

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Prelude #2* George Gershwin

* CALL TO WORSHIP

May the Spirit who empowers be upon us.

May the Spirit who sends anoint us.

May we hear the Spirit's call, like Jesus did—

**to bring good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the prisoners
and recovery of sight to the blind,
and to let the oppressed go free.**

God's gaze of strengthening compassion is on the poor.

Let us worship God!

* HYMN 509 "All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"

* CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Reconciling God, you taught the Israelites to remember
the alien, for they too had been aliens in Egypt.**

**In Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our enemies,
bringing adversaries together as a new people,
and creating one new humanity from Jew and Gentile.**

**You are always guiding us toward the stranger,
the foreigner, and those who are different from us.**

Yet, we prefer the safety of sameness.

We're more comfortable when church is an affinity club.

**Our nation has succumbed to fear of "the other"—
immigrants, non-binary people, and many more.**

Forgive us as a people, O God.

**By the power of the Spirit, empower us to follow Jesus,
especially when he crosses the barriers we set up.**

**Then may we be witnesses to a different way—
the way of truth, the way of grace, the way of Jesus.**

* SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

Hymn 155 – 2 times "Raise a Song of Gladness"

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Jeremiah 1:4-10

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 4:16-30

SERMON "The Sermon that Almost Got Jesus Killed"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

HYMN 762 "When the Poor Ones"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles 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 Self Offering

Offertory *Let Justice Roll Like a River* Marty Haugen

Chorus: Let justice roll like a river and wash all oppression away.

Come, O God and take us, move us and shake us.

Come now and make us anew, that we may live justly like you.

Take from me your holy feasts, all your offerings and your music.

Let justice flow like waters and integrity like an ever-flowing stream.

Repeat Chorus

You have been told the way of life, the way of justice and peace.

To act justly, to love gently, and walk humbly with God.

Repeat Chorus

* *Doxology* Hymnal, back page

* *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.

O God, we thank you...

Let us pray 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

Please request a gluten-free bread option if you need it.

Our juice is non-fermented.

You may partake of the bread and cup at any time.

Please raise your hand if you would like to be served in your seat.

Prayer After Communion

GOING OUT TO SERVE

* HYMN 515 "I Come with Joy"

During the singing of the hymn, you are invited to come forward with your monthly Daily Change 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 BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Sunday Morning Boogie* Joy Gilmore

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: Andy Morse
Today's greeters: Pat Koonts and Margaret Marsh
Today's ushers: Jean Harley and Linda Pressley
Guest Musician: Jean Moxley, Harpist

Purchase Soup for Our MANNA Food Bank Fundraiser

Be sure and sign up in the Narthex for quarts of delicious soup made by Carole Burnette and Kim Presley! Carole and Kim will be making vegetable, vegetable beef, and creamy chicken with wild rice soup, all available for pick up on Souper Bowl Sunday, February 9. Carole and Kim will provide the containers and will fill them prior to Souper Bowl Sunday. Sign up on the sheet in the Narthex, or email Lynne at officenewhope@gmail.com or call her at (828) 274-0191. Please indicate the flavor(s) and quantities you would like. We ask for a minimum donation of \$15 per quart. The deadline to order soup is this Wednesday, February 5.

Fibers of Hope Crafting Group

The Fibers of Hope crafting group will meet this Thursday, February 6, from 1:30 to 3 PM in the library. Join our group with your crafting project. If you would like to knit or crochet a prayer shawl, we can supply the yarn. Questions? Contact Bonnie Runkle at (717) 393-9024 or by email at bonnie.runkle@gmail.com.

Knitted Prayer Squares Available in the Narthex

In addition to knitting prayer shawls for New Hope and supporting each other with a variety of projects, Fibers of Hope has made Prayer Squares. These can be gifted to anyone you're holding up in prayer. They are small enough to be on a nightstand, end table, in the car, or anywhere they can be touched as a reminder that someone is praying for you. Or take one for yourself to remember that we at New Hope are also praying for each other. Prayer squares are available on the table in the Narthex. Please also take a prayer card to give with the Prayer Square, if you'd like.

Men's Brunch Bunch

Men's brunch bunch will meet at 11:00 AM Saturday, February 8, at Cracker Barrel (located at 5 Crowell Rd in Asheville). Questions? Contact Greg Kramer at (281) 734-9457.

Book Study of *Knitting the Fog*—Take Two!

Sundays, February 2, 9, 16, & 23, 12 PM with Lunch Provided

Join Virginia Hebert as she leads a "take two" study of *Knitting the Fog*, previously interrupted by Helene. Guatemalan author Claudia D. Hernández leads readers through a heartrending account of her childhood and family life in Guatemala, her journey to the U.S., her immigrant experience in Los Angeles, and her return to Guatemala. Her story underscores the complexity of the immigrant experience and the ache for belonging. In addition to reading the book together, we will also be talking about our partnership with our Guatemalan sister church, El Divino Salvador, and about our support of local refugees here in our own area. Lunch will be provided. For our first meeting, bring your book in hand (can be purchased through Amazon) and be ready to discuss Part I, "Life in Paradise, Also Known as Hell." Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex or by contacting Lynne Petty at (828) 274-0191 or officenewhope@gmail.com.

Fellowship Luncheon after Worship, February 16

Join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship on Sunday, February 16, for a Fellowship luncheon. The church will provide catered sandwiches. Please bring a side or dessert to share. Sign up on the sheet in the Narthex by Wednesday, February 12, indicating which side or dessert you will bring.

2024 Annual Report

Interested in reading about the things that our Session committees and Deacons accomplished in 2024? Or do you simply want to learn more about what they do, and what involvement might look like for you? Our 2024 Annual Report is now available on the front page of our website. Or, contact Lynne at officenewhope@gmail.com or (828) 274-0191 if you'd like to pick up a hard copy or have one mailed to you.

Worship bulletin announcements for Sunday, February 9 are due to Administrator Lynne Petty by noon on Wednesday, February 5.

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
Secure mailing address: PO Box 1346, Skyland, NC 28776
www.newhopepcusaasheville.org | (828) 274-0191
Kim Wells, Pastor | Lynne Petty, Church Administrator
Rob Blackwell, Director of Music Ministry/Pianist

New Hope Presbyterian Church

"Including, Renewing, Serving"

4th Sunday after Epiphany
February 2, 2025
11 o'clock



"The Sermon that Almost Got Jesus Killed"



"When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage." (Luke 4:28)