



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 Forty-first year of Ministry.**

MISSION: Love God, Love your neighbor, and make disciples of every person everywhere. (Matthew 22:37-39; Matthew 28:19) "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matt. 6:10,33)

April Struhm, Moderator

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.

Scripture exhorts us: "Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God" Romans 15:7 (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 Sunday, March 24, 2024, Palm Sunday, Year B  
Holy Week, 2024, celebrating the week that changed everything.

Today is also Women's History Month 4th Sunday

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:

**First Reading:** Zechariah Chapter 9:9-10 pg. 884

**Psalm:** Responsorial Psalm / Hymn

**Second Reading:** Hebrews 10:1-10 NRSV 2<sup>nd</sup> Test. Pg. 224

**Gospel:** Mark 11:1-11 NRSV 2<sup>ND</sup> Test. page 23

\*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 1<sup>st</sup> ring.** As the 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.

The St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi bell at Ray Of Hope Church, 380 W. 1<sup>st</sup> St. in Elmira, NY, was a gift from Michael Quinnell of Syracuse, NY, in September 2005. The bell rings out 39 joyful rings, in contrast to tolling the bell in single rings. The 39 joyful rings honor the 39 lashes Jesus endured, and 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) 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. 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, stop, look up at the people, and

smile.\*\*) Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion with us during the second part of this worship event. We celebrate the Lord's open table where Membership in this or any church is not required to receive Communion. People participating on the Internet, please bring the following items to your table at this time so you are prepared: 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.

**Leader-1:** Today's bulletin order of worship and music supplement are 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](http://www.rayofhopechurch.com). Take a moment now and gather these items. We will start shortly; thank you.



**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](http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/faith.htm)) ([www.rayofhopechurch.com/purpose.htm](http://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 2<sup>nd</sup> ring will announce the start of the worship event.**

**Leader – 2:** Thank you for spending your Palm Sunday morning 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:** You are as welcome here as Christ Jesus himself. (\*\* Reader, stop, look up 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:**

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

Today is March 24, 2024, Palm Sunday, the start of Holy Week in our 41<sup>st</sup> year of ministry. **Holy Week, 2024, celebrating the week that changed everything.** I would like us to think about the women with Jesus and what this week was like for them.

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.**

**Leader -2:** It would be ideal to gather outside this morning, down the street. We could have banners, musicians, instruments, and palms. We could sing hymns and announce our celebration by remembering Jesus's Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem at the start of his Passion Week, coming up the street and into our beautiful double doors.

**Leader – 3:** Jesus entered the City of Jerusalem on the date foretold by the Prophet Daniel over 400 years earlier. We have that prophecy preserved in the Bible in the Book of Daniel. It is easy to do the math and see that anyone studying the Holy Scriptures should have recognized Jesus as the Suffering-Servant Messiah.

**ALL: Many people recognized Him and came together to give Jesus honor and praise. They waved palm branches in procession before Him and spread their cloaks on the ground, forming a royal welcome mat from what they had.**

**Pastor:** Today's first act of worship is to remember and thank God for this great event by blessing and waving palm branches to celebrate the Holy Name of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour. A couple of weeks ago, Ian watched and listened to Pastor Charles Stanley give a sermon about the Holy Spirit. Pastor Stanley emphasized that all the work of God is done through the action of the Holy Spirit in the Church Age. I told Ian that this is called an epiclesis, or a blessing-action of the Holy Spirit, where the action causes change. Here is one of those epiclesis prayers, and there will be many during Holy Week. With this prayer, we ask God to make these palm branches holy.

Together, we pray this blessing:

**ALL: O God, in the Name of Jesus, we, your faithful people, ask your Only One and Holy Spirit to bless and separate these palm branches and other items we shall wave in your honor, for Christ's purpose. Let them be a constant reminder of your Triumphal Entry into our hearts. Come, Lord Jesus, Come into our hearts and set us free. Teach us to follow you in joyful procession all the days of our lives. We ask this in the Name of Jesus, Amen.**

**Leader – 4:** We go forth now, in a VIRTUAL PROCESSION, with palms and loud singing as we sing together The King Of Glory.

