



# 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.

April 20, 2019 Year C

Holy Week, The Vigil Of The Resurrection

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



### 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.” Tonight we celebrate the Great Vigil of the Resurrection of Our Lord. We invite you to participate in all parts of the worship as you feel comfortable. You are as welcome here as Christ Jesus himself. In Romans 15: 7 we are commanded to:

**ALL:** “**Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God**” Romans 15:7



### The Service Of Light

**Cheryl Allen:** The first part of the Great Vigil centers around fire and light, a visible sign of Christ, who proclaimed Himself the Light of the world. He also declared we are the Light of the world in Matthew 5:14. So now we celebrate Light, the True Light, our Christ.

**Pastor Benedict:** Dear friends in Christ, .....

**\* \* \* \* EPICLESIS\* \* \* \*** Blessing Of The Fire

**ALL: O Loving, Only One and Eternal TRUE God, who was and is and is forever more; with grateful hearts we share in the light of your glory through your Only Begotten Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus the Only and True Christ, the light of the world.**

**We ask you to make this new fire holy by the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit. In flame us with new hope. Holy Spirit, purify our minds by this Resurrection celebration and bring us one day to the feast of eternal light without the loss of any of your people.**

**We humbly ask these things and make these prayers in Your name of God, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.**

### **Dedication Of The Candle Of Hope**

**Michael Quinnell:** At this time we dedicate the Resurrection Candle Of Hope. This candle stands in the midst of our worship assembly as a constant reminder of our own eternal destiny in the fullness of the resurrection when all will be made one in God. Then there will be a new Heavens, and a new Earth and new Life for all created beings. Friends, here is another **\*\* EPICLESIS \*\*** as we make this prayer of blessing and dedication together.

**ALL: O God, we dedicate this candle as a symbol of our belief in the resurrection of all your people in the fullness of time. By the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit, bless and make holy this candle that proclaims: Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end, the Alpha and Omega. All time belongs to Him and all the ages. To Christ be glory and power through every age for ever. Amen.**

**Lisa Frost:** By His holy and glorious wounds may Christ our Lord guard us and keep us today and always. Amen.

Together we proclaim;

**ALL: May the light of Christ, that continues to rise in glory, dispel the darkness of the world, cleanse the desires of our hearts, and cleanse the thoughts of our minds so that we may love and serve God more perfectly now and always. Amen.**

LIGHT THE CANDLES: process inside and as you pass the Candle Of Hope light your candle.

**Cantor: "Christ our light."**

**ALL: "Thanks be to God."**

(This is sung three times as we enter the chapel)

After everyone is in the chapel and the candles are lit the congregation stands all sing:

**"Christ be our light, shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light, shine in your church gathered today." (three times)**

**Lisa Frost:** Please extinguish your candles and place them in the basket that is being passed around.

**Veronica Floyd:** Dear friends in Christ, we have begun our solemn vigil. It is time to listen attentively as we remember the wonderful works of God. Tonight we review how God has saved the people throughout the story of humanity on Earth, and how in the fullness of time, God sent the Only Begotten Son to be our Redeemer.

Through this celebration tonight, may God bring to perfection the saving work God has begun in each of us.



## Liturgy Of The Word

Reader: **Lisa Frost:** The first reading is a meditation, and embellishment of Genesis Chapter 1:1, 26-31a

This is the word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Video and Song: All The Ends Of The Earth G&P 683**

Reader: **Cheryl Allen :** The second reading is in the book of Isaiah Chapter 55:1-11 with John 4:13-14 and John 7:38-39.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**Response: Glory and Praise #454 River of Glory**

Reader: **Michael Quinnell:** The third reading is in the book of Acts, the Day Of Pentecost when the God the Holy Spirit used the WIND and the FIRE to refresh our covenant relationship and give birth to the Church Of Jesus Christ. John said the living water was the Holy Spirit that had not yet been given. In this reading we here the testimony of the giving of the Holy Spirit, the Living Water of Christ and the start of the Church of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

Acts 2:1-8 and 11-21

The word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

Reader: **Veronica Floyd:** The fourth reading is in the book of Romans 6:3-11

The word of the Lord. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**Response: Lisa Frost:** Psalm 99 with Responsorial  
**R: The Lord is My King forever and ever.**

**+ The Holy Gospel of the Resurrection+**

**SONG: WE LOVE YOUR WORD O LORD**

**Pastor:** The Lord is with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

**Pastor:** A reading of the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**ALL: May the Word of God be in our minds that we may understand it, on our lips that we may speak it, and in our hearts that we may love it.**

(Luke 24:1-12)

**Pastor:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**+ The Proclamation (the bell begins to ring)**

**Pastor Benedict:** Together we once again make our proclamation of faith: Christ Our Lord is risen from the dead.

**ALL: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

The Gloria is sung and the door is opened if weather permits. G&P #35

**+ Sermon+**



**Liturgy Of Response to the Word Of God**

**+ Statement of Faith, Renewal of Baptismal Promises**

**Cheryl Allen:** The first part of our service was begun with fire. Now we begin the second part of our service with water. We have heard the Revelation of the Fire of divine love in the Word, now we Respond with our renewal of our commitment in the waters of Baptism. At this time we ask the Holy Spirit to make this water Holy for the purpose of God's action in our lives, just as we asked the Holy Spirit to make the fire Holy at the start of our worship tonight.

PASTOR BENEDICT: We pray together:

**ALL: O Loving God we ask your Holy Spirit to come into this water and make it Holy as we set this water aside for the purpose of renewing our 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 anyone who wishes to renew your statement of faith and rededicate your life to Christ 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 and Gracious Good God,  
Creator of heaven and earth.**

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

**I believe in Jesus the Christ, God's only Begotten and  
Eternal Son, our Lord and Saviour.  
Jesus 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 Him from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God.  
He 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,  
the holy, universal / catholic, Christian and  
apostolic Church of Jesus Christ,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting. Amen**

**+ Silent Prayers of Intercession+**

**+Offering Received+ and Table Set**

**+Prayer of thanks for the offering**

**+ Doxology**

**The worship continues with Service #6 page 7.**

**\*\*\*\*\* SPECIAL SONG \*\*\*\*\***

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Resurrection **Sunday April 1** Brunch and Fellowship 10AM

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GIFTS AND DONATIONS**

**General Offering** for the week of April 14— \$. Please remember to catch up your offering when absent so that we can keep up with our commitment to our budget together. Attendance— 8

**Special One Time Gifts Made. We give thanks and praise.**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Resurrection **Sunday** April 21 Brunch and Fellowship 10AM

**Bible Enrichment Session Tuesday April 23—6:30 PM** For more information [Click Here](#).

**Thursday April 25 Social Group Meetup** will be the movie “Beautiful Thing.” For more information [Click Here](#).

**Friday April 26 Council Meeting 7:00 PM**



## 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.

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Visit us on line:

**Our website:** [www.rayofhopechurch.com](http://www.rayofhopechurch.com)

**Our YouTube page:** [www.youtube.com/rayofhopenyglbtqs](http://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.