

**"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 9-29-24 Pentecost Week 20, the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

We are celebrating the Baptism of **Katrina Marie Lourdiane**

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: Isaiah 55:1-11

Psalm: Thy Word is a Lamp Unto My Feet

Second Reading: Romans 6:3-11 NRSV 2nd Test. Pg. 156

Third Reading: Acts 10:34- 48 NRSV 2nd Test. Pg. 129

Gospel: John selected verses from Chapters 4 and 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.

9-29-24 Baptism Pentecost Week 20, 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr. B Page 2 of 42
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CALL TO WORSHIP

Visit and greet one another until the bell rings.

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

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



WE GATHER TO PRAISE THE LORD AND GIVE THANKS

+ Pastoral Welcome

Leader – 1: Hello. My name is _____. I am in_(city) _____, _____(State)_____. Good morning. Welcome to Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the faith community founded in Central New York and now all across the World through the Internet, where everyone is welcome. We recommend you have two Internet devices on. Set one device on Facebook Live to listen to the Music. Right-click on this link to access our [Facebook page](#). Open the Skype meeting on the second device to interact with us. You may participate in some or all parts of this worship event as you are comfortable. We announce all instructions, page, and song numbers and use a psalm response verse to assist people with various stages of visual impairment.

Leader-2: Hello. My name is _____. I am in_(city) _____, _(State)_____. Good morning, and welcome. (** Reader, please remember to look at the people and smile.**) Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion with us during the second part of this worship event. We celebrate the Lord's open table where Membership in this or any church is not required to receive Communion. People participating on the Internet, please bring the following items to your table at this time so you are prepared: 1) a cup with some wine or grape juice, 2) a small piece of Bread, cracker, or matzo on a plate, 3) a second cup with some water, and 4) a side napkin. Today, we will also be renewing our Baptismal Vows. If you wish to renew your vows at home, please bring to your table another bowl with water in it, a towel, and something to sprinkle the water with; it could be a branch from a bush or even a basting brush from your kitchen.

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 choosing to spend time with us today. In Romans, Chapter 15:7, the Scriptures instruct us to:

ALL: "Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God." (NABRE)

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

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

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

Pastor: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you. (2 Corinthians 13:14)

ALL: And also with you, praise the Lord.

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

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

Today is September 29, 2024, Pentecost Week 20, the 26th of 34 Sundays in Ordinary Time Year B, meaning there are only nine weeks before Advent, the start of the Church Year. Today, we celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism into Christ with the Baptism of the Holy Spirit of Katrina Marie Lourdiane. Today, we will also renew our own Faith and Baptism and pray for a

refreshing outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

One goal of this church is to show everyone how to bring Christ to every area of our lives.

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

ALL: Together, we give God thanks and praise.



FIRST SONG: (MUSIC SUPPLEMENT) All Are Welcome. Words and Music by Marty Haugen

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+ The Candle Of Hope

Next, we light our Candle Of Hope to celebrate our Faith and trust in the promised "Blessed Hope," also known as "The Rapture," the return of Christ who will transform the living faithful and raise all to new life. Those viewing at home may light a special candle and bring it to your table. Now, everyone, please join me and recite these words of Jesus to celebrate the Truth they promise us. Jesus said: (John 5:25 and Titus 2:13)

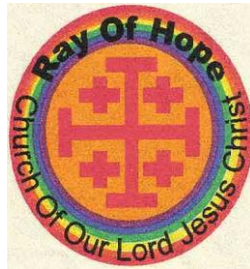
ALL: "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." (John 11:25, 26)

Leader -2: Today, the Candle of Hope stands next to the Baptismal Holy Water Font given in memory of John Sosadiaz by John McGee at our semi-annual meeting on September 29, 2013, eleven years ago today. As we use this Baptismal font today, we remember the thousands of people who died of HIV and AIDS while enduring condemnation from people in the church, from governments, and from others who told them their illness and dying was God's curse and punishment. Today, as we celebrate Baptism at this font, we ask for the prayers of John Sosadiaz, Tim Frost,

Erie Smart, Rev. Warren Zeh, Brian Jones, and so many other people we know who died of HIV and AIDS and are now in Paradise with Christ. May their prayers inspire us to honor our gift in Baptism and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Additionally, may the Spirit working in us move us to take this message of the Love of God made known in Christ Jesus Our Lord to everyone we meet. We ask this through Christ, Our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

The bulletin's cover from the day the Baptismal Font was dedicated is reprinted here.



