

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Victory in Jesus* by Carlette West

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* CALL TO WORSHIP adapted from a prayer by Gill Le Fevre

Our world is a mixed-up topsy-turvy tangle of sorrow and pain.

**Open the eyes of our hearts, O God,
that we may see the good things you are doing.**

Our lives are beset with anxiety, uncertainty, and loss.

**Open the eyes of our hearts, O God,
that we may see your steadfast presence with us.**

We often give in to doubt and fear.

**Open the eyes of our hearts, O God,
that we may see the source of our strength.**

Carrying all of our burdens, we have come to this place.

**Open the eyes of our hearts, O God,
that we may see and worship you, and be glad!**

* HYMN 451 “Open My Eyes, That I May See”

* CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**God of wisdom, you give us the Spirit,
that our eyes might be opened to see your good gifts.**

Yet, we often forget to rely on the Spirit to help us see.

**Our eyes become overwhelmed by the sight of tragedies
around the world and hardships in our own lives.**

**We wonder where you are, or if you are real,
and we become anxious and afraid.**

Forgive us for taking the lens of the Spirit from our eyes.

**Help us to see again, and restore our true vision,
so that we might behold the beauty of your hope,
and the wonder of what you are doing in our lives,
and be amazed.**

Silent Prayers & Assurance of Pardon

* SHARING CHRIST’S PEACE

Hymn 240, vv. 1, 4 “Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 46:1-3, 10-11

ANTHEM *’Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus* Arr. Walter Price

’Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,
Just to take Him at His Word;
Just to rest upon His promise,
Just to know, “Thus saith the Lord.”

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him,
How I’ve proved Him o’er and o’er;
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus,
Oh, for grace to trust Him more.

Yes, ’tis sweet to trust in Jesus,
Just from sin and self to cease;
Just from Jesus simply taking
Life, and rest, and joy, and peace.

I’m so glad I learned to trust Him,
Precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;
And I know that Thou are with me,
Will be with me to the end.

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him,
How I’ve proved Him o’er and o’er;
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus,
Oh, for grace to trust Him more.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Ephesians 1:15-23

SERMON “Knowing Hope”

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

HYMN 293 “Loving Spirit”

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and
renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through
faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and**

**neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the
one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who
inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life
in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word
proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us
with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls
women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a
broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to
pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to
Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church
and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In
gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to
serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful
lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new
earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”**

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Self Offering

Offertory *Wondrous Love* Arr. Jennifer Fink

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 765 (2 times) “May the God of Hope Go with Us”

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Great Is The Lord* by Michael W. Smith

END OF WORSHIP ... BEGINNING OF SERVICE



Bold font indicates congregational participation.

* You are invited to stand in body or in spirit

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: Linda and Herschel Lewis
Today's ushers: Linda and Herschel Lewis

Next Sunday, May 19: Pentecost Luncheon

Join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall as we celebrate Pentecost and the kick-off of Summer Spirit together! The meal will be a "parade of salads." The church will provide the drinks only, and you are invited to bring a salad or dessert to share. Please bring your dish down to the Fellowship Hall before worship to be set up buffet style. Sign up on the sheet in the Narthex, or sign up by contacting Lynne in the church office at (828) 274-0191 or officenewhope@gmail.com. We are looking forward to this time of fellowship together!

9:30 AM Sunday Morning Class: "God's Saving Acts"

Join us at 9:30 AM next Sunday morning, May 19, for one more session with Russ Moxley as we explore one of the overarching themes of the Bible: that God provides saving possibilities for those in need of rescue. We will meet downstairs in Room 104.

Worship bulletin announcements for Sunday, May 19 are due to Administrator Lynne Petty by noon on Wednesday, May 15.

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)

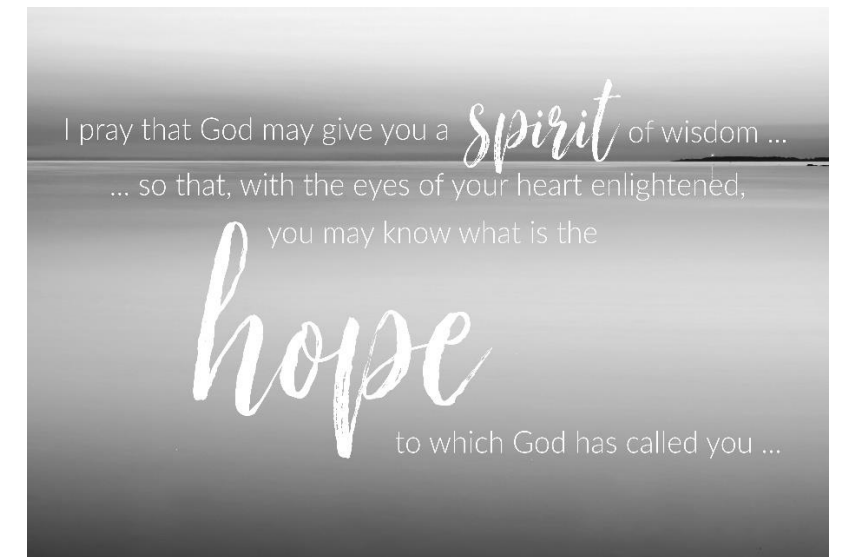
3070 Sweeten Creek Road, Asheville, NC 28803
PO Box 1346, Skyland, NC 28776 | (828) 274-0191
Kim Wells, Pastor | Lynne Petty, Church Administrator
Rob Blackwell, Director of Music Ministry/Pianist

New Hope
Presbyterian Church
"Including, Renewing, Serving"

Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 12, 2024
11 o'clock



"Knowing Hope"



Ephesians 1:17-18