This year, while I play the piano, you who are out there with us on camera and everyone in the chapel, wave the palm branches (or whatever branch you can find to wave) on the refrain of the first song to spiritually welcome Jesus afresh into our lives. We will bless the branches and whatever you have just now.

**First SONG: THE KING OF GLORY** (Glory And Praise #423) Text: 12 12 with refrain. Text © 1967, Willard F. Jabusch. Administered by OCP. All rights reserved. Music: Trad. Israeli folk song. Used with permission. Onlicense # 81352 Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278



## WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS

### + Confession and Forgiveness of our sins.

**Leader -2:** Please be seated. (wait) So far, we gathered together, greeted one another, and praised God in song. Now, we prepare to accept God's renewal when we listen to the Word and the Holy Scriptures by reflecting on our relationships with God and others in silent prayer. Christ is present and listening to receive the silent confession of our faults, sins, and failures. He promises to forgive our sins immediately.  
(silent prayer)

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

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

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

**Leader -4:** Almighty and loving God, you continue to bless the Human Race with a spectrum of ethnicities and cultural traditions. You have made us many and yet one Body in You. So that people everywhere would learn to embrace the full spectrum of your love expressed in the Human Race, we pray, Lord, have mercy.

**ALL: Lord, have mercy.**

**Leader -4:** Christ Jesus, Our Lord, you are actually and truly present in your church. You call us to proclaim God's glory, praise God, live for God, and to guide others to God. Give us the courage to tell others about your imminent return and future kingdom openly; we pray, Christ, and have mercy.

**ALL: Christ, have mercy.**

**Leader -4:** Holy Spirit, you are with us as the Helper, the Comforter, our Advocate, our Intercessor – Counselor, our Strengthener, the one who will always support us. You inspired the people close to Jesus to study the Scriptures and know who He was. So that we would seek to understand you in our study of the Scriptures, we pray, Lord, have mercy.

**ALL: Lord, have mercy.**

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

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

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

**ALL: Amen.**

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

**Pastor:** Please rise as you are able to sing "The Gloria."

Ray of Hope Church, Inc. *The Gloria* Winds and Music  
10th Annual Meeting "Music for Worship" 7/25/17  
Handwritten: 7/25/17, 1/21/24

*Refrain*

$\frac{2}{4} = \frac{6}{8}$

GLO-ry to God in the high-est, AND  
 peace to all peo-ple on Earth.  
 GLO-ry to God in the high-est.  
 We give You thanks and praise. Al-le-lu-ia.  
 We give You thanks and praise

Verso 1

You are the One God, Sov-ereign of the  
 Uni-verse, On-ly Ho-ly God, We wor-ship You, We  
 give you thanks, we praise You for Your great glo-ry! (Refrain)

7/25/17, 1/1/24 Cant. Liturgical Arts by Jeffrey...

*2. = 6/8*      Refrain      *1/21/24*

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, AND  
 peace to all peo-ple on Earth  
 Glo-ry to God in the high-est.  
 We give You thanks and praise. Al-le-lu-ia.  
 We give You thanks and praise

VERSE 2      The Gloria, Pg 2

LORD, Jes-us Christ, The on-ly Be-got-ten Son of God, You are  
 LORD God, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the  
 world: HAVE MER-cy on us; you are seated at the  
 right hand of God; re-ceive our prayer. (To Refrain)

*2. = 6/8*      *Refrain*      *1/21/24*

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, AND  
 peace to all peo-ple on Earth  
 Glo-ry to God in the high-est.  
 We give You thanks and praise. Al-le-lu-ia.  
 We give You thanks and praise

*Verse B*

For You a-lone are the hol-y one, You a-lone are the  
 LORD of all, You a-lone are the MOST High,  
 Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly  
 spir-it, in the glo-ry of God. In the  
 Ho-ly spi-rits in the HO-ly un-i-ty of

*(TO REFRAIN)*

© 7/25/77-1/1/24 Gaudes! Liturgical Arts *R. B. Benson*

$\frac{2}{4} = \frac{6}{8}$       *Refrain*       $\frac{1}{2} \text{ 21/24}$

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, AND  
peace to all people on Earth  
Glo-ry to God in the high-est  
We give You thanks and praise. Al-le-lu-ia.  
We give You thanks and praise

Verse 4: Amen

The Gloria, Pg 3

ALL: A ————— men; we give you thanks and

We give you thanks and praise

LORD, we praise you LORD we bless you, we give you thank we give you praise

ALL: PRAISE!