September 22, 2013
Pentecost Wk. 19 Year C
Semi-annual Meeting

The 30th year of ministry.
Founded July, 1983
Veronica Floyd, Moderator



Dedication of Baptismal Font in honor of John Sosadiaz.

Second Song: (NOTEBOOK #40) I Believe In Jesus. Words and Music by Marc Nelson

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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, being truly present among us, 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, confess faults, sins, and failures to Christ, and receive His immediate forgiveness.

Third Song:(G&P GREEN 349) Change Our Hearts. Words and Music by Rory Cooney/Jeffrey Honoré © 1984, OCP. All rights reserved. Onelicense Song # 81517 Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-74127

Pastor: Colossians 3:11b - 13 reads:

There is only Christ, who is all in all. ¹² Because you are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt compassion, with kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with one another; forgive whatever grievances you have against one another—forgive in the same way God has forgiven you. ¹⁴ Above all else, put on love, which binds the rest together and makes them perfect.

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The Lord has heard our confession and has granted forgiveness, and so we declare together:

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

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

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

The Gloria

"Music for Worship"

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

Refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and

4
peace to all peo - ple on earth — Glo - ry to God in the high - est —

8
We give you thanks — and praise. Al - le - lu - ia

10
We give you thanks — and praise.

12 **Verse 1**

You are the One God, Sov - ereign of the Un - i - verse, On - ly

16
Ho - ly God, — we wor - ship You, — we

18
give you thanks, we praise You for Your great glo - ry!

21 **Refrain**

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, — and peace to all peo - ple on earth —

25
Glo - ry to God in the high - est — We give you thanks — and

2

28

praise. Al-le-lu__ ia We give you thanks_ and praise.

31 **Verse 2**

Lord, Jes - us Christ;_____ The On - ly Be - got - ten

34

Son of God, You are Lord God,

36

Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; Have mer - cy on

41

us; You are sea-ted at the right hand of God; re - ceive our prayer.

46 **Refrain**

Glo-ry to God in the high-est,___ and peace to all peo-ple on_ earth_

50

Glo - ry to God in the high - est___ We give you thanks_ and

53

praise. Al-le-lu__ ia We give you thanks_ and praise.

56 **Verse 3**

For You a-lone are the Ho - ly One You a - lone are the Lord of all,

61


You a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, With the Ho - ly

66



Spi-rit in the glo - ry of God. In the Ho - ly Spi-rit, in the

71



Ho - ly un - i - ty of God.

75 Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, - and peace to all peo-ple on_ earth_

79



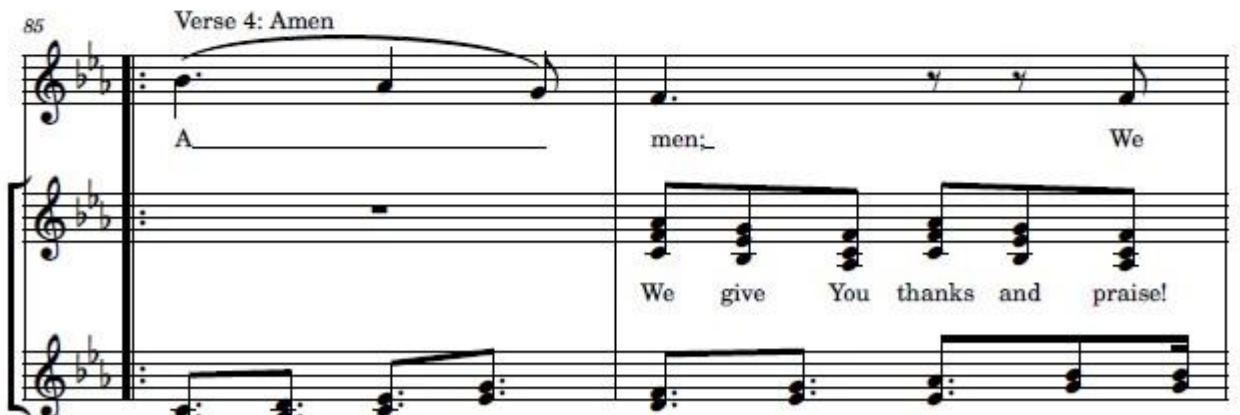
Glo-ry to God in the high-est_ We give you thanks_ and praise. Al-le-lu_ia

83



We give you thanks and praise.

85 Verse 4: Amen



A_ men_ We

We give You thanks and praise!

Lord we praise You, Lord we bless You, We

4

87

give You thanks and praise!

