

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Sweet, Sweet Spirit* Arr. Sharon Wilson

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Children of God: welcome!

All are welcome to this place of love and grace.

Welcome to this place where we hope in God's power
to transform us.

Here God is clothing us with compassion.

Here God is clothing us with kindness.

Here we are becoming the Beloved community.

Here we will eat the bread of life
and drink the cup of self-giving love.

Let us worship God!

* HYMN 509 "All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"

* CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you are kind to us—

not a kindness that remains in the heart,

but a kindness that is expressed in action—

a kindness that leads us to live changed lives.

Yet we confess that we don't always want to be changed.

What is dull is familiar and expected.

The things that are stuck in a rut we can anticipate.

We don't know what would happen

if our hearts were broken open.

Forgive us, O God.

By the power of your Spirit, may we allow your kindness to

sink deeply into our every pore,

that our hearts would melt into deeper compassion,

and our actions become courageously loving.

Silent Prayers & Assurance of Pardon

* SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

Hymn 240, vv. 1 & 4 "Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks"

Bold font indicates congregational participation.

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

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON Colossians 3:12-17

SERMON "Kindness"
Third in the Series: The Easter Wardrobe

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

HYMN 435 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostle's 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 & Celebration of Surplus Giving

Offertory *The Call* Ralph Vaughan Williams
Andy Morse, Soloist

* *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

Worshippers will come forward to be served.

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

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.

The Feast

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 BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *I'll Fly Away* Albert Brumley

END OF WORSHIP ... BEGINNING OF SERVICE



We light three 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. The third candle is the Peace, Hope, and Justice candle, which began in South African as an anti-Apartheid candle and now calls us to pray for injustices at home and around the world.

Today's liturgist: Ed Hillman

Today's greeters: Pat Koonts and Margaret Marsh

Today's ushers: Bill Carpenter and Elaine Morse

Communion Servers: Elaine Morse, Bunk Spann, Margaret Marsh

Guest Musician: Jean Moxley, Harp

Our Grants to Helene Housing Recovery!

From the budget surplus funds accumulated in 2024 and 2025, the Session at its April meeting approved two significant grants to support Helene recovery efforts focused on home repair and restoration: (1) Beloved Asheville will receive \$25,000 for its dedicated Helene home repair program, and (2) our local Habitat for Humanity (Asheville, Buncombe and Madison Counties) will also receive \$25,000 for the Asheville Regional Coalition for Home Repair (ARCHR), which Habitat oversees. ARCHR is a funding platform and clearinghouse supporting a variety of local nonprofits (Habitat and others such as Poder Emma, CORE, and Mountain Housing Opportunities) which are working directly with the families in need of repair and reconstruction work. Both organizations have extensive waiting lists. The recovery work will extend over several years. These donations are a testament to the generosity of our church. Taken together with our past support of the Alan Campos mobile home park (\$25,000 in 2025), and by serving as a host site for the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Agency (PDA), we have and continue to make a meaningful contribution to providing safe and sound housing for the victims of Helene.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) Host Site Update

We had expected to host a new group of disaster relief workers starting today. Unfortunately, the group had to postpone their trip, but they hope to come later this summer. Our next group from Ohio and Michigan plans to be with us on May 31. Some members of this group will be returning to New Hope for a third tour of volunteer work! They are now good friends. We did experience some permitting issues with the City of Asheville this past week concerning the renewal of our Temporary Use permit as a host site. But “all’s well that ends well.” As of Wednesday, April 29, we now have an Operational Permit from the Fire Marshal, which is renewable every 180 days as needed.

Fibers of Hope Crafting Group

The Fibers of Hope crafting group will meet this coming Thursday, May 7 from 1:30 to 3 PM. 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.

May PW Circle Meeting

The PW circle will meet on Tuesday, May 5 at 2:00 PM in the church library. Mary Lou Nash will lead us in the study of Lessons 8 & 9 in our study book. All are welcome.

Men’s Brunch Bunch

The next Men’s Brunch Bunch will meet at 11 AM on Saturday, May 9, at the Cracker Barrel located at 5 Crowell Rd in Asheville. Questions? Contact Greg Kramer at (281) 734-9457.

Hard 2 Recycle Event

AC Reynolds High School will be hosting a “Hard 2 Recycle” event Saturday, May 9, from 10 AM to 2 PM at AC Reynolds High School, 1 Rocket Drive, Asheville. Use the webpage link below to see general information about the event and to verify what can be recycled: <https://www.ashevillegreenworks.org/hard2recycle#dates>.

Save the Date for a Spring Clean Up: Saturday, May 23, 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.

Worship bulletin announcements for Sunday, May 10 are due to Administrator Lynne Petty by noon on Wednesday, May 6.

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

George Bauernfeind (2027)
Laura Brown (2028)
Frank Chapman (2028)
Carolyn Ledford (2027)
Barbara McLean (2026)
Andy Morse (2026)
Elsie Reid (2027)
Nan Riley (2026)
Kim Wells (Moderator)

Deacons

Bill Carpenter (2027)
Shelia Chapman (2027)
Elizabeth Costlow (2026)
Tom Fife (2026)
Jean Harley (2028)
Ann Moorefield (2027)
Jean Moxley (2028)
Cal Reid (2026)
Karen Ward (2028)

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”

Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2026
11 o’clock



“Kindness”

Third in the Series: The Easter Wardrobe

