

⁹ For God spoke; it came to be.
God commanded; it sprang into being.

R. Blessed are the people who belong to the Lord God.

¹⁸ The Lord looks on those who fear him,
on those who hope in his love,
¹⁹ to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

R. Blessed are the people who belong to the Lord God.

²⁰ Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
²¹ Our hearts find joy in the Lord
We trust in God's holy name.
²² May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you.

R. Blessed are the people who belong to the Lord God.

Glory to God, the Christ, and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever, Amen.

Refrain and doxology by Br. Shawn Benedict. Psalm 33 selected verses. Copyright ©1963, 1986, 1993 The Grail (England). All rights reserved. Published through exclusive license agreement by G. I. A. Publications, Inc. Onelicense #59269 Used with Onelicense Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278.

+ 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 Romans chapter 8, verses 14-17.

The reading is on page 158 in the second testament, in the back of the NRSV Bible. In this reading, we have doctrinal support for the saying: "I know that I know that I know, I am a child of God." It is easy to remember where this is, Romans chapter 8, verse 16 or 8+8=16. I will read the 2021 updated edition. Here begins the reading:

¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba!^[a] Father!" ¹⁶ **it is that very Spirit bearing witness^[b] with our spirit that we are children of God,** ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: **heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ**, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

[Read full chapter](#)

Footnotes

- a. 8.15 Aramaic for *Father*
- b. 8.16 Or . . . *a spirit of adoption, by which we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit itself bears witness*

(Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+8%3A14-17&version=NRSVUE>)
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+ The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

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

Gospel Acclamation

We Love Your Word!

To my friends in Christ
at Ray Of Hope Church

"Music for Worship"

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

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

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Reader: The Gospel reading is Matthew, Chapter 28, verses 16-20, 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 Matthew.

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

The Commissioning of the Disciples

¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has **been given to me**. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,

baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." [a]

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord!

ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

[Read full chapter](#)

Footnotes

- a. 28.20 Other ancient authorities add *Amen*

(Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+28%3A16-20&version=NRSVUE> Scripture quotations are taken from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. See notice above announcements in this bulletin.)

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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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. "

Prayer for our Congregation: (revised, 2023)

Lord Jesus Christ, we ask that your Holy Spirit continue to move in our

Congregation in new and refreshing ways. We open our hearts to be a dwelling place, a home, a temple of your Holy Spirit. Empower us with the gifts of the Holy Spirit to be used as servants of God, disciples of Christ, and witnesses of God's love and eternal plan. Come, Holy Spirit, and impassion us with your Divine Love. Stir and enkindle within us the flames of compassion, forgiveness, patience, empathy, Joy in believing, thanksgiving and praise, and love for God's holy Will. Build an expectant faith within us with a view of a church that is full of possibilities and potential. Guide our lives; we pray through Christ our Lord, Amen.

MEMORIAL DAY. As stated at the introduction of worship today, Today is the Sunday closest to Memorial Day. Therefore, we honor those service members who have fought for the freedoms we enjoy, including the freedom to assemble for worship. War is an indisputable feature of life on this side of the Kingdom of Christ. Jesus did not say the Church would bring an end to war. In fact, Jesus said there would be wars and rumors of wars right up until the day that He returned. (see Matthew 24:6+) It is an unfortunate reality of human interactions that people make and use weapons of mass destruction to create dominion and rule that is not assigned or granted by God. We are grateful to those who have fought to preserve our Country. We pray leaders entrusted to make just decisions to put our military personnel into harm's way will do so honestly and only when necessary.

This Friday, May 31, marks the 103rd anniversary of The Tulsa Race Massacre. History.com Editors

During the Tulsa Race Massacre (also known as the Tulsa Race Riot), which occurred over 18 hours on May 31-June 1, 1921, a white mob attacked residents, homes and businesses in the predominantly black Greenwood neighborhood of Tulsa, Oklahoma. The event remains one of the worst incidents of racial violence in U.S. history and one of the least-known: News reports were largely squelched, despite the fact that hundreds of people were killed and thousands left homeless.

