

**"My House shall be a house of prayer for All People."
(Isaiah 56:7)**

**Founded: 10/31/1983. Now in our Forty-second year of
Ministry.**

**MISSION: Love God, Love your neighbor, and make disciples
of every person everywhere. (Matthew 22:37-39; Matthew 28:19)**

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

We extend a special welcome to our visitors.
You are as welcome here as Jesus Christ Himself.
In Romans 15:7 the Scriptures exhort us to:
**"Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you,
for the glory of God"** (NABRE – 2011)

Participate in some or all parts of this worship event as you are 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 12-1-24 Advent WK 1, Year C
Eschatology Week 2 of 6

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."

Scientific Discovery, Academic Knowledge, the Holy Scriptures, and Spirituality are Universal
and Unified. (Br. Benedict 8-6-23)

Scripture Readings for this worship event: *** these readings were chosen for this event.

First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16 NRSV 1st Test. Pg. 738

Psalms: Psalm 25 with Responsorial inside bulletin.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12- 4:2 NRSV 2nd Test. Pg. 204

Gospel: Luke 21:25 - 28; 34 - 36 NRSV 2ND Testament page 85

***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, and the 2nd
Testament numbers are found in the later portion. If this confuses you, ask
someone around you to assist you. Thank you.**

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CALL TO WORSHIP

Visit and greet one another until the bell rings.

Bell's 1st ring. As our bell rings, please find your seat and pray silently for the next few minutes. Please refrain from conversations as these disturb those trying to pray.

Our St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi bell at Ray Of Hope Church, 380 W. 1st St. in Elmira, NY, is a gift from Michael Quinnell of Syracuse, NY, given 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, and we now celebrate victory and gratitude for our Salvation. "The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes, we are healed." (Isaiah 53:5) We ring the bell 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 _____. I am in_(city) _____, _____(State)_____. Good morning. Welcome to Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the faith community founded in Central New York and now all across the World through the Internet, where everyone is welcome. To facilitate your full participation, please look for today's bulletin, Order of Worship, and Music Supplement available on Facebook Live; right-click the "Featured Links" icon. On Skype, look in the Chat window for two document icons. On our website, look at the large gold box labeled SUNDAY WORSHIP INFORMATION at www.rayofhopechurch.com. For people watching on the Internet, we recommend you have two Internet devices on. Set one device on Facebook Live to listen to the Music. Right-click on this link to access our [Facebook page](#).

Open the Skype meeting on the second device to interact with us. Right-click on this Skype Link: <https://join.skype.com/qt6Y1PQvj04I>.

You do not need an account on Skype to "enter as a guest" when prompted. You may participate in some or all parts of this worship event as you are comfortable. We announce all instructions, page, and song numbers and use a psalm response verse to assist people with various stages of visual impairment.

Leader-2: Hello. My name is _____. I am in_(city) _____, _(State)_____. Good morning, and welcome. **(** Reader, please remember to look at the people and smile.**)** We invite you to participate in some or all of the parts of this worship event as you feel comfortable.

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the beginning of a new Church year. We have a seasonal short service within the service for each of the four weeks of Advent. To participate in blessing Advent decorations at home, bring the following items to your table at this time: 1) a wreath or a Yule log with four candles, 2) a side dish with a small amount of water, 3) a small branch, or a little basting brush will do.

Additionally, you may receive Holy Communion with us during this worship event. To participate in Communion, please also bring to your table 1) a cup with some wine or grape juice, 2) a small piece of bread, cracker, or matzo on a plate, and 3) a second cup with some water and a side napkin. We will use these in the second half of the worship service. Now, gather all these items, and we will start shortly.



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)

(The Congregation amended this By-law on 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 will announce the start of the worship event.

Leader – 2: (** Reader, look up at the people and smile.***) Thank you for choosing to spend time with us today. 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 -2: You are as welcome here as Christ Jesus himself. (** Reader, please remember to look at the people and smile.***) Show the glory of God by introducing yourself and welcoming the **SAINTS** around you. To be extra careful, we observe COVID-19 safety protocols by waving across the room and into the camera for the Internet.

Pastor: Good Morning, **SAINTS**! I ask you, in whose Name are we meeting?

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

Pastor: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, God's love, and the Holy Spirit's fellowship is with you. (2 Corinthians 13:14)

ALL: And also with you, praise the Lord.

Ray Of Hope Church officially began on 10/31/1983.

June 1, 2024, was the TWENTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF THE ELMIRA CHAPEL.

Today is 12-1-24, the First Sunday of the New Church Year, and today is the 37th observance of World AIDS Day.

The Church Calendar takes up the Theology of Eschatology for the six Sundays leading up to Christmas. Today is the third Sunday of Eschatology, the study of the final events, the End Times, as revealed in Scripture.

Ray Of Hope Church stands on the principles that all people are equal in God's Creation and that this congregation will always welcome and embrace everyone. Therefore, we support all persons of every sexual orientation and every gender expression of one's state in life as holy and uniquely created by God as we endeavor to show everyone how to bring Christ to every area of our lives.

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. Alleluia!



FIRST SONG: TEXT ONLY

G&P 304 Jesus, Come to Us. Words and music by David Haas.

Refrain: Jesus, come to us, lead us to your light.

Jesus, be with us, for we need you.

Verse 1: Lord, we come before you, listen to our prayer.

Fill us all with hope and your love.

Refrain: Jesus, come to us, lead us to your light.

Jesus, be with us, for we need you.

Verse 2: Lord, we come to praise you for your faithfulness through night. You will be with us, this we know.

