

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Forever* Chris Tomlin

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SILENT MEDITATION

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** from Isaiah 40:13-14 & Romans 11:33-36

Who has known the mind of the Lord?
Or who has been God's counselor?

**O the depth of the riches and wisdom
and knowledge of God!**

Whom did God consult for enlightenment,
and who taught God the path of justice?

**How unsearchable are God's judgments
and how inscrutable God's ways!**

Who taught God knowledge,
and who showed God the way of understanding?

**From God and through God and to God are all things:
to God be the glory forever!**

*** HYMN 12** "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

*** CONFESSION AND PARDON**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**God of wisdom, you have given us the mind of Christ,
who emptied himself of his privileges,
and humbled himself, even to the point of death.**

**Yet, we prefer to have a different mindset,
being mindful instead of our comfort,
and of maintaining our advantages.**

Forgive us, O God.

**By the power of your Spirit, remind us of your wisdom,
which takes the form of the folly of the cross,
and give us the courage to conform to it.**

Silent Prayers

Assurance of Pardon

* SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

Hymn 137 "He Came Down"

He came down that we may have love (three times)

Hallelujah forevermore

He came down that we may have light ...

He came down that we may have peace ...

He came down that we may have joy ...

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Proverbs 8:1-5, 9:1-6, *p. 515-516 (OT)*

ANTHEM *St. Patrick's Hymn* Dan Forrest

May the strength of God pilot us,
May the wisdom of God instruct us,
May the hand of God protect us,
May the word of God direct us.
Be always ours this day and for evermore.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON 1 Corinthians 2:6-3:4, *p. 927 (NT)*

SERMON "A Community Called to Wisdom"
Called to Community: Studies in 1 Corinthians 1-3

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*** HYMN 707** "Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord"

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Philippians 2:5-11

**Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he was in the form of God, did not
regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.**

**And being found in human form, he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.**

**Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the
name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is
Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Offering

Offertory *Somebody's Knockin' At Your Door* Traditional

* *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 453** "Open Your Ears, O Faithful People"

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *Everything's Alright* Andrew Lloyd-Weber

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: Woody Ferrell

Today's greeters: Mike and Susan Garrett

Today's ushers: Herschel and Linda Lewis

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given by Margot Coleman in memory of Evan.

Today is Our Fellowship Luncheon

Love is in the air and nothing says Valentine's Day like tomato soup and a grilled cheese sandwich! (OK, maybe that is just in Indiana.) In any case, join us for the fellowship luncheon immediately following worship today. The soups and sandwiches will be provided and will be followed by an incredible assortment of red and chocolate desserts. Everyone is welcome to attend our love feast!

Bold font indicates congregational participation.

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

Next New Members Class

Our next new members' class is coming up this month! Interested in learning more about New Hope Presbyterian Church and the possibility of membership? If you have not already been in touch with Kim, contact her at pastornhpc@gmail.com for more information.

Called to Community: Sermon Series on 1 Corinthians 1-3

What kind of community does God call us to be as the Body of Christ? Writing to the division-fraught church in Corinth, the apostle Paul lays out a rich and sweeping vision of a community that is called and held together by Christ. Join us as we explore some of the essential qualities that Christian communities are called to cultivate:

Feb 16: "A Community Called to Wisdom" (1 Cor 2:6-3:4)

Feb 23: "A Community Called to Belonging" (1 Cor 3:5-23)

Sunday Morning Class: Listening to African American Theologians

Join Russ Moxley and Kim Wells for the four Sundays of February (Black History Month) as we listen to and learn from African American theologians such as Howard Thurman, Martin Luther King, Jr., James Cone, and M. Shawn Copeland. Though the course will conclude on February 23, our call to reconciliation continues. To that end, in conjunction with the Justice and Reconciliation Committee, we will be offering activities in the months to come such as a visit to the Shiloh neighborhood, a possible trip to the Civil Rights Museum in Birmingham and to the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, and the exploration of shared activities with a local African American church.

Next Sunday Morning Class Beginning on March 1

Join Charlie Davidson at 9:30 AM on Sunday mornings in Lent as he leads us in an exploration of our present discipleship through a study of the Gospel of Mark. Imagine you are living in the last quarter of the first century A.D. in the city of Rome. Imagine, too, as one interpreter put it, that "suffering and death are not merely concepts which one could hold at a safe distance." For now, unexpectedly, you are being called by the risen Jesus to "take up your cross and follow" him "immediately," just as he had summoned the martyred Peter and Paul and the rest of his first followers to do the same. Your decision is laden with great risk and potential misunderstanding. So Mark has written his Gospel to share with you the "good news" (evangel) of Jesus's gift of faith and sight to you, that in trust and courage you may follow him in the face of your fear and hesitation, right now.

Habitat ReStore "Third Thursday" on February 20

Our next "Third Thursday" at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore will take place on February 20 from 2-4 PM. We meet directly at the ReStore to do a variety of service activities together. You can come one time, on a regular monthly basis, or whenever you can. Contact Susan Maveety at (828) 628-0840 or susan.maveety@gmail.com.

MANNA Food Bank

Join our New Hope volunteer team directly at MANNA Food Bank on the second Tuesday of every month from 4:00 to 5:30 PM. We meet directly at MANNA (627 Swannanoa River Road, Asheville) and do a variety of service activities getting food ready for those who need it. You can join us just one time, on a regular monthly basis, or whenever you can. Questions? Contact team leader Linda Lewis at (828) 483-6296.

Worship bulletin announcements for Sunday, February 23 are due to Administrator, Erin May, by noon on Wednesday, February 19.

Calendar

Sun	16	11:00 AM	Worship
		12:30 PM	Fellowship Luncheon
Mon	17	5:30 PM	Session
Wed	19	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
Sun	23	9:30 AM	Sunday Morning Class
		11:00 AM	Worship
		12:30 PM	Out-to-Lunch Bunch (see Tom Fife)

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"

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
February 16, 2020
11 o'clock



"A Community Called to Wisdom"
Fifth in the Series:
Called to Community: Studies in 1 Corinthians 1-3



"But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory." (1 Corinthians 2:7)