We give You thanks and praise!

give You thanks, We give You praise We give You thanks and praise

89

A men

A men. Al - le - lu - ia.

Lord we praise You, Lord we bless You men. Al - le - lu - ia.

PASTOR: Please be seated.

+ First Reading

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

This morning's first reading is in the Book of Isaiah, Chapter 55, verses 1-11. The 1989 pew Bibles have a similar reading on page 685 in the First Testament. I will be reading from the NRSV 2021 updated edition. Here begins the reading.

55 :¹ "All you who are thirsty,
come to the water!
You who have no money,
come, buy food and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk,
without money, without price!

² Why spend your money for what is not bread,
your wages for what fails to satisfy?
Heed me, and you will eat well,
you will delight in rich fare;

³ bend your ear and come to me,
listen, that you may have life:
I will make an everlasting Covenant with you—
in fulfillment of the blessings promised to David.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

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Fourth Song: G&P GREEN 706 Come To The Water. Words and Music by John B. Foley, S.J., Text: Based on Isaiah 55:1-2; Matthew 11:28-30. Text and music © 1978, John B. Foley, S.J. and OCP. All rights reserved. CCLI song # 80668 Used with permission by our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121, and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.

+ 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 Romans, chapter 6, verses 2 through 11. The 1989 pew Bibles have a similar reading on page 156 in the Second Testament. I will be reading from the NRSV 2021 updated edition. Here begins the reading.

³ Don't you know that when we were baptized into Christ Jesus, we were baptized into Christ's death? ⁴ We've been buried with Jesus through baptism, and we joined with Jesus in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by God's glory, we too might live a new life. ⁵ For if we have been united with Christ in the likeness of Christ's death, we will also be united with Christ in the likeness of Christ's resurrection. ⁶ We must realize that our former selves have been crucified with Christ to make the body of sin and failure completely powerless, to free us from slavery to sin: ⁷ for when people die, they have finished with sin. ⁸ But we believe that, having died with Christ, we will also live with Christ—⁹ knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, will never die again: death is now powerless over our Savior. ¹⁰ When Christ died, Christ died to sin, once for all, so that the life Christ lives is now life in God. ¹¹ In this way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin—but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

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+Third Reading

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

The third reading is Acts 10:34- 48 NRSV 2nd Test. Pg. 129. The 1989 pew Bibles have a similar reading on page 230 in the Second Testament. I will be reading from the NRSV 2021 updated edition. Here begins the reading.

³⁴ So Peter said to them, "I begin to see how true it is that **God shows no partiality**—³⁵ rather, **that any person of any nationality**

(Nationality is the biblical Greek word: **ethni**, any people with a common story, journey, vocabulary, dialect, institutions, traditions, holidays and holy days, rituals and customs, music, and arts, etc., this obviously includes LGBTQSIANE2ss+ People. See Nancy Wilson: "Our Tribe" on page 118)

" People who fear God Fear, the biblical Greek word: phobeo, to fear in the sense of to hold in awe, to revere, to have the ultimate reverence. So, **any common people, just like us, who establish this place and these people to love and respect and hold God in awe.**"
Br. Shawn Benedict, 9-28-24, 9:00 a.m.

who fears God and does what is right **is acceptable to God.** ³⁶ This is the message God has sent to the people of Israel, the Good News of peace proclaimed through Jesus Christ, **who is Savior of all.** ³⁷ "You yourselves know what took place throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee with **the baptism** John proclaimed. ³⁸ You know how **God anointed** Jesus of Nazareth with **the Holy Spirit and with power**, and how **Jesus went about doing good works** and **healing all** who were in the grip of the Devil, because **God was with him.** ³⁹ We are eyewitnesses to all that Jesus did in the countryside

and in Jerusalem. Finally, Jesus was killed and hung on a tree,⁴⁰ only to be raised by God on the third day. God allowed him to be seen,⁴¹ not by everyone, but only by the witnesses who had been chosen beforehand by God—that is, by us, who ate and drank with Christ after the resurrection from the dead.⁴² And Christ commissioned us to preach to the people and to bear witness that this is the one set apart by God as judge of the living and the dead.⁴³ To Christ Jesus all the prophets testify, that everyone who believes has forgiveness of sins through this Name."⁴⁴ Peter had not finished speaking these words when the Holy Spirit descended upon all who were listening to the message.⁴⁵ The Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were surprised that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also,⁴⁶ whom they could hear speaking in tongues and glorifying God. Then Peter asked,⁴⁷ "What can stop these people who have received the Holy Spirit, even as we have, from being baptized with water?"⁴⁸ So he gave orders that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. After this was done, they asked him to stay on with them for a few days.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

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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 John, selected verses from Chapters 4 and 7 in the NRSV updated edition of 2021. The 1989 pew Bibles have a similar reading on pages 95 and 100 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 John.
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.

