



Ray Of Hope

Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Founded: 10/31/1983. Now in our Thirty-fourth 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)

April 18, 2019 Holy Thursday Year C

Holy Week, the week when God changed everything.

We proclaim 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."



Liturgy Of Gathering And Call To Worship

Welcome: Veronica Floyd: Everyone is welcome to the continuation of our celebration of Holy Week, "the week that changed the world." This evening we celebrate the awesome gift of the Blessed Sacrament, our holy and satisfying Eucharistic feast, the banquet of love that is spread out to welcome all people. At the same time we also remember this holy night was also the night of the agony in the garden and the betrayal. Even as we celebrate this holy feast we remember the real beginning of the Passion itself.

Lisa Frost: All are welcome to this Holy Table. There is a place setting and name card for everyone. Jesus is our host and High Priest. Together we pray this opening prayer:

ALL: O Loving God, who was and is and who is to come, with grateful hearts we accept your invitation to this banquet of your love. We have come here with expectant faith. We are ready to experience anew your refreshing gift of yourself in the breaking of the bread and in the cup of salvation. On this holy night when we remember your giving us this spiritual food and your going to the garden to pray for us, we once again

present ourselves to you and we renew our commitment to be your holy people. In the name of God and of the Christ and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Cheryl Allen: Before we go any further with this night's festivities, we will take a few moments to share a Holy Greeting and Holy Welcome with one another. Introduce yourself to those you do not know by first name and welcome everyone!

Br. Benedict: On this night we give God all the praise as we rise together and sing the Gloria.

SONG: GLORY TO GOD G&P 35 (Bells)



Liturgy Of The Word

The 1st reading is in 1 Corinthians Chapter 11:23-26 on page 173 in the second testament of the NRSV.

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Anthem: We love Your Word, O Lord for it set us free. We know the truth, O Lord; we are Yours eternally. So we stand to hear Your Word. We praise You for Your Word. Alleluia! for Your Word. It heals our hearts, souls and minds. For Your Word, Alleluia! Thank you Jesus.

Gospel: John 6:27-66 NRSV 2ND Testament Pg. 98

Jesus was teaching and he said:

²⁷ Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God Almighty has set God's seal." ²⁸ Then they

said to Jesus, "What must we do to perform the works of God?"

²⁹ Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Son whom God has sent." ³⁰ So they said to Jesus,

"What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?" ³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

³² Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, **it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is the One and True God who gives you the true bread from heaven.**" ³³ For the bread of God is that

which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

³⁴ They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

³⁵ Jesus said to them, "**I am the bread of life.** Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. ³⁶ But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. ³⁷ Everything that the God gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away;

³⁸ for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of God who sent me. ³⁹ And this is the will of God who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that God has given me, but raise it up on the last day. 40 This is indeed the will of God, that **all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.**"

41 Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." 42 They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?"

43 Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. 44 No one can come to me unless drawn by God who sent me; and **I will raise that person up on the last day.** 45 It is written in the prophets, '**And they shall all be taught by God.**' Everyone who has heard and learned from God comes to me. 46 Not that anyone has seen God Almighty except the one who is from God; the Son has seen God. 47 **Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life.** 48 **I am the bread of life.** 49 **Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.** 50 **This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die.** 51 **I am the living bread that came down**

of it and not die. 51 **I am the living bread that came down**

from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.

52 The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" 53 So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, **I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.**

54 Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; 55 for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. 56 Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. 57 Just as the living One God Almighty sent me, and I live because of the God, so whoever eats me will live because of me. 58 This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the **one who eats this bread will live forever.**" 59 Jesus said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

The Words of Eternal Life

60 When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "**This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?**" 61 But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? 62 Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? 63 It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. 64 But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. 65 And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by God." 66 **Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed Jesus.**

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Response. Glory to the One God! Glory to our Savior Jesus the Christ! And, to the Holy Spirit, forever You're Our God! You brought us out of darkness, into Your marvelous Light! Your Word is our joy! For this we give You glory, both now and ever more! Forever we are Yours! Forever we are Yours!

Sermon: Rev. Benedict

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Renewal of Commitment by Clergy.