Refrain: Jesus, come to us, lead us to your light.

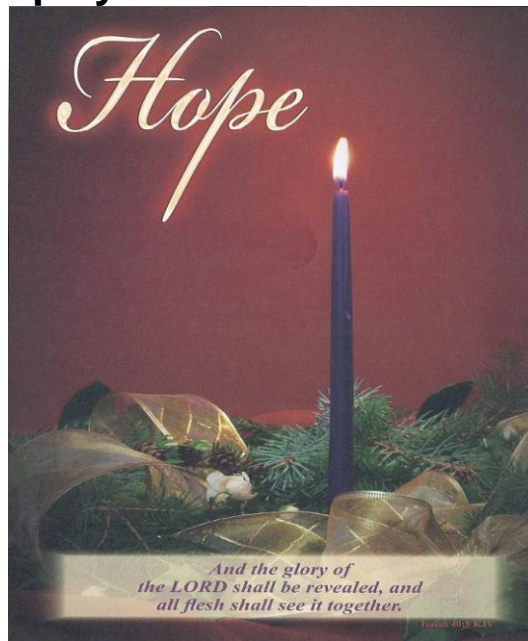
Jesus, be with us, for we need you.

Verse 3: Lord, you give us wonders, your glory to all.
We believe in you, come to us.

Refrain: Jesus, come to us, lead us to your light.
Jesus, be with us, for we need you.

G&P 304 Jesus, Come to Us. Words and music by David Haas. © 1981, 1982, Oregon Catholic Press Onelicense Song #80428 Glory & Praise Second Edition #304 All rights reserved. Used with Onelicense Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278.

+ The Advent Wreath Week 1 – the candle of Hope with the World AIDS Day Ribbon displayed.



Leader -3: Please be seated. Today, we begin the season of Advent, the beginning of a new year in the Church. We start over in the cycle of Sunday Scripture readings to listen anew to the living Word of God. This season is a time of renewal, fresh beginnings, of ages old, present, and future.

ALL: This is also a season of longing, filled with expectation, excited by hope, sprinkled with potential and promise.

Leader -2: The evergreen on the wreath reminds us of the eternal promises of God's sustaining grace. God is faithful and will fulfill every promise made in Scripture. The four candles remind us of our place in time as we move forward in God's plan. Each candle has a name and a theme.

The first candle is purple and named for Hope. On the first candle, we also have the Red AIDS Ribbon for World AIDS Day. We observe this memorial most Sundays of the year as we light our Candle of Hope, which is here today because of World AIDS Day.

The second candle is also purple and named for Peace. During the second week, we will pray for world peace.

The third candle is rose color and is for Joy, and it is when we shall celebrate Pride in the Winter, Gaudete Sunday.

The fourth candle is purple and named for Love. On the 4th Sunday, we will celebrate Holy Mother Mary and all Holy Women of Faith for a Mother's and Women's Day in the Winter.



Leader - 4: Please take a moment to look at the AIDS NAMES Memorial

display board on the wall. Members of our Congregation made this posting board between 1983 and 1986 to honor the memory of friends and lovers who died of HIV and AIDS. It is interesting to look closely at the pieces of paper because many of the names are written in pencil. The names of some of the Ray Of Hope Church Founders are on this board and are the original posting papers. Glenn Rathbun and Wayne Harris lovingly restored the board for rededication and are bringing it back into use today. Thank you. Starting today, anyone may add the names of their loved ones too.

Leader -1: At this time, we will bless our Advent Wreath or Advent Yule Log and rededicate the Memorial board with Holy Water. Please pick up the container with the water or touch it and pray silently as I pray out loud. (please wait) Dear God, we dedicate this water to you and ask you to make it Holy, setting it apart as an instrument of your blessings. We ask this in the name of Jesus. **ALL: Amen.**

Pastor: We pray aloud together now:

ALL: O Loving and Gracious God, we ask your Holy Spirit to bless these Advent decorations, rededicate this Memorial board, bless this holy season, and bless us as we begin anew our journey with You. We dedicate ourselves and these next four weeks of Advent to You. We ask you to speak to us, guide us, and impassion our hearts with your Divine Love. We ask this in the Name of (*+*) God, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader -2: At this time, we light the first candle. Please do show it on your camera if you can. Thank you. (wait)

It just happens that the first candle on the Advent Wreath is named Hope as well. So, as we sing O Come, O Come Emmanuel, in just a moment, keep in mind all those who have gone before us, especially those who died of AIDS, and everyone who has entered the divine protection of Christ, who is Lord of the living and the Dead (Romans 14:9). When Emmanuel comes to take us home, they will come with Him. Together we sing in thanksgiving and waiting the first two verses of O Come, O Come

Emmanuel.

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, that mourns
in lonely exile here until the Word of God appear.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

**O come, O Wisdom from on high, Who ordered all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

Amen. Alleluia

Hymn: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Text: LM with
refrain; 'O' Antiphons, Latin, 9th cent; verses: 1, 3-6, para. In
Psalterolum Cantionum Catholicarum, Cologne, 1710; tr. by John Mason
Neale, 1818-1866; verses 2, 7, tr. fr. *Hymnal*, 1940, alt. Music: VENI,
VENI, EMMANUEL, *Processionale*, 15th cent. French: adapt. by
Thomas Helmore, 1811-1890; Chant, Mode I. Public Domain. Glory &
Praise Second Edition #293 Onelicense Song #84028. Used with Print
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Leader -3: Together, we have begun our Advent 2024 journey.

ALL: Thanks be to God.



WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS

+ Confession and Forgiveness of our sins, our failures.

Leader 3: Please be seated. (wait) Now, Ray Of Hope Church provides
another service: Christ, being truly present among us, forgiving our sins through
the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit. In silent prayer, we consider our
relationship with God and others, confess faults, sins, and failures to Christ,
who is present in this room and our bodies, and receive His immediate
forgiveness.

Pastor: Colossians 3:11b - 13 reads:

There is only Christ, who is all in all. ¹² Because you are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. ¹³

Bear with one another; forgive whatever grievances you have against one another—forgive in the same way God has forgiven you. ¹⁴ Above all else, put on love, which binds the rest together and makes them perfect.

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Pastor: The Lord has heard our confession and has granted forgiveness, and so we declare together:

ALL: The faith community of Ray Of Hope Church openly declares the forgiveness of all your confessed sins in the Name of Jesus Christ. He forgives you, we forgive you, and God rejoices over your restoration in Christ. Amen.

Leader - 3: The Church now provides the service of praising God in thanksgiving together. Please rise as you are able as we sing "The Gloria."

WORDS ONLY HERE. MUSIC SCROLL DOWN

"The Gloria"

From "Music for Worship"

© Words and Music: Gaude! Liturgical Arts 7/25/19 - 1/21/24 Br. Shawn F. Benedict, O.S.B. Dedication :Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc. 40th Anniversary.

Refrain:

Glory to God in the highest,

and peace to all people on earth.
Glory to God in the highest.
We give you thanks and praise. Alleluia!
We give you thanks and praise.

Verse 1:

You are the One God,
Sovereign of the Universe,
Only Holy God, we worship You,
we give You thanks,
we praise You for Your great glory!

Refrain:

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to all people on earth.
Glory to God in the highest.
We give you thanks and praise. Alleluia!
We give you thanks and praise.

Verse 2:

Lord, Jesus Christ;
The Only Begotten Son of God
You are 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.

Refrain:

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to all people on earth.
Glory to God in the highest.
We give you thanks and praise. Alleluia!
We give you thanks and praise.

Verse 3:

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 God.
In the Holy Spirit, in the Holy unity of God.

Refrain:

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to all people on earth.
Glory to God in the highest.
We give you thanks and praise. Alleluia!
We give you thanks and praise.

Verse 4:

Amen; We give you thanks and praise.
Amen; We give you thanks and praise.
Amen; We give you thanks and praise.
Amen.

From "Music for Worship" © Words and Music: Gaude! Liturgical Arts 7/25/19 - 1/21/24 Br.
Shawn F. Benedict, O.S.B.

Dedication: Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc. 40th Anniversary.

Dedication:
Ray Of Hope Church
Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc.
40th Anniversary

The Gloria

"Music for Worship"

Words and Music
Gaude! Liturgical Arts
7/25/19-1/21/24
Br. Shawn F. Benedict, O.S.B.

Refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and

4
peace to all peo - ple on earth Glo - ry to God in the high - est

8
We give you thanks and praise. Al - le - lu ia

10
We give you thanks and praise.

12 **Verse 1**

You are the One God, Sov - ereign of the Un-i-verse, On - ly

16
Ho - ly God, we wor - ship You, we

18
give you thanks, we praise You for Your great glo - ry!

21 **Refrain**

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to all peo - ple on earth

25
Glo - ry to God in the high - est We give you thanks and

© Words and Music: 7/25/19-1/21/24, Gaude! Liturgical Arts, Br. Shawn F. Benedict, O.S.B.

2





85

Verse 4: Amen

A men; We

We give You thanks and praise!

Lord we praise You, Lord we bless You, We

4

87

give You thanks and praise!

We give You thanks and praise!

give You thanks, We give You praise We give You thanks and praise

89

A men

A men. Al - le - lu - ia.

Lord we praise You, Lord we bless You men. Al - le - lu - ia.

PASTOR: Please remain standing for the opening prayer.

+ Opening Prayer

Leader-4: The Lord is with you, Alleluia!

ALL: And also with you, Alleluia!

Leader-4: Together, we lift up our hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader-4: We make this exhortation together:

ALL: Let us keep the Scriptures in mind and meditate upon them day and night, persevering in prayer, always on the watch. Let us beg the Lord to give us real knowledge of what we read and to show us not only how to understand it but how to put it into practice, so that we may deserve to obtain spiritual grace, enlightened by the law of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose power and glory will endure throughout the ages. Amen

Leader-4: Saint Origen, who lived from 185 – 254 A.D., wrote this prayer. His prayer is our prayer on this day. Please be seated now and listen with all your heart, soul, and mind as we open the Word of God.



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 _____.

This morning's first reading is in the Book of Jeremiah, chapter 33, verses 14-16. The reading is on page 738 in the first testament of the NRSV Bible. I will be reading from The Inclusive Bible Version. Here begins the reading.

¹⁴ "The days are surely coming, says YHWH, when I will bestow on Israel and Judah all the blessings I promised them. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will raise up a righteous branch from the line of David, who will bring justice and integrity to the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be safe and Jerusalem will be secure. They will call the land, 'YHWH is our Justice.'

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

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+ Psalm **** **If an introduction is needed.****** Hello. My name is

____, and I am in the City of _____ in the State of _____.

Today's Psalm reading is number 25, selected verses. We are reading from the 1993 Grail Inclusive Language version. Today's response is, "To you, O Lord, I lift my soul."

R. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

⁴ Lord, make known to me your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

⁵ Make me walk in your truth, and teach me,
for you are God my savior.

In you I hope all the day long.

R. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

⁸ The Lord is good and upright.

showing the path to those who stray,

⁹ guiding the humble in the right path,
and teaching the way to the poor.

R. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

¹⁰ God's way are steadfastness and truth
for those faithful to the covenant decrees.

¹⁴ The Lord's friendship is for the God-fearing;
and the covenant is revealed to them.

**R. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.
Give praise to the Living God.
To God's Son, Jesus Christ, Our Lord.
To the Spirit who reigns in our hearts.
Both now, and for ever. Amen.**

Psalm 25. (inclusive language - 1993) ©1963, 1986, 1993 The Grail (England). Onelicense Song #68382 All rights reserved. Published through exclusive license agreement by G. I. A. Publications, Inc. Used with Onelicense Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278. Doxology by Br. Shawn Benedict.

+ 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 the First Letter to the Thessalonians, Chapter 3, verses 12 through chapter 4, verse 2. The reading is on page 204 in the second testament, in the back of the NRSV pew Bible. I will be reading from The Inclusive Bible Version. Here begins the reading.

May Christ increase to overflowing your love for one another and for all people, even as our love does for you; ¹³ may Christ strengthen your hearts, making them blameless and holy before our Abba God at the coming of our Savior Jesus with all the holy ones. ^{4:1} Now, my sisters and brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in our Savior Jesus, to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live—the life that God wants, as you learned from us, and as you are already living it. ² You haven't forgotten the instructions we gave you by the authority of our Savior Jesus.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

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+ 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 85 in the back of the NRSV Bible. The reading is in the Gospel of Luke, chapter 21, verses 25-28; 34-36. I will be reading from the Inclusive Bible.

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.**

²⁵ "Signs will appear in the sun, the moon and the stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish, distraught at the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the earth. The powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ After that, people will see the Chosen One coming on a cloud with great power and glory. ²⁸ When these things begin to happen, stand up straight and raise your heads, because your ransom is near at hand."

³⁴ "Be on your guard lest your spirits become bloated with indulgence, drunkenness and worldly cares. That day will suddenly close in on you like a trap. ³⁵ It will come upon all who dwell on the face of the earth, so be on your watch. ³⁶ Pray constantly for the strength to escape whatever comes, and to stand secure before the Chosen One."

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord!

ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

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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 - sds 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: Br. Shawn Benedict

We are celebrating Gratitude, Appreciation, and Thankfulness for 41 years of ministry, welcoming all people to the free gift of salvation. We are now in our 42nd year of ministry.



**

<https://www.hiv.gov/blog/world-aids-day-2024-reflecting-on-our-hiv-progress-and-our-future>

World Health Organization: <https://www.who.int/southeastasia/news/detail/01-12-2024-world-aids-day#:~:text=Today%2C%20December%201st%2C%20we%20gather,the%20fundamental%20right%20to%20health.>

=====

Eschatology: three distinct groups: The Jews, The other nations (ethni, Gentiles), and the Church. 1 Corinthians, Chapter 10, verse 32; "Give no offense, either to the Jews or the Greeks, or to the church of God."(NKJV)

" Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God," (NRSV)

Keep these three groups separate when discussing eschatology. Many churches teach that due to the fall of Jerusalem in 70 A.D., when Rome destroyed the city and dispersed the Jews throughout the known world, the Church became "the new Israel." This school of thought is known as "Replacement Theology" (source:

<https://icejusa.org/2024/09/05/replacement-theology-what-it-is-and-why-it-matters-for-christians/>) and also known as Supersessionism (Source: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Supersessionism#:~:text=Supersessionism%C2%20also%20called%20replacement%20theology,has%20superseded%20or%20replaced%20the>).

=====

First Reading: **FUTURE TO ISRAEL**

Book of Jeremiah, chapter 33, verses 14-16. The Inclusive Bible Version. Here begins the reading.

¹⁴ "The days are surely coming, says YHWH, when I will bestow on Israel and Judah all the blessings I promised them. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will raise up a righteous branch from the line of David, who will bring justice and integrity to the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be safe and Jerusalem will be secure. They will call the land, 'YHWH is our Justice.'

Psalm 25 -our response: **PRESENT AGE - DEVOTIONAL**

Psalm 25 with Responsorial inside bulletin.

R. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

⁴ Lord, make known to me our ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

⁵ Make me walk in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my savior.

In you I hope all the day long.

R. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

⁸ The Lord is good and upright.

showing the path to those who stray,

⁹ guiding the humble in the right path,
and teaching the way to the poor.

R. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

¹⁰ God's way are steadfastness and truth

for those faithful to the covenant decrees.

¹⁴ The friendship of the Lord is with those who fear him,
and his covenant, for their instruction.

The Second reading to the Church - **PRESENT AGE**

1 Thess. 3:12-4:2

May Christ increase to overflowing your love for one another and for all people, even as our love does for you; ¹³ may Christ strengthen your hearts, making them blameless and holy before our Abba **God at the coming of our Savior Jesus with all the holy ones.** ^{4:1} Now, my sisters and brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in our Savior Jesus, to make **more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live**—the life that God wants, as you learned from us, and as you are already living it. ² You haven't forgotten the instructions we gave you by the authority of our Savior Jesus.

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28; 34-36 - AGAIN, IN THE MIDDLE of another event, comes this portion of the Gospel. **FUTURE**

²⁵ "Signs will appear in the sun, the moon and the stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish, distraught at the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the earth. The powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ After that, people will see the Chosen One coming on a cloud with great power and glory. ²⁸ When these things begin to happen, stand up straight and raise your heads, because your ransom is near at hand."