In the Isaiah reading, we heard God speaking: All you who are thirsty, come to the water!

We pause here and remember our Creating God has chosen water to sustain us, to refresh the earth, and Jesus gives us Himself as the Living Water. In John 4:10, Jesus said to the woman at the well of Jacob: "If you knew the gift of God, and who it was who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.'...

In John 4:13-14, Jesus continues by saying, "Whoever drinks of the natural water of the well will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give will never thirst. The water that I shall give will become a fountain of water springing up to everlasting life." (John 4:13-14)

Again, in John Chapter 7, verses 37 – 39, we hear the voice of Jesus saying: "If anyone thirsts, let them come to Me and drink. Those who believe in Me, as Scripture has said, out of their heart will flow rivers of living water." John, the Beloved Disciple, then writes Jesus was speaking "concerning the Holy Spirit, whom those believing in Jesus would receive: for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified."

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord!

ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

These verses were adapted from the New King James Version of the Bible, inserting inclusive language. Scripture taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

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

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are as follows:

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!

+ Statement of Faith, Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Leader-1: The first part of our service is hearing the Word of God and responding with songs, hymns, and spiritual songs. Now, we begin the second part of our service with water. We have heard the Revelation of Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God; now we respond with the renewal of our commitment in the waters of Baptism. ** If you are at home, you may bring a small bowl of water to the table at this time and a branch if you want to sprinkle it, or you may touch it when it is time.

Pastor Benedict: There are three modes of Baptism. "Since early in the Church's history, three different modes of baptism have been used: aspersion (sprinkling); affusion (pouring); and immersion (dipping)." (Source: page 1507 Scofield, III NKJV at Acts 8:12 summary. © Oxford University Press 2002) Katrina chose affusion - pouring. Katrina was given several spoken formulas for the action of baptism, and she chose "In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

SPECIAL MUSIC: Featuring Lisa Frost, Brother, and Kaiden Benedict.

Holy Water. Words and Music by Andrew Bergthold, Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash, Scott Cash ©2019 Angie Feel Good Songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Bay19 (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Capitol CMG Genesis (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Capitol CMG Paragon (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Scott Cash Publishing Designee (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) We The Kingdom Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) CCLI Song #7136448 Additional Karaoke Accompaniment Holy Water Karaoke Version Originally Performed by We the Kingdom. Performed by Singer's Best. Written by Andre Bergthold, Edmond Martin Cash, Edmond Martin Cash Jr, Frances Rae Cash, Scott Rae Cash, Scott Mctyeire Cash Source: Paris Music. Used with permission by our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121, and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.

PASTOR BENEDICT: We pray that this water and the water you have at home will be for us Holy Water as Christ intended for His Church and as He has given since the day of Pentecost for God's action in our lives. We pray together:

ALL: O Loving God, in the Name of Jesus, we, your faithful people, ask your Only One and Holy Spirit to come into this water and make it Holy as we set it aside for the Sacrament of Baptism. Give to us the Holy Spirit as Living Water to well up from within us forever as we rededicate our lives and our will to your service, through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

Pastor: At this time, I invite Katrina and her Baptismal Witness, Kaiden Rae

Benedict to step forward for the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Katrina Marie Lourdiane, you have heard the Word of God. The Holy Scriptures proclaim that Christ is present, beginning in all time and space. You have heard in the fullness of time God our loving Creating Parent Father, sent Christ to be born of a virgin of Nazareth named Mary. You have heard through the life and death and resurrection of Jesus God brought Life to this world and saved us from Sin. You have heard Jesus has claimed that all authority in heaven and earth has been given to Him, including your death, resurrection, and eternity. I ask you, have you heard and understood enough to place your own eternal future into His hands, into His Sacred Heart, into His care, and to acknowledge that He is Lord of All and Jesus is the Way, the Truth, the Life, Lord of the living and the dead, the Resurrection, and your Lord?

Katrina answers:

Leader-1: At this time, we invite anyone who wishes to renew your statement of faith and rededicate your life to Christ with Katrina to rise as you are able and answer the three sections of the Apostles' Creed. After each question please respond by saying aloud the text that is in bold print. We begin.

