



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 February 5, 2023 Black History WK 1 Year A

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:

First Reading: Isaiah 58:1-11 108 NRSV 1st Test. Pg. 688

Psalm: Psalm 112:1-10 with responsorial in this bulletin.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 NRSV 2nd Test. Pg. 166

Gospel: Matthew 5: 13-20 NRSV 2ND Testament page 4

***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 1st 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. 1st 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 __. We welcome you 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 welcome. 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, email 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.

Everyone is invited to participate in some or all the parts of this

worship event as they 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. Please 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. Take a moment now and gather these items. We will start shortly. This morning, Ed Askins will play a piano prelude for our service. We ask everyone to listen attentively to enjoy this prayer time and not visit during the music. Thank you.

Music Prelude played by Ed Askins. I Worship You, Almighty God. Words and Music by Sondra Corbett CCLI Song # 20807 © 1983 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (Admin. by Integrity Music) Used with permission through our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121 and

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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.rayofhopechurch.com/faith.htm) (www.rayofhopechurch.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](#))



Bell's 2nd 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 we are 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: The first Sunday in Black History Month.

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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 began on 10/31/1983.

Today we are celebrating the fifteenth Sunday in our 40th year of ministry. Welcome to the **"WOKE"** Church of Elmira, NY, and the World.

Romans 13:11 "Now is the time to WAKE from your SLEEP."

We are proud to be known as the "WOKE" Church of Elmira and Central NY. Popularized by African-American young men, the definition of "woke" is: having or being marked by an active awareness of systemic injustices and prejudices, a liberal progressive orthodoxy, especially promoting inclusive policies or ideologies that welcome and embrace ethnic, racial, and sexual minorities. Awake and aware.

Source: Dictionary.com:
<https://www.dictionary.com/browse/woke>

In Theological terms: Awakened by the Holy Spirit, alive in Christ, actively supporting persons of all Religions and faiths and those with no faith

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or religion.

See the Ray Of Hope Church Statement of Purpose for more information on these ideas.

Right Click Here:

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

However, speaking of love and peace, we stop and pray for all the people in the war still raging in Ukraine. We pray to end these hostilities that started approximately 346 days ago. Russia invaded Ukraine on February 24, 2022. The Winter conditions are very harsh when the power system is not functioning. It is frigid in Ukraine these days.

(Add your silent prayers for the people in this war.)

Pastor: With our whole heart, mind, and soul, we begin to worship God in the beauty of holiness, spirit, and truth. (Psalm 96:9; John 4:23-24)

ALL: Together, we give God thanks and praise.

FIRST SONG: Pass me not, O gentle Savior

Text Fanny J Crosby, 1868 Music: William Howard Doane, 1886

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+ The Candle Of Hope

Leader -1: Please be seated. Now, 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 on Block # 61

- John Miller (1)
- Tom Paille (2)
- Randy Foster Moore (3)
- Woody Poland (4)
- Larry Heinemann (5)
- Sean Kelly (6)
- John H. Gosen (7)
- Duane Martin Hoebet (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

(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>)

SECOND 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. © Words: Public Domain, Music Public Domain. CCLI Song# 1503 Used with permission through our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121 and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.



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.

Leader -4: Hello. My name is _____, and I am in the City of _____ in the State of _____.

God has created or started one Human Race on this planet. While there may be life on other planets, we are responsible for this planet. Here, on Earth, people have created religious and political "Tradition" to put forth a false idea that there are many human races by using the tones of skin color as evidence. For dividing ourselves into groups instead of enjoying the entire spectrum of this Human Race, we pray,

Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

L-4: Through the ministry of Christ, we should celebrate every ethnic and cultural identity; Christ, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

L-4: We come here to study the Scriptures and live by what we learn. Scripture has been used as a weapon to justify division and prejudice in all of its forms. That the churches would lead the way in correcting the errors of discrimination, we pray; Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

L-4: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the World, have mercy on us.

ALL: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the World, grant us peace.

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: During the Gloria, we pray: Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. The sin of the world is the deliberate choice of the world system to remove God from our daily consciousness and life experience. The sin of the world is the intentional elevation of the idea that life can be good without God, that God is an imaginary feeling of Dopamine and endorphins at best and psychosis at worse.

