



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)

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

We extend a special welcome to our visitors.

You are as welcome here as Jesus Christ Himself.

In Romans 15:7 the Scriptures exhort us to:

"Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you,
for the glory of God" (NABRE – 2011)

Participate in some or all parts of this worship event as you are comfortable.

We are building a wonderful Christ-centered Community here, and we invite you to share in our joy! After the Worship Service, please join us for refreshments and sharing.

Today is 9-1-24 Pentecost Week 16,
Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B
Labor Day Weekend

Celebration of Prayer and Labor "Ora et labora" St. Benedict

Ray Of Hope Church teaches the same Christian faith of ancient ecumenical consensus.

St. Vincent of Lerins, a fifth-century monk and theologian, described it as

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

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

Scripture Readings for this worship event: *** these readings were chosen for this event.

First Reading: Ecclesiasticus / Sirach 38:27-32a 4;1-2, 6-8 not in the 1989 NRSV

Psalm: Psalm 107:1-9 with a responsorial verse in this bulletin.

Second Reading: 1Corinthians 3:10-14 NRSV 2nd Test. pg. 167

Third Reading: Gospel: Matthew 6:19-24 NRSV 2nd Test. pg. 6

***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.**

9-1-24 Pentecost Week 16, LABOR WEEKEND Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr. B Page 2 of 33
All Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc. online presentations and accompanying bulletin programs are covered by our Onelicense Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278, our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121, and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152. Copyright credits and U.S. Copyright Fair Use statements are in the presented materials. We are making every effort to comply with all regulations. Please contact us with questions, concerns, and suggestions to improve our copyright practices. Thank you.



CALL TO WORSHIP

Visit and greet one another until the bell rings.

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

Our St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi bell at Ray Of Hope Church, 380 W. 1st St. in Elmira, NY, is a gift from Michael Quinnell of Syracuse, NY, given in September 2005. The bell rings out 39 joyful rings, in contrast to tolling the bell in single rings. The 39 joyful rings honor the 39 lashes Jesus endured, and we now celebrate 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. Our worship event is all online this morning because our chapel is closed to the public as part of our COVID-safety protocols. We recommend you have two Internet devices on. One device on Facebook Live to listen to the music. Right-click on this link to access our [Facebook page](#). On the second device, use the Skype meeting to participate interactively with us. You may participate in some or all parts of this worship event as you are comfortable. We announce all instructions, page, and song numbers and use a psalm response verse to

Leader-2: Hello. My name is _____. I am in_(city) _____, _(State)_____. Good morning, and welcome. (** Reader, please remember to look at the people and smile.**) Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion with us during the second part of this worship event. We celebrate the Lord's open table where Membership in this or any church is not required to receive Communion. People participating on the Internet, please bring the following items to your table at this time so you are prepared: 1) a cup with some wine or grape juice, 2) a small piece of Bread, cracker, or matzo on a plate, 3) a second cup with some water, and 4) a side napkin.

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



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



Bell's 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 -2: You are as welcome here as Christ Jesus himself. (** Reader, please remember to look at the people and smile.**) Show the glory of God by introducing yourself and welcoming the **SAINTS** around you. To be extra careful, we observe COVID-19 safety protocols by waving across the room and into the camera for the Internet.

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.

June 1, 2024, was the TWENTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF THE ELMIRA CHAPEL.

Today is September 1, 2024, Pentecost Week 16, the twenty-second week in Ordinary Time. Today, we celebrate Prayer and Labor, or as St. Benedict expressed it, "Ora et Labora," which was his motto. We celebrate Labor Day with workers everywhere. This week, on Wednesday, August 28, we celebrated the 61st anniversary of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. The readings are in the U.S.A. Episcopal Church Lectionary. One goal of this church is to show us how to bring Christ to every area of our lives.

Pastor: With our whole heart, mind, and soul, we begin to worship God in the beauty of holiness, spirit, and truth. (Psalm 96:9; John 4:23-24)

ALL: Together, we give God thanks and praise.



FIRST SONG:

+ The Candle Of Hope

Leader - 1: Please be seated. If you have a special candle you could light at this time as we light the Candle of Hope, please light it. Today, we light our Candle Of Hope to honor all people who have lost their lives at work, doing their jobs. We honor all rescue workers who have lost their lives while trying to help others save theirs. We honor our military personnel who lost their lives while defending ours. 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. Our witness to God's love for all people is as relevant today as it was then.

