

**"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 3-29-26, Palm Sunday, Women's History Month Wk V, Year A  
Ray Of Hope Church teaches the same Christian Faith of ancient ecumenical consensus.  
St. Vincent of Lerins, a fifth-century monk and theologian, described it as

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

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 24

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

**Gospel:** Matthew 21:1-17 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 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. 1<sup>st</sup> 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**

**Veronica Floyd:** 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. This church is your Spiritual Service Station, and Faith Repair Shop, where our Loving Creating God is C.E.O., the owner of record is Jesus, the Christ, and the Operations Manager is The Holy Spirit. Our Congregation is a franchise location of the Body Of Christ, the Church. The Members and Friends are the working staff here today to facilitate your worship experience. Today is Palm Sunday, March 29, 2026, the first day of Holy Week.

Here are some ways we will assist you during your worship experience today. We will announce all instructions, pages, song numbers, and use a psalm response verse to assist people with various stages of visual impairment.

To all who are online or may view this recording later, to facilitate your participation, please look for today's bulletin, Order of Worship, and the Music Supplement on Facebook Live by right-clicking the "Featured Links" icon. On Zoom, 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). The Zoom link is also posted on the webpage.

**Lisa Frost:** 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 as many or as few parts of this worship event as you feel comfortable. To people watching online, you may receive Holy Communion with us during this worship event. To participate in Communion, please 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. Also, if you desire to participate in the blessing and waving of branches in honor of Palm Sunday, you may go outside and bring in a small branch from a bush or tree. Also, a small dish of water and something to sprinkle the water with, such as a small leafy twig, that we will use to bless the palms and branches. We will use these in 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 2<sup>nd</sup> ring will announce the start of the worship event.**

**Marcus Coppola:** (\*\*PLEASE wait for the second bells to ring, and remember to look up at the people and smile.\*\*) Good morning, my name is Marcus Coppola. Thank you for choosing to spend time with us today. In Romans, Chapter 15, verse 7, the Scriptures instruct us to:

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

**Marcus Coppola:** 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 living in us, Christ Jesus Our Lord and Saviour living in us, and in the name of the Holy Spirit living in us. Amen.**

**Brother:** The grace of Our 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.**

**Brother:** Welcome to your Spiritual Service Station and Faith Repair Shop, where we promise to do our best to help everyone worship God in Christ, through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit. At Ray Of Hope, we embrace a free-thinking standard, meaning, in part, that what you believe is between you and God. You are welcome here from any faith tradition, and even if you have

no faith at all. God will take care of the relationship between God and you. We are here to welcome, love, and affirm all of who you are.

Today is March 29, 2026, Palm Sunday, the start of Holy Week, and the fifth week of Women's History Month, 2026. Friends in Christ, it is a wonderful gift from God that we have arrived at the beginning of Holy Week, 2026, the 43rd celebration of Holy Week at Ray Of Hope Church of Central New York and now everywhere. This year will be my 34th time celebrating Holy Week with our Congregation. For this, let's give God thanks and praise by clapping.

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

Ray Of Hope Church officially began on Reformation Day, October 31, 1983, the vigil of the Feast of All Saints. October 31, 2024, marked our forty-first anniversary, and we are now in our forty-second year of ministry.

The first public worship event in the Southern Tier was held on Saturday, September 14, 1996, The Feast of the Triumph Of The Cross. September 14, 2025, was the twenty-ninth anniversary of the first worship event. We are in our 30th year of ministry in the Southern Tier.

Sunday, June 1, 2025, was the twenty-second anniversary of the opening of the Elmira Chapel. We are in our 23rd year at 380 W. First Street, Elmira, NY.



**Lisa:** On this Palm Sunday, 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.**

**Lisa:** Our first song today is "Hosanna" in the worship notebook, number 46, and in the electronic Music Edition. Please rise as you are able for our first song, "Hosanna."

**FIRST SONG: Notebook #46 Hosanna words and music by Carl Tuttle**

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**Liturgy of the Blessing of the Palms**

**Lisa Frost:** 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 of the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem at the start of his Passion Week. We would sing and process up the street and into our beautiful double doors.

Jesus entered the City of Jerusalem on the date foretold by the Prophet Daniel over 560 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 during the life of Jesus of Nazareth should have recognized Him as the Suffering-Servant Messiah.

**ALL: Many people did recognize Him, and they 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.**

**Lisa Frost:** Today's first act of worship is to remember and thank God for this great event by blessing and waving palm branches, or other branches you may have to celebrate the Holy Name of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour. All the work of God is done through the action of the Holy Spirit in the Church Age. A blessing-action of the Holy Spirit is called an **epiclesis**, in which the action of the Holy Spirit brings about change. We pray an **epiclesis**, a blessing prayer for change, every time we celebrate Holy Communion together. So too, right now we are going to pray an **epiclesis** prayer, and there will be many more during Holy Week. With this prayer, we ask God to make these palm branches holy. If you have some Holy Water at home, you may use it to sprinkle the branches or just say the prayer out loud.

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.**

**Lisa Frost:** We go forth now, in a VIRTUAL PROCESSION, with palms and loud singing as we sing together The King Of Glory, which is based on today's reading of Psalm 24. Please turn in the Glory and Praise hymnal to **number 423**, or in the electronic Music Edition. Wave the palm branches (or whatever branch you can find to wave) on the refrain of this song to spiritually welcome Jesus afresh into our lives.



**SECOND 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. Onelicense # 81352 Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278.



**WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS**

**+ Confession and Forgiveness of our sins, our failures.**

**Ed Askins:** Please be seated. (**wait**) Now, Ray Of Hope Church provides another service: Christ is truly present among us and forgives 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.