However, experience has shown that the deepest places of the human spirit are aware of God's presence. The next time you are on a jet plane that is crashing and the person next to you yells out, "Oh my God," take the precious seconds it will take to say, "that is a good place to start; God is with you." With this prayer, The Gloria, we individually place God into the center of our awareness and thoughts, and we invite God to be the center of our praise. By the way, little children know you can't even spell God without good. The children

also know God, and good go together. I invite you to join God and good, and go together in praise with this ancient prayer, The Gloria.

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.**

+ Opening Prayer

Leader 5: O Loving, Eternal, and Holy God, our hearts and minds are open as we listen to these very familiar Scripture readings. Word of God, cause action and change in our lives. Word of God, transform and equip us for many more years of ministry, we pray.

ALL: AMEN.

Leader 5: Please be seated now as we listen attentively to the Scriptures.
ALL: We read the Word to recall, reflect on, and rejoice in the action of
God in life.



THE SERVICE OF THE WORD OF GOD

+ First Reading

Reader: **** **If an introduction is needed:****** Hello. My name is _____, and I am in the City of _____ in the State of _____.

The first reading is in Book of Isaiah, chapter 58, verses 1-11. We are reading from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition of ©2021 (See the citation below the reading.). The New Revised Standard Version pew bibles have a similar translation on page 688. Here begins the reading:

False and True Worship

58 Shout out; do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

² Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments;
they want God on their side.^[a]

³ "Why do we fast, but you do not see?
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day
and oppress all your workers.

⁴ You fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today

will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵ Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator^[b] shall go before you;
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

⁹ Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."

If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually
and satisfy your needs in parched places
and make your bones strong,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water
whose waters never fail.

[Read full chapter](#)

Footnotes

a. [58.2](#) Or they delight to draw near to God

b. [58.8](#) Or vindication

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

+ Psalm

Reader: **** **If an introduction is needed:****** Hello. My name is _____, and I am in the City of _____ in the State of _____.

The Psalm today is a rendition of Psalm 112, verses one through ten, written by Br. Benedict, with a responsorial verse. The response today is "People who listen to God are like a light in the dark."

Psalm 112

ALL: People who listen to God are like a light in the dark.

Praise the Lord. Blessed are the people who love and respect God. Blessed are the people who find delight in God's Word.

ALL: People who listen to God are like a light in the dark.

Those who bless the Lord with praise and thanksgiving can pass on their joy from generation to generation. They shall enjoy the goodness of God and peace in their hearts, and their needs shall be met.

ALL: People who listen to God are like a light in the dark.

Those who bless the Lord remain steady and confident, even in difficult times. When they doubt, they call out to God for guidance and mercy.

ALL: People who listen to God are like a light in the dark.

Those who bless the Lord give to the poor, reach out to the down-hearted, and help people find a way through difficult times, even in the face of death itself.

ALL: People who listen to God are like a light in the dark.

Those who bless the Lord are courageous when the wicked are offended by the strength of our faith. We bless you, God, for walking with us and showing us how to be your light for others in their time of need.

ALL: People who listen to God are like a light in the dark.

+ Second Reading

Reader: **** **If an introduction is needed:****** Hello. My name is _____, and I am in the City of _____ in the State of ____.

The second reading is in Saint Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, chapter 2, verses 1-12. Again, we are reading from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition of © 2021 (See the citation below the reading.). The New Revised Standard Version pew bibles have a similar translation on page 166 in the second testament. Here begins the reading:

Proclaiming Christ Crucified

2 When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony^[a] of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. **2** For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. **3** And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. **4** My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom^[b] but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, **5** so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

The True Wisdom of God

6 Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. **7** But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory **8** and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. **9** But, as it is written,

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him"—

¹⁰ God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

[Read full chapter](#)

Footnotes

- a. [2.1](#) Other ancient authorities read *mystery*
- b. [2.4](#) Other ancient authorities read *the persuasiveness of wisdom*

(Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+2%3A1-12&version=NRSVUE>) Scripture quotations are taken from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. See notice above announcements in this bulletin.

+ 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

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: 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 Matthew, chapter 5, verses 13-20. We are reading from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition of © 2021 (See the citation below the reading.). The New Revised Standard Version pew bibles have a similar translation on page 104 in the second testament.