It is our practice to read Names from the AIDS Memorial Quilt each Sunday. When we searched the Quilt yesterday, we did not find panels dedicated to Union Members of any labor unions, with one exception that did not list any names. Most workers in labor professions would have suffered a lot of ridicule in the 1980s and the 90s if they came out and told their co-workers they had HIV/AIDS. The fear of ridicule is likely why we couldn't find dedicated panels for union workers. Therefore, today, we will honor all known and unknown workers who lost their lives performing their jobs or protesting for workers' rights, safety, and freedom with a moment of silence. In that silence, we also remember the names of family and friends who have died of COVID-related and other illnesses. We pray in silence now. (Observe silence now, please.)

Leader -2: May this candle's flame help bring to mind the joy and happiness known in life, the comfort offered by the Holy Spirit in our loss, and the promise

9-1-24 Pentecost Week 16, LABOR WEEKEND Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr. B Page 6 of 33
of the "Blessed Hope" we have in the Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour,
Jesus Christ.

ALL: Amen

(National AIDS Memorial website where you can visit over
48,000 panels and over 110,000 names on the Quilt virtually:
<https://www.aidsmemorial.org/interactive-aids-quilt>)

Second Song:



WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS

+ Confession and Forgiveness of our sins.

Leader 3: Please be seated. (wait) So far, we assembled, greeted one another, and praised God in song. Now, Ray Of Hope Church provides another service: Christ forgiving our sins through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit. At this time, in silent prayer, we consider our relationship with God and others, then confess faults, sins, and failures to Christ to receive His immediate forgiveness.

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

Leader 3: Now, we pray together:

ALL: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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

Leader - 3: The Church now provides the service of praising God in thanksgiving together. Today, we will recite the Gloria. Together:

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to all people on Earth.
You are the One God, Sovereign of the Universe,**

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

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

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

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

+ Opening Prayer

Leader-2: We are prepared and ready now to hear the Holy Scriptures for this Sunday worship gathering. Pray silently with me as I pray this opening prayer. (**wait a few seconds**) Come, Holy Spirit, open our minds and refresh us as we listen to these Holy Scriptures. We ask this in the Name of God, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

ALL: AMEN.

Leader-2: 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

+ First Reading

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

The reading is Sirach, chapter 38, verses 27- 32a, in the NRSV updated edition of 2021. The 1989 pew Bibles do not include the Book of Sirach. Brother Benedict added inclusive language to the text as indicated by the asterisk sign (*) throughout the text. Here begins the reading.

So it is with every artisan and master artisan.
 who labors by night as well as by day;
those who carve the signets of seals—
 each is diligent in making a great variety;
they set their heart on painting a lifelike image,
 and they lose sleep in order to finish their work.
²⁸ So it is with the smith sitting by the anvil,
 intent on *doing ironwork;
the breath of the fire melts *their flesh,
 and *they struggle with the heat of the furnace;
the sound of the hammer deafens *their ears,^[a]
 and *their eyes are *blurred on the pattern of the object.
*They set *their heart on finishing *the handiwork,
 and *they lose sleep to complete its decoration.
²⁹ So it is with the potter sitting at *work
 and turning the wheel *by foot;
*they always lie down anxious about *their work,
 and * every work is taken into account.
³⁰ *They mold the clay *by arm
 and *make it pliable with *their feet;
*they set their heart to finish the glazing,
 and * take care in firing^[b] the kiln.

³¹ All these rely on their hands,
and all are skillful in their own work.
³² Without them, no city can be inhabited,
and wherever they live, they will not go hungry.^[c]

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

(* indicates where Br. Benedict added inclusive language.)

Footnotes

- a. 38.28 Cn: Gk *renews his ear*
- b. 38.30 Cn: Gk *cleaning*
- c. 38.32 Syr: Gk *and people can neither live nor walk there*

Read full chapter

(Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Sirach+38%3A27-32&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.)

+ The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

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

Gospel Acclamation

We Love Your Word!

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

We love Your Word, O Lord for it set us free. We know the

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

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

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

Reader: The Gospel reading is Matthew, chapters 6:19-21 and 24 in the NRSV updated edition of 2021. The 1989 pew Bibles have a similar reading on page 6 in the Second Testament.

