



**Ray Of Hope  
Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ**

**"My House shall be a house of prayer for All People."**

(Isaiah 56:7)

**Founded: 10/31/1983. Now in our Fortieth year of Ministry.**

**MISSION: Love God, Love your neighbor,  
and make disciples of every person**

**everywhere. (Matthew 22:37-39; Matthew 28:19)**

**"It is time to put our faith into action."**

**"Faith without works is dead." (James 2:14-26)**

**Veronica Floyd, Moderator**

Rev. Br. Shawn F. Benedict, O.S.B, Appointed Pastor

We extend a very special welcome to our visitors.

You are as welcome here as Jesus Christ Himself.

Scripture exhorts us: "Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God" Romans 15:7 (NABRE – 2011)

Guests are invited to participate in all parts of the worship service as they feel comfortable. We are building a wonderful Christ-centered Community here, and we invite you to share in our joy! After the Worship Service, please join us for refreshments and sharing.

Today is January 22, 2023. We are celebrating Epiphany III,  
Annual Meeting Year A

**The grace, the goodness, the loving-kindness of our God has  
appeared, bringing salvation to everyone. (Titus 2:11, 3:4)**

Ray Of Hope Church teaches the same Christian faith of ancient ecumenical consensus.

St. Vincent of Lerins, a fifth-century monk and theologian, described it as

***"what has been believed always, everywhere, and by all."***

**Scripture Readings for this worship event:**

\*We use the term 1st for the "Old" Testament and 2nd for the "New" Testament. The NRSV Bible 1st Testament numbers are found in the front portion of the Bible and the 2nd Testament numbers are found in the later portion. If this confuses you just ask someone around you to assist you. Thank you.



## CALL TO WORSHIP

**Visit and greet one another for a social time before the Bell is rung.**

**Bell's 1<sup>st</sup> ring.** As the bell rings, please find your seat and spend the next few minutes in silent prayer. Please refrain from conversations as these disturb those trying to pray.

The St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi bell at Ray Of Hope Church, 380 W. 1<sup>st</sup> St. in Elmira, NY, was a gift from Michael Quinnell of Syracuse, NY, in September 2005. The bell rings out 39 joyful rings, in contrast to tolling the bell in single rings. The 39 joyful rings honor the 39 lashes Jesus endured that we now celebrate in victory and gratitude for our salvation. "The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes, we are healed." (Isaiah 53:5) The bell is rung before worship and Bible Enrichment sessions. Listen carefully and see if you can hear all 39 rings.



## WE GATHER TO PRAISE THE LORD AND GIVE THANKS

### + Pastoral Welcome

**Leader – 1:** Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am in the City of \_\_ in the State of \_\_. Welcome to Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the faith community founded in Central New York and now all across the World through the Internet, where everyone is accepted on God's terms. We extend a special welcome to our visitors and guests here in the Chapel and online through Skype and Facebook. To be added to our email list, online visitors can send an email to [rayofhopechurch@aol.com](mailto:rayofhopechurch@aol.com) and write "email list" in the Subject. Visitors in the Chapel can fill out the email information form at the hospitality table and place it in the offerings/donations box on the wall.

You are invited to participate in some or all the parts of this worship event as you feel comfortable. At Ray Of Hope Church, we assist people at various stages of visual impairment by announcing all instructions, page and song numbers, and using a psalm response verse.

**Leader-2:** Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am in the City of \_\_\_\_\_ in the State of \_\_\_\_\_. Today, those participating through the Internet may receive Holy Communion with us during this worship event. You do not need to be a Member of this Church or any church to receive Holy Communion at Ray Of Hope Church. We celebrate the Lord's open table, where everyone is welcome. Those celebrating at home, please prepare the following items at this time and bring them to your table; 1) a cup with some wine or grape juice, 2) a small piece of bread, cracker, or matzo on a plate, 3) a second cup with some water, and 4) a side napkin. We will use these items for Holy Communion during the second half of the worship service.

**Leader-1:** The bulletin with the worship order is available in multiple ways. Click on the "Featured Link" in the window on Facebook Live. The bulletin will appear in a second window. Flip or slide between the Order of Worship bulletin and the webcast. On Skype, the "Order of Worship" is posted in the Chat window. Right-click on the link and open it in a new window or tab. Finally, the Order of Worship bulletin and the Skype link is posted in the large gold box labeled SUNDAY WORSHIP INFORMATION at [www.rayofhopechurch.com](http://www.rayofhopechurch.com). Take a moment now and gather these items. We will start shortly. Ed Askins will play a piano prelude for the worship service this morning. We ask everyone to listen attentively to enjoy this prayer time and not visit during the music. Thank you.

### **Music Prelude.**



**Bell's 2<sup>nd</sup> ring to announce the start of the worship event.**

**Leader – 2:** We are glad you have chosen to spend this time with us. You are as welcome here as Christ Jesus himself. In Romans Chapter 15:7, the Scriptures instruct us to:

**ALL: "Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God." (NABRE)**

**Leader -1:** God is glorified when we welcome one another and introduce ourselves to those around us. You are truly welcome here.  
**\*\*During COVID, we may wave across the room and into the camera for the Internet.**

**Pastor:** I ask you, in whose Name are we meeting?

**ALL: We meet in the name of God our Creator, Christ Jesus Our Lord and Saviour, and in the name of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

**Pastor:** Peace be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

**Pastor:** Today is January 23, 2023. We are assembled for worship on the joyous occasion of our 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in our 40<sup>th</sup> year of ministry. Today is a day of great joy, and we are grateful to God and every person who has ever come to Ray Of Hope for bringing our congregation this far.