³⁴ "Be on your guard lest your **spirits become bloated with indulgence, drunkenness and worldly cares.** That day will suddenly close in on you like a trap. ³⁵ It will come upon all who dwell on the face of the earth, so be on your watch. ³⁶ Pray constantly for the strength to escape whatever comes, and to stand secure before the Chosen One."

=====Luke 21:34

Contemporary English Version

Don't spend all of your time thinking about eating or drinking or worrying about life. If you do, the final day will suddenly catch you

Weymouth New Testament

"But take heed to yourselves, lest your souls be weighed down with self-indulgence and drunkenness or the anxieties of this life, and that day come upon you, suddenly, like a falling trap;

Lamsa Bible

But take heed to yourselves, that your hearts may not become heavy by extravagance, and drunkenness, and worries of this world, and that day come suddenly upon you.

Good News Translation

"Be careful not to let yourselves become occupied with too much feasting and drinking and with the worries of this life, or that Day may suddenly catch you

=====

. ²⁸ When these things begin to happen, stand up straight and raise your heads, because your ransom is near at hand."

³⁴ "Be on your guard lest your **spirits become bloated with indulgence, drunkenness and worldly cares.** That day will suddenly close in on you like a trap. ³⁵ It will come upon all who dwell on the face of the earth, so be on your watch. ³⁶ Pray constantly for the strength to escape whatever comes, and to stand secure before the Chosen One."

Praying And Singing With the Holy Sprit *W. 9*

Start anywhere on the page and sing or speak these prayers.

Add your own! Make your own melody to God with all your heart!

We praise You!
I love you, Jesus!
Fill me Holy Spirit!
I glorify You my Saviour!
Alleluia!
We love You!
You are risen for ever!
Lord of lords.
We are Yours!
You are our HOPE.
You are Faithful and True.
I serve only You, Jesus!
I give you my life!
Praise you for life.
Most High God, I love you.
Glory to You, Blessed God!
We glorify You!
Glory to You!
Praise to your holy Name!
My Saviour!
You are our God!
Praise you, Lamb Of God.
I adore you, Jesus.
I serve You, Jesus!
O Prince of Peace!
Love of my soul!
You alone are True!
Almighty, Good God of all!
I worship you!
Praise to You Eternal Word!
I praise you, Holy Spirit!
We give you thanks.
Glory to you, Holy Saviour!
You have redeemed me!
Praise to You, O Jesus!
Fill us with your Holy Spirit!
I am yours, O God!
We give you praise.
Glory To You Christ!
Saviour forever!

You are my joy!
Praise you, Holy Spirit!
Saviour of my heart!
Use me Jesus!
I give you thanks.
We worship You!
O Jesus!
We praise You for your great glory!
I adore you!
Praise to You!
We adore you, Jesus.
You are the Great Amen!
Praise you, Holy Saviour!
You have set me free!
King of kings.
You're my strength, O God.
I praise You!
Praise You Word Of God.
You are my life, dear God.
You alone are Saviour!
You are my Shepherd!
I say yes, Lord!
You alone are Righteous!
O, Lamb Of God!
Rock of safety
You alone are Worthy.
Thank you Holy Saviour!
You alone one the One God!
Alpha and Omega!
I love You, O my Lord!
You reign forever!
Hallelujah, Lord Jesus!
Lion Of Judah!
O Loving God!
The Way, The Truth, The Life now and forever!
My Redeemer!
Jesus is the Holy One!
Lord God, Heavenly King.

*****OPEN MICROPHONE *****

Brother: PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE: Hurricanes, floods, war, disease, and healing; who else should we pray for?

Veronica: Worship is our primary activity as a church. The church has an old standard, *lex orandi, lex credendi*, which means that "the law of prayer is the law of faith" or "that which we pray is that which we believe." Our prayer, our worship is the key to understanding what God has revealed for us to accept as Eternal Truth. Our Congregation

serves the general public by providing qualified leadership, an organization accountable to its members, teachings based on ancient ecumenical consensus, the presentation of worship experiences, the physical building space for worship and education in spirituality, and our presence on the Internet platforms. All are welcome to avail themselves of our services of worship. (<http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/Worship.htm>)

We are an independent organization founded and funded by anyone who appreciates what we offer. Your support is one way to give God thanks and praise for this unique ministry for all people. There are many convenient ways to participate with your donation, including



this QRCode, this link in the bulletin: [Donate to Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ](#); other live links on [our website](#), the envelopes and donation box next to the door always available in the Chapel. Checks sent in the mail are also accepted. [Right-Click Here](#) for our contact information, including our street address. We always say, "Give what you can, but never give your last."

Also, at this time, we will set our altars and communion tables at home and in the Chapel. Those viewing at home, please turn to the highlighted text on page three of this bulletin to review the instructions for items needed for Holy Communion. In the Chapel here, everyone may assist in setting the Table of the Lord together. We begin now.

Offertory Song: Alleluia. Composed by Jerry Sinclair

- 1) Alleluia
- 2) Lord, we praise you.
- 3) Lord, we thank you.
- 4) Alleluia

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Leader - 3: (**You may improvise a prayer or use this one.) God, we bless you and praise you for all the gifts we have received to support this ministry. We bless you for those who can give financially and those who give with their skills, prayers, and many other ways. We bless you for those who could not give at

this time, and pray that all their needs will be met. We dedicate all this to the Name of Jesus, Amen.

(We sing **The Doxology here.**)

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 or?: 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. For those 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.

Brother Benedict: Now, please lift your cup with me as I pray this prayer. 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.