**(\*\*Please wait to provide some silence for private prayers and confession.\*\*)**

**Veronica:** Loving, Creating, and Eternal God, all life in the Universe comes from You. When we become self-absorbed and self-centered, we close ourselves off to seeing your beauty in all its forms. Lord, have mercy.

**ALL: Lord, have mercy.**

**Veronica:** Christ Jesus, you call us to present the Love of God to everyone we meet. The governments of the world compete to gain control over man-made

power through their conflicting ideas, agendas, and systems, even to the point of war. Broaden our concern for each other. Christ, have mercy.

**ALL: Christ, have mercy.**

**Veronica:** Holy Spirit, you desire to help us understand our circumstances and the world systems we live in. Society would have us prioritize everything over time to assemble for worship, time for private prayer, and devotional study of the Word. Holy Spirit, with you living in us and with all the resources we have available, access to the Word of God is more available than ever. Lord, have mercy.

**ALL: Lord, have mercy.**

**Lisa Frost:** We pray for forgiveness and renewal together.

**ALL: Lord Jesus, hear our confession, and receive our sins. Touch our hearts and shape our desires so that we will seek your Will daily in our lives. Send your Holy Spirit now to heal the wounds in our memories. Inform our conscience with the fire of your divine love so we will follow you without reservation. Draw us closer to you with your gentle voice and loving arms. We accept your forgiveness and restoration, in the Name of God, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**Lisa Frost:** The Lord has heard our confession and has granted forgiveness, and so we proclaim 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.**

**Lisa Frost:** The Church now provides the service of praising God together in thanksgiving. Please rise as you are able to give thanks and praise to God for the forgiveness of our sins by praying the Gloria.

**Spoken:**

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

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

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

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

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

### **+ Opening Prayer**

**Wayne Harris:** Please remain standing for the opening prayer.

**Wayne Harris:** The Lord is with you.

**ALL:** And also with you.

**Wayne Harris:** Together, we lift up our hearts.

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

**Wayne Harris:** 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**

**Wayne Harris:** 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

**Ed Askins:** Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am in the City of \_\_\_\_\_ in the State of \_\_\_\_\_.

Our first reading is in the Book of Zechariah, chapter 9, verses 9-10. You will find this on page 884 in the front of the NRSV Bible. I will be reading from The Inclusive Bible. Here begins the reading:

<sup>9</sup> Rejoice in heart and soul, daughter of Zion!  
Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!  
Look! Your ruler comes to you:  
victorious and triumphant,  
humble, 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> The ruler will banish chariots from Ephraim  
and horses from Jerusalem;  
the bow will be banished.

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

The ruler will proclaim peace for the nations;  
the empire stretching from sea to sea,

from the River to the ends of the earth.

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

**ALL:** Thanks be to God!

(Zechariah 9:9-10. Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation (p. 1461). Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. Kindle Edition. The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation Page 362. Copyright © 2007 by Priests for Equality. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. To Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc., September 4, 2024. Please accept this correspondence as authorization and permission to use the cited material at no charge. Please do use appropriate citation and referencing protocols. The Rights & Permissions Team, Globe Pequot International Sales, Marketing & Rights, Part of the Globe Pequot Publishing Group Representing the Rowman & Littlefield Publishing Group, now part of Bloomsbury.)

**+ Psalm:**

**Marcus Coppola:** (Introduction only if needed.) Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am in the City of \_\_\_\_\_ in the State of \_\_\_\_\_.

The Psalm today is number 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.**

<sup>7</sup> O gates, lift high your heads;  
grow higher, ancient doors.  
Let the king of glory enter!

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

<sup>8</sup> Who is the king of glory?  
The LORD, the mighty, the valiant,  
the LORD, the valiant in war.

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

<sup>8</sup> Who is the king of glory?  
The LORD, the mighty, the valiant,

the LORD, the valiant in war.

**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. (\*\*This section is written by Br. Benedict\*\*)

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

**Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6** - The Lord of Glory (inclusive language - 1993) ©1963, 1986, 1993 The Grail (England). Psalm (23) 24 Onelicense Song #05622. 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 and final stanza are written by Brother Shawn F. Benedict.

## + Second Reading

**Lisa Frost:** \*\*\*\* **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. Again, this is the NRSV Updated Edition of ©2021. The NRSV pew bibles have a similar translation on page 224 in the second testament. Here begins the reading:

10 :1 Since the Law was only a reflection of the good things to come and not their true reality, it was quite incapable of perfecting the worshipers by the same sacrifices offered continually year after year. <sup>2</sup> Otherwise, wouldn't the priests have stopped offering them because the worshipers, once cleansed, would no longer have had consciousness of

sin? <sup>3</sup> But through these sacrifices there came only a yearly reminder of sins, <sup>4</sup> because it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. <sup>5</sup> And this is what Jesus said, on coming into the world:

"You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation prepared a body for me. <sup>6</sup> In burnt offerings or sacrifices for sin you took no pleasure. <sup>7</sup> Then I said, just as it was written of me in the scroll of the book, 'God, here I am! I have come to do your will.'" (Psalm 40:6-8)

<sup>8</sup> In saying that God doesn't want burnt offerings and sacrifices—which are offered according to the Law—<sup>9</sup> and then saying, "I have come to do your will," Jesus abolishes the first Covenant in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup> By God's will, we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once and for all.