We are dispensing with the usual worship outline today to have a special worship event. As the Appointed Pastor, I have chosen to emphasize the doctrine of Universal Salvation for this Annual Meeting in our 40<sup>th</sup> year. Ray Of Hope Church voted to agree on Universal Salvation on September 18, 2011, at our Semi-Annual Meeting.



**ALL PEOPLE HAVE RECEIVED SALVATION AS A FREE GIFT FROM GOD, ARE ETERNALLY SECURE IN GOD'S LOVE AND ARE BY MODERN TERMS, "SAVED." ALL LGBTQSIA2ss+ persons of every sexual orientation and every gender expression are SAVED and are called to live out the fullness of who they are so that God may be praised. Ray Of Hope Church, Inc. officially took this position on September 18, 2011 and changed the By-laws to secure this position. (www.rayoffhopechurch.com/faith.htm) (www.rayoffhopechurch.com/purpose.htm)**

(This By-law was amended September 18, 2011, and used to read: We believe that Salvation is available to all who call on the Name of Jesus Christ, and are re-born into the Life of Christ.)([Article 10 STATEMENT OF FAITH 10.01 Short Form Statement Lines 1140 – 1143](#))

# Holy God We Praise Thy Name (Großer Gott)

(as published by International Liturgy Publications)

Words by  
Großer Gott - Ignaz Franz,  
Te Deum laudamus - St. Nicetas  
Translated by  
Clarence Augustus Walworth

Music by  
Großer Gott, Katholisches Gesangbuch

**VERSE**

F C F/A Gm7/B♭ F/C C F

1. Ho - ly God, we praise Thy name! Lord of  
2. Hark! the loud ce - les - tial hymn An - gel  
3. Ho - ly Fa - ther, Ho - ly Son, Ho - ly

6 C/E F C/E F C F C F/A Gm7/B♭ F/C C

all, we bow be - fore Thee; All on earth Thy scep - ter  
choirs a - bove are rais - ing; Cher - u - bim and Ser - a -  
Spir - it, Three we name Thee, While in es - sence on - ly

12 F C/E F C/E F C C C/B♭ F/A

claim, All in heav - en a - bove a - dore Thee; In - fi -  
-phim In un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, Fill the  
One, Un - di - vid - ed God we claim Thee, And a -

CCLI Song # 7107777

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Leader – 1: Please be seated. Today we will review many Scripture verses confirming the concept of salvation that God granted the free gift of salvation to everyone. Here is the first verse we are going to celebrate. In the letter of Paul to Titus, Chapter 2, verse 11, and Chapter 3, verse 4, we read:

**ALL: The grace, the goodness, the loving-kindness of our God has appeared, bringing salvation to everyone.**

Leader – 1: In the first letter of John, Chapter 2, verse 2, we read:

**ALL: Jesus is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, not only for ours but for the whole world's sins.**

Leader – 2: Why would God make the creation and form humanity but fail to assure that we would survive the sin of the world, the wholesale rejection of God by those who have made evil their god? Jesus spoke of the rebellion against God and Lucifer who led it, saying: "He was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks according to his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies." God saw it coming that some angels, spirits, and humans would ultimately reject the love of God. Rather than let the entire human race fall into rebellion, God took matters by God's own authority and took on flesh to pay the price for the "sin of the world." We read this truth in so many verses. John, Chapter 3, verses 16 and 17 declares:

**ALL: <sup>16</sup> God so loved the world that God gave the only begotten Son, that whoever believes in God should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through God.**

Pastor: It is the Word, the Holy Scriptures, yes, the Bible that is our guide. Contrary to modern opinion, even among clergy and theologians, the Bible is not a scrapbook of bits and pieces of stories and tales gathered from all over the Middle East that somehow hundreds of co-conspirators put together, somehow over hundreds of years to trick you into thinking there is a God. For there to be a conspiracy of this magnitude, the Christian

theologians are accusing thousands of years of rabbinical and sacred Tradition among the Jewish People of being fraudulent. Claiming the Sacred Scriptures would be an intentional fraudulent scheme of religious non-truth is irreverent, at the very least. At its very worst, this claim is Luciferian, and this is being gentle with the offenders who promote such programming, even from the pulpit. God has given us the written Word so we may understand our relationship with God and share that plan with others so that God may be glorified.

**SONG: Thy Word.**

Thy Word Amy Grant | Michael W. Smith

**Chorus**

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
And a light unto my path  
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
And a light unto my path

**Verse 1**

When I feel afraid  
And I think I've lost my way  
Still You're there right beside me  
Nothing will I fear  
As long as You are near  
Please be near me to the end

**Verse 2**

I will not forget  
Your love for me and yet  
My heart forever is wandering  
Jesus be my guide  
And hold me to Your side  
I will love You to the end

CCLI Song # 14301

Amy Grant | Michael W. Smith

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## + The Candle Of Hope

**Leader -1:** Please be seated. At this time, we light our Resurrection Candle Of Hope in honor of the "Blessed Hope," the return of Christ who will transform the living faithful and raise all to new life. **Jesus said:** (John 5:25 and Titus 2:13)

**ALL:** "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." (John 11:25, 26)

**Leader -2:** While lighting the Candle Of Hope, it is our custom to read panel entries from the Names Project Aids Memorial Quilt to remember those who died of AIDS. Unfortunately, some churches continue to reject sick, lonely, and dying people with HIV/AIDS who need spiritual guidance.

**Leader -3:** Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am in the City of \_\_\_\_\_ in the State of \_\_\_\_\_. Today we are reading the Names(panel number) on Block # 59

- Mark Feldman (1)
- Danny Bencivengo (2)
- Jose Simon (3)
- Horace Cochrane (4)
- Ken Lester (5)
- Camille (6)



- Juan Miguel Torres (7)
- Chuck Preston (8)

We remember them here and pray for their families.

