

## GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Medley of Christmas Carols* arr. Berger

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP Luke 1:78-79, John 8:12, John 1:5

By the tender mercy of our God,  
the dawn from on high has broken upon us.

**It gives light to those who sit in darkness  
and in the shadow of death,  
to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world.  
Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness  
but will have the light of life."

**The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness did not overcome it.**

HYMN 151 "We Three Kings of Orient Are" vv. 1-4

### CONFESSION AND PARDON

*Call to Confession*

*Prayer of Confession*

**God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the  
world, to reveal your love for all.**

**We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness  
of your light.**

**We turn away from the poor;  
we ignore cries for justice;  
we do not strive for peace.**

**In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin,  
and baptize us once again with your Spirit,  
that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your  
glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ.**

*Silent Prayers & Assurance of Pardon*

### \* SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

Hymn 137 "He Came Down" vv. 1, 3-4

Love ... Peace ... Joy ...

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**Bold font** indicates congregational participation.

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

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 60:1-6, p. 602 (OT)

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 2:1-12, p. 783-784 (NT)

SERMON "Bearing Gifts of Constellation"

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostle's Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and  
earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was  
conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and  
buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again  
from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the  
right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he  
shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in  
the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion  
of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the  
body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Invitation to Offering*

*Offertory* *Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming* arr. Hayes

*Doxology* "Angels We Have Heard on High"

*Refrain only:* **Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

*Prayer of Dedication*

### THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Invitation to the Lord's Table*

*Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks ...

Let us pray for God's rule on earth as Jesus taught us, saying:

**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.**

*The Words of Institution*

*The Feast*

*All the bread we serve is gluten-free, and our juice is non-fermented.*

*Prayer After Communion*

### GOING OUT TO SERVE

#### EPIPHANY STARS

HYMN 150 "As with Gladness Men of Old"

*During the singing of the hymn, you are invited to come forward with your  
monthly 5-cents-a-meal offering to fight hunger, both here and throughout the  
world. Please place your cash or check in the soup can by the Communion Table.*

#### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Il Est Ne Le Divin Enfant* arr. Schinske

### 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:** Bruce Rasmussen

**Today's greeters:** Woody, Janet and Austin Ferrell

**Today's ushers:** Bill Carpenter and Glenn Limbird

**We welcome David Berger** as our guest pianist today.

**We welcome the Rev. Dr. Kathryn Johnson Cameron** as our guest preacher and worship leader today! Kathryn finds consolation in the gifts of family here in North Carolina near Fairview where her mother was born, and as far away as Frankfort, Germany where her father found an adoptive family after the war. A pastor, poet, and teacher, Kathryn and her husband David returned to WNC most recently from

a sojourn in Albuquerque, NM. Their adult children, Will and Katie, like calling North Carolina home. Together with their son-in-law Andrew, they find time to hike following Nibs, the dog.

### Exploring Membership

Interested in learning more about New Hope and the possibility of membership? Contact Kim at [pastornhpc@gmail.com](mailto:pastornhpc@gmail.com) for more information about upcoming opportunities.

**Men's Brunch Bunch** will meet at 10:30 AM on Saturday, January 8 at J.K's on Long Shoals. We gather every other Saturday to meet, eat, and enjoy fellowship together! Contact Bruce Rasmussen at (828) 633-0327.

### MANNA Food Bank

We have a group that serves monthly at MANNA Food Bank throughout the year. Come join our New Hope volunteer team on the second Tuesday of every month from 4:15-5:30 PM. Our next date is coming up on Tuesday, January 11. 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 leader Linda Lewis at (828) 483-6296.

**Worship bulletin announcements** for Sunday, January 9 are due to Administrator, Erin May, by noon on Wednesday, January 5.

### New Hope COVID Policy

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

### Air Purifier in the Sanctuary

In order to increase our safety in the sanctuary, we have purchased an air purifier, a Medify MA-112, which has a medical-grade HEPA filter and ionizer. It is able to filter particles as small as 0.1 microns (the coronavirus is slightly larger at 0.125 microns). It also provides about two complete air exchanges per worship service.

**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.

**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 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.

**Communion:** Communion servers are vaccinated and will wear masks and sanitize hands. Juice will be served in individual glass cups, and pieces of bread will be served with tongs. Please follow the ushers' directions in coming forward and return to your seats with your elements in hand. Please wait until the pastor indicates that it is time to partake, and we will all partake together.

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

### 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](http://www.newhopepcusaasheville.org)

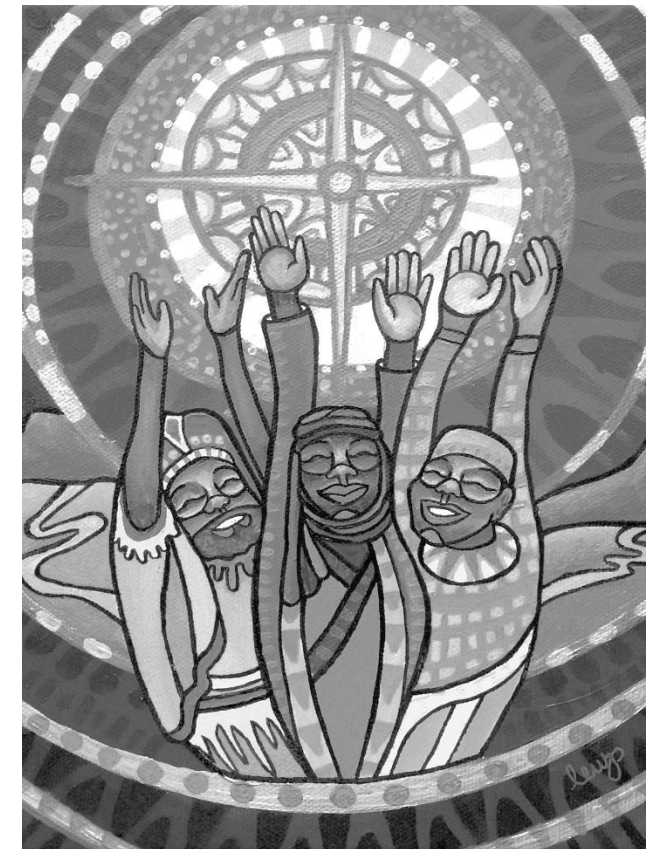
## New Hope Presbyterian Church

"Including, Renewing, Serving"

Epiphany of the Lord  
January 2, 2022  
11 o'clock



### "Bearing Gifts of Constellation"



"There, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was."  
(Matthew 2:9)