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.**

Concerning Treasures

¹⁹ "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust^[a] consume and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust^[b] consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Serving Two Masters

²⁴ "No one can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.^[c]

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord!

ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

[Read full chapter](#)

Footnotes

- a. [6.19](#) Gk *eating*
- b. [6.20](#) Gk *eating*
- c. [6.24](#) Gk *mammon*

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

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



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

Br. Shawn Benedict, Pastor.

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' 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)

=====
Celebration of Prayer and Labor "Ora et Labora"

St. Benedict of Nursia, Italy, was born on March 2, 489, and lived until March 21, 547. He is remembered as the father of Western Monasticism and his Rule For Monasteries. Benedict's Rule is the blueprint for many Western organizations, cities, and institutions. Benedict's philosophy is summarized in his motto: Ora et labora, pray and labor. Benedictine philosophy teaches one to consecrate all day's labor with prayer, individual prayer, and prayer with the worship community. Ora et labora, pray and labor, is this philosophy that structures this house, and this is why we have taken the name Benedict in honor of St. Benedict and his teachings.

The first reading today in the book of Ecclesiasticus or the Book of Sirach is thought to be written between 196-175 BCE. The text is poetic and brings to mind images of people using work to perform skills to bring to reality ideas and thoughts that begin in their minds or follow patterns and instructions given by others. The writer carefully mentions that they even lose sleep over their work and continue working on their thoughts as they sleep. We conclude by the presence of this Scripture that God blesses, created, and sustains us in our work.

We might argue that work has changed significantly since the mid-second century B.C.E. Some work tasks and skills have changed, but some are still the same. Modern work might mass-produce items that were one time made by one person. Product has changed significantly with every era of time and every development of work tools.

Today, products like this bulletin or his webcast might be entirely digital. We are participating in a digital virtual reality by electronically creating our worship space and meeting room using these electronic transmission tools. Even money can be transferred, deposited, spent, earned, and traded in complete digital reality, not being transitioned to actual physical instruments of money.

God blesses work throughout the Bible, beginning in Chapters One and Two of the Book of Genesis. When work is performed honestly and compensated

honestly, all parties are encouraged, supported, and motivated to do more and live well.

Man knows how to use work and commerce to harm others. When work is the foundation of acquiring the financial tools to participate in an economy, those with work to offer inherently have power over those looking for work so that they might join in the social and economic structure. If people with work to offer do not share the opportunity to earn money with those looking to work, the owners have power over who succeeds in their society. In fact, if work is wholly withheld from an individual or an identifiable group of people, there may be enough power to force them to leave the economy by "forcing them out." Withholding the opportunity to work can be detected in some systemic structures that force a town, a neighborhood, or an artisan's conclave to be very monolithic, monochromatic, or not inclusive of all expressions of the local community. So, withholding work is a problem.

A second problem can be the owners, managers, and organizers of the work underpaying those doing the hard work and overpaying those who are the employer, owner, and manager.

Our U.S.A. economic story, indeed the Biblical story, has seen all the issues of labor, employer, and employee.

This year, 2024, is an election year. To be clear, our election in November is not the election of person A or person B. With either person A or person B comes an entire structure, an entire philosophy, and one part of that structure is the question of labor. The current Party Platforms that will be in person A's or person B's back pocket is where to begin to understand these very different visions of our society and of labor in particular.

Federal Labor Laws guide the relationship between employee and employer (slave and master in today's Gospel). Most of our federal labor laws were formulated to correct misuse of the workforce, those doing the labor.

Read some excellent background on [United States labor law here](#). With the platforms available in PDF form below, you may easily search for words like job, jobs, labor, worker, union, collective bargaining, right to work, job safety, etc., to start your investigation. Ultimately, you may have to ask people working to share their experiences or the record of a company to see if fair and equitable

Finally, one word on the Gospel lesson of serving two masters. Put simply, do we live to make money, or do we make money to live? There is a third part of that question: do we live to do more labor or keep our labor in check and remember to pray? The Benedictine motto is Prayer and Labor. We must keep our choices in balance so that God does not get replaced by working ourselves to death to have more money. Many people die unexpectedly with their bank accounts overflowing with the money they kept working to save for that trip someday or that great retirement.