Veronica Floyd: It is our privilege to help our clergy renew their vows to God, and to the Church. Therefore, we begin.

ALL: Do you promise, with God's help, to be faithful to God, the Gospel of Christ and the ministry of the Holy Spirit?

Clergy: I do so promise and ask for God's help.

All: Do you promise, with God's help, to faithfully teach the Sacred Scriptures, the Word of God, as the literal truth and inspired writing of God?

Clergy: I do so promise and ask for God's help.

All: Do you promise, with God's help, to welcome and guide all people to the free gift of salvation in Christ Jesus?

Clergy: I do so promise and ask for God's help.

All: Do you promise, with God's help, to always teach Jesus is the Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, God from God, Light from Light, and True God from True God?

Clergy: I do so promise and ask for God's help.

All: Do you promise, with God's help, to remain faithful to the Sacraments, teaching them as expressions and manifestations of God's literal grace present in the world?

Clergy: I do so promise and ask for God's help.

Cheryl Allen: We pray together.

ALL: O God, we thank you and we praise you for the Church and all those you call to serve you in the church. Having heard these promises of faithful service to you we ask you to accept these promises and bless your servants all the days of their lives. We ask this in the Name of God, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, Amen.

***** Continue on page 6 of Service #6 We Respond To God's Word



Holy Thursday Night Benediction

Pastor: God did not send the Only Begotten Son into the world to condemn the world,

ALL: **but that the world be saved through Him.** (John 3:17)

Pastor: Christ is with us always as He promised in Matthew 28:20.

ALL: **Christ is present in the faith community, in the Scriptures, and in the Sacraments.**

Pastor: We now give thanks for Christ with us by adoring Him present in the Holy Eucharist.

ALL: **We adore You, most holy Lord Jesus Christ, here and in all Your churches throughout the world, and we praise You, because by Your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.**

Pastor: You have given us the Bread from Heaven.

ALL: **Giving salvation to all who receive it and believe.**

Pastor: You have given us the Cup of Salvation.

ALL: **Giving salvation to all who receive it and believe.**

Pastor: After giving us this most holy and blessed Sacrament of your Body and Blood to sustain your Church until you come again in glory you went to the garden of Gethsemane to pray for us and all who would believe in your most Holy Name.

ALL: **So now we come here to sit and pray on this Holy Thursday night as you prayed for us. We ask you to receive our prayers and adoration here in this holy place. Amen.**

**** SILENT ADORATION BEGINS NOW until 8:55pm****

**** BELL RINGS TO CALL EVERYONE TO BENEDICTION****

Pastor: You may sit or kneel as you are comfortable. We come to worship and to adore. Together we pray:

ALL: I adore you Jesus, true God, and true man, present in the holy Eucharist, the bread and fruit of the vine of Holy Communion. Kneeling before you and united in spirit with all the faithful on earth and all the saints in Paradise, I come in gratitude for so great a blessing, I come to you with praise and thanksgiving. I love you with all my heart dear Jesus, for you are worthy of all praise and adoration.

Lord Jesus Christ, may I never offend you with my lack of love. May your Eucharistic presence refresh me in body and soul. May my love for you, most gracious God Almighty, Christ our Saviour, and Holy Spirit ever increase. Amen.

Hymn: Glory and Praise #366 Verses 3-6

Pastor: It is time for the Benediction. Please maintain a position of prayer most comfortable for you. You may sit or kneel during the blessing. You may make the sign of the cross if you choose to or fold your hands in prayer, or extend your hands in worship when the blessing is given.

BENEDICTION IS NOW GIVEN

Closing Prayer

Pastor: Please rise as you are able and we pray together.

ALL: Lord Jesus Christ, you have given us the Blessed Sacrament as the Most Holy Food of your Real Presence to sustain us as we wait for gather your People at the end of the Church Age. May our worship of your Body and Blood, the Gift you have given to us, help us to experience the salvation you have won for us and the peace of Paradise where you live with God The Creator, and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.

Pastor: We go forth to love and serve the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.



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/rayofhopenyglbtqs

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

Romans 15:14 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.