

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 Thirty-fifth year of Ministry.

**MISSION: Love God, Love your neighbor,
make disciples of every person everywhere.
(Matthew 22:37-39; Matthew 28:19)**

“This is the time we need to shine.” “We are standing in Faith and Expecting Victory in 2017.” Veronica Floyd, Moderator

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

A very special welcome to our visitors.

You are as welcome here as Jesus Christ Himself.

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

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

November 21, 2017 32nd Sunday Year A

ESCHATOLOGY WEEK 1 of 6 weeks

The Study of the Final Things, the Consummation of the Church Age.

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

“what has been believed always, everywhere, and by all.”

Scripture Readings for this worship event:

First Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16 not in our pew NRSV

Psalm: 63 selected verses with responsorial verse

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 NRSV 2nd Test. pg. 204

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13 NRSV 2ND Testament page 28
(We suggest you find these Scripture readings in your Bible and place a marker in them before the Worship begins. The readings are also printed in this bulletin for your convenience.)

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

First Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16 not in our pew NRSV
 12 Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. 13 She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. 14 One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. 15 To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, 16 because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 63 selected verses with responsorial verse

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
 My body pines for you
 like a dry, weary land without water.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
 to see your strength and your glory.
 For your love is better than life,
 my lips will speak your praise.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

So I will bless you all my life,
 in your name I will lift up my hands.
 My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
 my mouth shall praise you with joy.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

On my bed I remember you.
 On you I muse through the night.
 You are my help,
 and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 NRSV 2nd Test. pg. 204

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters,[a] about those who have died,[b] so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For

since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died.[c] 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died.[d] 16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13 NRSV 2ND Testament page 28

The Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids

25 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids[a] took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.[b] 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. 6 But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7 Then all those bridesmaids[c] got up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9 But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' 10 And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. 11 Later the other bridesmaids[d] came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' 12 But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' 13 Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.[e]

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Notes

Blessed Hope— Rapture

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Dr. Dwight J. Pentecost writes:

The present age, in respect to the true church, terminates with the translation of the church into the Lord's presence. The doctrine of the translation of the church is one of the major considerations of the Eschatology of the New Testament (John 14:1-3; 2 Thess. 2:1; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 1 Cor. 1:8; 15:51-52; Phil. 3:20-21; 2 Cor. 5:1-9).

Pentecost, J. Dwight. Things to Come: A Study in Biblical Eschatology (Kindle Locations 2934-2937). Zondervan. Kindle Edition.

The third prevalent interpretation of the question of the time of the rapture in relation to the tribulation period is the pretribulation interpretation, which holds that the church, the body of Christ, in its entirety, will, by resurrection and translation, be removed from the earth before any part of the seventieth week of Daniel begins.

Pentecost, J. Dwight. Things to Come: A Study in Biblical Eschatology (Kindle Locations 3570-3573). Zondervan. Kindle Edition.

WHERE IS THE WORD RAPTURE IN THE BIBLE?

1 Thess. 4:17 "...then we who are alive, who are left, shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air:

"deinde nos, qui vivimus, qui relinquimur, simul rapiemur cum illis in nubibus obviam Dominio in aera..."

rapiemur "be caught up" nickname: "Rapture"

John 14:1-3 14 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many mansions;[a] if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.[b] 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

2 Thess. 2:1-4 Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, 2 not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ (the Lord) had come. 3 Let no one deceive you by any

means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin (lawlessness) is revealed, the son of perdition, 4 who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

1 Cor. 1:8 (4-9) I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you by Christ Jesus, 5 that you were enriched in everything by Him in all utterance and all knowledge, 6 even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you, 7 so that you come short in no gift, eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, 8 who will also confirm you to the end, that you may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 Cor. 15:50-52 50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

Phil. 3:20-21 20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

2 Cor. 5:1-9 5 For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, 3 if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. 4 For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life. 5 Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. 6 So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. 7 For we walk by faith, not by sight. 8 We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

The Judgment Seat of Christ

9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

The four main chapel candles for the week of November 12—November 18 are giving in thanksgiving for the life of Rose Marie May who entered Paradise on November 11, 2017. We pray for her family and especially her daughter, Bonnie Milliman to experience the peace of Christ ever present at this time. This dedication is made by Cheryl Allen.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GIFTS AND DONATIONS

General Offering for the week of November 5— \$1,130.00 Attendance 8. Please remember to catch up your offering when absent so that we can keep up with our commitment to our budget together. **Special gifts: \$10 candles—Cheryl, see above. We give God thanks and praise.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 11/14/17 Bible Enrichment Session: Revelation, The Book. Prepare by reading pages 141-144 1st Horse: Antichrist session #73

Thursday 11/16 NO MEETING Elmira LGBTQIS Social
* * Changes in our observance of the Liturgical Calendar

November 19 Feast Of Christ The King

Friday November 24 Council 7:00 PM

November 26 Advent Week 1

December 3 Advent Week 2

December 6 St. Nicholas Day: Ray Of Hope Chapel gifted.

December 10 Advent Week 3 GAUDETE SUNDAY / PARTY Pink Party! Pride Sunday in the Winter.

December 12 Tues. sunset Hanukkah begins -Tues. 19th

December 17 Advent Week 4

December 24 10:30 AM CHRISTMAS the Nativity

December 31 The Holy Name Of Jesus

January 7 The Epiphany Of The Lord

January 14 Civil Rights Sunday Feast of St. Martin Luther King, Jr. Gospel: Baptism of the Lord, Here I am Lord; I come to do your will.

Kwanzaa December 26—January 1 12/26 unity, 12/27 self-determination, 12/28 collective work and responsibility, 12/29 co-operative economics, 12/30 purpose 12/31 creativity 1/1 earth

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- Sunday 10:30 AM— 2121 E. Genesee St. Apt. 4 (the home of Robb Bacon)

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.

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

Policy Concerning Minors at Events

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

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

The Chapel is open daily from 7:00 AM to 12:00 midnight. When the door is unlocked the public is welcome to come in and pray, read a book, meditate, read Scriptures, and enjoy the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Visitors are invited to use the kneelers or sit in the chair or couch of their choice. Please maintain holy silence in the chapel.

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*.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

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

I would like to schedule an appointment with the Pastor.



Ray Of Hope Church Statement Of Purpose

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

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

Visit us on line:

Our website: www.rayofhopechurch.com

Our YouTube page: www.youtube.com/rayofhopenyqlbtqs

—Scripture verses to share with others:—

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

Titus 2:11 The **grace** of God has appeared, bringing salvation to **all**..

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) "whoever, anyone who" asks. "**Lord**" here refers to God principally, so those 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)