A —————

We give you thank and praise

We give you thank and praise LORD, we praise you LORD we bless you

ALL: men

men al-le-lu-ia

mine  
@ 7/25/17 - 11/24/19  
Gaudete! - 10/19/16  
Pete Behm

## + Opening Prayer

**Leader:** Eternal Word of God, speak to us as we listen to the Sacred Scriptures read aloud. We ask the Holy Spirit to open our understanding of what we hear so we may apply it in our lives. Creating and Living God, we desire to give you honor and glory in all we do through Christ, our Lord.

**ALL: AMEN.**

**Leader 5:** Please be seated now as we listen attentively to the Scriptures.

**ALL: We read God's Word to recall, reflect on, and rejoice in the action of God in life.**



## THE SERVICE OF THE WORD OF GOD

**Reader:** Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am in\_(city) \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_(State)\_\_\_\_\_.

The first reading is in the Book of Zechariah, chapter 9, verses 9-10. We are reading from the NRSV Updated Edition of ©2021. The NRSV pew bibles have a similar reading on page 884. Here begins the reading:

### **The Coming Ruler of God's People**

<sup>9</sup> Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!  
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!  
See, your king comes to you;  
triumphant and victorious is he,  
humble and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

(The following verse 10 is a prophecy of the future  
Battle of Armageddon.)

<sup>10</sup> He<sup>[a]</sup> will cut off the chariot from Ephraim  
and the war horse from Jerusalem;  
and the battle bow shall be cut off,

(The following verse 10b is a prophecy of the future Kingdom of Christ on Earth.)

and he shall command peace to the nations;  
his dominion shall be from sea to sea  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

**Reader:** This is the Word of the Lord!

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

**Read full chapter**

**Footnotes**

a. 9.10 Gk: Heb /

(<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Zechariah+9%3A9-10&version=NRSVUE> )

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### **+ Psalm**

**Reader:** Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am in\_(city) \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_(State)\_\_\_\_\_.

The Psalm today is a canticle or hymn composed by Br. Benedict. It is loosely based on Psalm 24, verses 7-10. The response today is "Lord Jesus, You are the King of Glory. We acknowledge you and give you Praise."

**R: Lord Jesus, You are the King of Glory.  
We acknowledge you and give you Praise.**

O ancient gates be lifted,  
let the ancient doors be raised,  
Announce and welcome the King of Glory.

**R: Lord Jesus, You are the King of Glory.  
We acknowledge you and give you Praise.**

You may ask, Who is the king of glory?  
How should we welcome Him?  
It is the Lord, the mighty, the valiant,  
He is the King of Glory, and He will win

the final victory over sin and death.

**R: Lord Jesus, You are the King of Glory.  
We acknowledge you and give you Praise.**

Raise high the ancient gates.  
Let all the ancient doors be opened  
so that the King of Glory may enter  
to take His throne of Salvation.

**R: Lord Jesus, You are the King of Glory.  
We acknowledge you and give you Praise.**

Now you know Him, and now you understand;  
It is the Lord of heavenly armies.  
He is the King of Glory, and He will come  
to rule upon the Earth. His kingdom will fill the Earth.  
He is the King of Glory.

**R: Lord Jesus, You are the King of Glory.  
We acknowledge you and give you Praise.**

## + 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 Book of Hebrews, chapter 10, verses 1-10. The reading is on page 224 in the second testament, in the back of the NRSV Bible. Here begins the reading:

### **Christ's Sacrifice Once for All**

**10** Since the law has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the true form of these realities, it<sup>[a]</sup> can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered year after year, make perfect

those who approach. <sup>2</sup> Otherwise, would they not have ceased being offered, since the worshipers, cleansed once for all, would no longer have any consciousness of sin? <sup>3</sup> But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sin year after year. <sup>4</sup> For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. <sup>5</sup> Consequently, when Christ<sup>[b]</sup> came into the world, he said,

"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
but a body you have prepared for me;

<sup>6</sup> in burnt offerings and sin offerings  
you have taken no pleasure.