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

(Hebrews 10:1-10. Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation (pp. 3162-3163). Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. Kindle Edition. The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation Page 777. Copyright © 2007 by Priests for Equality. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. To Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc., September 4, 2024. Please accept this correspondence as authorization and permission to use the cited material at no charge. Please do use appropriate citation and referencing protocols. The Rights & Permissions Team, Globe Pequot International Sales, Marketing & Rights, Part of the Globe Pequot Publishing Group Representing the Rowman & Littlefield Publishing Group, now part of Bloomsbury.)

## **+ 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 Matthew, chapter 21, verses 1-17. We are reading from the NRSV Updated Edition of ©2021. The NRSV pew bibles have a similar translation on page 23 in the second testament.

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

**ALL: And also with you.**

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

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

### **Jesus's Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem**

**21** When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup> saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them

immediately." <sup>[a]</sup> <sup>4</sup> This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the Prophet:

<sup>5</sup> "Tell the daughter of Zion,  
Look, your king is coming to you,  
humble and mounted on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." (Zechariah 9:9)

<sup>6</sup> The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; <sup>7</sup> they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup> A very large crowd<sup>[b]</sup> spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup> The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the  
Lord! (Psalm 118:26)  
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

<sup>10</sup> When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" <sup>11</sup> The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

### **Jesus Cleanses the Temple**

<sup>12</sup> Then Jesus entered the temple<sup>[c]</sup> and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. <sup>13</sup> He said to them, "It is written,

'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' (Isaiah 56:7)  
but you are making it a den of robbers."

<sup>14</sup> The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. <sup>15</sup> But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did and heard<sup>[d]</sup> the children crying out in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they became angry <sup>16</sup> and said to him, "Do you hear what these are saying?" Jesus said to them, "Yes; have you never read,

'Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies  
you have prepared praise for yourself?'

<sup>17</sup> He left them, went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord!  
**ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

[Read full chapter](#)

**Footnotes**

- a. [21.3](#) Or 'The Lord needs them and will send them back immediately.'
- b. [21.8](#) Or *Most of the crowd*
- c. [21.12](#) Other ancient authorities add *of God*
- d. [21.15](#) Gk lacks *heard*

(Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+21%3A1-17&version=NRSVUE> )  
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**(NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION UPDATED EDITION (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

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are as follows:

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!

**GOSPEL RESPONSE SONG: Hymn Of Glory**

Brother: Please turn in the Notebooks to number 110 in the back, Hymn Of Glory. You may also find this in the electronic Music Editions on your computers, Hymn Of Glory by Charles Christmas. This is a celebration of our participating in the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, into our hearts, and into the future Kingdom of Christ "on earth as it is in heaven." Please rise to celebrate together, the Hymn of Glory.

**+ Sermon**



**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 43 years. October 31, 2025 - 42nd Anniversary now in our 43rd 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. 15:10**

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 (workers, servants, assistants) 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)

**RED for Martyrs; dry martyr, wet martyr. People feel crushed** under the weight of massive firings across the United States, a result of the new President and his Administration. \*\*Good news: Federal Judges ordered the Executive Administration to reinstate all Federal Employees who have been fired since the start of this Administration. (Source: <https://www.cnn.com/2025/03/13/politics/judge-opm-probationary-employees-fired-hearing/index.html>)

**=====SERMON NOTES: Brother ===3-29-26===Palm Sunday=====**  
**Holy Week, 2026, celebrating the week that changed everything.**

**=====READINGS =====**

**Vocabulary**

**Anamnesis** is a Greek word used in the study of worship to indicate active remembering through action, awareness, acclamation, actualization, ascent, and the act of remembering by doing. We experience this when we say expressions like, "It is as if Grandma is here." Sometimes, seeing a movie, watching a video, or looking at photos can trigger a memory and relive an

experience.

**Epiclesis** is a Greek word that actively calls for the Holy Spirit to do something and to make something happen that will glorify God in, with, and through Christ. Every blessing using spoken words is an epiclesis.

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

עֲשֵׂה

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.*

Monstrance: Latin monstrare - to show. Medieval Latin monstrantia, meaning "demonstration or proof," refers to a monstrance used to show the Blessed Sacrament or Eucharistic Miracles.

\*\*\*\*\* **show monstrances**

Scriptures:

(<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 Joseph ("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) )

Books titled "All the Women of the Bible" by Dr. Herbert Lockyer. R.S.L.  
"All the Women of the Bible" by Edith Deen, © 1955.

During the Stations of the Cross, which we will celebrate on 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)

**Holy Week** is the celebration of the events at the end of Jesus' physical life on Earth that sealed and secured humanity's salvation. We have already noted that the Holy Week worship services are celebrations, not the historical

anniversaries of these events. With the evolution of calendars and the course of time, the exact dates are lost. As anyone can see, for example, the Feast of Passover is on a different date on our calendar from year to year. The Passover Seder - ritual meal- is eaten at sunset on the 14th day of the Hebrew month of Nisan and begins the Passover Week Nisan 15. This year, 2026, Passover started at sunset on Wednesday, April 1st, and is counted through Thursday, April 9th. Other Jewish sects begin on different days. With movable worship feasts involved, the matter is further complicated if one attempts to find the exact dates of the final events in the human life of Jesus.