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

ALL: And also with you.

Reader: A reading of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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.

Salt and Light

¹³ "You are the salt of the Earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

The Law and the Prophets

¹⁷ "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and Earth pass away, not one letter,^[a] not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks^[b] one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord!

ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

[Read full chapter](#)

Footnotes

- a. [5.18](#) Gk *one iota*
- b. [5.19](#) Or *annuls*

(Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+5%3A13-20&version=NRSVUE>)
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Gospel Acclamation

January 29, 2023 Memorial Service page: 18
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 GLBTQSA2ss+ 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>

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

SOCIAL CONCERNS

[NBC NEWS: Trump vows to 'stop' gender-affirming care for minors if re-elected president](#)

Trump said he would also push schools to “promote positive education about the nuclear family” and “the roles of mothers and fathers.”

Politico: [Trump unveils new education policy loaded with culture war proposals](#)

The proposal reflects the degree to which Republicans want the next election to be waged around classrooms as much as boardrooms.

SPECIAL MUSIC Sung by Mrs. Christina McLaughlin: I Surrender All

Text: Judson W. VanDeVenter, 1896, alt. Music: Winfield S. Weeden, 1896 © Words: Public Domain, Music Public Domain. CCLI Song# 23189 Used with permission through our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121 and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.



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 prayers. Our response will be: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 3: Lord Jesus, guide us to speak boldly, as Isaiah suggested, and take a stand when politicians and religious leaders misuse the Sacred Scriptures to bolster their agendas that work against the celebration of the vast spectrum of humanity; we pray to the Lord,

All: 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, God. So again, we ask You, God, to heal and strengthen the people traumatized by the destruction of their homes, schools, hospitals, power sources, places of worship, and towns. For these intentions, we pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 4: Some churches have used schools of interpretation to justify the institution of slavery and the denial of full citizenship rights to persons said to be descendants of the sons of Noah. It is incorrectly assumed that the color of skin pigment can determine the genetic lines of Shem, Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah. We pray that all churches teach the truth regarding racism; 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, as mentioned in our second Reading today, 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 on 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: THANK YOU, LORD. © Words: Public Domain, Music Public Domain. Arranged by Stephen Key © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc. Onelicense #LMGM2489-1-95004 Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278

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. Ho - san - na in the high-est." The score includes various musical notations such as rests, eighth notes, quarter notes, 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.

(POSSIBLE INSERT SONG: REMEMBER ME. Words and Music by Gerrit Gustafson and Martin J. Nystrom © 1991 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. c/o Integrity Music, Inc., P.O. Box 16813, Mobile, AL, 36695. All rights reserved. International copyright secured. CCLI Song # 451177 Used with permission through our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121 and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.)

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

General Offering for the week of January 22 \$493.00 (some people give monthly rather than weekly) Attendance 10

General Offering for the week of January 29 \$25.00 (some people give monthly rather than weekly) Attendance 9

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

Thank you, Ed and Phillipa for a \$100 gift toward the copyright licenses. Thank you, Lisa Frost for a \$100.00 gift toward the copyright licenses. Thank you, Veronica Floyd for a \$100.00 gift toward the copyright licenses.

Many thanks to Ed Askins for the hours spent on repairing the interior walls and ceilings in the monastery. **Visit the refinished kitchen and restroom before leaving today.** 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.

NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION UPDATED EDITION (NRSVUE)

Publisher: National Council of the Churches of Christ

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UPCOMING EVENTS

OUR CALENDAR

February 7, Tuesday Bible Enrichment 6:30 p.m

February 16 5:45 – 8:10 p.m. movie TILL @ Steele Memorial Library

Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023 7:00 p.m. at Ray Of Hope Church

February 23 5:45 – 8:10 p.m. movie TILL @ Steele Memorial Library

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.

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We Are Sent Forth To Serve

Pastor: The Lord is with you!

ALL: And also with you!

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: Lift Every Voice And Sing. Words: James W. Johnson, 1871-1938. Music J. Rosamond Johnson, 1873-1954 Onelicense song# 85147 Words and Music © OCP Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278

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. 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.

Visit us online:

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

Our YouTube page: www.youtube.com/rayofhopenyglbtqs

—————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)