Source: <https://www.history.com/topics/roaring-twenties/tulsa-race-massacre>

Also see http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/Black_History_Page2.htm

Things learned from today's readings;

1) Deut. 4: 37b – 40 The Land Belongs To Israel

The One God brought you out of Egypt by Divine presence, by great power, 38 driving out before you nations greater and mightier than yourselves, to bring you in, giving you their land for a possession, as it is still today. 39 So acknowledge today and take to heart that the LORD is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; there is no other. 40 Keep God's statutes and commandments, which I am commanding you today for your own well-being and that of your descendants after you, so that you may long remain in the land that the LORD your God is giving you for all time.

Br. Benedict: The outstanding roadblock to a "two-state solution" is the fact that religious Jewish people want Temple Mount back in their possession, and some are ready to rebuild a Temple exactly where the Dome of the Rock of Islam currently sits. Secular Jews indeed care little about the Temple Mount; however, Scripture clearly says a new Temple will be built. Religious Jews of modern times believe they are the generation that God determines to see the new temple built.

"Building the Third Temple has been contested by [Muslims](#) due to the existence of the [Dome of the Rock](#),^[1] which was built by the [Umayyad Caliphate](#) on the site of the destroyed Solomon's Temple and Second Temple; tensions between Jews and Muslims over the Temple Mount have carried over politically as one of the major flashpoints of the [Israeli–Palestinian conflict](#), and the area has been a subject of significant debate in the [Israeli–Palestinian peace process](#).^[2]" (Source, and a great article on the Third Temple: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Third_Temple)

Deut. 4:31 ³¹ Because the LORD your God is a merciful God, he will neither abandon you nor destroy you; he will not forget the covenant with your ancestors that he swore to them.

Jacob, Israel will never be forgotten, destroyed, or abandoned. With Replacement Theology, the Christian Church claims these promises as if they were transferred to the Church. While in fact all people of the earth are grafted into these promises by the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross, it remains true that there is a special relationship for the Jewish People that no other nationality or Religion should attempt to overlook.

Deut. 4:32c, "the day that God created human beings on the earth."

Stated as fact, God did it, period.

2) ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. (Romans 8:14) Brother: Do you notice it says for "all" and no denomination is listed, or is there a religion?

3) In this reading, we doctrinal support for the saying: "I know that I know that I know, I am a child of God." It is easy to remember where this is, Romans chapter 8, verse 16 or 8+8=16. Also, if we are coheirs with Christ, we enjoy a future of heaven and earth, all things being shared with all in Christ.

4) Matthew 28: 18b- 20: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

This command is the source and summit of the Roman Christian Empire's ambition to conquer the world. This command to saturate, immerse, and dominate all the nations of people on the Earth and force them into the Christianity of the "Holy Roman Empire" has been used to rationalize the destruction and replacement of entire cultures of humans. This twisting of this command has been used by almost every known form of Christianity to destroy and replace peoples on every continent.

This takes us back to the question of war, of course.

DISCERNMENT FOR OUR MODERN CIRCUMSTANCES

NEW APOSTOLIC REFORMATION

(source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Apostolic_Reformation) All indented material is from this article up to where this bulletin reads, "end of NAR wiki article."

"The New Apostolic Reformation (NAR) is a theological belief and movement that combines elements of [Pentecostalism](#), [evangelicalism](#) and the [Seven Mountain Mandate](#) to advocate for [spiritual warfare](#) to bring about Christian [dominion](#) over all aspects of society, and end or weaken the [separation of church and state](#)."