**Palm Sunday** - 10:30 a.m. celebration of the revelation of the Messiah with the Triumphal Entry into the City of Jerusalem in fulfillment of the prophecies of Daniel, Zechariah, and others. Palms are blessed and taken home to serve as reminders of these events all year. The prophecy of Daniel is explained: "It voices the only prophecy in the Old Testament (9:24-27) that sets the time of Christ's first advent." (Source: Scofield Study Bible III - more than twenty-three editor theologians from 1909 to the 2009 edition, NKJV, page 1165. Oxford University Press)

**Holy Thursday** - 7:00 p.m. Jesus gives the Church His Body and Blood in the Eucharistic Feast, thereby advancing or progressing the Passover Bread of Moses with the Law, and the Cup of Elijah, sealing up the Prophets forward into His Sacrament of the New and Everlasting Covenant. He concludes the Priesthood of Aaron and establishes the Priesthood of Believers and the guardians of His Blessed Sacrament and Word. Worship - Bells for "The Gloria," Liturgy of the Word, renewal of Ordained Priestly Vows, Eucharist, Meditation (in the Garden) using a monstrance and stand, Benediction at 8:30. Finished by 8:45 p.m. Please leave the chapel in silence for those who wish to remain and pray. We can visit outdoors. There is no social hour.

**Good Friday (Sacrifice Friday, Passion Friday)** - 7:00 p.m. The Stations of the Cross with two hymns, "Were You There" and "Lift High The Cross." There is no Holy Communion on this day. We are usually finished by 8:00 p.m. Please leave the chapel in silence for those who wish to remain and pray. We can visit outdoors. There is no social hour.

**Holy Saturday, The Vigil of the Resurrection of Christ** - The most important worship event of the entire year. 7:45 p.m. after sunset. The celebration begins with awe and praise for all of Creation. Begins with the blessing of a new fire and service of Light, then water with the service of Baptism, and the Word continues through the Resurrection Proclamation with the singing of "The Gloria" with ringing bells—the Gospel of the Resurrection, the Rite of Membership to receive new Members into the Church. The Eucharist is celebrated. Normally, worship ends by 9:30 p.m. There is social time around the fire to roast marshmallows, hot dogs, and other treats, if people bring them and want to stay and visit.

No events are scheduled for Sunday, April 5, so you can visit with others on "Easter Sunday."

Visit our main website: [www.rayofhopechurch.com](http://www.rayofhopechurch.com)

Visit our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/lgbtqisia2ssByYou/>

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

380 W. 1st St., Elmira, NY 14901. Pastor's cell: 1-607-280-0374

=====SOCIAL PIECE=====

See the chart comparing the NRSVUE and the NRSVUE-CE at the end of this bulletin.

Digital Pastors

"Love endures all things, believes all things, bears all things, and hopes all things. Love never ends." (NKJV 1 Cor. 13:7-8)

\*)- CONTINUING REVELATION \* \* \* **Keeping Watch** \* \* \* On Sunday,

3-29-26 Palm Sunday, Women's History Month Week V Year A Page 23 of 47  
January 19, 2024, I wrote the following in the bulletin. Finally, a hopeful thought to close with: on Friday, January 17, 2025, President Biden announced the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution is the law of the Land because all of the required votes of the States have been received. The American Bar Association agrees that all requirements have been met. The National Archivist, Colleen Shogan, only has to certify and publish the 28th Amendment.

(Source: [https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2025/01/17/statement-from-president-joe-biden-on-the-equal-rights-amendment/#:~:text=The%20American%20Bar%20Association%20\(ABA,Constitution%20as%20the%2028th%20Amendment.\)](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2025/01/17/statement-from-president-joe-biden-on-the-equal-rights-amendment/#:~:text=The%20American%20Bar%20Association%20(ABA,Constitution%20as%20the%2028th%20Amendment.))) NPR story on the ERA  
<https://www.npr.org/2025/01/17/nx-s1-5264378/biden-era-national-archivist-constitution>

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

## INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

**Brother:** Our Prayers of the People will each be followed by our common petition, "Lord, hear our prayer."

**Kaiden:** We hold up to You, oh God, all who have asked us to pray for them and those for whom we have promised to pray. We pray to the Lord,

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

**Kaiden:** We pray for all who are in danger because of acts of war, especially children, the elderly, those in hospitals, nursing centers, schools that the weapons of war have leveled or severely damaged, and for all military personnel of any Nation and their families. We pray to the Lord,

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

**Kaiden:** The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other agencies report that on a global scale, more than 123

million people are forcibly displaced as a result of persecution, conflict, violence, or human rights violations. In total, approximately 304 million people are migrating somewhere on this earth as we speak. Therefore, we pray that government leaders think beyond their own countries, or worse, their own personal ambitions for worldly power, wealth, and authority, and seek to help resolve this crisis. We pray to the Lord,

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

**Kaiden:** We pray for people who have lost access to employment, a home, or an apartment, especially those who are in despair. We ask the Holy Spirit to guide social agencies in finding practical solutions that help people regain their footing in society. We pray to the Lord,

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

**Marcus:** We pray for people who suffer oppression and discrimination, especially when it is based on poverty, social status, ethnicity, sexual identity, and gender expression. We pray to the Lord,

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

**Marcus:** We pray for all who are sick, all who are in any form of treatment, all who care for the sick, and all who support those delivering care and their families. (\*\*pause for a moment of silence.\*\*) We pray to the Lord,

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

**Marcus:** We pray that all people throughout the world, especially the lukewarm of faith, and those in most need of your mercy, O God, would turn to You and accept your guidance. We pray to the Lord,

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

**Marcus:** God, give us the grace to bear with each other's burdens and to be instruments of your peace. We pray to the Lord,

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

**Pastor concludes the Prayers of the People.**

(For more information on government statistics regarding some of the populations mentioned above, see the following source: [https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/20250728/samhsa-releases-annual-national-survey-on-drug-use-and-health#:~:text=Among%20people%2012%20or%20older%2C%2016.8%25%20\(or%2048.4%20million.2021%20to%209.8%25%20in%202024](https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/20250728/samhsa-releases-annual-national-survey-on-drug-use-and-health#:~:text=Among%20people%2012%20or%20older%2C%2016.8%25%20(or%2048.4%20million.2021%20to%209.8%25%20in%202024) ).