Creed #1: The Apostles' Creed

PASTOR BENEDICT: Do you believe in God?

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

PASTOR BENEDICT: What do you understand and testify to concerning Jesus, born in Bethlehem, the Christ of God?

**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.**

PASTOR BENEDICT: Do you proclaim the Holy Spirit as God and the power of God in the Church of Christ?

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)

Leader - 1: In the Book of Acts, Chapter 2, verses 38 and 39 Peter said to the crowd who heard his sermon on Pentecost Day, "You must repent and be baptized, each one of you, in the name of Jesus the Messiah, that your sins may be forgiven; then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 It was to you and your children that the promise was made, and to all those still far off whom our God calls."

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KATRINA'S BAPTISM

Pastor Benedict: Everyone be ready to make the declaration with me.
Katrina Marie Lourdiane

**ALL: We baptize you in the Name of the Father And of the Son..... And
of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

PASTOR BENEDICT: Those who wish to renew their previous Sacrament of Baptism may step forward and line up please. Kaiden Benedict. (After Kaiden Katrina may go and dry off.)

Those who are renewing: _____, your Baptism is renewed in the Name of God, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Others. Now, we sprinkle the water on each other as a reminder of our baptism into Christ.

KATRINA goes and dries off and changes clothes as needed.

SPECIAL SONG

BE CLOTHED IN CHRIST

Adam and Eve lost the glory of Christ when they followed the lie and gained knowledge of good and evil. Today, through Baptism, you have been clothed in Christ Galatians 4:26 - 29

²⁶ Each one of you is a child of God because of your faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷ All of you who have been baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ In Christ there is no Jew or Greek, slave or citizen, male or female. All are one in Christ Jesus.* ²⁹ Furthermore, if you belong to Christ, you are the off-spring of Abraham, which means you inherit all that was promised.

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+ Sacrament of Anointing for the seal of the Holy Spirit for Service.

God, the Creator of all Creation, who gave the Only Begotten Son, Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ, Messiah of God, has freed you from all sin, given you a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into the eternal Kingdom of God through the Church of Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

This same and Awesome God now anoints you with the anointing Oil of the Lord (Leviticus 10:7), the Oil of Salvation, the Oil of Gladness (Psalm 45:7; 61:3, Hebrews 1:9), the Oil of Healing (Mark 6:13; James 5:14) the Oil of the Holy Spirit with power for service (Acts 10:38; Luke 4:18)

Be sealed with the gift of the promised Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13; 2 Corinthians 1:22) and receive the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit to become a worker in the vineyard, a witness for Christ to the ends of the earth. Be found watching and waiting at the hour He returns for the Church.

Presentation of the Certificate of Baptism and invite Katrina to take a seat.

(Offer the anointing to anyone else.)

HOLY WATER INSTRUCTION

Lisa Frost: Worship is our primary activity as a church. The church has an old standard, *lex orandi, lex credendi*, which means that "the law of prayer is the law of faith" or "that which we pray is that which we believe." Our prayer, our worship is the key to understanding what God has revealed for us to accept as Eternal Truth. Our Congregation offers leadership, organization, and the presentation of worship experiences, as well as the physical building space for worship and education in spirituality, as our primary service to the general public. All are welcome to avail themselves to our services of worship.

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.

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: He's Worthy. Words and Music by Sandra Crouch © 1985

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Leader - 3: (**You may improvise a prayer or use this one.) God, we bless you and praise you for all the gifts you have received to support this ministry. We bless you for those who can give financially, with their skills, prayers, and many other ways. We bless you for those who could not give and pray that all their needs will be met. We dedicate all this to the Name of Jesus, Amen.

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

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



WE CELEBRATE THE SACRED MEAL OF CHRIST

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

Eucharist, the very Body Of Christ (John 6:52-56, 1Corinthians 10:16).

ALL: Blessed be God forever.

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

Brother Benedict: Now, please lift your cup with me as I pray this prayer. Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness, we have this fruit of the vine, which the Earth has given us and human hands have lovingly made. Now, through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit, this fruit of the vine will become for us the Cup of Our Salvation (Psalm 116:13), the Cup of Everlasting Life (John 6:54-57), the Cup of the New Covenant (Matthew 26:28, Luke 22:20, 1 Corinthians 11:25), the very Blood Of Christ (John 6:54-56; 1Corinthians 10:16).

ALL: Blessed be God forever.

Kaiden: Please set down your cup.

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

ALL: And also with you!