"This leadership sees itself as having the divine authority and spiritual power – used in [spiritual warfare](#) – to advance God's earthly kingdom so that [Christ can return](#)."^[22] Geivett, R. Douglas; Pivec, Holly (December 2014). "A New 'Reformation' That Many Don't Realize They've Joined". [God's Super-Apostles: Encountering the Worldwide Prophets and Apostles Movement](#). Weaver – via [Biola University](#). "

" The NAR's prominence and power have increased since the 2016 election of [Donald Trump](#) as US president. Theology professor [André Gagné](#), author of a 2024 book on the movement, has characterized it as "inherently political" and said it threatens to "subvert democracy." Many notable American Republican politicians such as [Mike Johnson](#),^[2] [Doug Mastriano](#),^[3] [Marjorie Taylor Greene](#), and [Lauren Boebert](#)^[3] and activists such as [Charlie Kirk](#)^[3] have aligned with it.^{[4][5][6][7]} "

"In addition to spiritual warfare, the [Seven Mountain Mandate](#) (7M) is another aspect of NAR belief,^{[5][22]} which states that Christians should take over multiple aspects of society: family, Religion, education, media, arts and entertainment, business, and government.^{[26][27]}

Prominent NAR believer Lance Wallnau has promoted 7M combined with spiritual warfare. Wallnau told followers in 2011:

If you're talking to a secular audience you don't talk about having dominion over them. This whole idea of taking over and that language of takeover, it doesn't actually help. It's good for preaching to the choir and it's shorthand if we interpret it right, but it's very bad for media."^[5]

Wallnau, who has asserted Donald Trump was "anointed" to be president, is a major proponent of waging spiritual war against perceived demonic spirits.^[28] "

Many NAR adherents have adopted the [Appeal to Heaven Flag](#) from the [American Revolutionary War](#) that symbolized seeking authority from a power higher than the British king. NAR leaders such as [Dutch Sheets](#) popularized the flag to symbolize [Christian nationalism](#), and many participants in the January 6 attack were seen carrying it. André Gagné asserts the NAR symbolism of the flag "has completely turned" from the original meaning, to now "support the idea that Trump should be president, that he's chosen by God." The flag is displayed outside [Speaker Mike Johnson](#)'s Capitol Hill office, and has flown at the New Jersey vacation home of [United States Supreme Court](#) justice [Samuel Alito](#).^{[6][2][30][31]}

"end of NAR wiki article."

[Mike Johnson \(Louisiana politician\)](#) see this article and read it carefully (recommended by Br. Benedict)

Article: **Conservative justices express dark view of US.** Ken Tran and Maureen Groppe, USA Today printed in The Star-Gazette, Tuesday, May 14, 2024, page 1A, Volume 60 | No. 165 and also here:

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/05/11/clarence-thomas-nastiness-lies-supreme-court-criticism/73653293007/>

HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY Now we have seen God, the Son, and the Holy

Spirit, what are we to do after all these Epiphanies?

Matthew 12:18

¹⁸ "Behold! ^oMy Servant whom I have chosen, My Beloved ^pin whom My soul is well pleased! I will put My Spirit upon Him, And He will declare justice to the Gentiles. NKJV

Luke 1:35 ³⁵ And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called ⁿthe Son of God.

Luke 24:49 The Ascension Mark 16:19; Acts 1:9 ^{49 s} "Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city ⁴of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."

John 1:33-34 (NKJV)

³³ I did not know Him, but God who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴ And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God."

John 3:34-35

³⁴ For the Christ whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God does not give the Spirit by measure. ³⁵ God loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand.

John 14:11-26; and John 16:7-15 John 15:26 (NKJV)

²⁶ "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.

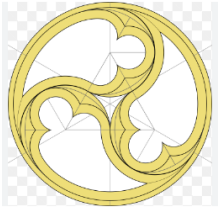
Topical Analysis Of The Bible pages 66—68.