<sup>7</sup> Then I said, 'See, I have come to do your will, O God'  
(in the scroll of the book<sup>[c]</sup> it is written of me)."

<sup>8</sup> When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), <sup>9</sup> then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup> And it is by God's will<sup>[d]</sup> that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

**Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!**

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

[Read full chapter](#)

**Footnotes**

**Footnotes**

- a. [10.1](#) Other ancient authorities read *they*
- b. [10.5](#) Gk *he*
- c. [10.7](#) Meaning of Gk uncertain
- d. [10.10](#) Gk *by that will*

(Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+10%3A1-10&version=NRSVUE> )

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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 Mark, chapter 11:1-11, on page 47 in the back of the 1989 NRSV Bible. I will read the 2021 updated version.

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

**ALL: And also with you.**

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

**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.**

## Jesus's Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem

11 When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples<sup>2</sup> and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it."<sup>3</sup> If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this: 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'"<sup>4</sup> They went away and

found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, <sup>5</sup> some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" <sup>6</sup> They told them what Jesus had said, and they allowed them to take it. <sup>7</sup> Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup> Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup> Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

<sup>10</sup> Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!  
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

<sup>11</sup> Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple, and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord!

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

[Read full chapter](#)

(Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+11%3A1-11&version=NRSVUE>  
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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!



Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc.

The LGBTQSIAN2ss+ Pride Activities, and Social Events Center of Elmira, NY.



The only Church in Central New York founded and fostered by the GLBTQSIAN2ss+ community for 40 years. October 31, 2023 - 40th Anniversary now in our 41st year in Ministry.

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

### + Sermon

Ray Of Hope Church teaches the same Christian faith of ancient ecumenical consensus. St. Vincent of Lerins, a fifth-century monk and theologian, described it as

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

2 Corinthians 4:5-6 <sup>5</sup> For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus's sake. <sup>6</sup> For it is the God who said, "Light will shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. (NRSVUE)

Announcement: Ian McLaughlin has completed all eight sessions of the Inquiries Class. Ian has requested Membership, and on Friday, March 22, 2024, the Council voted unanimously to welcome Ian into Membership. We will celebrate the Rite of Membership as part of our Great Vigil of the Resurrection on Saturday night, March 30, 2024, after sunset, at about 7:45 p.m.

**Holy Week, 2024, celebrating the week that changed everything.**

Palm Sunday – Hosanna: definition of the word.

Matthew 21:9, 10 [9](#) and the multitudes—some of the people preceding Him and some following—sang aloud, "God save the Son of David! Blessings on Him who comes in the Lord's name! God in the highest Heavens save Him!"

(**Weymouth New testament** [[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Weymouth\\_New\\_Testament](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Weymouth_New_Testament)] )

John Nelson Darby (b. 1800 – d. 1882, see our website page:

<http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/darby1.htm>) wrote the following regarding the word

Hosanna.: "The multitude spread their garments to prepare the way for their meek, though glorious King; they cut down branches from the trees to bear Him testimony; and He is conducted in triumph to Jerusalem, while the people cry, "Hosanna [Save now] to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest!"

(Source: Synopsis of the Books of the Bible, 1857-1862, Volume 3 Matthew to John, pgs. 146,147. John Nelson Darby, printed in the USA 1979, Bible Truth Publishers P.O.Box 649, Industrial Road Addison, Illinois 60101)

[http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/files/4-2-](http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/files/4-2-23%20Palm%20Sunday%20DARBY%20INFORMATION%20Synopsis%20of%20the%20Books%20of%20the%20Bible.pdf)

[23%20Palm%20Sunday%20DARBY%20INFORMATION%20Synopsis%20of%20the%20Books%20of%20the%20Bible.pdf](http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/files/4-2-23%20Palm%20Sunday%20DARBY%20INFORMATION%20Synopsis%20of%20the%20Books%20of%20the%20Bible.pdf)

## G5614

ὡσαννά

[hōsanna](#)

*ho-san-nah'*

Of Hebrew origin [[H3467](#)] and [[H4994](#)]; *oh save!*; *hosanna* (that is, *hoshia-na*), an exclamation of adoration: - hosanna.