**Leader -2:** At this time, we also remember in our hearts the names of our family and friends who have died from COVID-related illness and other causes of death. We pray for their family members as they remember their loved ones this time of year. May the candle's flame remind everyone of the joy and happiness known in life, the comfort offered by the Holy Spirit in our loss, and the "Blessed Hope" we have in the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**ALL: Amen**

**Leader- 2:** Jesus has promised to raise all to new life. In John, Chapter 6, verses 37-39 Jesus said:

**ALL: God has given everyone to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. For I have come from Heaven, not to do my own will but the will of God who sent me. The will of God is that I should lose nothing of all God has given me, but that I shall raise it up on the last day.**

(NAMES Project website where you can visit over 48,000 panels and over 100,000 names on the Quilt virtually:

<https://www.aidsmemorial.org/interactive-aids-quilt>)

**THIRD SONG:**

## All Creatures Of Our God And King

Words by  
St. Francis of Assisi  
Translated by  
William Henry Draper

German hymn tune  
Lasst Uns Erfreuen  
Arranged by  
Ralph Vaughn Williams  
(Contemporary harmonies available  
on the LeadSheet)

♩ = 60

D Bm Em<sup>7</sup> A<sup>sus</sup> A D/F# G D/F# A/E D Bm Em<sup>7</sup>

1. All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us  
 2. Thou rush-ing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heav'n a -  
 3. Thou flow-ing wa-ter, pure and clear, make mu-sic for thy Lord to  
 4. And all ye men of ten-der heart, for-giv-ing oth-ers, take your  
 5. Let all things their Cre-a-a-tor bless, and wor-ship Him in hum-ble-

4 A<sup>sus</sup> A D/F# G D Bm A/C# D E A D/F# D Bm A/C# D G/B

sing al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Thou burn-ing sun with gold-en  
 -long, O, praise Him! Al-le-lu-ia! Thou ris-ing morn, in praise re-  
 hear, al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Thou fire so mas-ter-ful and  
 part, O, sing ye! Al-le-lu-ia! Ye who long pain and sor-row  
 -ness, O, praise Him! Al-le-lu-ia! Praise, praise the Fa-ther, praise the

All Creatures Of Our God And King - 2

8 A/sus A D/F# A/E D G/B D/A G D/F# A/E D A/C# G/B D/A

beam, thou sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam, O,  
 -joice; Ye lights of eve - ning, find a voice, O,  
 bright, thou giv - est man both warmth and light, O,  
 bear, praise God and on Him cast your care, O,  
 Son, and praise the Spir - it, Three in One, O,

11 G A/G D/F# Em7 D/F# G A7 Bm A/C# D E A Bm A/C#

praise Him! O, praise Him! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 praise Him! O, praise Him! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 praise Him! O, praise Him! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 praise Him! O, praise Him! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 praise Him! O, praise Him! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

14 D Em A/C# B/D# Em D/F# G A7 D

-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 -lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 -lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 -lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 -lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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**WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS**

## + Confession and Forgiveness of our sins.

**Leader -2:** Please be seated. (wait) After gathering, greeting one another, and praising God in song, we now prepare our hearts to accept renewal when we listen to the Word, the Holy Scriptures. In preparation, we silently confess our sins to Christ and receive the forgiveness He promises to give us.

(silent prayer)

**Leader -2:** We pray together:

**ALL:** I confess to Almighty God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned through my own fault in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do. I declare in the midst of this assembly of believers that I am truly sorry for having offended anyone, and God, in any way. **Therefore**, I ask you, my brothers and sisters, all the angels and the saints, to forgive me and pray for me to the Lord our God.

L-4: Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am in the City of \_\_\_\_\_ in the State of \_\_\_\_\_. Romans, Chapter 5, verses 18-19 we read: Just as one sin led to condemnation for all people, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all people. For as by one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

**Pastor:** We pray that all of God's people may one day be united in God's Kingdom without the loss of anyone. Therefore, we ask Almighty God to have mercy on all of us, forgive all our sins, and keep us in everlasting life.

**ALL: Amen.**

**Pastor:** Please rise as you are able to give God thanks and praise for the forgiveness of our sins by praying the Gloria. The Church has prayed this prayer since the earliest records of worship services.

**Spoken:**

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God's people on earth.  
You are the One God, Sovereign of the Universe,**

**Only Holy God, we worship you,  
we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the World:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of God:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord of all,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,**

**with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of the  
Holy Unity of God. Amen.**

**Second Reading: Romans 5:12-15 NRSV 2<sup>nd</sup> Test. Pg. 156**

### **Adam and Christ: The Doctrine of Universal Salvation**

**SIDE 1:** <sup>12</sup> Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— <sup>13</sup> sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. <sup>14</sup> Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

**SIDE 2:** <sup>15</sup> But the free gift is not like the trespass.

(Here the Holy Spirit through St. Paul states SEVEN TIMES that all are saved. Br. Benedict)

(#1) **SIDE 1:** For if the many died through the one man's trespass,

**SIDE 2:** much more surely have the grace of God and the **free gift** in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many.

<sup>16</sup> And the **free gift** is not like the effect of the one man's sin.