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

**Veronica Floyd:** Worship is our primary activity as a church. We are grateful to all the people over the last forty-two years of ministry who have given their help and assistance so that Ray Of Hope is here in 2024. Thank you to everyone who has contributed with your gifts "seen and unseen," may God bless you.

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 QR Code , 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."

**Kaiden:** As we set the Table of the Lord here in the chapel and in your homes, we are going to sing: "Bless His Holy Name." The music is available in the Notebook #42 and in the electronic Music Edition. Please sing along as we set the Table of the Lord.

**OFFERTORY: Bless His Holy Name.**

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**Ed Askins:** (\*\*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 thank you for those who can give financially and by sharing their skills, prayers, talents, volunteering, and other forms of support. We bless you, Lord, for those who could not give at this time, and we pray that all their needs will be met. We dedicate all this to the Name of Jesus, Amen. Please rise as you are able **to sing and pray**

**the conclusion of the Service of the Word with the Doxology.**

(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.**

**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.**

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

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  
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**

**Brother:** 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**

**Brother:** You may relax your arms and hands. Kaiden, please show the Bread today, and Wayne, please show the cup. **Today, we pray together in song the words of Institution.**

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

**Wayne Harris:** 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 Corporation) CCLI Song#1534 Used with permission by our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121, and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.



**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.

**Pastor:** 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!

**Ed Askins:** Please open your kit and receive Holy Communion now. 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. (\*\*Please pause here to give people time to receive.\*\*)**

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

**Veronica Floyd:** 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 on a prayer in the Prayer Book of 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 anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion. Still, circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

### **+ Sign Of Peace**

**Veronica:** In Romans, chapter five, verse one, we read: 5:1 "Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Friends in Christ, since we have this peace, we

can share it with one another. Therefore, I proclaim, the Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ is with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

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

**Veronica:** 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, and clear your worship table and altar.

**Lisa Frost:** We continue our prayers now by singing together: "Reflections on a Central Commitment," words and music by Deacon Ray Defendorf. The words are printed below. Please rise as you are able to sing "Reflections on a Central Commitment."

## **COMMUNION SONG: REFLECTIONS ON A CENTRAL COMMITMENT**

Words and Music by Ray Defendorf – Celebrate Life Songs

Verse 1

Sometimes it seems that we've lost track of  
The reason we were put upon the earth.  
Is it to have never – rocked a boat or never tried?  
Is it just – to exist – until we die?

**Refrain 1**

That's not my way. Not why I suffered.  
To change the world – I died.  
I gave my life for – a new way of living.  
My way is love. My way brings peace.

## Verse 2

If success and wealth – are the only goals.  
That give this life its worth.  
Tell me why the flowers – and the little child delight.  
In simply living in this world – and resting by the night.

## Refrain 2

Sing a new song. Live a new life.  
To change the world – I died.  
I gave my life for – a new way of living.  
My way is love. My way brings peace.

## Verse 3

Life is change. The youth becomes an elder.  
Youth is spring – and spring is but a day.  
But if in spring the seeds of brotherhood are sown . . .  
Your life will grow in love – and that's my way.

## Refrain 3

Spread the Good News. Tell my story.  
To change the world – I died.  
I gave my life for – a new way of living.  
My way is love. My way brings peace.  
Peace. Peace!

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From Deacon Ray's CD – "Gentle Spirit". Deacon Ray Defendorf on Apple Music:

<https://music.apple.com/us/artist/deacon-ray-defendorf/64895995>

**Deacon Ray Defendorf** <https://deaconray.com/>

**Reflections performed by Celebrate Life 2004** <https://deaconray.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/02-Reflections.mp3>

**Deacon Ray on Spotify:**

<https://open.spotify.com/album/6VdFJaJejlkKc4bbg2d4X>

## Treasurer's Report for the month of February 2026

It's with a thankful heart that I write this report. God's faithfulness and your generous donations came together and it's been a month where we could meet all our obligations on time.

**General Fund** opening balance at the beginning of February was \$612.71. Regular donations to the General Fund were \$2,754.48. Payments out of this account were: Pastoral compensation of \$2,060.00, Verizon \$62.75, a reimbursement for communion kits to Ed Askins purchased on Amazon \$26.99. Larger bills monthly allotment was moved to savings in the amount of \$153.00 and Paypal charges were \$36.48 and I transferred \$83.34 to savings for February Self-Employment tax for the Appointed Pastor. After these were paid the balance of this account at the end of the month was \$944.63. There were no undeposited funds for February.

**Building Fund** opening balance was \$652.36. Donations to the Building fund were as follows: Ian and Christina McLaughlin \$450.00, Brother Shawn Benedict \$650.00, Marcus \$100.00. I transferred in from the Building Improvement Fund \$1,325.00. Bills that came out of the fund this month were the Credit Card bill with Key Bank of \$47.53, electric bill \$352.92, gas bill \$445.00, Finger Lakes Casualty for insurance \$307.40, and Christian Kalweit, electrician \$1,325.00. I transferred \$216.00 to savings toward the large bill allotment. Ending balance of this fund was \$483.51.

