

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* Thomas Chisholm

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP Hymn 78

For the fourth Sunday in Lent, the piano plays through once, the soloist sings verse 1, and then the congregation repeats verses 1-4:

1 You thirst - y ones, come to the spring! Have you no mon - ey?
2 Why do you work and earn and spend on that which is not
3 This food de - lights and sat - is - fies, the food your God can
4 Re - turn while God may still be found, and call while God will

Come, buy wine and milk; come, buy and eat with - out a
bread? O lis - ten now and come to me; eat what is
give; in - cline your ear and come to me; O hear that
hear; now let the wick - ed quit their ways while yet the
price or sum, with - out a price or sum.
good in - stead; eat what is good in - stead.
you may live; O hear that you may live.
Lord is near, while yet the Lord is near.

God's reach is endless.

God's mercy is unstoppable.

God's grace is lavish.

God's love is constant.

God's wisdom is vast.

God's hope is stubborn.

God's presence is here—

with us, among us, moving through us.

Breathe easy. Breathe deeply.

We are in God's house.

Let us worship God!

HYMN 435 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Bold font indicates congregational participation.

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

The prodigal son isn't given a name, but we know his name.

It sounds like ours.

And we know his story.

For who among us hasn't burned a bridge?

The elder son isn't given a name, but we know his name.

It sounds like ours.

And we know his story.

For who among us hasn't begrudged another?

Forgive us, O God.

Whether we are far away, or lost in place,

bring us home to you.

Silent Prayers

Assurance of Pardon

* SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

Hymn 466 (repeated)

"Come and Fill Our Hearts"

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Joshua 5:9-12, p. 171 (OT)

ANTHEM

I Choose Love

Mark A. Miller

In the midst of pain, I choose love.

In the midst of pain, I choose love.

In the midst of pain, sorrow falling down like rain,

I await the sun again, I choose love.

In the midst of war, I choose peace.

In the midst of war, I choose peace.

In the midst of war, hate and anger keeping score,

I will seek the good once more, I choose peace.

When my world falls down, I will rise.

When my world falls down, I will rise.

When my world falls down, explanations can't be found,

I will climb to holy ground, I will rise.

In the midst of pain, I choose love.

In the midst of pain, sorrow falling down like rain,

I await the sun again, I choose love.

I choose love.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32, p. 850-851 (NT)

SERMON

"The Prodigal Father"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in the God who waits in the driveway for us,

who leaves the porch light on,

who has our favorite meal ready,

who never stops looking for us.

We believe in the God of prodigal grace—

excessive, extravagant, over-the-top grace.

We believe in the God who calls us to share this grace,

to welcome others home,

to live humbly with each other,

in God's new community,

as God's new creation.

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

Amazing Grace

John Newton

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 774

"There Is Now a New Creation"

CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder

J.M. Black

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: Herschel and Linda Lewis
Today's ushers: Bill Carpenter and Glenn Limbird

Humanitarian Aid

We feel helpless as we see the invasion of Ukraine in our media. How else can we respond to our neighbors in need? Giving to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is one way to help. Funds are being used for emergency humanitarian aid such as food, shelter, medicines, diapers, and hygiene items. Visit pda.pcusa.org/situation/ukraine to learn more about what Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is doing in Ukraine. Checks can be written to New Hope and marked PDA on the memo line.

Men's Brunch Bunch will meet at 10:30 AM this Saturday, April 2 at J.K's on Long Shoals. We gather every other Saturday to eat and enjoy fellowship. Questions? 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, April 12. 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, April 3 are due to Administrator, Erin May, by noon on Wednesday, March 30.

Liturgy adapted from Words for Worship | Rev. Sarah A. Speed
Cover art: New in Christ | Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman
A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

New Hope COVID Policy

Mask Up! Everyone, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated, is required 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 any symptoms of illness, or have a known exposure 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.

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

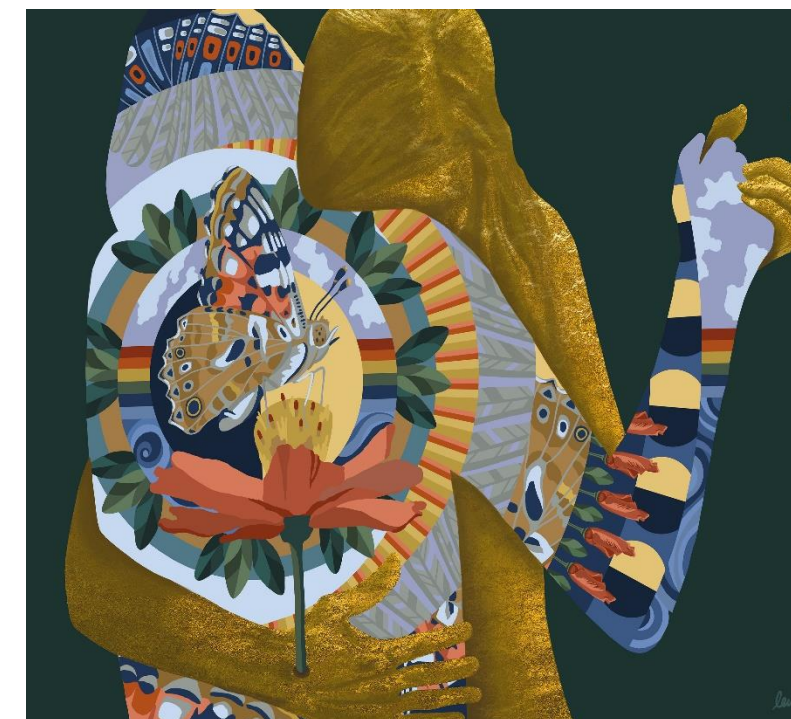
New Hope Presbyterian Church

"Including, Renewing, Serving"

Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 27, 2022
11 o'clock



"The Prodigal Father"



"This son of mine was dead and is alive again;
he was lost and is found!" (Luke 15:24)