(#2) **SIDE 1:** For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation,

**SIDE 2:** but the **free gift** following many trespasses brings justification.

(#3) **SIDE 1:** <sup>17</sup> If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one,

**SIDE 2:** much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the **free gift** of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

(#4) **SIDE 1:** <sup>18</sup> Therefore, just as one man's trespass led to condemnation **for all**,

**SIDE 2:** so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life **for all**.

(#5) **SIDE 1:** <sup>19</sup> For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners,

**SIDE 2:** so by the one man's obedience, the many will be made righteous.

(#6) **SIDE 1:** <sup>20</sup> But law came in, with the result that the trespass multiplied;

**SIDE 2:** but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,

(#7) **SIDE 1:** <sup>21</sup> so that, just as sin exercised dominion in death,

**SIDE 2:** so grace might also exercise dominion through justification<sup>[f]</sup> leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**ALL: This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

## **+ The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ**

**Reader:** We sing an acclamation before and one after the reading of the Gospel. Please rise as you are able for the Gospel Acclamation.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**We Love Your Word!**

To my friends in Christ  
at Ray Of Hope Church

"Music for Worship"

Music by: Gaude! Liturgical Arts  
October 31, 1993  
Revised 8/2013

We love Your Word, O Lord for it set us free. We know the  
truth, O Lord; We are Yours e - ter - nal - ly. So we stand to hear Your  
Word. We praise You for Your Word. Al-le - lu - a! for Your Word. It heals our  
hearts, souls and minds. For Your Word, Al - le - lu - ia! Thank You Je - sus!

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**Reader:** The Gospel reading is in the Book of John, Chapter 1:24-34.

**Reader:** Truly present among us, the Lord is with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

**Reader:** A reading of the Holy Gospel according to John.

**ALL: Glory to you, O Lord. May the Word of God be  
in our (+) minds that we will understand it,  
on our (+) lips that we will speak it, and  
in our (+) hearts that we will love it.**

<sup>24</sup> Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. <sup>25</sup> They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Eli'jah, nor the prophet?" <sup>26</sup> John answered them, "I baptize with water; but among you stands one whom you do not know, <sup>27</sup> even he who comes after me, the thong of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." <sup>28</sup> This took place in Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.



## **The Lamb of God**

<sup>29</sup> The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"<sup>[e]</sup> <sup>30</sup> This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, for he was before me.' <sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him; but for this I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." <sup>32</sup> And John bore witness, "I saw the Spirit descend as a dove from heaven, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him; but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup> And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord!

**ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

## **Gospel Acclamation**

## Forever, We Are Yours!

To my friends in Christ  
at Ray Of Hope Church  
for the 1996 New Year,  
The Year of The Holy Spirit!

"Music For Worship"

Music by: Gaude! Liturgical Arts  
December 31, 1995

Glo-ry to the One God! Glo-ry to our Sa - vior Je - sus the  
Christ! And, to the Ho - ly Spi - rit, for - ev - er You're Our God!  
You brought us out of dark - ness, in - to Your mar - ve - lous Light! Your Word is our  
joy! For this we give You glo - ry, both now and ev - er more!  
For - ev - er we are Yours! For - ev - er we are Yours!

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 **Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc.**   
The LGBTQIA2ss+ Pride Activities, and Social Events Center of Elmira, NY.  
The only Church in Central New York founded and fostered by the GLBTQIA2ss+ community for 39 years. October 31, 2022 - 39th Anniversary now in our 40th year in Ministry.

**But by the grace of God I am what I am, and God's grace toward me  
has not been in vain. 1 Cor. 5:10**

### + Sermon

Ray Of Hope Church teaches the same Christian faith of ancient ecumenical consensus. St. Vincent of Lerins, a fifth-century monk and theologian, described it as **"what has been believed always, everywhere, and by all."**

<http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/faith.htm>

[https://www.openbible.info/topics/universal\\_salvation](https://www.openbible.info/topics/universal_salvation)

<http://www.city-data.com/forum/christianity/1300999-nice-compendium-all-verses-supporting-universal.html>

## Special Music: Mrs. Christina McLaughlin

Only In God Words and Music by John Foley, S.J. 1975



## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### + The Prayers of the People

**Leader – 3:** Having heard the Word Of God, we bring our prayers to God in Christ through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit. Today we will offer communal prayers and shared prayer. Our response will be: Lord, hear our prayer.

**Leader – 4:** We continue to pray for the children and people of all ages whose lives have been changed forever by war. We know these terrible times have also caused many people in the attacked regions to doubt you even exist. We ask You, God, to heal and strengthen the people traumatized by the destruction of their homes, schools, places of worship, and towns. For these intentions, we pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Veronica:** At this time, we will add our shared prayers. Please speak your prayer loud enough so everyone may hear you. Your prayers may be for yourself or others, prayers of thanksgiving, praise or whatever is on your mind. We begin with \_\_\_\_\_

**Veronica:** We invite you to add your petitions in silent prayer.  
**(silent prayer)**

**Veronica:** We pray to the Lord for these silent prayers.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Veronica:** We ask your blessing on all people suffering from climate change's effects, especially the loss of sources of food, heat, water, and shelter. We pray the leaders of the World will respond to this emergency both in short and long-term planning. We pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Leader -2:** Gathered together, we ask your blessing on all religious

leaders of every Religion known to humanity. We pray that religious leaders everywhere recognize and act upon their obligation to guide all people to you, Almighty God. We also pray that religious leaders will direct people to work for freedom, equality, and respect for everyone. We ask your blessing, Almighty God, upon every community of seekers and those with no faith or formal Religion. We pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Leader- 2:** We pray for those driven from faith because of the misuse of Religion. We pray for those who have been cast aside, excommunicated, and wrongly not included in the worship community. We hope all people grow to realize that they, too, are God's living light. We eagerly await your promised renewal of all creation when you shall be all in all. We pray to the Lord.

(1 Corinthians 15:28)

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Leader – 3:** Lord Jesus, we lift our spoken and unspoken prayers to you. We ask you to intercede for us as our High Priest at the right hand of God.

