

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Prelude in D* David Lanz

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SILENT MEDITATION

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Strangers meet.

Oil and grain turn to bread.

The hungry are fed.

The weary are lifted up.

The despairing are comforted.

The everyday becomes a miracle.

This is God's work.

We are its witnesses.

Let us worship God!

* HYMN 49 "The God of Abraham Praise"

* CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Generous God, you promise that you will always meet our need with your abundance.

Yet, we grieve that the people of our land often see the world through the lens of scarcity.

We have become an anxious people, easily threatened by the fear that there will not be enough for us.

We make "the other" our opponent, our rival, our enemy—and we are weary of hatred and violence.

Forgive us, O God, for forsaking your call to be a people of radical hospitality and welcome.

By your Spirit, convict us, change us, and consecrate us, that we might be astonished by your abundance and set free for self-giving in a world we had deemed scarce.

Silent Prayers

Assurance of Pardon

* SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

Hymn 59 (refrain three times) "The Steadfast Love of the Lord"

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
God's mercies never come to an end.

They are new every morning, new every morning;
great is your faithfulness, O Lord,
great is your faithfulness.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 4:16-30, p. 835-836 (NT)

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON 1 Kings 17:8-16, p. 282 (OT)

SERMON "Learning to Be Astonished"
Elijah and Elisha: Called and Sustained in Troubled Times

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

* HYMN 177 "I Will Come to You"

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from the *Confession of Belbar* (10.7-8)

We believe that God has revealed himself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people; that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged; that God calls the church to follow God in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry; that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind; that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly; that for God pure and undefiled religion is to visit the orphans and the widows in their suffering; that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right; that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream; that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged;

that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others. Therefore, we reject any ideology which would legitimate forms of injustice and any doctrine which is unwilling to resist such an ideology in the name of the gospel.

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Offering

Offertory For the Beauty of the Earth arr. Jason Tonioli

* *Doxology* (Hymnal, back page)

* *Prayer of Dedication*

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

GOING OUT TO SERVE

* HYMN 366 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* arr. S.K. Tedesco

END OF WORSHIP ... BEGINNING OF SERVICE



We light two candles in worship. The white candle reminds us of the presence of Christ's spirit in worship. The smaller candle is in a candle holder made by a member of our partner church, Iglesia El Divino Salvador in Guatemala, and it reminds us of our covenant with them.

Today's liturgist: Angela Lepro

Today's greeters: Mike and Susan Garrett

Today's ushers: Bill Higgins and Glenn Limbird

Bold font indicates congregational participation.

* You are invited to stand in body or in spirit.

The Confession of Belhar

The Confession of Belhar is the most recent of the modern confessions in the PC (USA)'s *Book of Confessions*, added in 2016. Written in South Africa in the context of Apartheid, the original Afrikaans text was adopted by the Dutch Reformed Mission Church in South Africa in 1986. Today's Affirmation of Faith is an excerpt from this confession and emphasizes God's concern for just relationships and the church's role in bearing prophetic witness to God's justice in the world.

Out-to-Lunch Bunch

Everyone is welcome to join the Out-to-Lunch Bunch for lunch after church today! We will be going to JK's Kitchen. See Judy Urich for more information about today's lunch outing.

Exploration of Other Faiths

The Faith Formation Committee is offering an opportunity to observe, learn about, and experience other faiths. The foundation of the study is the book *Holy Envy* by Barbara Brown Taylor—a gentle look at how other faiths strengthened her own Christian faith. See the list below for details and dates. Questions? Contact Peg Lewis at (828) 702-0161 or lewpeg3@gmail.com.

Tuesday, August 13: Attend first book discussion on pages 1-138, led by Kim Wells at 7:00 PM at the church.

Tuesday, August 20: Attend second book discussion on pages 139-307, led by Kim Wells at 7:00 PM at the church.

August Food Drive: Peanut Butter and Jelly

You are invited to drop off jars of peanut butter and jelly on the table in the Narthex. All donations will go to MANNA Food Bank. Thank you for your support.

MANNA Food Bank on August 13

Our next volunteer date at MANNA Food Bank is on August 13 from 4:15 to 5:30 PM. We meet directly at MANNA (627 Swannanoa River Road, Asheville) and do a variety of service activities. Questions? Contact team leader Linda Lewis at (828) 483-6296.

Habitat ReStore "Third Thursday" on August 15

Join us for our next "Third Thursday" at the Habitat ReStore on August 15 from 2-4 PM. We meet directly at the ReStore (31 Meadow Road, Asheville). Contact Susan Maveety at (828) 628-0840.

Men's Brunch Bunch meets at 10:30 AM this Saturday, August 17, at J.K.'s on Long Shoals. We gather every other Saturday to eat and enjoy fellowship. Please join us! Contact John Riley at (828) 575-2894.

Church Picnic at Lake Julian on August 18

Please join us for the church picnic and evening vespers on Sunday, August 18 at 5:00 PM. We will be in Shelter #1, same as last year. The church will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks, and those who are able are asked to bring a side or dessert to share. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Please bring yourself, a friend, and a lawn chair!

Worship bulletin announcements for Sunday, August 18 are due to Administrator, Erin May, by noon on Wednesday, August 14.

Calendar

Sun	11	11:00 AM	Worship
		12:45 PM	Out-to-Lunch Bunch (see Judy Urich)
Tues	13	1:30 PM	Faith Formation Meeting
		4:15 PM	MANNA Food Bank
Wed	14	4:30 PM	Finance & Administration Meeting
		6:00 PM	Worship Meeting
Thurs	15	2:00 PM	Habitat ReStore Workday
Sat	17	10:30 AM	Men's Brunch Bunch
Sun	18	11:00 AM	Worship
		12:45 PM	Out-to-Lunch Bunch (see Judy Urich)
		5:00 PM	Church Picnic at Lake Julian

New Hope Presbyterian Church

We are a welcoming, inclusive faith community, seeking to respond to Christ's call to love and serve, through ministries of compassion and social justice.

3070 Sweeten Creek Road, Asheville, NC 28803 | (828) 274-0191
Kim Wells, Pastor | Erin May, Church Administrator
Rob Blackwell, Director of Music Ministry/Pianist
Ken Meeks, Parish Associate | www.newhopepcusaasheville.org

New Hope Presbyterian Church

"Including, Renewing, Serving"

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
August 11, 2019
11 o'clock



"Learning to Be Astonished"

Second in the Series:



"The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that God spoke to Elijah."

1 Kings 17:16