In contrast, opportunities to do good with that money passed. The motto is not all God and no work, nor is it all work and no God. The motto, Ora et Labora, is God and Work in balance. In this dispensation, God is known through the Church, preordained before the foundations of the world. God sent the Son, Jesus, knowing full well that Jesus was to start the Age of the Church. God ordained Jesus to establish the Church as the instrument of the knowledge of God in this dispensation. We are charged to keep the church alive, thriving, and meaningful, and we are the instrument of bringing God through Christ into our world. So the motto expands to God in the Church of Jesus Christ and labor in the world. Consecrate your work in the world to God; offer it up as your sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. As you do your job, keep God in Christ in mind with you. I even know of one local Postal worker who listens to this worship service as they deliver their mail, sanctifying their work and honoring God.

As we go into Labor Day tomorrow and the election in November, we have opportunities to be agents of change, people who promote equal access to the tools of our economy. In fact, we can present these standards in everyday life, where we see opportunities to speak up to support honest labor and honest compensation.

Guide for political actions allowed by churches and by pastors

<https://www.adfchurchalliance.org/electionguide>

=====

Read the 2024 Democratic Party Platform Here: <https://democrats.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/FINAL-MASTER-PLATFORM.pdf>

[See pages 56 & 57 RIGHT CLICK HERE](#). Scroll to page 56 :LGBTQI+

=====

Read the 2024 Republican Party Platform Here

(<https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/documents/2024-republican-party-platform>)

Read the supporting documents and ideas known as Project 2025 here: <https://www.project2025.org/>

See a video summary of the highlights of Project 2025 by the Wall Street Journal here:

[\(Project 2025: The Radical Conservative Plan to Reshape America Under Trump | W.S.J.\)](#)

=====

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

=====



WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

+ (optional) Profession Of Faith

Creed #1: The Apostles' Creed

I believe in the One Eternal, Loving, Life-Giving,
Forgiving, Good, and Gracious God,
Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus the Christ, the only Begotten Son of God,
our Lord and Saviour.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day, God raised Jesus from the dead.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God.

Christ will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, Who is equal with God and the Son.

I believe in the one, holy, Christian Church, the Body of Jesus Christ that is universal/catholic, and apostolic.

I believe in the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen

(Revised 10-31-20 Br. Benedict)

+ The Prayers of the People - Pastor

Leader – 1: Having heard the Word Of God, we pray to God in Christ through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit with communal prayers. Our response after each prayer will be: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 1: We pray for those who work descending far into the earth in search of water and other resources, those who struggle with famine and climate heat that makes work nearly impossible; we pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 1: We pray for those forced into labor and work in unjust systems; we pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 2: We pray for those who have lost their source of work to the bombs of war, to ethnic cleansing, to displacement, and to the greed of business owners; we pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 2: We continue praying for people we know who need healing and support, especially Ed Askins, Phillipa Askins, Kaiden Benedict, Christina McLaughlin, Brother Benedict, Cheryl Allen, Tami Whatley, Lisa Frost, Ken Cummings, Allena McGlaughlin; we pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 2: We pray for the family and the friends who have lost loved ones and must find a new way forward without someone they loved, especially the family of Brian Cerow, the family of Bernell Hooker, and especially her wife Rita; we pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader-2: At this time, you may add your silent prayers. (*pause for time to pray.*)

Leader-2: Lord Jesus, we lift our spoken and unspoken prayers to you. We ask you to intercede for us as our High Priest at the right hand of God.

ALL: Amen

Leader - 3: 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.



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

There are many convenient ways to participate with your donation, including



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

9-1-24 Pentecost Week 16, LABOR WEEKEND Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr. B Page 18 of 33
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:

Leader - 3: 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 or?: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness, we have this Bread, which the Earth has given us, and human hands have lovingly made. Now, through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit, this Bread will become for us the Bread From Heaven (Exodus 16:2, Psalm 78:24, John 6:32, 41,50,58), the Bread of the Angels (Psalm 78:25), the Bread of God (John 6:33), the Living Bread (John 6:51), the Bread Of Life (John 6:35, 48, 58), the Bread of the New Covenant (John 6:32, 49, 50,51, 58), the Sacrament of the Eucharist, the very Body Of Christ (John 6:52-56, 1Corinthians 10:16).