**ALL: Amen**



(Visit our moving prayers page [Right Click Here.](#))

## **+ Offertory And Preparation of our at-home Holy Communion Altar/tables.**

**\*\*\*\* Leader:** At this time, we show our gratitude to God and our dedication to the Church of Jesus Christ, His Body present in the World, by offering our financial gifts and support for this ministry. In the Chapel, use the donation box next to the door before, during, or after this worship event. In

addition, there are donation envelopes available on the hospitality table by the door.

Internet participants may use the [PayPal link](#) in your bulletin or mail a check to Ray Of Hope Church, 380 W. First St. Elmira, NY 14901. Additionally, the electronic links are always available in posted bulletins, on Facebook, and our website. So please give what you can, but never give your last.

We also prepare our Holy Communion Altars and Tables at home and in the Chapel. Folks viewing on the Internet, please turn to page three and follow the instructions under leader two.

We are using the small Communion set at your seat in the Chapel. Shake the kit gently in case the contents have settled. After receiving Communion, someone will collect the cup.

Everyone may help set the Chapel Communion Table, and you may walk to the donation box during this time.

( \*\* Viewers on the Internet, please read the following statement. \*\* Communion is a gift for the worship community to celebrate together, an action of the local Church. However, if this is an extraordinary situation, and you believe the Holy Spirit is calling you to celebrate at a time other than the live webcast, then yield to the direction of the Holy Spirit. Hopefully, you will be able to join us in a live virtual worship event soon. (\*This practice policy was changed on Gaudete Sunday, December 13, 2020.\*) )

## **SONG:**

**Leader -2:** (\*Pray a prayer over the offering, giving thanks and praise.\*) Please rise as you are able to conclude the Service Of The Word Of God with a doxology.

**ALL: Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all**

**creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly hosts.  
Praise God the Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**



**WE CELEBRATE THE SACRED MEAL OF CHRIST**

**Kaiden:** Please gently hold the communion kit in your hands for the following two prayers. Those at home with bread, please lift it now.

(\*The Pastor may invite someone to say this prayer out loud.\*)

**Pastor:** Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness, we have this bread, which the Earth has given us, and human hands have lovingly made. Now, through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit, this bread will become for us the Bread From Heaven (Exodus 16:2, Psalm 78:24, John 6:32, 41,50,58), the Bread of the Angels (Psalm 78:25), the Bread of God (John 6:33), the Living Bread (John 6:51), the Bread Of Life (John 6:35, 48, 58), the Bread of the New Covenant (John 6:32, 49, 50,51, 58), the Sacrament of the Eucharist, the very Body Of Christ (John 6:52-56, 1Corinthians 10:16).

**ALL: Blessed be God forever.**

**Kaiden:** Please set down your bread. In the Chapel, please continue to hold your communion kit.

Viewers at home pour your wine or grape juice into your cup if you have not already done so. Then add a small amount of water to the cup. With this water, we remember Jesus is human. With this fruit of the vine, we remember He is divine forever.

**Pastor:** Now, please lift your cup with me as I pray this prayer.  
(\*The Pastor may invite someone to say this prayer out loud.\*)

**Pastor:** Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your

goodness, we have this fruit of the vine, which the Earth has given us and human hands have lovingly made. Now, through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit, this fruit of the vine will become for us the Cup of Our Salvation (Psalm 116:13), the Cup of Everlasting Life (John 6:54-57), the Cup of the New Covenant (Matthew 26:28, Luke 22:20, 1 Corinthians 11:25), the very Blood Of Christ (John 6:54-56; 1Corinthians 10:16).

**ALL: Blessed be God forever.**

**Pastor:** Please set down your cup.

**Pastor:** Truly present and risen among us; the Lord is with you!

**ALL: And also with you!**

**Pastor:** As His Body, we lift up our hearts!

**ALL: We lift them up to the Lord!**

**Pastor:** As His Church, we give thanks to the Lord, our God!

**ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

**Pastor:** It is truly right and just....

May our voices be one with all the Faithful from every time and place as we sing our song and join in their unending hymns of praise.

## Holy, Holy, Lord!

To my friends in Christ  
at Ray Of Hope Church

"Music for Worship"

Music by: Gaude! Liturgical Arts  
October 31, 1993  
Revised 8/2013

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of six staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly Ho - ly Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might. Hea-ven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Bless - ed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high-est. est." The score includes various musical notations such as rests, beams, and a triplet of eighth notes on the fifth staff.

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### + We Invoke the Blessing Of The Holy Spirit

**Cheryl:** At Ray Of Hope Church, we pray together and ask the Holy Spirit to give us the same gifts that Jesus gave when He instituted Holy Communion for His Church. We invite you to extend your hands forward over the bread and fruit of the vine or extend your arms out with palms turned up in prayer and say the following Invocation of the Holy Spirit with me.

**ALL:** O God, in the Name of Jesus, we, your faithful people, ask your Only One and Holy Spirit to bless and separate this bread and fruit of the vine for Christ's purpose. Through the powerful



**ministry of the Holy Spirit, give to us the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in precisely the exact same manner that He gave them, and commissioned us to do often in His Holy Name. You alone, O Loving, True God, authenticate for us that this is the Messiah, Christ, New Covenant Meal that Jesus instituted for **our physical and spiritual** wellbeing. We ask this in the Name of Jesus. Amen**

**Cheryl:** You may relax your arms and hands.

**Pastor:** Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the World. (John 1:29,36) Behold Jesus truly present in the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation. Behold Him who said whoever eats of this Bread and drinks of this Cup though they die shall live forever. (John 6:50, 51, 54) Blessed are those who come to His Table. All are welcome.