**Total KJV occurrences: 6**

## H3467

עָשָׂה

[yâsha'](#)

*yaw-shah'*

A primitive root; properly to *be open, wide* or *free*, that is, (by implication) to *be safe*; causatively to *free* or *succor*: - X at all, avenging, defend, deliver (-er), help, preserve, rescue, be safe, bring (having) salvation, save (-iour), get victory.

**Total KJV occurrences: 205**

## H4994

נָא

[nâ'](#)

*naw*

A primitive particle of incitement and entreaty, which may usually be rendered I *pray, now* or *then*; added mostly to verbs (in the imperative or future), or to interjections, occasionally

to an adverb or conjugation: - I beseech (pray) thee (you), go to, now, oh.

**Total KJV occurrences: 40**

So, free us now; our salvation is here in the name of the Lord of the House of David.

Dictionary.com hosanna

*interjection*

(an exclamation, originally an appeal to God for deliverance, used in praise of God or Christ.)

*noun, plural ho-san-nas.*

a cry of "hosanna."

a shout of praise or adoration; an [acclamation](#).

*verb (used with object), ho-san-naed, ho-san-na-ing.*

to praise, applaud, etc.: *The critics hosannaed his new play.*

You might wonder why today's celebration is not "palm/passion" Sunday; why not? We are Celebrating the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

Who were the people who welcomed Jesus, and how did they know it was time to reveal the Messiah?

(<http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/files/Clarence%20Larkin%20Daniel's%2069%20weeks%20Palm%20Sunday%20April%202%20Rightly%20Dividing%20the%20Word%20of%20Truth%20Kindle.pdf>)

Jesus fulfills Zechariah 9:9 your king comes to you; he is humble and riding on a donkey, triumphant and victorious.

Jesus does not fulfill 9:10-11;

(The following verse 10 is a prophecy of the future Battle of Armageddon.)

<sup>10</sup> He<sup>[a]</sup> will cut off the chariot from Ephraim  
and the war horse from Jerusalem;  
and the battle bow shall be cut off,

(The following verse, 10b, is a prophecy of the future Kingdom of Christ on Earth.)

and he shall command peace to the nations;  
his dominion shall be from sea to sea  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

Hebrews 10:8, 9, 10

One and final sacrifice. Jesus "abolishes the first" order and covenant, the Law, to "establish the second" order and covenant, Grace.

<sup>8</sup> When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and

sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), <sup>9</sup> then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup> And it is by God's will<sup>[d]</sup> that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

## WOMEN of Holy Week.

This week, the thought crossed my mind to talk about the human relationships strained by the events we call Holy Week. We hear of women named Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Susanna, "many other women who followed Christ," Mary, the mother of James and Joses ("Joey") Matt 27:56,

Article: **The Women Who Followed Jesus from Galilee** by Lani and John Hilton, March 2022. (Source: [https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/iahona/2022/03/08\\_the-women-who-followed-jesus-from-galilee?lang=eng](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/iahona/2022/03/08_the-women-who-followed-jesus-from-galilee?lang=eng) )

During The Stations of the Cross, which we will celebrate Friday, women have a prominent presence: the Fourth Station, Jesus meets his afflicted mother. The Sixth Station; Veronica wipes the face of Jesus. (Britannica article St. Veronica: <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Saint-Veronica>) The Eighth Station: Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem (Luke 23:27, 28)

When Jesus calls us His friends (John 15:15), he goes on to say there is no greater love than to lay down one's life for their friend (John 15:13). With these and many other verses, Jesus elevates friendship to the highest level of love and equates it with eternal love in God.

Thinking about the friends of Jesus who were prepared for his death by Him.

**After the feeding of the crowds of people Jesus explained his death.** Matthew 16:21-23: <sup>21</sup> From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup> And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." <sup>23</sup> But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance<sup>[a]</sup> to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." (NRSVUE)

See Mark 8:31-32 and See Luke 9:21-22

**After the Transfiguration**

Matthew 17:9-13 <sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead." <sup>10</sup> And the disciples asked him, "Why, then, do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" <sup>11</sup> He replied, "Elijah is indeed coming and will restore all things, <sup>12</sup> but I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but they did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man is about to suffer at their hands." <sup>13</sup> Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them about John the Baptist. (See also, Mark 9:30-34, and Luke 9:43-45)

Matthew 17: 22-23 Jesus Again Foretells His Death and Resurrection

<sup>22</sup> As they were gathering<sup>[a]</sup> in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into human hands, <sup>23</sup> and they will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised." **And they were greatly distressed.**

**Another time, as they were heading to Jerusalem to celebrate Passover, A Third Time Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection**

**Matthew 20:17-22** <sup>17</sup> While Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside by themselves and said to them on the way, <sup>18</sup> "Look, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death; <sup>19</sup> then they will hand him over to the gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified, and on the third day he will be raised."