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

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord!

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

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

Pastor: (An improvised prayer is said here.)

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

Holy, Holy, Lord!

To my friends in Christ
at Ray Of Hope Church

"Music for Worship"

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

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) 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 on the fifth staff.

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+ 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

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The Reception of Holy Communion

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

ALL: Behold the Lamb of God. Behold the Christ truly present in the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation. Behold Him who said whoever eats of this Bread and drinks of this cup, though they die, they shall live forever, and I will raise them up on the last day.

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

ALL: Lord, you make me worthy to receive you, and by your Word, I am healed. It is through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, that all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, forever and ever.

Doxology/Amen!

To my friends in Christ
at Ray Of Hope Church

"Music For Worship"

Music by: Gaude! Liturgical Arts
October 31, 1993

All hon - or and glo - ry be un - to ____ You. Al - migh - ty

5 God ____ world with - out end. ____ A ____ men! Al - le - lu - ia

11 A ____ men! Al - le - lu - ia! All hon - or and glo - ry to you! A - men! ____

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

PRIVATE PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION.

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

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

Spiritual Communion Prayer from the Episcopal National Cathedral Prayer Book.

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

+ Sign Of Peace

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

ALL: And also with you.

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

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

COMMUNION SONG:

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New Revised Standard Version – 1989

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General Offering for the week of September 15 \$550.00 Attendance 9 on Sunday
Wednesday, September 18, Attendance 5

General Offering for the week of September 22 \$358.06 Attendance 9 on Sunday
Wednesday, September 25, Attendance 7
(some people give monthly rather than weekly)

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

Rev. Evan and Mrs. Kate Hansen made a \$500.00 donation to the boiler repair. Thank you both very much. Ray Of Hope Church appreciates your friendship.

Lisa Frost made a \$1,000.00 to the Building Improvement Fund. Thank you, Lisa.

Brother made a \$700.00 to the Building Fund. Thank you, Brother.

****Recent Special Gifts****

Kaiden made a \$50.00 special offering for our participation in sponsoring The Matsiko World Orphan Choir.

Kaiden Benedict made a \$400.00 donation to the Building Fund. Thank you, Kaiden.

Christina and Ian made a \$436.50 donation to the Building Improvement Fund, thank you both.

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/>

HOLY WATER INSTRUCTION

Sunday, September 29, 2024, the Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting Worship at 10:30 AM with the Sacrament of Baptism. Shared dinner after

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.

September 30, Monday: No scheduled meetings; take a night of rest.

October 1, Tuesday 6:30 - 8:00 PM Bible Enrichment - continuing Angels

October 2, Wednesday NOON - 12:45 Mass In-Person

(*October 5, Saturday 4:30- 6:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church
The Chosen - see flyer below.)

Sunday, October 6, Worship 10:30 a.m. World Communion Sunday and Celebration of St. Francis of Assisi - the Saint who welcomed everyone, and celebrated all the gifts of Creation in worship.

October 7, Monday 3:00 - 4:30 PM By-Laws Revision Committee

October 8, Tuesday 6:30 - 8:00 PM Bible Enrichment - continuing Angels

October 9, Wednesday NOON - 12:45 Mass In-Person

(*October 12, Saturday 4:30- 6:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church
The Chosen - see flyer below.)

Sunday, October 13, Worship 10:30 a.m.

October 13, Sunday at 2:00 PM **The Abrahamic Walk** presented by the Southern Tier Interfaith Coalition

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A GIFT DONATION. FROM VERONICA FLOYD, CLERK

Dear Friends and Members,

On a recent Monday afternoon the Carbon Monoxide Alarms rang on the first floor of the church and monastery. It turns out the broken bolt and old seal (apparently one was not replaced in the last kit replacement) on the existing boiler were allowing Carbon Monoxide to leak out of the boiler and upstairs through the floor and walls. The boiler is shut off and the system is taken off line because it is leaking Carbon Monoxide. The heat to the entire building is off until the Heat Exchanger Kit is installed.

We have received an estimate from Isaac Heating & Air Conditioning of \$3,230.79 to cover the parts and time it takes two technicians to do the exchange which is approximately 6 hours. This is the initial estimate for phase 1 of repairs needed. The second estimate to add a larger pump to solve the problem of getting the heat upstairs and to the back corners of the building has been received in the amount of \$1,712.83. Therefore the total amount to get the boiler functional and the pump installed is \$4,943.62.