**ALL: Lord, you make me worthy to receive you, and by your Word, I am healed.** (This prayer is credited to Fr. James Callan, Spiritus Christi of Rochester, NY.)



## **The Reception of Holy Communion**

### **+ The Words Of The Institution Of The Holy Eucharist**

**Veronica:** Push down on the tab of your kits. Open the first seal and remove the bread. Please lift the Eucharistic Body Of Christ, the Bread of Salvation, and together we will say our Lord and Saviour's words of institution when he gave us the Blessed Sacrament.

**ALL: Before He was given up to death, a death He freely accepted, He took the bread and gave you thanks. He broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
Take this, all of you, and eat it: This is my body which will be given up for you. Do this in memory of me.**

**(\*\* pause for adoration\*\*) (\*\*you may bow or genuflect if you choose to\*\*)**

**Pastor:** You may now receive the Bread of Life, the Body of Christ. The Gift of God for the People of God.

**Veronica:** We are not going to open the seal on the cup just yet. Please lift now the cup of salvation, and together we will say:

**ALL: When the supper was ended, He took the cup. Again He gave you thanks and praise, gave the cup to His disciples, and said:**

**Take this, all of you, and drink from it: This is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.**

**(\*\* pause for adoration\*\*) (\*\*you may bow or genuflect if you choose to\*\*)**

**Pastor:** Open your kit and receive the Cup of Salvation, the Blood of Christ. The Gift of God for the People of God.

**Pastor:** I assure you, by the promises of Christ, that anyone who receives this Holy Communion today will indeed receive sanctification and healing in mind, body, soul, and spirit, be raised by Christ to new life, and live forever.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## + A Proclamation Of Our Faith

**Leader-2:** We proclaim our faith together.

**ALL:** Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.  
You are the Savior of the World.

## PRIVATE PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION.

**Pastor:** Some people are watching from a location where they do not have actual Holy Communion Bread and Wine with them. We offer the following prayer for them based upon a prayer from the Episcopal National Cathedral Prayer book for a Spiritual reception of Holy Communion. This prayer assures all the benefits and blessings of a physical reception. Together...

**Oh, My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and I welcome you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and the life to come. Amen.**

Spiritual Communion Prayer from the Episcopal National Cathedral Prayer Book.

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

## + The Lord's Prayer

**Leader -4:** Having heard the Word of God and remembering the sacrifice of the cross, we invite everyone to pray together the prayer of Jesus.

**ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those**

**who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen**

### + Final Doxology

**Pastor:** Together we pray:

**ALL:** It is through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, that all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, forever and ever.

## Doxology/Amen!

To my friends in Christ  
at Ray Of Hope Church

"Music For Worship"

Music by: Gaude! Liturgical Arts  
October 31, 1993

All hon - or and glo - ry be un - to \_\_\_\_ You. Al - migh - ty

5  
God \_\_\_\_ world with - out end. \_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_ men! Al - le - lu - ia

11  
A \_\_\_\_ men! Al - le - lu - ia! All hon - or and glo - ry to you! A - men! \_\_\_\_

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### + Sign Of Peace

**Veronica Floyd:** The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ is with you.  
**ALL:** And also with you.

**Veronica Floyd:** Please take a moment to share a sign of Peace with those around you. \*\*During COVID, we wave across the room and into the camera for the Internet.

**Veronica Floyd:** Now, we clean our tables and altars. Please be sure all of the crumbs are in your cup. Add some water and swirl it around inside the cup. Drink the water. Dry the cup with the side napkin. Clear your worship table and altar.

**SONG:**

**A silent prayer one might pray during Holy Communion:**

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, by the will of God and the work of the Holy Spirit, your death brought life to the World. By your holy body and blood free us from all our sins and from every evil. Keep us faithful to your teaching, and never let us be parted from you. Amen.

**A silent prayer one might pray during Holy Communion:** Oh my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of Hell, lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who are most in need of thy mercy.

This prayer is known as the Fatima Prayer. It is prayed thousands of times every day by people praying the Rosary. Looking closely, one can see it is a very gracious prayer that prays for the salvation of all people. Read more of my commentary on this prayer: [Click Here](#).

**General Offering** for the week of January 1 \$1,343.00 (some people give monthly rather than weekly) Attendance 9

**General Offering** for the week of January 8 \$100.00 (some people give monthly rather than weekly) Attendance 9

**General Offering** for the week of January 15 \$96.00 (some people give monthly rather than weekly) Attendance 9

**\*\*Special Gifts recently given.\*\***

Thank you, April for your gift of \$110.00, Veronica \$200.00, Lisa \$200.00, Phillipa \$355.40, and the general fund \$34.60 for a total of \$900.00 toward the Pastor's 2022 self-employment tax. I (Brother Benedict) personally want to say thank you.

Many thanks to Ed Askins for the hours spent on repairing the interior walls and ceilings in the monastery. Ed has donated over \$252.00 in building materials.

**We give God thanks and praise for all these gifts given. We appreciate the special gifts being made at this time.**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**  
**OUR CALENDAR**

January 22 the **39th Annual Meeting in the 40th year of Ministry**, also The Memorial of St. Marianne Cope of Syracuse, NY, "Beloved Mother of Outcasts ". In 1866 she helped found St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Utica, NY and in 1869 she was the primary founder of St. Joseph's Hospital in Syracuse, NY and Administrator – a remarkable duty for the times. These two hospitals were among the first fifty hospitals founded in the United States. She and six Sisters of St. Francis arrived in Honolulu in 1883 where they stayed and took care of people with Leprosy. We will have much more to say on Sunday, January 23.