ALL: Blessed be God forever.

Kaiden: Please set down your Bread. For those at home, pour your wine or grape juice into your cup if you have not already done so. Then, add a small amount of water to the cup. With this water, we remember Jesus is human. With this fruit of the vine, we remember He is divine forever.

Brother Benedict: Now, please lift your cup with me as I pray this prayer. Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness, we have this fruit of the vine, which the Earth has given us and human hands

9-1-24 Pentecost Week 16, LABOR WEEKEND Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr. B Page 19 of 33
have lovingly made. Now, through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit, this fruit of the vine will become for us the Cup of Our Salvation (Psalm 116:13), the Cup of Everlasting Life (John 6:54-57), the Cup of the New Covenant (Matthew 26:28, Luke 22:20, 1 Corinthians 11:25), the very Blood Of Christ (John 6:54-56; 1Corinthians 10:16).

ALL: Blessed be God forever.

Kaiden: Please set down your cup.

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

ALL: And also with you!

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

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord!

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

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

Pastor: (An improvised prayer is said here.)

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

Holy, Holy, Lord!

To my friends in Christ
at Ray Of Hope Church

"Music for Worship"

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

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of six staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly Ho - ly Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might. Hea-ven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Bless - ed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high-est." The score includes various musical notations such as rests, beams, and a triplet of eighth notes.

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

+ We Invoke the Blessing Of The Holy Spirit

Leader - 3: At Ray Of Hope Church, we pray together and ask the Holy Spirit to give us the same gifts Jesus gave when He instituted Holy Communion for His Church. We invite you to extend your hands forward over the Bread and fruit of the vine or extend your arms out with palms turned up in prayer and say the following Invocation of the Holy Spirit with me.

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

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

Leader - 1: You may relax your arms and hands.

+ The Words Of The Institution Of The Holy Eucharist

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

+ The Lord's Prayer

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

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

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

+ Final Doxology

Pastor: Please lift the Holy Communion Bread of Life and Cup of Salvation. 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!

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



The Reception of Holy Communion

Pastor: Please raise the Blessed Sacrament as a sign of praise and pray together:

ALL: Behold the Lamb of God. Behold the Christ truly present in the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation. Behold Him who said

whoever eats of this Bread and drinks of this cup, though they die, they shall live forever, and I will raise them up on the last day.

Leader - 2: Blessed are those who come to this table; everyone is welcome.

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

Kaiden: Please open your kit and receive Holy Communion at this time. Receive now the Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the Gift of God for the People of God. Receive these gifts of love to strengthen your resolve to serve others and God and to fortify your Salvation. I assure you, by the promises of Christ, that anyone who receives this Holy Communion today will indeed receive sanctification and healing in mind, body, soul, and spirit, and will be raised by Christ to new life, and live forever.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

PRIVATE PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION.

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

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

Spiritual Communion Prayer from the Episcopal National Cathedral Prayer Book.

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

+ Sign Of Peace

Leader-1: The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ is with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Leader-1: Please take a moment to share a sign of Peace with those around you. **During COVID, we wave across the room and into the camera for the Internet.

Leader-1: Now, we clean our tables and altars. Please be sure all of the crumbs are in your cup. Add some water and swirl it around inside the cup. Drink the water. Dry the cup with the side napkin. Clear your worship table and altar.

COMMUNION SONG:

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

NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION UPDATED EDITION (NRSVUE)

Publisher: National Council of the Churches of Christ. Copyright Information "Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Quotations or reprints more than five hundred (500) verses must be approved in writing by the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., 110 Maryland Ave., Suite 108, Washington, DC 20002.

New Revised Standard Version – 1989

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

General Offering for the week of July 28 \$350.00 Attendance 10 on Sunday;
Wednesday, July 31, Attendance 5

General Offering for the week of August 4 \$885.00 Attendance 10 on Sunday;
Wednesday, August 7, Attendance 8

General Offering for the week of August 11 \$110.00 Attendance 10 on Sunday;
Wednesday, August 14, Attendance 7

General Offering for the week of August 18 \$310.00 Attendance 9 on Sunday;
Wednesday, August 21, Attendance 4

General Offering for the week of August 25 \$10.00 Attendance 9 on Sunday

(some people give monthly rather than weekly)

****In Addition to the General Offering, we received the following Special Gifts.****

Brother Benedict made a donation of \$640.00 to the Building Fund.

