

## GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Oh, How I Love Jesus* Frederick Whitfield

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SILENT MEDITATION

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Why are you here?

**We have come to love God.**

Why are you here?

**We cannot bear the sorrow and violence of the world.**

Why are you here?

**We are hungry, tired, and fearful.**

God says: "I am glad you are here. Watch. Listen."

**We see a blazing fire, we hear a howling wind,  
we feel the earth shake.**

Keep watching. Keep listening.

**We hear something unexpected, startling, different:  
the sound of sheer silence.**

This ground is holy. Take off your shoes. Cover your face.

**We are watching and listening for the Holy One—  
that is why we are here.**

\* HYMN 67 "My Song Forever Shall Record"

### \* CONFESSION AND PARDON

*Call to Confession*

*Prayer of Confession*

**O God, you are so generous with your grace toward us.**

**Yet, when we are worn down, sometimes we still retreat,  
reluctant to open ourselves to you for renewal.**

**Even earth, wind, and fire can fail to awaken us,  
and we remain unaware of your healing gifts.**

**Forgive us, O God.**

**By your Spirit, meet us in the last place we might expect:  
in the silence of our unknowing.**

**Call us back into your world for service,  
renewed to love you and our neighbor as ourselves.**

*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 Psalm 85:8-13, p. 473 (OT)

ANTHEM *Peace Be To This House* Carl Strommen

Peace be to this house; let no one disarray.  
Peace be to this house, to all who enter here.  
Trust in all things good and good will come thy way.  
Bring the love we have within and love will come today.

Peace I leave with you, your light will lead the way.  
Peace be with this house, a refuge from the storm.  
Love shall here abide in quiet solitude.  
Let your heart be free to be as peace is yours today.

One earth, one sky, one voice to sing in praise.  
One earth, one sky, peace will come to you today.

Peace be to this house, to all who enter here.  
Trust in all things good and good will come thy way.  
Bring the love we have within and peace will come today.  
One earth, one sky, peace will come to you.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON 1 Kings 19:9-15a, p. 284-285 (OT)

SERMON "When Home Is Silent"  
*Elijah and Elisha: Called and Sustained in Troubled Times*

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\* HYMN 410 "God Is Calling through the Whisper"

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *The Confession of 1967* (9.15)

**God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the  
human mind. Human thought ascribes to God  
superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God**

**reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the  
form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and  
goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power  
of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses  
that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all  
things to serve the purpose of God's love.**

### GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Invitation to Offering*

*Offertory* *Anthem* Vangelis

\* *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 741 "Guide My Feet"

### \* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *March of the Priest* W.A. Mozart

## 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:** Laura Brown

**Today's greeters:** Richard and Judy Green

**Today's ushers:** Kim Sluder and Tracy Owensby

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**Bold font** indicates congregational participation.

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

### 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 Mary Jo Limbird for more information about today's lunch outing.

### Next Sunday: Monthly Fellowship Luncheon Returns

While summer fellowship events have come to an end, don't worry! Starting Sunday, September 15, our monthly fellowship luncheons return. Please join us immediately following worship for the fall kickoff featuring ...fried chicken! You are invited to bring a side or dessert to share. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Questions? Contact Bill Carpenter at (704) 219-1893 or billcarpenter53@gmail.com.

### Sunday Morning Refreshments

"The cheerful heart has a continual feast" (Proverbs 15:15). Thanks to all who have taken a turn or two hosting the coffee and snack time after worship. Sadly, we currently only have two Sundays covered for the rest of the year. If you enjoy this weekly time of fellowship, or if you just want others to be able to enjoy it, please sign up to cover a few dates. If you need training or have any questions, email Bill Carpenter at billcarpenter53@gmail.com, and he will be happy to help you.

### Sunday Morning Adult Class through Oct 27: The Beatitudes

Jesus began his Sermon on the Mount with the Beatitudes. In his day, the Beatitudes were profound teachings, showing the people how to live in peace. Do these words have the same effect and meaning in today's contemporary society? Join our own Russ Moxley on Sunday mornings in September and October as he facilitates this exploration of the Beatitudes through the perspectives of four different authors. Prepare to be challenged, stimulated, and surprised! We meet at 9:30 AM in the downstairs classroom.

### Other Fall Faith Formation Opportunities

Fall Faith Formation brochures are available in the Narthex! Pick one up to read descriptions of all our fall educational offerings. If you're interested in "The Soul of Aging" course, we invite you to place your Response Card in the box provided in the Narthex. *Being Mortal* books are also available to browse or purchase, so that you can read ahead in preparation for the October series.

**Men's Brunch Bunch** will meet at 10:30 AM this Saturday, September 14 at J.K.'s on Long Shoals. We gather every other Saturday to eat and enjoy fellowship. Questions? Contact John Riley at (828) 575-2894.

### Coming Up in October: Thursday Series on *Being Mortal*

How do we approach the end of our lives? In his book *Being Mortal*, author Atul Gawande shares his experience of accompanying his father as he approached his death. Arguing for a change in the way that patients are treated at the end of their lives, Gawande asserts that, rather than focusing only on survival, healthcare practitioners should focus on improving the quality of life and well-being of their patients. On Thursdays, October 3 & 10, join Pastor Kim in the Narthex for a two-part discussion of the book *Being Mortal*. Then on Thursday, October 17, come and engage with a panel of healthcare professionals in medicine, gerontology, and palliative care. The panel will also include the caregiver of a terminally ill patient. Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions and learn more about Advanced Care Planning. Questions? Contact Peg Lewis at (828) 702-0161.

**Worship bulletin announcements** for Sunday, September 15 are due to Administrator, Erin May, by noon on Wednesday, September 11.

### Calendar

Sun	8	9:30 AM	Sunday Morning Class
		11:00 AM	Worship
		12:45 PM	Out-to-Lunch Bunch (See Mary Jo)
Tues	10	6:00 PM	Building & Grounds
Wed	11	2:00 PM	Faith Formation
		4:30 PM	Finance & Administration
		6:00 PM	Worship Committee
		7:00 PM	Choir Practice
Thurs	12	6:30 PM	Justice & Reconciliation
Sat	13	10:30 AM	Men's Brunch Bunch
Sun	15	9:30 AM	Sunday Morning Class
		11:00 AM	Worship
		12:45 PM	Out-to-Lunch Bunch (see Mary Jo)

### 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.*

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Kim Wells, Pastor | Erin May, Church Administrator  
Rob Blackwell, Director of Music Ministry/Pianist  
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New Hope

Presbyterian Church

"Including, Renewing, Serving"

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 8, 2019  
11 o'clock



"When Home Is Silent"

Sixth in the Series:



"Now there was a great wind ... but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence."  
1 Kings 19:11-12