The Council met on Thursday, September 26th and approved the plans to get this urgent emergency repair completed. We are so thankful for all donations received thus far for this repair. There is still a need for donations to help with this as we will need to quickly replenish the funds that will be required from the Building Improvement Fund.

As you may know, we have been saving to get the external building painted and eliminate any potential fines for not being up to code. This current emergency repair will deplete that savings.

So again, we thank all of you for your past generosity and for any financial assistance you can give at this time towards the boiler repair and external painting of the building.

The goal is to get the parts ordered and repair scheduled before we need the boiler to be operational with the declining temperatures as well as the building painted.

Thank you in advance for your support. Any amount given will be of great support.

On behalf of the Council,
Veronica Floyd, Clerk of Ray Of Hope Church, Inc.

The Treasurer's Report for the month of August 2024; presented September 26, 2024.

General Fund opening balance at the beginning of the month was \$1,043.91. Donations to the General Fund for the month were \$1,368.50. There were 2 people who deposited their August donations in July, so this figure is lower than normal by about \$800.00 Pastoral compensation of \$495.00 per week was paid, Verizon \$62.13, a reimbursement to me for the wine and grape juice kits of \$91.44 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 \$265.34.

Building Fund opening balance was \$1,357.42. Donations to the Building Fund were as follows: Brother Shawn Benedict \$640.00, Kaiden Benedict \$400.00. I transferred back in from Savings \$662.33 also. Regular bills that came out of the fund this month was the Credit Card bill with Key Bank of \$61.42, electric \$233.92 (which has increased \$100 per month), gas bill \$253.00, water bill \$82.79, Fire Inspection fee of \$60.00, Isaac's Plumbing and Heating \$364.95 and I paid the Liability Insurance bill of \$662.33. Ending balance of this fund was \$1,341.34.

Building Improvement Fund opening balance on this account was \$2,452.49. We had no activity on this account during August. Ian & Christina's donation was done on Paypal September 1st, so that will be on next month's report. So the ending balance on this account is \$2,452.29.

Savings (Council) Account opening balance \$705.33. I transferred \$662.33 to the building fund to cover the liability insurance payment, so the ending balance in this account is \$43.65.

These balances do equal the ending bank balances.

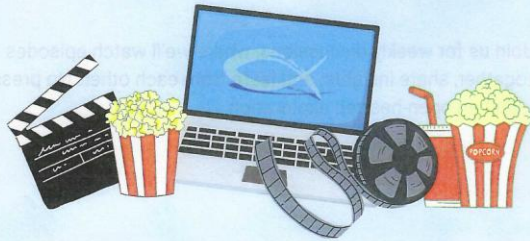
This report was presented at the September 26, 2024 Council Meeting by Mr. Edward Askins, Council Treasurer.

SHOW TIME ELMIRA PRESENTS The CHOSEN

Location: First Presbyterian Church of Elmira
1054 W. Clinton St. Elmira, NY 14905
Dates: Saturday afternoons, Oct 5 - Nov 23
Time: 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Get ready to dive into the epic saga of "The Chosen" with our first screening on Saturday, October 5th at 4:30 PM! Join us every Saturday at this time to catch all of Season One, ending on November 23rd. That's 8 chances to get together to enjoy, explore and discuss this fantastic, ground-breaking series.

Gather your friends and family and mark your calendars for this unforgettable adventure of friendship and faith.
Can't wait to see you there!



The First Presbyterian Church
North Presbyterian Church
And Elmira Community Leaders

*are embarking on an exciting journey together,
and we'd love for you to join us!*

What?

We're diving into the acclaimed series "The Chosen." This groundbreaking show beautifully portrays the life of Jesus and those around Him.

But here's the best part:
it's not just for one faith—it's for everyone.

Why?

Because we believe that stories have the power to unite us.

Whether you're a person of faith, curious about spirituality, or simply appreciate compelling narratives, "The Chosen" invites us all to explore universal themes like forgiveness, friendship, and transformation.

How?

Join us for weekly discussions, where we'll watch episodes together, share insights, and learn from each other. No pressure, —just an open-hearted exploration.

Abraham Path Walk

12th Annual event, sponsored by the Southern Tier Interfaith Coalition (STIC)



People of Faith Walking Together for greater understanding and compassion

This year we walk together in the public sphere in downtown Elmira. This one-mile walk brings interfaith partners together and is based on the story of Abraham, a prophet common to Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

Sunday, October 13th, 2024 @ 2:00 PM

- Begin in the parking lot of *The Park Church* (208 W. Gray Street, Elmira)
- Walk with someone of another faith community to the *Elmira City Hall*, *Chemung County Courthouse* and then back to *Wisner Park*
- Then drive to the *IAFL Islamic Center of the Finger Lakes* (499 Hickory Grove Rd. Horseheads) for a reception and STIC Annual Meeting.
- If you're not interested in walking, come to the reception and annual meeting at IAFL at 3:30 p.m.