=====

\*\*\*\*\*OPEN MICROPHONE \*\*\*\*\*

=====

**SPECIAL MUSIC** Sung by Mrs. Christina McLaughlin: "Forever Friends"  
Authors Clair Cloninger, Kathy Frizzell ©1989 Curb Word Music (Admin. by W.C. Music Corp.)/CATALOG Curb Word Music. CCLI Song# 154429. Used with permission through our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121 and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.



**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**+ The Prayers of the People**

\*\*\* Shared Prayers \*\*\*

**Leader – 4:** (when all prayers have been heard) Lord Jesus, we lift our

spoken and unspoken prayers, and we ask you to intercede for us as our High Priest at the right hand of God.

**ALL: Amen.**

**Leader - 5:** Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am in\_(city) \_\_\_\_\_, \_(State)\_\_\_\_. 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.

There are many convenient ways to participate with your donation. Anyone



may use the QRCode or press control + click or tap on this link: [Donate to Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ](#) in the bulletin or mail a check to Ray Of Hope Church, 380 W. First St. Elmira, NY 14901. People in the Chapel may use the envelopes and the donation box next to the door before, during, or after this worship event.

**Offertory Song: Hosanna** Words and Music by Carl Tuttle © 1985 Mercy Publishing © 1985 Shadow Spring Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) CCLI Song # 21545 Used with permission through our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121 and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.

A prayer of thanksgiving for the offering is said here.

(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:** Blessed are you, Lord, God of all Creation. Through your goodness, we have this bread, and 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 bread will become for us the Bread From Heaven (Exodus 16:2, Psalm 78:24, John 6:32, 41,50,58), and 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), and together they will be the Sacrament of the Eucharist, the very Body and Blood Of Christ (John 6:54-56; 1Corinthians 10:16).

**ALL: Blessed be God forever.**

(Other titles include the Bread of the Angels (Psalm 78:25), the Bread of God (John 6:33), 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)

**Pastor:** Please set down your communion kit.

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

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  
 5 might. Hea-ven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the  
 10 high-est. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high-est.  
 16 Bless - ed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.  
 22 Ho - san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Ho -  
 27 san - na in the high-est.

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## + We Invoke the Blessing Of The Holy Spirit

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

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

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

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

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

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



### **The Reception of Holy Communion**

**BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD BEHOLD HIM WHO TAKES BEHOLD THE BREAD OF LIFE AND THE CUP**

**Lord, you make me worthy to receive you and by your Word, I am healed.**

**Pastor:** Open your kit and receive Holy Communion at this time. The Gift of God for the People of God....

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## **PRIVATE PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION.**

**Pastor:** 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.

### **+ The Lord's Prayer**

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

**ALL: Our Father, who art in Heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on Earth as it is in Heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us; and  
lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,**

forever and ever. Amen

### + Final Doxology

**Pastor:** Together, we pray:

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

## Doxology/Amen!

To my friends in Christ  
at Ray Of Hope Church

"Music For Worship"

Music by: Gaude! Liturgical Arts  
October 31, 1993

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

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

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

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### + Sign Of Peace

**Veronica Floyd, Moderator:** The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ is with you.

**ALL:** And also with you.

**Leader:** 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:** 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:** I Am The Bread Of Life. Words and Music by Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b.1927 Contributors: Suzanne Toolan

Tune: © 1966, 1970, 1986, 1993, GIA Publications, Inc. Text: Based on John 6 and 11; © 1966, 1970, 1986, 1993, GIA Publications, Inc. Onlicense Song # 00044 Lead Me, Guide Me 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition 755 Used with permission. Onlicense # 81048 Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278

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#### NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION UPDATED EDITION (NRSVUE)

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#### New Revised Standard Version – 1989

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**General Offering** for the week of March 3 \$1490.00 Attendance 11 Sunday;  
Wednesday, March 6, Attendance 5

**General Offering** for the week of March 10 \$30.00 Attendance 7 Sunday;  
Wednesday, March 13, Attendance 6

**General Offering** for the week of March 17 \$30.00 (some people give monthly rather than weekly) Attendance 8 Sunday; Wednesday, March 13, Attendance 4

We are grateful for these gifts received this week.