**Building Improvement Fund** opening balance on this account was \$547.36. Deposits to this account were Katrina \$100.00, Wayne and Glenn \$400.00, Ian and Christina \$1,000.00 and Ed Askins \$340.00. I transferred \$150.00 from savings that had originally been donated for the dishwasher. I transferred \$1,325.00 out to the Building Fund to cover the electrician's check noted above. The ending balance in the account was \$1,212.36 which is being saved towards the balance of the electrician's bill.

**Savings (Council) Account** opening balance in this account was \$1,736.87. Transfers to this account were \$153.00 from General Fund for large bills, \$83.34 from General Fund for the Appointed Pastor's self-employment tax for February and \$216.00 from Building fund for large bills. Transfers out of this account was \$150.00 to the Building Fund which had been saved for the dishwasher. The balance at the end of the month was \$2,039.21.

Our year to date income is \$9,825.81 and our year to date expenses are \$11,141.38

**Upcoming bills:** Bills due before the end of February: Transfer to savings for General fund large bills \$153.00, Appointed Pastor's self-employment tax for February \$83.32, transfer to savings for Building Fund large bills \$216.00.

### Credit Card

The balance on the credit card as of the last statement is \$ 2,540.89 because I put the \$453.00 for CCLI on it last month.

### Balances as of March 20, 2026

General fund: \$705.78

Building fund: \$149.93

Building Improvement fund: \$457.36

Savings: \$1,556.21

Savings breakdown is: Self-employment tax money \$166.68, Building fund large bills \$1,138.53 and General fund large bills \$251.00

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

**General Offering** for the week of March 1, \$1,925.00 Attendance 10 on Sunday Tuesday March 3 - 5, Wednesday, March 4, Mass - 6

**General Offering** for the week of March 8, \$50.00 Attendance 11 on Sunday Tuesday March 10 - session not held, Wednesday, March 11, Mass - 8

**General Offering** for the week of March 15, \$425.00 Attendance 11 on Sunday Tuesday March 17 - 8, Wednesday, March 18, Mass - 9

**General Offering** for the week of March 22, \$800.00 Attendance 12 on Sunday Tuesday March 24 - 5, Wednesday, March , Mass - 7

**THANK YOU, EVERYONE**, for all the donations made to date on our building improvements. You are making change happen with your generosity. CELEBRATE the accomplishments!!!!!! Donations that cause change and growth are not always in cash; many thanks to everyone who donates time and talent, cooking, cleaning, transporting, calling, reminding, making copies, and so many other examples of donated help. Thank you.

**DISHWASHER / APPLIANCE ROOM: MARCH:**

**Building Improvement Fund: MARCH:** \$50.00 donated by Marcus 3-8-26, thank you Marcus. March 20, 2026 - Deanna Caputo and Jason Ramboz \$320.00, thank you both.

**Exterior Building Improvement Summer, 2026 Fund: We are looking to raise \$11,000.00**

**HOT WATER TANK:** \$100.00 by Katrina Lourdiane, thank you. 3-25-26 \$100.00 Wayne and Glenn, thank you.

Donations to the Building Improvements are still welcome as we have insulation, drywall, dryer vent, and finishing to do.

We are very grateful to the **Novant Community Benefit Fund (Robinson)**, a donor-advised fund of The Winston-Salem Foundation for a gift grant of \$500.00 we received at the beginning of March, 2026. Thank you **Dr. Elwood Robinson and Denise Robinson** for remembering the work of Ray Of Hope in this kind and very helpful way. We truly appreciate this gift.

**\*\* Special Gifts made this week:** on 3-20-26 Brother made a \$150.00 donation to the Building Improvement Fund to help with the electric repairs.

**\*\* Recent Special Gifts made in addition to offering plate gifts.** on 3-18-26 Brother made a donation to the Building Fund fo \$350.00, thank you. As mentioned above, on 3-20-26 Deanna Caputo and Jason Ramboz made a \$320.00 donation to the Building Improvement Fund, thank you both. \$50.00 donated to the Building Fund by Marcus on 3-8-26, thank you Marcus. Thank you to Brother Benedict for a gift of \$350.00 received for the Building Fund on 3-8-26. In the week of February 22 through March 1, we received a total of **\*\*\$2,480.00\*\*** including the following: Ed Askins donated \$340 to the Building Improvement Fund, thank you, Ed. Wayne and Glenn donated \$350.00 to the Building Improvement Fund, thank you both. Ian McLaughlin made a

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**



**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

The single, and I suggest, the most effective way to help grow our Congregation at this time is to join the Music Ministry. I sincerely believe that every Person's participation in the Music Ministry will enhance every aspect of our service to people who are not in this room today but will want to participate as they witness the growth the ministry in worship music will bring. 2-6-26 Br. Benedict.

Unexpected Building Equipment Malfunctions since January 1, 2026

Repair #1) Water main valve broke on 1/7/26. We still owe \$180.00

Repair #2) Electric repaired. Tuesday, St. Patrick's Day, washing machine and dryer - MANY THANKS TO EVERYONE, we can't thank you enough. With this repair paid for, we completely spent our Building Improvement Fund, and some private donations were given at the last minute.

Repair #3) After Bible Enrichment, Tuesday night, March 17, we noticed the Hot water tank malfunctioned at 10:30 p.m. Isaac's had it by Wednesday night, March 18. The total was \$1,850.00. We have paid \$555.00 from the Building Fund. We have \$1,295.00 due on this project.

Ray of Hope Church  
380 West 1st Street  
Elmira, NY 14901 USA

Due Date: 4/26/2026

TASK	DESCRIPTION	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
COMBILLING	Installation of one water heater as per contract.	1.00	\$1,850.00	\$1,850.00
			SUB-TOTAL	\$1,850.00
			TOTAL DUE	\$1,850.00
			BALANCE DUE	\$1,850.00

Repair #4) Saturday morning, the intake pump on the boiler malfunctioned and had to be replaced. The total for this project is \$726.15. We have not paid anything on this outstanding balance.