Kaiden: Please set down your cup.

Pastor: Truly present and risen among us; **SAINTS** 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: (An improvised prayer is said here.)

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

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.

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+ We Invoke the Blessing Of The Holy Spirit

Leader - 3: At Ray Of Hope Church, we pray together and ask the Holy Spirit to give us the same gifts 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** well-being. We ask this in the Name of Jesus. Amen

Leader - 1: You may relax your arms and hands.

+ The Words Of The Institution Of The Holy Eucharist

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+ The Lord's Prayer

Kaiden: 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**

Music setting information: **The Lord's Prayer Composed by Albert Hay Malotte.** ©1935 G. Schirmer, Inc. (Admin. by Music Sales

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The Reception of Holy Communion

Pastor: Please raise the Blessed Sacrament as a sign of praise and pray together:

ALL: Behold the Lamb of God. Behold the Christ 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, they shall live forever, and I will raise them up on the last day.

Leader - 2: Blessed are those who come to this table; everyone is welcome.

ALL: Lord, you make me worthy to receive you, and by your Word, I am healed. 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! ____

Kaiden: Please open your kit and receive Holy Communion at this time. Receive now the Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the Gift of God for the People of God. Receive these gifts of love to strengthen your resolve to serve others and God and to fortify your Salvation. 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, and will be raised by Christ to new life, and live forever.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

PRIVATE PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION.

Veronica: We understand that some of you watching do not have actual Holy Communion Bread and Wine. We invite you to pray for a Spiritual reception of Holy Communion based upon a prayer in a Prayer Book at the Episcopal National Cathedral. This prayer assures all the benefits and blessings of a physical reception. Together;

Oh, My Jesus, I believe you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things and 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. Still, circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

+ Sign Of Peace

Leader-1: The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ is with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Leader-1: 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.

Leader-1: 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.

COMMUNION SONG Holy and Anointed One. Words and Music by John Barnett.

Verse 1

Jesus, Jesus.
Holy and Anointed One,
Jesus.

Verse 2

Jesus, Jesus.
Risen and Exalted One,
Jesus.

Chorus

Your name is like honey on my lips.
Your Spirit like water to my soul.
Your Word is a lamp unto my feet.
Jesus, I love You, I love You.

Ending

Jesus, Jesus.

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THE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR OCTOBER, 2024, given by Ed Askins, Treasurer, at the November 21, 2024 of the Church Council.

General Fund opening balance at the beginning of October was \$1,016.27. Donations to the General Fund for the month were \$1,963.03 which includes the undeposited funds off \$122.66 from last month . Pastoral compensation of \$495.00 per week for 5 week was paid equaling \$2,475.00, Verizon \$62.39 and Paypal charges of \$40.03 came out of this account. After these were paid the ending balance of this account at the end of the month was \$401.88.

Building Fund opening balance was \$1,242.41. Donations to the Building Fund were as follows: Brother Shawn Benedict \$640.00, Kaiden Benedict \$400.00 and transferred in \$309.95 from the Building Improvement fund. Regular bills that came out of the fund this month was the Credit Card bill with Key Bank of \$61.41, electric \$633.92, gas bill \$253.00, Isaac's Heating and Air Conditioning \$309.95 for boiler repair and I transferred \$200.00 into savings to save for the liability insurance bill that will be due the beginning of December. Ending balance of this fund was \$1,134.08.

Building Improvement Fund opening balance on this account was \$4,888.99. Donations to this account for this month were as follows: Undeposited funds from September from Ian and Christina \$627.34, Anonymous donation of \$500.00, a second Anonymous donation of \$200.00, Veronica and Tami \$150.00, Denise Robinson \$100.00, Diane Housely \$50.00 and Tejuana McMillian \$25.00. I transferred to the Building Fund \$309.95 to cover the Isaac's invoice listed above. The ending balance on this account is \$6,231.38.

Savings (Council) Account opening balance \$243.65. I transferred in \$200.00 from the building to cover the upcoming liability insurance payment, so the ending balance in this account is \$443.65. There was a gifts in kind donation of \$40.00 by Ed Askins to cover the cost of the gate repair done by Travis Askins.

There were no undeposited funds for the month of October.

NOTES OF THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR GENEROSITY GIVEN TO THE LORD THROUGH RAY OF HOPE

General Offering for the week of October 27 \$840.00 Attendance 12 on Sunday
Wednesday, October 30, Attendance 5

General Offering for the week of November 3 \$1,300.00 Attendance 19 on Sunday
Wednesday, November 6, Attendance 6

General Offering for the week of November 10 \$310.00 Attendance 10 on Sunday
Wednesday, November 13, Attendance 7

General Offering for the week of November 17 \$70.00 Attendance 12 on Sunday
Wednesday, November 20, Attendance 9

General Offering for the week of November 24 \$360.00 Attendance 10 on Sunday
Wednesday, November 27, Attendance 6

**** Special Gifts this week****

Ed Askins donated \$100.00 to the Pastor SE Tax budget line. Thank you, Ed. Ian and Christina donated \$500.00 to the Building Improvements Fund, thank you both. Brother donated \$640.00 to the Building Fund, thank you.

Everyone is very grateful for all the cooking talents that have been recently shared. Thank you Wayne Harris, Katrina Lourdiane, Ruth Goyette, Gary Davis, and Ed Askins.

Everyone expresses gratitude to our Church Council Members: Christina McLaughlin - Acting Moderator, Veronica Floyd - Clerk, and Ed Askins - Treasurer for the many hours they each volunteer doing the behind the scenes administrative duties for the Church.. We do appreciate our Council Officers.