#### **\*\*Additional Special Gifts\*\***

We received a letter dated March 6, 2024 from The Winston-Salem Foundation, North Carolina, signed by Shelia Virgil, Vice President, Development & Donor Services. In part, the letter reads as follows: "On the advice of Dr. Elwood Robinson, The Winston-Salem Foundation has awarded Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ a grant of \$500.00 from .. the.. Novant Community Benefit Fund...on February 28, 2024...please note the advisor's preferred designation is as follows: general support in honor of my sister-in-law Veronica Floyd."

Veronica has directed \$250.00 to the Building Fund and \$250.00 to the Building Improvement Fund. Thank you, Veronica, Dr. Elwood and Denise Robinson. Denise is Veronica's sister.

The Council will send a letter of thanks to the The Winston-Salem Foundation Novant Community Benefit Fund and a letter to Dr. Robinson. We are very grateful for this generous donation and we thank the Robinsons for thinking of us in this special way. May God bless each person involved in this donation.

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](mailto: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.\*\*

\*\*\*\*\* <https://www.christiansagainstchristiannationalism.org/> **Christians Against Christian Nationalism**

A Special Congregational Meeting was held last Sunday, March 17. The following motion passed: Strike and remove line 262 of Article 4.06 section d where it read: All bank accounts shall require two signatures for withdrawals" replace it with: The Treasurer may conduct banking transactions through all bank accounts electronically or with one signature required on checks below \$1,000.00. Any transaction above \$1,000.00 requires two approvals and must be written into the Treasurer report in the monthly Council minutes.

### **HOLY WEEK, 2024**

**Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024, 10:30 a.m.**

Monday, March 25, no By-Laws Revision Committee meeting.

Tuesday, March 26 no Bible Enrichment meeting.

March 27, Wednesday, no Traditional Mass in English - in person.

**Holy Thursday**, March 28, 2024, 7:00 p.m. 8:15 p.m. silent prayer 8:30 p.m. Benediction

**Good Friday**, March 29, 2024, The Stations of the Cross 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**Holy Saturday**, March 30, 2024, 7:45 p.m.- 9:15 p.m. **Celebrating The Vigil Of The Resurrection Of Christ.** Rite of Membership: Ian McLaughlin. \*This is our "Easter Service."

\* \* No worship on Sunday morning, March 31, 2024 \* \*

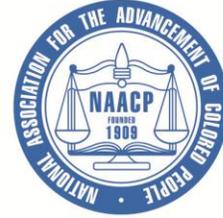
\*\* April 1, Monday, no By-Laws Revision Committee meeting.

April 2, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. Bible Enrichment.

April 3, Wednesday, Noon Traditional Mass in English - in person.



## ELMIRA-CORNING NAACP



### 34th ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON

**SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2024**  
**12:00 – 2:00 pm**

**The Clarion Inn • 760 E. Water Street • Elmira NY**

**“Memberships – NAACP Bloodline”**

**Tickets: \$30 Adult \$15 Youth Ages 3-10**  
**Ages 2 and under free**



Speaker

**Rev. Corey Cooke**

Pastor, Monumental Baptist Church  
Elmira, NY

2nd District Councilman  
Elmira, NY

**For Ticket Information Call –**

**(607) 962-8398, (607) 936-6770, (607) 962-5362, (607) 733-7963**



## We Are Sent Forth To Serve

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

**ALL: And also with you!**

**Leader - 2:** We bless you 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.**

### **CLOSING SONG: All Glory, Laud and Honor**

Text: 76 76 D; Theodulph of Orleans, ca. 760–821; tr. by John M. Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Music: Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635. Onelicense Song # 83962  
Glory And Praise 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition #356, OCP Used with permission. Onelicense # 81048 Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278

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

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

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

**Policy Concerning Minors at Events**

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

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

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

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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](http://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)