Scofield III Summary on the Trinity at Matt 28:19 (Scofield III NKJV page 1359) Christianity is the only Religion that understands and experiences the Trinity: God the Creator (always creating), God the Christ (always present and presenting the sacrifice for our sin, always interceding for us in the ministry of High Priest, always saving by forgiving, healing and redeeming), God the Holy Spirit (the present and active power of God moving and making all the ministry of the Church, the Body Of Christ possible, alive and active through believers everywhere) being at once three persons in one Divine Being. (My definition of

what I understand today, 5-26-18)

9) If Time allows - some vocabulary:

Perichoresis - a word often used of the Holy Trinity to describe how the three persons of the Trinity move in, around, through, with, above, and below each other in constant movement. Perichoresis is used to describe the dance of the colors of fire, red, orange, yellow, blue, and some see other colors too. While the colors are discernable, they also are in constant interaction. While this symbol is often used to describe the Trinity, I also like to use it to describe our living relationship with the Trinity. Jesus prayed, "May they be one in us as we are one," etc. Therefore, we are part of the movement too. Many symbols in Art show the concept of Perichoresis; see here: [RIGHT-CLICK Here](#).



Often, this Perichoresis may be seen in stain-glass window configurations in Churches. There is such a window at St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church in Elmira, NY.

Anamnesis – active remembering, remembering that brings the event back to us in action beyond memory, a reliving experience.

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 to the fact that Christ is risen indeed and that He lives within our hearts.

DISCERNMENT - CONTINUING REVELATION

Br. Benedict recommends the article: "Jesus is their savior, Trump is their candidates. Ex-president's backers say he shares faith, values" by Peter Smith 5-18-2024 (<https://apnews.com/article/trump-christian-evangelicals-conservatives-2024-election-43f25118c133170c77786daf316821c3>)

Br. Benedict recommends Americans United For Separation of Church And State ([au.org](http://www.au.org)). Find their magazine here:

<https://www.au.org/the-latest/church-state/>

Project 2025 offers a 900-page playbook for restructuring the federal government in order to accomplish the policy goals of Christian Nationalists—rolling back the rights of LGBTQ+ people, ending marriage equality and even restricting divorce options, banning abortion and limiting reproductive health care, throwing up roadblocks to racial justice, eliminating the Department of Education and diverting public funds to private religious schools, and redefining religious freedom as a license to discriminate. If allowed to be implemented, **Project 2025 would trample the wall of church-state separation and upend our democracy.**

We must be ready to fight this un-American agenda and all the ways Christian Nationalists are trying to impose their narrow religious beliefs on us, no matter what happens in 2024. Join us!

Americans United for Separation of Church and State | www.au.org

Read the Project 2025 here:

[Project 2025 | Presidential Transition Project](#) The 2025 Presidential Transition Project paves the way for an effective conservative Administration based on four pillars: a policy agenda, Presidential Personnel Database, Presidential Administration Academy, and playbook for the first 180 days of the next Administration.

[180-Day Playbook](#)

The time is short, and conservatives need a plan. The project will create a playbook of actions to be taken in the first 180 days of the new Administration to bring quick relief to Americans suffering from the Left's devastating policies.

Pillar IV will provide the next President a roadmap for doing just that. To learn more about Project 2025's vision for a conservative administration, please read our recently published book, [Mandate for Leadership: The Conservative Promise](#).

https://static.project2025.org/2025_MandateForLeadership_FULL.pdf

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

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WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

+ The Prayers of the People

Leader – 4: Having heard the Word Of God, speaking of the Holy Trinity, we pray to God in Christ through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit. Today, we are using communal prayers. After each petition, please respond with, "Lord, hear our prayer."

Leader – 4: We pray again for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit into our hearts during this 2024 Season of Pentecost to better equip us to face the ministry challenges we have as Ray Of Hope Church; we pray to the Lord.
ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 4: We pray for all the people in the world where wars are being fought. We pray that world leaders would acknowledge the authority of Christ and the ministry of the Holy Spirit, see the loss of life, suffering, and economic and educational opportunities caused by wars, and turn instead to diplomatic decisions. We pray to the Lord.
ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 4: We feel empathy and compassion for people who feel left behind, alone, and abandoned in institutions where they are required to live. We pray that institutionalized people will experience the real presence of Christ, the comfort of the Holy Spirit and be encouraged by the promises of God. We pray to the Lord.
ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 4: In silent prayer, we now lift to God those people we know who are ill and in need of healing, those who are facing poverty and need guidance, and anyone who comes to mind who needs God's grace. We pray together silently now. (**Silent prayer begins.** **Leader, please mentally count to about twenty.**) For all the people we have just prayed

for, we pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 4: 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, including



this QRCode, this link in the bulletin: [Donate to Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ](#); other live links on [our website](#), the envelopes and donation box next to the door always available in the Chapel. Checks can be mailed, [Right-Click Here](#) for our contact information.