Kaiden is Chairperson of the **Chapel Assistance Committee**. Kaiden wishes to thank Glenn Rathbun, Wayne Harris, and Katrina Lourdiane for assisting with the storage of the Feast of Christ The King decorations, and decorating for Advent Week One and World AIDS Day. There is more chapel decorating ahead and your assistance is welcomed.

- Thursday 12/5, Friday 12/6 Take down (Red Ribbons), Christmas tree up with purple colors
- Thursday 12/12, Friday 12/13 Put up the Pink Decorations(take down Purple) add pink to Christmas Tree - Gaudete Party
- Thursday 12/19, Friday 12/20 Put up Purple full color ornaments. COLOR lights
Sunday December 20 - Mother's Day
- 12/23 Change to Gold and White with about 70 artificial poinsettias to open, set up the Manger

To be added to our email list, fill out the email information form at the hospitality table and place it in the offerings/donations box at the door. Internet participants can email rayofhopechurch@aol.com and write "email list" in the Subject box.

UPCOMING EVENTS ON OUR CALENDAR

** See the Q.R. Code on the last page. **

***** **Blessed Birthday wishes to Veronica** who celebrated her "Born Day" on this last Tuesday, November 19. We appreciate you, Veronica.

Sunday, December 1, Advent Week 1 World AIDS Day, the Candle of Hope. - purple

TUESDAY DECEMBER 3 6:30 - 8:00 PM NEW By-Laws Discussion 2 of 4

December 4 Wednesday NOON - 12:45 Mass In-Person

Saturday December 7 1:00 - 2:00 P.M. Dr. Stephen Coleman will hold his sixth **Unity in the Community** event to **Celebrate Democracy in America and the Twin Tiers**, on Saturday, December 7th, from 1-2 at Wisner Park in downtown Elmira. The rally is cosponsored by the Elmira-Corning Branch of the NAACP. It is free, open to the public, with no tickets required. The event will also honor the brave Americans who perished when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941; plus all those who serve or have served in the military to protect our freedom.

Sunday, December 8, Advent Week 2 The Candle of Peace, praying for world peace. - purple

TUESDAY December 10 ELMIRA POLICE AND NAACP Law-Enforcement

Zoom meeting 5:30 - 6:30

The Elmira-Corning branch of the NAACP is sponsoring a Law-Enforcement zoom meeting on December 10, 2024 from 5:30-6:30 pm, featuring the Elmira, NY, Police Chief Kristen Thorne. The meeting will consist of a PowerPoint presentation reflecting takedown procedures with explanations and more. The public is invited to zoom in an effort to learn what procedures are legal, illegal and more.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83010795485?pwd=KFSA3RZsrjv1MnhxNgxSaWgk596sKN.1>

Meeting ID: 830 1079 5485

Passcode: 529546

One tap mobile

+16469313860, 83010795485# US

+16465588656, 83010795485# US (New York)

TUESDAY DECEMBER 10 7:15 - 8:45 PM NEW By-Laws Discussion 3 of 4

December 11 Wednesday NOON - 12:45 Mass In-Person

Sunday, December 15, Advent Week 3 **GAUDETE REJOICE SUNDAY PRIDE PARTY**

IN THE WINTER. PINK DAY! GIFT EXCHANGE AND DINNER TOGETHER - PINK CANDLE

TUESDAY DECEMBER 17 6:30 - 8:00 PM NEW By-Laws Discussion 4 of 4

December 19, Thursday 6:30 - 8:00 PM COUNCIL MEETING Council final recommendation for new By-Laws, and recommendation for 2025 Budget

Sunday, December 22, Advent Wk 4 Reverend Mother's Day in the Winter, Mary, - purple

December 23, Monday 3:00 - 4:30 PM By-Laws Revision Committee if needed.

December 24, Tuesday no scheduled events.

December 25, Wednesday 5:00 PM Hanukkah Night 1 of 8 live on Facebook

December 26, Thursday 5:00 PM Hanukkah Night 2 of 8 live on Facebook

December 27, Friday 5:00 PM 5:00 PM Hanukkah Night 3 of 8 live on Facebook

December 28, Saturday 5:00 PM Hanukkah Night 4 of 8 live on Facebook

December 29, Sunday CHRISTMAS AT RAY OF HOPE

December 30, Monday 5:00 PM Hanukkah Night 5 of 8 live on Facebook

December 31, Tuesday 5:00 PM Hanukkah Night 6 of 8 live on Facebook

January 1, Wednesday MASS???? 5:00 PM Hanukkah Night 7 of 8 live on Facebook

January 2, Thursday 5:00 PM Hanukkah Night 8 of 8 live on Facebook

Sunday, January 5, Orthodox Christmas EPIPHANY

Sunday, January 12, The Baptism Of The Lord

Sunday, January 19, Dr. Martin Luther King and Civil Rights Sunday

January 23, Thursday 6:30 - 8:00 PM COUNCIL MEETING COUNCIL Votes on new By-Laws and 2025 Budget

SUNDAY JANUARY 26 ANNUAL MEETING AND PASSING NEW By-Laws 2025

MARCH 5, 2025 ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP??????????

Inquiries Class #1 Friday March 7, 2025 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Statement of Purpose, Statement of Faith

Inquiries Class #2 Friday March 14, 2025 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Worship and Common Threads

Inquiries Class #3 Friday March 21, 2025 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Polity & Practice (Liturgical Calendar +)

Inquiries Class #4 Friday March 28, 2025 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Human Sexuality and the Bible

Inquiries Class #5 Friday April 4, 2025 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Human Sexuality and the Bible

??? APRIL COUNCIL MEETING BEFORE GREAT VIGIL MEMBERSHIP SO, APRIL 10????

