

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *A Mother's Love* Tim O'Neill

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** Ps 139:13-15, Mt 6:28-29, Eph 2:10, 4:15-16

God wove the fabric of creation into being.

God knit us together in our mothers' wombs.

God saw the frame upon which we were being made,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

See how God clothes the lilies of the field with splendor!

Will God not much more clothe us?

**God knits us together as a whole body in Christ,
each ligament joined together in love.**

We are God's handiwork, created in Christ for good works.

Let us worship God!

*** HYMN 703** "Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me"

*** CONFESSION AND PARDON**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**O God, from the love of your weaving hands,
we are fearfully and wonderfully made.**

**Yet, instead of allowing others to see our gifts,
sometimes we search for fig leaves,
afraid of being exposed.**

Forgive us, O God.

**By the power of the Spirit, call us back to our vocation:
to love others, and to allow ourselves to be loved,
letting you weave our gifts and vulnerabilities together.**

**Join us to your work of gathering up,
so that all that has come unraveled
might be rewoven into the fabric of your new creation,
a tapestry of wholeness.**

Silent Prayers & Assurance of Forgiveness

*** SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE**

Hymn 240, vv. 2 & 4 "Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks"

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 58:6-9

ANTHEM *Come To The Water* John B. Foley

O let all who thirst, let them come to the water.

And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord:

Without money, without price.

Why should you pay the price, except for the Lord?

And let all who seek, let them come to the water.

And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord:

Without money, without strife.

Why should you spend your life, except for the Lord?

And let all who toil, let them come to the water.

And let all who are weary, let them come to the Lord:

All who labor, without rest.

How can your soul find rest, except for the Lord?

And let all the poor, let them come to the water,

Bring the ones who are laden, bring them all to the Lord:

Bring the children without might.

Easy the load and light: come to the Lord.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Acts 9:36-43

SERMON "Weaving Love"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

HYMN 306 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Self Offering

Offertory *Amazing Grace* Arr. Albin Whitworth

* *Doxology* Hymnal, back page

* *Prayer of Dedication*

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

Blessing of the Prayer Shawls

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 800** "Sometimes a Light Surprises"

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *Grandmother's Minuet* Edward Grieg

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: Russ Moxley

Today's greeters: Jean and Russ Moxley

Today's ushers: Kim Presley and Laura Brown

Memorial Service for Peg Lewis

All are welcome to join us this coming Saturday, May 17, at 4 PM in the sanctuary as we give thanks for Peg's life and for the promise of the resurrection. A light reception in the Narthex will follow.

New Hope PDA Host Site Update – It Takes a Village!

This past week we hosted a group of seven volunteers from Michigan and Ohio. They did important work for a family who had suffered severe losses. Our next team will be coming from Salem, New Jersey on Sunday, May 25, and will be staying through the last week of May.

Bold font indicates congregational participation.

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

Men's Re-Treat: Wednesday, May 14

The Men's Re-Treat will meet for coffee and treats on Wednesday, May 14, at 11:00 AM at Fletcher Village Bakery & Cafe's new location: 235 St. John Rd., Suite 70, Fletcher, NC 28732. Questions? Contact Greg Kramer at (281) 734-9457.

MANNA Food Bank: Thursday, May 15

We will be heading to MANNA's location in Mills River to volunteer there as a group on Thursday, May 15. Our shift is currently 1-4 PM on the third Thursday of the month. Contact Linda Lewis at (828) 483-6296 to sign up.

Church Clean Up Day: Saturday, May 17, 9:30 AM to 12 PM

Come join your New Hope friends for a little teamwork and a lot of fun! Twice a year we all come together to wash windows, mulch, weed, and deep clean the kitchen. There are inside and outside jobs, and no experience is necessary. Questions? Contact Bill Carpenter at (704) 219-1893 or billcarpenter53@gmail.com.

May Faith Formation Class: God's Questions to Us

Join us again next Sunday morning, May 18, at 9:30 AM. The Rev. Don Johnson will be leading a second discussion based on his book, *God Questions to Us*. What does it mean that God is a question-asking God? Throughout the Bible, these there are many questions that God and Jesus ask us. We will explore a few more next Sunday. It is not necessary to purchase the book, but it's available on amazon if participants would like to buy one.

May New Members Class

Are you interested in becoming a member of New Hope? It's an easy, three-step process: (1) attend one class after worship, (2) attend a Session meeting to share a little bit about your faith journey, and (3) be presented in Sunday worship. You are welcome to attend the first class without making any further commitment—just come and learn if you'd like. For more information, contact Kim at pastornhpc@gmail.com.

Marks of Intention: Asheville Printmakers Group Exhibition

Lynn Starum and Martha Ensign Johnson invite you to stop by the Asheville Printmakers Exhibition at the Modern Local Artsoup Gallery, 42 N. Main St., in downtown Mars Hill. The exhibition runs through June 6, and both Lynn and Martha will be displaying their artwork. For details, visit www.ashevilleprintmakers.org.

Knitted Prayer Squares Available in the Narthex

In addition to knitting prayer shawls for New Hope, 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 and prayer cards are available on the table in the Narthex.

Worship bulletin announcements for Sunday, May 18 are due to Administrator Lynne Petty by noon on Wednesday, May 14.

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)
- Elsie Reid (2027)
- George Bauernfeind (2027)
- Barbara McLean (2026)
- Andy Morse (2026)
- Carolyn Ledford (2027)
- Nan Riley (2026)
- Nancy Spann (2025)
- Kim Wells (Moderator)

Deacons

- Bill Carpenter (2027)
- Janet Ferrell (2025)
- Tom Fife (2026)
- Ann Moorefield (2027)
- Cal Reid (2026)
- Karen Ward (2025)

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
Susie Watson-Burns, Pastoral Intern |

*New Hope
Presbyterian Church*

“Including, Renewing, Serving”

4th Sunday of Easter
May 11, 2025
11 o'clock



“Weaving Love”



“All the widows stood beside Peter, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them.” (Acts 9:39)