January 24 Tuesday Bible Enrichment 6:30 p.m

**January 27 Friday NOON Prayers for Holocaust Memorial Day, 2023.** This will be our second year presenting this program.

January 27 Friday 2:00 PM COUNCIL MEETING

Ash Wednesday February 22, 2023

**Holy Week 2023:** Palm Sunday April 2 10:30 a.m. Holy Thursday April 6 7:00 p.m. Good Friday April 7 7:00 p.m. Vigil of the Resurrection Saturday April 8 7:45 p.m. No service on Sunday April 9.



## **We Are Sent Forth To Serve**

**Pastor:** The Lord is with you!

**ALL:** And also with you!

**Leader – 3:** We bless you, Almighty God, for all the people who have come through the doors of Ray Of Hope Church. As we continue in the 40<sup>th</sup> year of ministry, we ask for your grace and guidance to remain faithful to this unique work of the Gospel; we pray to the Lord.

**All:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** (a prayer is said) .... In the Name of God, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen

**ALL:** Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen (Romans 15:13)

**Leader-4:** We go forth in peace and love to serve all the people, and the Lord ...

**ALL:** ... on our journey into renewal, fresh beginnings, new possibilities, and a renewed embrace of our potential! Thanks be to God.

**SONG:**

# Be Thou My Vision

Words by  
Eleanor Henrietta Hull  
Translation by  
Mary Elizabeth Byrne

Music  
Traditional Irish Tune

**VERSE**

E♭ Fm7 E♭/G A♭ B♭ A♭ E♭ Cm B♭ E♭ B♭ F7/C

1. Be Thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all  
 2. Be Thou my wis - dom be Thou my true Word; I ev - er  
 3. Be Thou my shield and my sword for the fight. Be Thou my  
 4. Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise, Thou mine in -  
 5. High King of heav - en, when vic - t'ry is won, may I reach

6 B♭/D E♭ E♭/G A♭ E♭/G E♭ B♭/D Cm7 B♭ A♭ A♭/E♭ E♭

else to me, save that Thou art - Thou my best thought, by  
 with Thee and Thou with me, Lord; Thou my great Fa - ther,  
 dig - ni - ty, be Thou my might; Thou my soul's shel - ter and  
 -her - i - tance, now and al - ways; Thou and Thou on - ly be  
 heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart, what -



11 Cm Gm/B $\flat$  A $\flat$  B $\flat$  E $\flat$  E $\flat$ /G

14 A $\flat$  E $\flat$  Cm<sup>7</sup> Fm/A $\flat$  Fm<sup>7</sup> A $\flat$ /B $\flat$  E $\flat$

CCLI Song # 30639  
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 CCLI License # 706121

Visit and follow us on our new TikTok Page: [Right Click Here](#) Here is the link if you need to copy and paste it into your browser:

<https://www.tiktok.com/@rayofhopechurchlgbtqisia? t=8UgoVv5ekqg& r=1> Thank you, Heather and Michael for making this project possible and producing our videos.

=====

Volunteer opportunities: As discussed at our Priorities Meeting #2 there are some exterior building volunteer opportunities. There are also some first floor interior volunteer opportunities – painting, patching using drywall mud, and a larger project day for removal of carpet and replacement with new carpet. If you have some time to spare and interest in these types of work please let Brother know with advanced notice so the necessary supplies will be ready.

\*\*\* Millennial Series by Dr. John F. Walvoord

<https://walvoord.com/series/328>

The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. Isaiah 9:7 This is all God's fault,

God's design, God's doing from start to end.

Br. Benedict at the time of Renewal of Vows, June 20, 2021: "Looking forward, I like to say the first twenty-five years were spent on **stabilization, survival, and sustainability**. The second twenty-five years will be spent on growth to help Ray Of Hope **thrive, train, and transplant** this Congregation to new leadership. The founders and foundresses successfully transferred the leadership to a new generation, us, and now we must do the same. I plan to fade into the Congregation and continue providing support to the new leadership. My goal is to leave the Congregation with new leadership, in good standing, and thriving."



We never held a vote to decide if we would be an **INCLUSIVE** church for you.  
We are not an **OPEN AND AFFIRMING** church for you.  
We are not a **RECONCILING CHURCH** or  
**RECONCILING CONGREGATION** for you.  
We are not an **OPEN MINDED** or **ACCEPTING** or **WELCOMING**  
Church where you can attend as long as you blend in quietly and discretely.  
**WE ARE YOU!**  
**THIS** is the Church where **YOU** belong.  
Ray Of Hope Church is the Church by us, for us, and made by You.

The Third Sunday of Pride, 2019

=====**Who can receive the Holy Spirit**=====

**Everyone has access to the Holy Spirit, the gift of God to us.**  
Read this on our website. [Right Click Here](#)

=====  
**WHO SHOULD RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION, THE EUCHARIST, AT RAY OF HOPE CHURCH?**

Everyone is invited to receive Holy Communion, also known as The Eucharist, The Lord's Table, or The Blessed Sacrament at Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc.

It is not required that you be a member of this Church or any other church, to receive Holy Communion at / or with Ray Of Hope Church.

This Holy Communion is the Table of Jesus Christ, who is really present among us. Jesus invites you to receive Him in this Eucharistic banquet. If this is your first time receiving The Blessed Sacrament, let us know before you receive or right after, so we might pray a special prayer of thanksgiving with you.

Unfortunately, through the centuries many institutional churches have established rules, teachings, and practices that would exclude people from Holy Communion. There has been an almost endless list of reasons to exclude people from the Blessed Sacrament. Yet, together, during the worship service, we recite the very words of Jesus, the Words of Institution, "This is my body. This is my blood," and we rehear Christ present with us saying: "Take this, all of you and eat; Take this all of you and drink" of this gift.