For more information go to <http://www.sticinterfaith.org> or contact:
Imam Zaman Marwat, 607-562-3869, sufizaman@yahoo.com
Debra Todd, 607-734-0908, dctodd321@gmail.com

*Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that.
Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.*

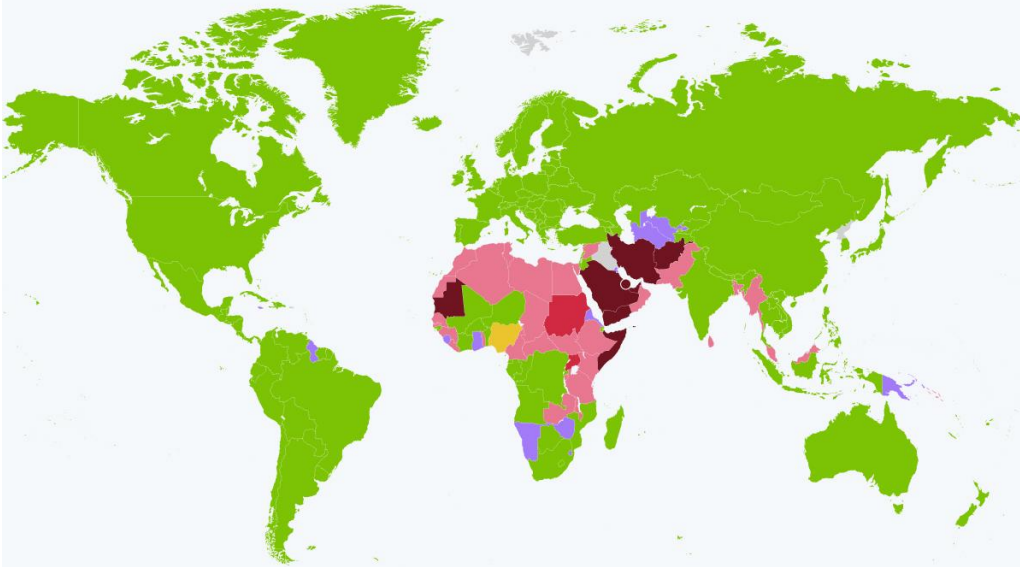
— Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

website: <https://www.statista.com/chart/4310/global-laws-against-homosexuality-visualised/>
<https://cdn.statcdn.com/Infographic/images/normal/4310.jpeg>

The Legal Status Of Homosexuality Worldwide

Global laws regarding homosexual activity in 2022

- Legal
- Male illegal, female legal*
- Illegal (other penalty)
- Illegal (imprisonment)
- Illegal (up to life in prison)
- Illegal (death penalty)
- Unknown, N/A or ambiguous



As of August 22, 2022
* Eswatini, Jamaica: female uncertain
Source: Equaldex





380 W. FIRST ST.
ELMIRA, NY 14901

NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The September Congregational Meeting for Members and Friends of Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ will be held on Sunday, September 29, 2024. You may attend in person or on SKYPE. The schedule for the day will be as follows:

10:30 a.m. – Worship
12:30 p.m. light refreshments
1:00 p.m.—Congregational Meeting

The Congregational meeting will include election of Council members for 2025.

We look forward to having you join us and engage in this ministry. If you haven't been here in a while, please consider coming to fellowship with us for worship and stay for a brief meeting of the congregation. We would love to see you.

Sincerely,

Veronica Floyd, Clerk
Ray Of Hope
Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc.



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: We Are Called. Words and Music by David Haas.
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The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. Isaiah 9:7 This is all God's fault, God's design, God's doing from start to end.

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



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

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

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

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

WE ARE YOU!

THIS is the Church where YOU belong.

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

The Third Sunday of Pride, 2019

Made by you and for you, because we are

The Third Sunday of Pride, 2019

Ray Of Hope Church Weekly Schedule

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

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

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

Policy Concerning Minors at Events

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

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

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

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

(Optional) Name: _____

(Optional) Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

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

I would like to schedule an appointment with the Pastor.



Ray Of Hope Church Statement Of Purpose

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

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

Visit us online:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

