



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 Thirty-ninth year of Ministry.

MISSION: Love God, Love your neighbor,
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 a time of refreshments and sharing.

Today is October 16, 2022 20th Sunday of Pentecost, Yr. C

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: Exodus 17:8-13 NRSV 1st Test. pg. 64

Responsorial Psalm: 121:1-8 inside this bulletin.

Second Reading: 2nd Tim 3:14—4:2 NRSV 2nd Test. pg. 212

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8 NRSV 2ND Testament Pg. 80

*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. You may participate in some parts or all 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 on our website's front page. Look for the large gold box labeled SUNDAY WORSHIP INFORMATION for the links to Skype and the Order of Worship bulletin. www.rayofhopechurch.com Take a moment now and gather these items. We will start shortly.



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: Please welcome one another, and introduce yourself to those around you for the glory of God. **During COVID, we may simply wave into the camera across the Internet.

Pastor: We begin in the name of God, Christ Our Saviour, and the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen

Pastor: Grace, peace, and fellowship be with you from God, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. (1 Corinthians 1:3, 2 Corinthians 13:14, 2 Peter 1:2-4)

ALL: And also with you.

Pastor:

Ray Of Hope Church began on 10/31/1983. We are now in our Thirty-ninth year of Ministry.

We stop here now and pray for all the people in the war still raging in Ukraine, and we pray for an end to these hostilities that started 242 days ago.

We are not here to practice a religion. One practices the piano or goes to football practice. We are here to participate in a multi-dimensional relationship in ways far beyond our human comprehension.

Pastor: 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.

Leader -5: Hello. My name is _____ and I am in the City of _____ in the State of _____. I invite you to rise as you are able for this call to worship prayer written by Rabbi Dr. Oren Z. Steinitz, of Kol Ami here in Elmira, NY.

We Rise Aleinu (Traditional modified)

We rise to praise You, Source of all,
your generous work as Creator of all.

**All: You made us one with all of Life,
you helped us to share with all humankind.**

Leader -5: You linked our fate with all that lives,
and made our portion with all in the world.

All: And so, we bend the knee and bow,

**acknowledging the sovereign
who rules above all those who rule,
the Holy Blessed One.**

(Siddur Kol Ami For Shabbat and Festivals, page 114
© Dr. Oren Z. Steinitz, Rabbi. 2018-5778 Elmira, NY)

Leader -5: Blessed be the Holy Name of God from this time on and
evermore.

**All: From the sun's rising to its setting, may God's Name be
praised! We bless you God, both now and forever.**

Amen.

FIRST SONG:

+ The Candle Of Hope

Leader -1: Please be seated. We light our Resurrection Candle Of
Hope to express our anticipation of the resurrection of all the dead and
the transformation of the living faithful when Christ returns.

**ALL: Jesus said: "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 -1: Our faith community is looking forward and waiting "for the
blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and
Saviour, Jesus Christ." (Titus2:13 NRSV) We named this candle the Candle
of Hope in honor of the "Blessed Hope," the return of Christ who will
raise all to new life. (John 5:25)

Leader -2: It is our custom to read panel entries from the Names
Project Aids Memorial Quilt to remember those who died of AIDS. The
churches rejected many sick, lonely, and dying people who needed
spiritual guidance. Today we are reading the names on Block #50.
We remember them here and pray for their families.

Leader -3: Hello. My name is _____ and I am in the City
of _____ in the State of _____. (Read the Names at this time.)

Leader -2: We also remember in our hearts the names of our family and friends who have died from COVID-related and other illnesses. May the candle's flame remind us 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:



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 _____. Loving God, you call us to give witness to the truth that You created us with a full spectrum of gender and sexual orientations. Help us have the courage to share these truths with others. Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

L-4: Christ Jesus, we are called to celebrate the gifts and talents of all people in every culture. Christ, have mercy.

ALL: Christ, have mercy.

L-4: Holy Spirit, you give us wisdom and understanding. Please help us understand the Scriptures and to have the courage to share them with others. Lord, have mercy.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: May Almighty God 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 thanks and praise to God for the forgiveness of our sins by praying the Gloria.

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, Most Holy God, give us wisdom and understanding as we listen to these familiar Scripture readings. May the Word of God equip us for many years of ministry. We ask this through Christ, our Lord;
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 introduction is needed:**** Hello. My name is _____ and I am in the City of _____ in the State of _____.

The first reading is in the Book of Exodus, Chapter 17, verses 8 through 13. This reading is in the first testament of the NRSV Bible on page 64. Here begins the reading:

Amalek Attacks Israel and Is Defeated

⁸ Then Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim. ⁹ Moses said to Joshua, "Choose some men for us and go out, fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the staff

of God in my hand." ¹⁰ So Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought with Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. ¹¹ Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed; and whenever he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed. ¹² But Moses' hands grew weary; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; so his hands were steady until the sun set. ¹³ And Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with the sword.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

+ Psalm

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

The Psalm today is number 121, verses one through eight. Today's response is, "Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

R. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

I lift up my eyes toward the mountains;
whence shall help come to me?
My help is from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

R. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

May God not allow your foot to slip;
or slumber when guarding you:
indeed God neither slumbers nor sleeps.
God is the guardian of Israel.

R. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

The LORD is your guardian; the LORD is your shade;
and is beside you at your right hand.

The sun shall not harm you by day,
nor the moon by night.

R. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

The LORD will guard you from all evil;
and will guard your life.

The LORD will guard your coming and your going,
both now and forever.

R. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

+ Second Reading

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

The second reading is in the Second Letter to Timothy, chapter 3, verses fourteen through chapter 4, verse 2. Find the reading on page 212 in the second testament, in the back of the NRSV Bible. Here begins the reading:

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

4 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ² proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: 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 on page 80 in the back of the NRSV Bible. The reading is in the Gospel of Luke, chapter 18, verses 1 through 8.

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

ALL: And also with you.

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

**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.**

The Parable of the Widow and the Unjust Judge

18 Then Jesus told them a **parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart.** ² He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' ⁴ For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" ⁶ And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. **And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"**

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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+ Sermon

NOTES

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 Notes October 15, 2022



WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

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

Leader – 3: We give you thanks and praise for all the ways we see your assistance throughout our lives; we pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 3: We give you thanks and praise for the beauty of Fall and all the colors we enjoy; we pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 4: We pray for the children whose lives are changed forever by war. We ask God to heal and strengthen the children traumatized by the destruction of their homes and towns. For these intentions, we pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 4: We thank you for peace and pray that world leaders will work toward peace; we pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 4: We pray for this election cycle we are entering that people participate in the process honestly and fairly; we pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 3: We bless you, Almighty God, for all the people who have come through the doors of Ray Of Hope in the last 39 years. We give you thanks for each person and organization that hosted Ray Of Hope Church before we occupied our building in 2003. We thank you for every person who has labored in any way for this ministry. So that we would continue to be faithful to this unique work of the Gospel, we pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 4: We invite you to add your petitions in silent prayer.

(silent prayer)

Leader –4: We pray to the Lord for these silent prayers.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader – 3: Lord Jesus, we lift our spoken and unspoken prayers to you. We ask you in 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. Those in the chapel may use the offering plate, while those worshiping with us on the Internet may go to our website and use the [PayPal link](#), or you may mail a check to Ray Of Hope Church, 380 W. First St. Elmira, NY 14901. Please give what you can, but never give your last.

At the same time, we will prepare our Holy Communion Altars and Tables at home and in the chapel. Bring to your table at home some wine, or grape juice, a small piece of bread, a little bit of water in a side cup, and a side napkin. The ideal situation is that you celebrate with us during the live webcast. We do understand you may be viewing this video at another time. We do not encourage private practice and reception of Communion as your regular, weekly worship routine. 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. *)

Each of you in the chapel will find a small communion set at your seat. When we announce Communion is now served, shake the kit gently in case the contents have settled. After receiving Communion, someone will collect the cup while the Table of the Lord is being cleared.

(* The offering is received. The Altar and Tables are set. A song may be sung or silent prayer is maintained. *)

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

Pastor: Please lift your bread at this time 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 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.

Pastor: Please set down your bread.

Now pour your wine or grape juice into your cup if you have 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.

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.

(Impromptu prayer offered.) May our voices be one with their praises right now 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

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.

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+ We Invoke the Blessing Of The Holy Spirit

Leader-1: Jesus said: "...truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by God in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, I am there among them" (Matthew 18:19-21)

ALL: Further, Jesus also said: "Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these because I am going to God. I will do whatever you ask in my name so that God may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it." (John 14:12-14)

Pastor: Here at Ray Of Hope Church, everyone prays together to ask the Holy Spirit to give to us the exact same gifts that Jesus gave when He instituted Holy Communion for His Church. At this time, I 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** well-being. We ask this in the Name of Jesus. Amen

+ The Words Of The Institution Of The Holy Eucharist

Pastor: Please lower your hands now. Please lift at this time 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: Please set down the Bread of Life. Please lift now the cup of salvation. Now, for the cup, we say aloud:

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: Please set down the Cup of Salvation.

+ A Proclamation Of Our Faith

Pastor: We proclaim our faith together.

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

+ Prayers of Dedication and Intercession for other Ministries.

Leader -2: (or other person designated): 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 guide 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.

Leader- 3: 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. May all people come to the knowledge that they too are the living light of God. We eagerly await your promised renewal of all creation when you shall be all in all.
(1 Corinthians 15:28)

+ Final Doxology

Pastor: Please elevate the Holy Eucharist as a gesture of praise, thanksgiving, honor, gratitude, and the offering of the entire Church, the Body Of Christ, to God.