I have thought about this extensively and have decided to take these words "Take this, all of you.." as a command to the Church to give, and bring, the Eucharistic Gift to everyone who will receive. This approach also requires us to teach people about this gift. I have stated in other places, **it is uniquely and deliberately the work of Christ in His Church** to offer the necessary education, guidance, and practices that help people live a life centered and purposed on finding and sharing the Will of God. The Lord's Table is central in that life.

The Eucharist belongs to the Church. The Blessed Sacrament is Christ in us, through us, and with us; made known in the breaking of the Bread of Life and drinking of the Cup of Salvation. We are to take this gift to the whole World.

We begin by inviting those who are on the fringe of Society, those who have been pushed aside, those who are poor, who are not accepted, who are sick, who need God's help in special ways. We welcome and bring the Eucharist to everyone who has been told they cannot receive it by other Denominations. In conclusion, to all persons who have ever been told "no you cannot" go to

Communion in any other church; hear us, "yes you can" at Ray Of Hope. All are welcome. Or as we like to say as one of our mottos, when we quote Fr. Bartholomew J. O'Brien; "You are as welcome here as Christ Himself."

Come to the Table of the Lord. There is a place set for you too. (Excerpted from the Pastoral Report given at the Annual Meeting 34 on January 28, 2018 by Pastor Br. Shawn F. Benedict, updated 3-6-21)

Visit our page on the Sacraments. [Right Click Here](#).

See this in a PDF format from our website and share it with others or download it to your computer / device. [Right Click Here](#).

## Ray Of Hope Church Weekly Schedule

**Elmira Worship-** Sunday 10:30 a.m. – 380 W. First St. Parsonage/Monastery .  
Join us live on SKYPE: rayofhope26 is our contact name. Sign on by 10:15 a.m.  
**Syracuse Worship-** looking for a host in Syracuse. For more information  
[Click Here](#).

**Bible Enrichment-** Tuesday 6:30–8 p.m.-380 W. First St. Parsonage  
/Monastery. Or Join us live on SKYPE: rayofhope26 is our contact name. Sign  
on by 6:15 p.m. [Click Here](#).

**\*\* to call the Pastor: Rev. Shawn Benedict: 607-280-0374\***

### **Policy Concerning Minors at Events**

Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ welcomes all youth and children to worship with us and participate in our activities. We endeavor to provide a safe and non-threatening environment for all children. To this end, we have a Policy Concerning Minors at Events, which is available from the Clerk upon request and is on our website;  
[http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/Minors\\_At\\_Events.htm](http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/Minors_At_Events.htm). Please enjoy your visit with us, and we hope you will return.

NOTE: On June 15, 1996, as a part of the Ordination Ceremony and his profession of Benedictine Vows, Rev. Leo W. McDermott, II retired the use of his secular birth name and was given a new name in religion, Brother Shawn Francis Benedict.

The Chapel is not open to the general public at this time as we try to do our part to stop the spread of COVID-19. Call for an appointment if you want some time to come in and pray. All of our regular services will be blended with live participation in the Chapel and live on Skype and Facebook Live. To read the information on how to use Skype to participate with us [Click Here](#).. Visit our Facebook page [Click Here](#). As soon as it reasonably safe and prudent the Chapel will be reopened.

Visitors: Please feel free to fill out the information slip below and place it in the collection plate. Please indicate any special needs you may have. All information will be used for church purposes *only*.

(Optional) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(Optional) Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to be included on the church Email list.

I would like to schedule an appointment with the Pastor.



## Ray Of Hope Church Statement Of Purpose

In the Spirit of God, and in the footsteps of Christ Jesus, we the Faith Community at Ray Of Hope Church commit to:

- **guide** and welcome all people to the Free Gift of Salvation in Christ Jesus, with a God-ordained celebration of all sexual orientations, and gender expressions, with an open ministry to persons affected by or infected with HIV/AIDS, their families and friends,
- **declare** and openly assert the truth that same-sex relationships, founded and fostered in God-centered love, are holy and blessed, and in fact originate by the work of the Holy Spirit; and, that God equally uses blessed same-sex and heterosexual Holy Unions and Marriages to bring God's own love and good news of "Salvation to all who believe" into the World,
- **uphold**, proclaim, and teach the historic Biblical Christian Doctrine, build community through worship and prayer, break the bread, and live the ministry of the Holy Spirit,
- **change** the World around us by living Gospel principles of social justice in everything we do, thereby exposing all forms of prejudice, oppression, racism, homophobia, sexism, and misogyny,
- **proclaim** the ray of hope, which is the soon coming return of Christ Jesus, and the fullness of His Eternal Community where the Will of God will establish liberty, justice, equity, and peace for all God's People and the universe.

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Visit us online:

Our website: <http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/> Facebook Page (like and follow) [Click Here](#).

Our YouTube page: [www.youtube.com/rayofhopenyglbtqs](http://www.youtube.com/rayofhopenyglbtqs)

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—————Scripture verses to share with others:—————

Romans 15:13 Now may the God of **hope** fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in **hope** by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Titus 2:11, 3:4 The grace, the goodness, the loving-kindness of our God has appeared, bringing salvation **to everyone**.

John 5:24 Those who hear my word and **believe in God** who sent me, **have** eternal life, will **never** come under judgment and have passed from **death to life** already.

Romans 10:13 "For **whoever** calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." (repeated @ Joel 2:32; Acts 2:21) "everyone, anyone who" asks. "Lord" here refers to God principally as in the book of Joel that is being quoted, so all persons who call on God shall be saved.

"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"

(Isaiah 43:19 ESV)

"Behold, I make all things new." (Revelation 21:5)