****Recent Special Gifts****

Cam was here to help with trimming and weeding on Tuesday, August 12. Thank you, Cam.

There is a new air conditioner and dehumidifier in the Frasier Room that was purchased with monies donated by Gary and Annie and the William and Jean Houser Trust. We are very grateful, thank you.

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

The Innocence Project <https://innocenceproject.org/>

Announcing Baptism Preparation Instruction. Membership is based the [Statement Of Purpose](#). The Sacrament of Baptism is based upon the [Statement of Faith](#) and is the public affirmation that one desires to be "baptized into Christ Jesus," (see Galatians 3:27-28) and forever remain one with Christ and His Body, the Church.

Ray Of Hope Church By-Laws [8.02 Baptism](#).

Baptism in/with water as recorded in the Scriptures, shall be a sign of the dedication of each life in Christ Jesus and God's service and shall be witnessed by Christ's Church.

SEPTEMBER 3, 10, 17, 24 – Tuesdays - Baptism Instruction

6:30 – 8:00

September 1, Sunday 10:30 AM Worship Online

September 2, Monday 3:00 - 4:30 PM By-Laws Revision Committee

September 3, Tuesday 6:30 - 8:00 PM **Baptism Instruction**

Happy and Blessed 70th Birthday Ed Askins

September 4, Wednesday NOON - 12:45 Mass In-Person

September 8, Sunday 10:30 AM Worship In-Person and Online

September 9, Monday 3:00 - 4:30 PM By-Laws Revision Committee

September 10, Tuesday 6:30 - 8:00 PM **Baptism Instruction**

September 11, Wednesday NOON - 12:45 Mass In-Person

Sunday, September 15, Worship at 10:30 a.m. Celebrating the 28th Anniversary of the Southern Tier Extension of Ray Of Hope Church and the Feast of the Triumph Of The Cross.

September 16, Monday 3:00 - 4:30 PM By-Laws Revision Committee

September 17, Tuesday 6:30 - 8:00 PM **Baptism Instruction**

September 18, Wednesday NOON - 12:45 Mass In-Person

The September Council meeting is on 9-20-24 at 2:00 PM.

The Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting is September 29, 2024

Worship at 10:30 AM with the Sacrament of Baptism. Shared dinner after

9-1-24 Pentecost Week 16, LABOR WEEKEND Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr. B Page 27 of 33
worship, and the Congregational Meeting will start at 1:00 PM. The meeting is short: Approval of the January, 2024 Congregational Minutes, and hold elections to the Council. Veronica Floyd is nominated to fill a two-year seat.

October 13, Sunday at 2:30 PM? **The Abrahamic Walk** presented by the Southern Tier Interfaith Coalition

Treasurer's Report for the month of July 2024.

General Fund opening balance at the beginning of the month was \$649.04. Donations to the General Fund for the month were \$2,945.40. There were 2 people who deposited their August donations early. Pastoral compensation of \$495.00 per week was paid, Verizon \$62.13 and Paypal charge comes out of this account. After these were paid the ending balance of this account at the end of the month was \$1043.91.

Building Fund opening balance was \$2,001.66. Donations to the Building Fund were as follows: Brother Shawn Benedict \$640.00, Kaiden Benedict \$400.00. Regular bills that came out of the fund this month was the Credit Card bill with Key Bank of \$63.27, electric \$133.92, gas bill \$253.00, water bill \$68.18, Sewer bill \$405.92, Initial Boiler service call with Isaac's Plumbing and Heating \$109.95 and I transferred \$650.00 to savings to cover the liability insurance that is due in early September. Ending balance of this fund was \$1,357.42.

Building Improvement Fund opening balance on this account was \$2,189.85. We received a Paypal donation from Ian & Christina McLaughlin. A net amount of \$436.50 and also a donation from Annie and Gary of \$200.00 towards the A.C. unit in the Frazier room. The total of the A.C. paid from this account was \$373.86. The ending balance in this account is \$2,452.49.

Savings (Council) Account opening balance \$55.98. I transferred the \$650.00 from the Building Fund into this account for the liability insurance, so the balance in this account at the end of the month is \$705.98.