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

Offertory Song: "Spirit Of The Living God " Words and Music by Daniel

Iverson. © Words: 1935. Renewed 1963 Birdwing Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Music: 1935. Renewed 1963 Birdwing Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) CCLI Song # 24388. Used with permission through our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121 and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.

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 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**

Music setting information: **The Lord's Prayer Composed by Albert Hay Malotte.** ©1935 G. Schirmer, Inc. (Admin. by Music Sales Corporation) CCLI Song#1534 Used with permission by our Christian

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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.*

+ 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: "Jesus, Lord" G&P #594 Text: Based on John 3:16-21. Text and music © 1984, OCP. All rights reserved. Contributors: Randall DeBruyn. Glory & Praise Second Edition 581, All rights reserved. Onelicense song #83430 Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278

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NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION UPDATED EDITION (NRSVUE)

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New Revised Standard Version – 1989

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General Offering for the week of April 21 \$320.00 Attendance 10 on Sunday;
Wednesday, April 24, Attendance 4

General Offering for the week of April 28 \$820.00 Attendance 8 on Sunday;
Wednesday, April 24, Attendance 4

General Offering for the week of May 5 \$885.00 Attendance 8 on Sunday;
Wednesday, May 8, Attendance 5

General Offering for the week of May 12 \$33.00 Attendance 10 on Sunday;
Wednesday, May 15, Attendance 5

General Offering for the week of May 19 \$420.75 Attendance 10 on Sunday;
Wednesday, May 22, Attendance 4

(some people give monthly rather than weekly)

****Special Gifts****

Thank you, Steve Fox for the amazing cookies you treated us with on Pentecost Sunday. We were able to enjoy them at Wednesday Mass too. Whenever you are bored and want to bake, count us in for the take!

****Recent Special Gifts****

Lisa Frost donated \$330.00 to the annual fire alarm cellular transmission fee. Thank you Lisa.

Michael Austin reconditioned our lawnmower for the 2024 season. Thank you, Michael.

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

May 26, Sunday, Trinity Sunday

May 27, Monday, 4:00 PM By-Laws Revision Committee meeting.

May 28, Tuesday, 6:30 PM Bible Enrichment.

May 28, Wednesday, Noon Traditional Mass in English - in person.

June 1, Saturday, ELMIRA PRIDE , actual 21st Anniversary of first worship at 380.

June 2, Corpus Christi, relicense our Servants of the Eucharist, 21st Anniversary of the first Sunday worship service in the Monastery.

June 3, Monday, 4:00 PM By-Laws Revision Committee meeting.

June 4, Tuesday, 6:30 PM Bible Enrichment.

June 5, Wednesday, Noon Traditional Mass in English - in person.

June 8, Saturday, CORNING PRIDE

June 9, Sunday The Start of our Juneteenth 10day devotions **Introduction**.

June 10, Monday **JTDEVOTION#1** NOON; 3:00 p.m. By-Laws Revision Committee

June 11, Tuesday **JTDEVOTION #2** NOON; 6:00 p.m. NAACP **7:15 p.m.** Bible Enrichment

June 12, Wednesday **JTDEVOTION#3** **11:00 a.m.** NOON TRADITIONAL MASS

June 13, Thursday **JTDEVOTION #4** NOON

June 14, Friday **JTDEVOTION #5** NOON

June 15, Saturday, JUNETEENTH in Elmira **JTDEVOTION #6** **8:00 p.m.**

June 16, Sunday, Father's Day, 28th Ordination Anniversary, **JTDEVOTION #7**

June 17, Monday, **JTDEVOTION #8** NOON; 3:00 p.m. By-Laws Revision Committee

June 18, Tuesday, **JTDEVOTION #9** NOON; Bible Enrichment 6:30 p.m.