SERVICES		QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
COMMSVC	Service Fee	1.00	\$99.95	\$99.95
Standard Regular	Standard Regular	3.50	\$120.00	\$420.00
MATERIALS				
4897	Pump * Grundfos Cir 3 Speed	1.00	\$334.35	\$334.35
#	DESCRIPTION			TOTAL
Comm PM Discount	15% Discount for PM Clients			-\$128.15
			<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	\$726.15

=====IT'S HERE!!!!=====

**HOLY WEEK, 2026, celebrating the week that changed everything.**

**ANNUAL RETREAT**

**Sunday, March 29, 2026, is Palm Sunday at 10:30 a.m.**

**\*\*No Bible Enrichment Session planned for Tuesday, March 31  
Tuesday, March 31, is Trans Visibility Day at Steele Memorial Library,  
2:30 - 4:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday, April 1, 2026, Noon ecumenical Mass during Holy Week**

**Flowers for Holy Thursday, April 2, 2026, 7:00 p.m.**

**Holy Thursday -**

**Friday, April 3, 2026, 7:00 a.m. Annual A.C.T.S. Good Friday Celebration 7:00 a.m. Breakfast Buffet 8:00 a.m. Program - Pastor Andy Pollock - United Methodist \$10.00**



**52nd Annual A.C.T.S.  
Good Friday Celebration**

IT IS FRIDAY ...

**Clarion Inn**  
Elmira-Riverview  
760 E. Water St.  
Elmira, NY 14901

**Friday, April 3, 2026 \***  
7:00 am ~ Served Breakfast ~ \$10 per person  
8:00 am ~ Program  
Breakfast Buffet (After Program) \$10 per person  
Reservations required for Breakfast & Buffet

**ACTS**  
www.ACTSTT.org

**Guest Sharer: Pastor Andy Pollock**  
Pastor Andy serves at multiple locations of Fresh Start Church including: Pine City, Miracle Mile, Watkins Glen, and online. He will share his passion relating to the phrase:  
"It is Friday...But Sunday is coming"

\* ACTS Good Friday event includes two breakfast options. We begin with a traditional early served breakfast. Others may enjoy a breakfast buffet after the program.  
Please call Stephanie at 607-737-5280 Ext.207 prior to 5pm on Tuesday, March 31st to register for Breakfast, Program, & Buffet.  
No fee to attend the program without a breakfast meal.

**Friday, April 3, 2026, NOON CHAPEL ASSISTANTS CHAPEL TO BLACK**

**Friday, April 3, 2026, 7:00 p.m. Sacrifice of the Cross, Good Friday**  
The Stations of the Cross

**Saturday, April 4, 2026 NOON CHAPEL ASSISTANTS DECORATE FOR THE VIGIL**

**Saturday, April 4, 2026, 7:45 p.m. Vigil of the Resurrection - Rite of Membership for Marcus Coppola.**

No events scheduled for Sunday, April 5, 2026

April 24, 2026, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Council

May 10, Sunday, Mother's Day and Foundresses Day

May 17, Sunday, Ascension Sunday

May 24, Sunday Pentecost

May 31, Trinity, Memorial Sunday

- June 6, Saturday, Pride Elmira
- June 7, Sunday, Corpus Christi - relicense Servants of the Eucharist
- June 13, Saturday, Pride Corning
- June 14, Sunday, 30th Ordination Anniversary
- June 20, Saturday, Juneteenth in Elmira E.O.P.
- June 21, Sunday, Father's Day, Juneteenth Celebration (19th), and 30th Ordination Anniversary
- June 29th PRIDE SUNDAY

There is a sign-up sheet on the table for desserts during the after-worship fellowship time, and we are seeking volunteers to sign up for desserts. Kaiden will text the volunteer during the week to remind them they have signed up to provide snacks that week.

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**We Are Sent Forth To Serve**

**Kaiden:** SAINTS: The Lord is with you!

**ALL:** And also with you!

**Marcus:** This is our closing prayer. 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

**Kaiden:** 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)

**Marcus:** 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.

**Kaiden:** Please rise as you are able for our final song, "All Glory, Laud and Honor" in the green hymnal number 356 and available in the electronic Music

Edition. The words are printed below. Please rise as you are able to sing "Way Maker."

**LAST SONG:**

**WORDS ONLY:** All Glory, Laud, and Honor  
ST. THEODULPH

1. All glory, laud, and honor  
To you, Redeemer King!  
To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring.  
You are the King of Israel,  
And David's royal Son,  
Now in the Lord's Name coming,  
Our King and Blessed One.

2. All glory, laud, and honor  
To you, Redeemer King!  
To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring.  
The company of angels  
Are praising you on high;  
And mortals, joined with all things  
Created, make reply.

3. All glory, laud, and honor  
To you, Redeemer King!  
To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring.  
The people of the Hebrews  
With palms before you went:  
Our praise and prayers and anthems  
Before you we present.

4. All glory, laud, and honor  
To you, Redeemer King!  
To whom the lips of children

Made sweet hosannas ring.  
To you before your passion  
They sang their hymns of praise:  
To you, now high exalted,  
Our melody we raise.

5. All glory, laud, and honor  
To you, Redeemer King!  
To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring.  
Their praises you accepted,  
Accept the prayers we bring,  
Great source of love and goodness,  
Our Savior and our King.