These balances equal Five Star bank balances at end of month, with the exception of the Building Improvement Fund, which I will explain during the meeting.

** Ed Askins is the Treasurer of Ray Of Hope Church, Inc. and is glad to answer any questions regarding the finances of the Church.**

=====

The following is the text and pictures of an email sent on August 28, 2024

"Today marks the 61st anniversary of the historic 1963 March on Washington. There, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his iconic "I Have a Dream" speech, calling for an end to racism and the realization of equality and justice for all.



As we reflect on this pivotal moment, here are some powerful films and a series that capture the spirit and the significance of the March on Washington:

- Rustin
- Selma
- Genius: MLK/X
- Boycott
- John Lewis: Good Trouble

While progress has been made in the decades since the march, Dr. King's vision of a nation where people "will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character" remains unfulfilled. Racism, barriers to voting, and systemic racial inequities continue to persist in our society today."

NAACP EMAIL ENDS HERE. (More information Right Click Here:

<https://naACP.org/volunteer?sourceid=1000375&emci=c1462629-3b65-ef11-991a-6045bdd9e096&emdi=fdafa66a-4665-ef11-991a-6045bdd9e096&ceid=3587589>)

Current Political Resources



Our statement on the RNC's approval of the historic 2024 platform:

"Log Cabin Republicans have been working for decades to help build a more inclusive GOP and update the platform's outdated and out-of-step language... Today, that hard work has finally come to fruition."



"The approval today of the 2024 Republican Party platform at the Republican National Convention is a historic moment both for the GOP and for our country. Log Cabin Republicans have been working for decades to help build a more inclusive GOP and update the platform's outdated and out-of-step language opposing marriage equality, an issue that the vast majority of the country and a majority of Republican voters support. Today, that hard work has finally come to fruition. This platform sends a powerful message to LGBT conservatives across the country that we are not only welcome in the Republican Party, but a part of the movement to Make America Great Again. It also makes clear to voters that the Republican Party welcomes all, and is looking optimistically to the future instead of cynically rehashing old debates of the past. This is a platform of unity. We applaud President Trump for his visionary, inclusive, and consistent leadership, without which this moment wouldn't be possible. LGBT conservatives are more determined than ever before to help the GOP fight the radical gender ideology of the Democrat Party and more enthused than ever to nominate President Trump as our standard-bearer and Make America Great Again."

- Log Cabin Republicans President Charles Moran



We Are Sent Forth To Serve

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

ALL: And also with you!

Leader - 2: We bless and praise you, God, for this time of worship we have enjoyed together today. Send us forth now to share what we have experienced with others. We ask you, Almighty God, to bless us with quiet miracles, the warmth of love, and fill us with wonder and peace; (*+*) In the Name of God, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen

Leader - 2: We pray Romans Chapter fifteen, verse thirteen together, saying:

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

Leader-4: We go forth in peace and Love to serve all people and the Lord ...

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

LAST SONG:

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



We never held a vote to decide if we would be an ***INCLUSIVE*** church for you.

We are not an ***OPEN AND AFFIRMING*** church for you.

We are not a ***RECONCILING CHURCH*** or
RECONCILING CONGREGATION for you.

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

WE ARE YOU!

THIS is the Church where YOU belong.

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

The Third Sunday of Pride, 2019

Made by you and for you, because we are

The Third Sunday of Pride, 2019

Ray Of Hope Church Weekly Schedule

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

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

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

Policy Concerning Minors at Events

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

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

The Chapel is not open to the general public, the way it used to be from 7:00 AM to 11:59 PM daily, as we try to do our part to stop the spread of COVID-19. Call for an appointment if you want some time to come in to pray, read, or visit The Blessed Sacrament. 1-607-280-0374 Our regular services will be blended with live participation in the Chapel, live on Skype and Facebook. To read the information on how to use Skype to participate with us, [Click Here](#).. Recordings of most of our Worship events are on our Facebook page, to see [Click Here](#). We will reopen the Chapel as soon as it is reasonably safe and prudent.

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

(Optional) Name: _____

(Optional) Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

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

I would like to schedule an appointment with the Pastor.



Ray Of Hope Church Statement Of Purpose

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

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

Visit us online:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(Isaiah 43:19 ESV)

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

