

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Christ The Lord Is Risen Today* arr. John A. Dempsy
Easter Alleluia John Carter

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Yesterday we thought that death had won.
Yesterday we thought that all was lost.
Yesterday we thought that Christ was gone.
But not today.
Today we dare to trust that love has won.
Today we risk trusting that hope is real.
Today we open ourselves to trusting that Christ is with us here.
Today we have a reason to sing.
Alleluia!
Alleluia!
Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed!

* **HYMN 232** “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

*Those with cut flowers are invited to bring them forward
during the singing of the hymn and place them in the wire cross.*

* CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Living Christ, you appeared to the disciples on Easter.
Yet, we don’t always know if we want you to appear to us.
You have opened the door to new life, to new hope,
to new possibilities for loving and living fully.
But on this day that is supposed to be a joyful celebration,
we are often still haunted by our past—
by the mistakes we have made,
by our resentment toward those who have hurt us,
and by the doubts that arise from our ongoing pain.
We wonder if we are acceptable to you on Easter as we are.
In your mercy, receive our honest and true selves,
and remind us of your gracious love.
By the power of the Spirit, heal our memories of the past,
and restore us for a new future.

Bold font indicates congregational participation.

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

Silent Prayers

Assurance of Pardon

* SHARING CHRIST’S PEACE

Hymn 240 “Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON John 20:1-10 (NT)

ANTHEM *In the Garden* arr. Lloyd Larson

I come to the garden alone
While the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear falling on my ear,
The Son of God discloses.

He speaks, and the sound of His voice
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing,
And the melody that He gave to me
Within my heart is ringing.

Refrain: And He walks with me,
And He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known.

I’d stay in the garden with Him
Though the night all around me is falling,
But He bids me go; through the voice of woe
His voice to me is calling. *Refrain*

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON John 21:1-19 (NT)

SERMON “Healing Peter”
Finding Healing: Easter Encounters with Hurting People 

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

* **HYMN 250** “In the Bulb There Is a Flower”

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *Iona Abby Worship Book*

We believe in God above us, maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon, of water and earth, of male and female.

We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, born of a woman, servant of the poor, tortured and nailed to a tree. A man of sorrows, he died forsaken. He descended into the earth to the place of death. On the third day he rose from the tomb. He ascended into heaven to be everywhere present, and his kingdom will come on earth.

We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire, life-giving breath of the church, spirit of healing and forgiveness, source of resurrection and of eternal life.
Amen.

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Self Offering

Offertory *Steal Away* arr. Howard Helvey

* *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 248** “Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!”

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Amen, Amen* arr. Bradley Sowash

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: Janice Kominski

Today's greeters: Pat Koonts & Margaret Marsh

Today's ushers: John & Caroline Ledford

Thank you to our Guest Musicians: Alex Travers, violin, and Jim Anthony, clarinet and saxophone

Spring New Members Class

Are you interested in becoming a member of New Hope? Our process just takes three easy steps: (1) attend an exploratory class with lunch provided after church on Sunday, April 14 ((no further commitment to membership necessary), (2) for those interested in joining, attend the Session meeting on Tuesday, April 16 at 6 PM to get to know our elders and share your faith journey/why you have been drawn to New Hope, and (3) be presented in Sunday worship (date to be determined). Contact Pastor Kim for details.

Fibers of Hope

Our knitting group has grown to include various handcrafted projects, and we've adopted the name "Fibers of Hope." We meet the first Thursday of each month at 1:30 PM in the library. Come join our small group with your knitting project. And, if you would like to knit or crochet a prayer shawl, we can supply the yarn.

Questions? Contact Bonnie Runkle by email at bonnie.runkle@gmail.com or at (717) 393-9024.

Voices of Conflict, Voices of Hope: A Poetry and Faith Series

In our next Faith Formation opportunity, Virginia Hebert will lead us in an exploration of poetry from countries that have experienced or are experiencing war: Guatemala, Israel/Palestine, and Ukraine. Come listen to poets from these countries speak to their pain and to their hope, and consider how their words may inform our faith. The group will meet on four Mondays—April 15, 22, 29, and May 6—at 7 PM at the church.

Men's Brunch Bunch

Men's brunch bunch will meet at 11:00 AM this Saturday, April 6, at Cracker Barrel (5 Crowell Rd in Asheville). Questions? Contact Bruce Rasmussen at (828) 633-0327.

Don't Miss "Sweet Treats" on Wednesday, April 10

The men get together on the second Wednesday of the month at The Well-Bred Bakery & Café in Biltmore Village at 11 AM for coffee and treats. Questions? Contact Bruce Rasmussen at (828) 633-0327 or by email at bandj.online@yahoo.com.

MANNA Food Bank Volunteering

We volunteer on the second Friday of every month from 1-3 PM. Join us on April 12 directly at MANNA. Contact Linda Lewis at (828) 483-6296 to sign up.

Worship bulletin announcements for Sunday, April 7 are due to Administrator Erin May by noon on Wednesday, April 3.

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.

Session Members

Terri Carpenter (2025)
Woody Ferrell (2025)
Virginia Hebert (2024)
Susan Maveety (2024)
Barbara McLean (2026)
Andy Morse (2026)
Jean Moxley (2024)
Nan Riley (2026)
Nancy Spann (2025)
Kim Wells (Moderator)

Deacons

Bill Carpenter (2024)
Janet Ferrell (2025)
Tom Fife (2026)
Ann Moorefield (2024)
Cal Reid (2026)
Karen Ward (2025)

3070 Sweeten Creek Road, Asheville, NC 28803
PO Box 1346, Skyland, NC 28776 | (828) 274-0191
Kim Wells, Pastor | Erin May, Church Administrator
Rob Blackwell, Director of Music Ministry/Pianist
Janice Kominski, Pastoral Intern | www.newhopepcusaasheville.org

New Hope

Presbyterian Church

"Including, Renewing, Serving"

Easter Sunday
March 31, 2024
11 o'clock



In today's Easter reading, Jesus says to Peter, "Feed my sheep."

The original piece above is made entirely of yarn, except for the three hearts. If you were to run your hands over it, the feeling of sheep's wool would draw your senses into the story.

Look for the two sheep standing on a green hillside
with the Easter sun rising above them.

— *Feed My Sheep*
by Nicolette Peñaranda
Inspired by John 21:1-19