June 19, Wednesday, **JTDEVOTION #10** **11:00 AM** Juneteenth; NOON Traditional Mass

June 23, Sunday,

June 24, Monday, 4:00 PM By-Laws Revision Committee meeting.

June 25, Tuesday, 6:30 PM Bible Enrichment.

June 26, Wednesday, Noon Traditional Mass in English - in person.

June 30, Sunday Stonewall 55th Anniversary of the riots and 54th Pride Parade.

Worship will be at 10:30 AM led by the Congregation.

July 1, Monday, NO MEETING By-Laws Revision Committee.

July 2, Tuesday, NO MEETING Bible Enrichment.

July 3, Wednesday, Noon Traditional Mass in English - in person.

Treasurer's Report for the month of April 2024.

General Fund opening balance April 1st was \$1,342.55. Donations to the General Fund for the month were \$2,225.00. Pastoral compensation of \$495.00 per week is paid out of the General Fund, Paypal charges \$1.07 and the Verizon bill \$61.69 are also paid out of the General Fund. A check for Elmira Pride was made for \$20.00. There was a flower reimbursement to Brother for Holy Week of \$58.12 and I paid M. E Burgess palms bill of \$43.00. After these were paid the ending balance of this account at the end of April was \$1,403.67.

Building Fund opening balance was \$951.83. Donations to the Building Fund were as follows: Brother Shawn Benedict \$640.00, Kaiden Benedict \$400.00, Lisa Frost \$330.00. Regular bills that came out of the fund this month was the Credit Card bill with Key Bank of \$62.71, electric \$133.92, gas bill \$253.00 (new budget amount). I transferred \$500.00 to Savings for the liability insurance due the beginning of June. Ending balance of this fund was \$1,372.20.

Building Improvement Fund opening balance and closing balance on this account was \$1,316.85.

Savings (Council) Account opening balance on this account was \$155.98. I transferred the \$500.00 from the Building Fund, so that account has an ending balance of \$655.98

These balances equal Five Star bank balances at end of month.



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.

LAST SONG: "Let Heaven Rejoice" G&P #392 Words and Music; Robert J. Dufford, SJ. © 1972, Published by OCP. All rights reserved. Contributors: Bob Dufford Glory & Praise Second Edition 392, All rights reserved. Onelicense song #83435 Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278

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

Br. Benedict at the time of Renewal of Vows, June 20, 2021: "Looking forward, I like to say the first twenty-five years were spent on **stabilization, survival, and sustainability**. The second twenty-five years will be spent on growth to help Ray Of Hope **thrive, train, and transplant** this Congregation to new leadership. The founders and foundresses successfully transferred the leadership to a new generation, us, and now we must do the same. I plan to fade into the Congregation and continue providing support to the new leadership. My goal is to leave the Congregation with new leadership, in good standing, and thriving."



We never held a vote to decide if we would be an **INCLUSIVE** church for you.
We are not an **OPEN AND AFFIRMING** church for you.
We are not a **RECONCILING CHURCH** or
RECONCILING CONGREGATION for you.

We are not an **OPEN MINDED** or **ACCEPTING** or **WELCOMING**
Church where you can attend as long as you blend in quietly and discretely.

WE ARE YOU!

THIS is the Church where YOU belong.

Ray Of Hope Church is the Church by us, for us, and made by You.

The Third Sunday of Pride, 2019

Made by you and for you, because we are

The Third Sunday of Pride, 2019

Ray Of Hope Church Weekly Schedule

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

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

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

Policy Concerning Minors at Events

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

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

The Chapel is not open to the general public 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)