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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The Reception of 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**

+ 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 simply wave across the room and into the camera for the Internet.

+ The Lamb Of God

Pastor: Please break the bread as we pray together:

**ALL: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.**

Pastor: I ask you to lift the Blessed Sacrament with me.

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.)

Pastor: Please set down the Bread and Cup at this time.

Pastor: I assure you, by the promises of Christ, that anyone who receives this Holy Communion today will indeed live forever and be raised by Christ to new life.

+ Invitation to the Lord's Table

PRIVATE PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION.

Leader-3: 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.

+ Priestly Prayer For All People

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, trusting in your love and mercy, we now partake of your body and blood as you commanded. We pray that our participation does not condemn us as St. Paul warned but that we would receive sanctification and healing in mind, body, soul, and spirit. We pray that all God's people will one day be reassembled without the loss of anyone in your kingdom of love and glory. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

ALL: AMEN

Leader- 1: Everyone may receive Holy Communion at Ray Of Hope Church. You are not required to be a member of this church or any other church to receive Holy Communion. This Table belongs to Jesus Christ; He invites you to come and receive Him in His Eucharistic banquet.

Pastor: At this time, those joining us on the Internet and those in the chapel may receive the Body and Blood of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Receive them now and with them your salvation as Christ promised.

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](#).



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 the Lord ...

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

General Offering for the week of September 18 \$168.00 (some people give monthly rather than weekly) Attendance 12
General Offering for the week of September 25 \$468.00 (some people give monthly rather than weekly) Attendance 7
General Offering for the week of October 2 \$968.00 (some people give monthly rather than weekly) Attendance 7
General Offering for the week of October 9 \$228.00 (some people give monthly rather than weekly) Attendance 7

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

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

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.

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.

*** 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

UPCOMING EVENTS
OUR CALENDAR

Tuesday, October 18, 6:30 p.m. Bible Enrichment scheduled.

Thursday, October 20 8:00 p.m.



Friday October 28, 2:00 p.m. Church Council

SUNDAY OCTOBER 30 WE CELEBRATE the 39th Anniversary and the start of the 40th year of ministry. All Saints.

November 20, 2022, Sunday @3:30 pm Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Worship Service by the Southern Tier Interfaith Coalition. Congregation Kol Ami 1008 W. Water St. Elmira, NY 14905 <https://sticinterfaith.org>



Register Here:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_rtOqw0ZrTfC3ts3NRo93-g

Topic

Gay Priest John McNeill (1925-2015): Stories of a Passionate & Prophetic Witness

Description

John J. McNeill, an Irish-American priest from Buffalo, New York, was a POW in Nazi Germany and a voice for peace during the Vietnam War. A pioneer of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBTQ) liberation, McNeill was co-founded Dignity New York in 1972. He was an author of best-selling books on Catholicism and homosexuality. His groundbreaking 1976 book *The Church and Homosexual* has been translated into many languages and inspired countless persons throughout the world. In 1977 and in 1983, McNeill was silenced for speaking and writing on issues of homosexuality by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger. For disobedience to this order, John was expelled from the Jesuit community in 1987. For his courageous witness and ministry as therapist and theologian to the LGBTQ community he was honored as Grand Marshal of the NYC Pride Parade in 1987.

In this inspiring program, Brendan Fay, director of the award-winning film *Taking A Chance on God*, will share film clips, artifacts and stories from

McNeill's life and journey. Mary E. Hunt, Ph.D. will offer reflections on her interactions with this courageous gay priest.

Time

Oct 20, 2022 08:00 PM in [Eastern Time \(US and Canada\)](#)

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New Beginnings United Methodist Church
Proudly announces a Lunch and Learn series

September 7, 14 & October 4, 18, 25
12:00 – 2:00 PM
300 E. Miller St. | (607) 734-2293

Registration Requested.

In collaboration with:



**Office for
the Aging**

Arnot Ogden
Health Center



MCINERNY
Funeral Home

October 18th

Office of the Aging Presents:
**Caregiver and Dementia
Support Services:**

Information about caregiver
and dementia support services,
educational workshops and
seminars, caregiver discussion
group, respite care,
information, and assistance on
a wide variety of services and
topics.

October 25 Rev Michaela St. Marie is a chaplain at Arnot-Ogden Hospital and will be sharing with us the importance of having a **health care proxy** as well as what a **DNR** is. These are two documents you may want to file with your other important papers for your loved ones

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

Bible Enrichment- Tuesday 6:30-8 PM-380 W. First St. Parsonage /Monastery.
Or Join us live on SKYPE: rayofhope26 is our contact name. Sign on by 6:15
PM. [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 web site;

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. All of our regular services will be available live on Skype and we are adding Facebook Live. To get 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. Call for an appointment if you want some time to come in and pray.

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*.

Name: _____

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 on line:

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

Our YouTube page: www.youtube.com/rayofhopenyqlbtqs

—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)