

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Oh Happy Day* Edwin Hawkins

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness.

Come into God's presence with singing!

It is God who made us, and we are God's;

we are God's people, and the sheep of God's pasture.

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving,
and God's courts with praise.

For the Lord is a gracious God,

whose mercy is everlasting;

and whose faithfulness endures to all generations.

* HYMN 14 "For the Beauty of the Earth"

* CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

Silent Prayers

Assurance of Pardon

* SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

Hymn 188 "Jesus Loves Me!"

Bold font indicates congregational participation.

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

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 127, p. 499 (OT)

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 19:13-15, p. 800 (NT)

SERMON "The Kingdom of Heaven Belongs to Whom?"

* HYMN 487 "These Treasured Children"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Offering

Offertory *Jesus Loves the Little Children* George F. Root

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 370 "This Is My Father's World"

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *I'll Fly Away* Alfred E. Brumley

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: Emily Neel

Today's greeter: Margaret Marsh

Today's ushers: Laura Brown and Kim Presley

We welcome the Rev. Dr. Mike Leatherwood to the pulpit! A native of Western North Carolina, Mike received his B.S. in Engineering from N.C. State, his M.Div. from Duke University, and his D.Min. from Drew University. Along the way Mike also served in the army for over four years and is a Vietnam veteran. A pastor with the United Methodist Church, Mike served seven churches and was also a District Superintendent for six years. He now lives with Theresa, his wife of 60 years, at Givens. They have one son and one daughter.

Film Viewing at Givens

On Monday, June 20 at 1:30 PM, join us at Givens for a viewing of "At the River," a documentary that follows the experiences of several Presbyterian ministers in the deep south during the Civil Rights era. We'll meet in the "Rising Classroom" in Asbury Commons at Givens Estates. Contact Jean Moxley at jeanhmoxley@gmail.com for details.

Info Session on Supporting an Afghan Refugee Family

Join us at 7 PM on Wednesday, June 22 at the church to learn more about how we might support a 24-year-old Afghan refugee woman named Shabnam and her 11-year-old niece Sana. Bonnie Parker from Lutheran Services will be sharing with us about their current needs. Questions? Contact Pastor Kim at pastornhpc@gmail.com.

Summer Events!

Sunday, June 26: Trip to the Diana Wortham Theater

Join us for a lunch outing after church followed by a trip to the theater! We'll be going to see the 3 PM matinee stage production of C.S. Lewis' classic novella, *The Great Divorce*. In this whimsical play, residents of hell take a flying bus ride to heaven to consider the benefits (and the cost) of eternal joy. We will be buying a block of tickets in the \$50-\$60 range. Contact Pastor Kim for financial aid. **You must RSVP by Sunday, June 19** in order to reserve your seat. We'll pick a restaurant for lunch once we know who's coming. To RSVP, email Margaret Marsh at margaretmarsh@bellsouth.net or call her at (256) 565-8075.

Thursday, July 7: Lakeside Candlelight Peace Service at Montreat

On Thursday evening, July 7, we will head over to Montreat and gather around Lake Susan for a candlelight evensong service for peace. The lakeside gathering begins at 8:30 PM followed by evensong at 9:00 PM. We will carpool over from the church. Stay tuned for meet-up details.

Wednesdays, July 13, 20 & 27: Summer Group Book Study

Join us at 7 PM on three Wednesday evenings in July for a study of Ruth Haley Barton's *Life Together in Christ*, an exploration of how we experience transformation in Christian community based on Luke 24:13-35, the story of the two disciples walking the Emmaus Road. Participants should buy their own book. Please RSVP to Erin May in the church office at officewhopec@gmail.com or (828) 274-0191.

Tuesday, July 17: Fellowship Luncheon

Wow, didn't we have a great time at our June luncheon! The good news is that soon it will be time to do it again! Join us downstairs in the Fellowship Hall after worship for a "dog-days-of-summer" treat of sub sandwiches, chips, and ... ice cream! No RSVP required. See you there!

Sunday, August 28: Lake Julian Picnic

Our late-summer tradition continues! Join us at 5 PM on Sunday, August 28 for a picnic dinner followed by a vespers service by the lake. The church will provide the main dish and drinks. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share, and don't forget your lawn chair!

September at the Arboretum

Stay tuned for info and the date of our September evening at the Arboretum! Bring your lawn chair and some snacks, enjoy some great fellowship and live music, and take a stroll through the beautiful gardens. We will carpool so that everyone can ride with a pass holder.

Men's Brunch Bunch will meet at 10:30 AM this Saturday, June 25 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.

Worship bulletin announcements for Sunday, June 26 are due to Administrator Erin May by noon on Wednesday, June 22.

Vax up or mask up: masking is now optional for those who are vaccinated. Please stay away from church if you are sick, have any symptoms of illness, or have a known exposure to someone with COVID.

New Hope

Presbyterian Church

"Including, Renewing, Serving"

Second Sunday after Pentecost
June 19, 2022
11 o'clock



"The Kingdom of Heaven Belongs to Whom?"



A Message for Father's Day

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