All Glory, Laud and Honor. 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.

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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.

Made by you and for you, because we are

The Third Sunday of Pride, 2019

NRSVEUE and the NRSVEUE-CA

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

Publisher: National Council of the Churches of Christ. Copyright Information: Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Quotations or reprints more than five hundred (500) verses must be approved in writing by the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., 110 Maryland Ave., Suite 108, Washington, DC 20002.)

**(New Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition (NRSVCE))**

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[https://catholicbibletalk.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/NCC-Catholic-Imprimatur-for-NRSVue\\_Press-Release.pdf](https://catholicbibletalk.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/NCC-Catholic-Imprimatur-for-NRSVue_Press-Release.pdf)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Imprimatur Granted for the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition, Catholic Edition.

**October 3, 2025**

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has

granted an imprimatur for the Catholic Edition of the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (NRSVue) Bible translation. The NRSVue, Catholic Edition is now approved for publication and "permitted for private use and study by the Catholic faithful."

Dr. Hugh Page Jr., chair of the **NCC's Bible Translation and Utilization Committee (BTU)**, said, "I am delighted that the NRSVue, Catholic Edition has received the imprimatur from the USCCB. Such ensures even wider engagement of this update as well as the intellectual and spiritual riches contained therein. We are deeply grateful to the USCCB for its careful review and endorsement."

**The text of the NRSVue, CE will be the same as the base text of the NRSVue for those books regarded as Scripture by both Catholics and Protestants. The Catholic Edition will include the Deuterocanonical books of the Old Testament in the Roman Catholic canonical order.**

The NRSVue was released in 2021 as a major update to the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV), published in 1989. The translation prioritized meticulous research and sound biblical scholarship to deliver the highest quality and most accurate English-language Bible translation. The NCC partnered with the Society of Biblical Literature to initiate the review and update of the text. For questions, contact Friendship Press at [info@friendshippress.org](mailto:info@friendshippress.org).

**It also confirms that there are no differences between the NRSVue and the NRSVue-CE except for the inclusion of the deuterocanonical books in the Catholic canonical order (a detail that was originally reported in the comments here on the blog).**

**NOTE FROM BROTHER BENEDICT: The National Council of Churches and Friendship Press are PROTESTANT, not Roman Catholic organizations.**

<b>OLD TESTAMENT NRSVUE</b>	<b>OLD TESTAMENT NRSVUE-CE</b>
Genesis	Genesis
Exodus	Exodus
Leviticus	Leviticus
Numbers	Numbers
Deuteronomy	Deuteronomy
Joshua	Joshua
Judges	Judges
Ruth	Ruth
1 Samuel	1 Samuel
2 Samuel	2 Samuel
1 Kings	1 Kings
2 Kings	2 Kings
1 Chronicles	1 Chronicles
2 Chronicles	2 Chronicles
Ezra	Ezra
Nehemiah	Nehemiah
Esther	Tobit
Job	Judith
Psalms	Esther
Proverbs	1 Maccabees
Ecclesiastes	2 Maccabees
Song of Songs	Job
Isaiah	Psalms
Jeremiah	Proverbs
Lamentations	Ecclesiastes
Ezekiel	Song of Solomon
Daniel	Wisdom
Hosea	Sirach
Joel	Isaiah
Amos	Jeremiah
Obadiah	Lamentations
Jonah	Baruch
Micah	Ezekiel
Nahum	Daniel
Habakkuk	Hosea
Zephaniah	Joel
Haggai	Amos
Zechariah	Obadiah
Malachi	Jonah
<b>APOCRYPHA - MORE HERE</b>	Micah
Tobit	Nahum
Judith	Habakkuk
Greek Esther	Zephaniah
Wisdom of Solomon	Haggai

Sirach	Zechariah
Baruch	Malachi
Letter of Jeremiah	
Prayer of Azariah	
Susanna	
Bel and the Dragon	
1 Maccabees	
2 Maccabees	
1 Esdras	
Prayer of Manasseh	
Psalms 151	
3 Maccabees	
2 Esdras	
4 Maccabees	

[Statement of Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, archbishop of Chicago, “A Call to Conscience”](#)

[March 7, 2026](#)

**Calling up the Draft.** On March 10, Karoline Leavitt, the White House Secretary, stated there is no "current plan" for a draft, but also noted the administration "wisely keeps its options on the table" for Operation Epic Fury.

(Source: [https://www.military.com/daily-news/2026/03/11/could-us-bring-back-draft-who-would-be-called-first-and-who-qualifies.html#:~:text=Comments%20From%20the%20White%20House,\(Archives.gov\)](https://www.military.com/daily-news/2026/03/11/could-us-bring-back-draft-who-would-be-called-first-and-who-qualifies.html#:~:text=Comments%20From%20the%20White%20House,(Archives.gov)). See also **People.com**: <https://people.com/karoline-leavitt-says-trump-not-ruling-out-military-draft-amid-iran-war-11921874>)

The cost of the war for the first six days (3-14-26) is 11.3 billion dollars, yet healthcare cuts are far less to extend ACA subsidies.

Project 2025 Unitive Executive Branch

Lukewarm Church

Ray Of Hope Church Weekly Schedule

**Elmira Worship-** Sunday 10:30 a.m. – 380 W. First St. Parsonage/Monastery . Join us live on Zoom. 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, available from the Clerk upon request and on our website at [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 it used to be from 7:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. daily, to help 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 Zoom, 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 the page, [Click Here](#). We will reopen the Chapel as soon as it is reasonably safe and prudent to do so.

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 want to be included on the church Email list.

I want 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)