APRIL 13, 2025 Palm Sunday 10:30 AM HOLY WEEK

APRIL 17, 2025 HOLY THURSDAY 7:00 PM

APRIL 18, 2025 PASSION FRIDAY 7:00 PM

APRIL 19, 2023 GREAT VIGIL OF THE RESURRECTION OUR EASTER EVENT MEMBERSHIP

May 11, Sunday Mother's Day and Foundresses Day

June 1, Sunday Ascension Sunday

June 7, Saturday, Pride Elmira

June 8, Sunday Pentecost

June 14, Saturday, Pride Corning

June 15, Sunday, Father's Day and 29th Ordination Anniversary

June 22, Sunday Juneteenth Celebration (19th)

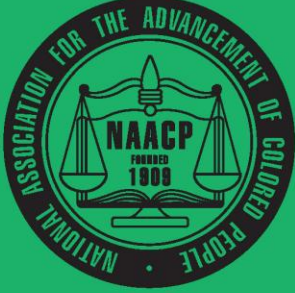
June 29th PRIDE SUNDAY



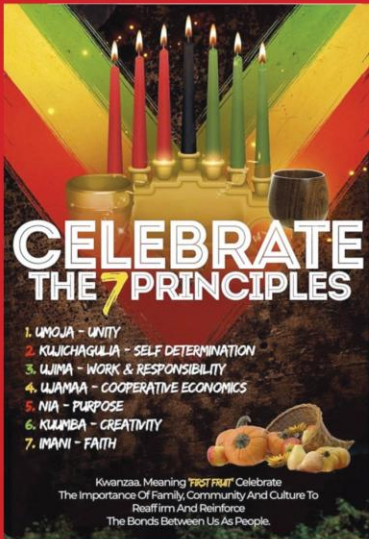
Besides Dr. Coleman and NAACP President Verdier, the following local leaders will speak at the rally:

State Senator Tom O'Mara,
Elmira Mayor Dan Mandell,
Reverend Lori Thornton, Pastor, Friendship Baptist Church in Corning,
Mr. Jonathan Mack, Faith Leader, Word of Faith, Church of God in Christ, Elmira,
Attorney Bryan Maggs, retired Major, United States Army, and Chemung Family Court Judge--elect.
Mr. James Turpin, Journalist, Veteran, United States Marine Corps,
Mrs. Anita Lewis, Musical Artist, and Chief Development Officer, Economic Opportunity Program,
Dora Leland, Educator, Community Leader, Activist,
Former Chemung County Executive Tom Santulli.

Dr. Coleman may be reached at 607-259-6051.



KWANZAA: A SEVEN PRINCIPLES CELEBRATION FROM UNITY TO FAITH LUNCHEON



**Saturday, December 28, 2024
1:00 – 3:00pm**

**Friendship Baptist Church
120 Pearl Street
Corning, New York**



SPEAKER

Tara Clark

**Case Supervisor, Child Preventive Service
Tompkins County, New York**

The program is free and open to the public



We Are Sent Forth To Serve

Leader - 2: **SAINTS:** The Lord is with you!

ALL: And also with you!

Leader - 2: We bless and praise you, God, for this time of worship we have enjoyed together today. Send us forth now to share what we have experienced with others. We ask you, Almighty God, to bless us with quiet miracles, the warmth of love, and fill us with wonder and peace; (*+*) In the Name of God, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen

Leader - 2: We pray Romans Chapter fifteen, verse thirteen together, saying:

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 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.

LAST SONG: How Great Thou Art. Words and Music by Stuart Wesley Keene Hine. Notebook #45

Verse 1

O Lord my God

When I in awesome wonder

Consider all the worlds

Thy hands have made

I see the stars

I hear the rolling thunder
Thy pow'r thru'out
The universe displayed

Chorus

Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art
Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art

Verse 2

When through the woods
And forest glades I wander
And hear the birds
Sing sweetly in the trees
When I look down
From lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook
And feel the gentle breeze

Verse 3

And when I think
That God His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die
I scarce can take it in
That on the cross
My burden gladly bearing
He bled and died
To take away my sin

Verse 4

When Christ shall come
With shout of acclamation
And take me home
What joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow
In humble adoration
And there proclaim
My God how great Thou art

How Great Thou Art. Words and Music by Stuart Wesley Keene Hine © Copyright 1949 and 1953 Stuart Hine Trust CIO Stuart K. Hine Trust (Administration: USA All rights by Capitol CMG Publishing, except print rights for USA, North, Central and South America administered by Hope Publishing. All other non USA Americas rights by the Stuart Hine Rest of World – Integritymusic.com.) All rights reserved. CCLI License #706121 CCLI Song #14181 Used with permission by our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121, and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152. For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

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

Made by you and for you, because we are

The Third Sunday of Pride, 2019

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 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, the way it used to be from 7:00 AM to 11:59 PM daily, 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 to pray, read, or visit The Blessed Sacrament. 1-607-280-0374 Our regular services will be blended with live participation in the Chapel, live on Skype and Facebook. To read the information on how to use Skype to participate with us, [Click Here](#).. Recordings of most of our Worship events are on our Facebook page, to see [Click Here](#). We will reopen the Chapel as soon as it is reasonably safe and prudent.

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/> Mobile-Friendly website version: <http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/P2023-Bookmark.htm> 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)

