

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Jesus Loves the Little Children* George Root

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN 703 “Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me”

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Silent Prayers

Assurance of Pardon

* SHARING CHRIST’S PEACE

Hymn 59 “The Steadfast Love of the Lord”

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS Matthew 3:16-17, 4:1-11, *p. 785 (NT)*

SERMON “Believing We Are Beloved”
First in the Series: *This Much I Know Is True*

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Offering

Offertory *Jesus Loves Me* Anna Bartlett Warner

Doxology Hymn 582

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 BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Downtown Beat* William Gillock

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: Susan Lang
Today’s greeters: Richard and Judy Green
Today’s ushers: Bill Carpenter and Glenn Limbird

Flood Relief for Haywood County

On Friday, September 17, New Hope will be participating in an effort to support the people of Haywood County who sustained great personal and material loss due to flooding. Under the direction of Canton Presbyterian Church, the Outreach Committee will prepare dinner for 75 relief workers and community residents. We need help with desserts for the meal and volunteers to serve at the Cruso Community Center. If you can help, please either sign up in the Narthex or call the church office. The Outreach Ministry also approved sending \$300 from the discretionary benevolence account to the Canton Presbyterian Church to be used for Haywood County flood relief.

Second Chance Baseball

If you missed our trip to the Tourist game this month, it’s not too late to join the fun! We had some tickets left over and the team allowed us to exchange them for the game on Saturday, September 11 at 6:30 PM. No cost to the first ten callers! If you are interested in going please email Bill Carpenter at billcarpenter53@gmail.com.

Responding to World Crises

World events have been overwhelming over the last few weeks, both far and near. Another calamitous earthquake in Haiti, the devastating takeover of Afghanistan by the Taliban, and flooding that has taken lives and destroyed homes in neighboring Candler and Canton. It can be hard to know how to respond to so many needs, where to give, and what to do. We are thankful that God is the one who bears the full weight of the world’s needs, and that we are called to pray about how we might play one part in God’s greater work. Here are some organizations that you may want to consider as you discern your response. For Haiti, learn about how Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is responding at pda.pcusa.org/situation/haiti. For Afghanistan, learn about how Church World Service is responding at cwsglobal.org. For local flooding relief, visit Canton Presbyterian Church’s website at www.cantonpresbyterian.com and click on “Flood Relief.” Beloved Asheville (belovedasheville.com) is also on the ground responding to local emergencies. Thank you for your compassion.

Worship bulletin announcements for Sunday, September 12 are due to Administrator, Erin May, by noon on Wednesday, September 8.

New Hope COVID Policy

Mask Up! Whether you are vaccinated or not vaccinated you need to wear a mask while inside the church.

Please sanitize your hands upon entry. Hand sanitizer is available at all entry points and in various other locations around the building. Remember to keep your hands washed as needed.

Please stay away from church IF you are sick, have COVID symptoms, have been exposed to someone with COVID, or have been out of the country. Then, please wait two weeks before returning. We invite you to join us for worship online in the meantime!

Bold font indicates congregational participation.

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

Please do not move any of the chairs in the sanctuary. Our new seating layout took a lot of exact measuring and effort to set up, so we would appreciate it if you would refrain from moving seats.

Please observe a “touchless” Passing of the Peace of Christ.

While individuals may use their own discretion about accepting hugs and handshakes outside of the sanctuary, during the passing of the peace we will refrain from touching so that those who aren't comfortable with that yet aren't put on the spot. (And, when you're outside the sanctuary, please ask before you hug someone to make sure they're comfortable.)

Please refrain from singing along with hymns for now. While we hope it won't be too much longer until we can include full congregational hymn singing and the choir in worship, we are easing into that by taking some baby steps first. For now, we'll have a small ensemble of singers leading each hymn in parts from up front. Of course, we'll still get to enjoy Rob's beautiful music as always!

Please do not let the Narthex get crowded. We will not be serving coffee or food after worship for now. As you leave the sanctuary, please make a conscious effort to help the Narthex not get too crowded by spreading into outdoor spaces to socialize if a lot of people are present.

Please refrain from using drinking fountains. If you're thirsty, you are welcome to get a glass of water to drink from the kitchen downstairs.

Please know that the Session may change this policy, either by loosening or tightening these restrictions, as circumstances change.

Bear with one another in love (Colossians 3:13-14). In any community, there are different opinions about how to go about doing things. We know that some folks wish we had more restrictions, while others wish we had fewer. The above is the Session's best discernment about how to care for our congregation in worship while taking this first step.

Glorify God and enjoy God! The PC (USA)'s Westminster Catechism teaches that our bottomline, main purpose in life is to glorify God and enjoy God forever. Enjoyment is central to our life of faith! So, as we come together to worship in the sanctuary, let us glorify and enjoy God together!

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”

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 5, 2021
11 o'clock



“Believing We Are Beloved”

First in the Series:
This Much I Know Is True



“And a voice from heaven said,
“This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.””
(Matthew 3:17)