

**"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 May 10, 2026, Resurrection Week 6, Year A
The Elmira Foundresses Day, Mother's Day,
Celebration of Aunt Ruth Goyette as she entered Paradise on May 4, 2026

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: 2 Timothy 1:1-13 NRSV 2nd Test. Pg. 211 ** special
reading for Mother's / Foundresses Day.

Psalm: Canticle of the Three Young Men

Second Reading: 1Peter 3:15-18 NRSV 2nd Test. Pg. 234

Gospel: John 14:15-21 NRSV 2ND Testament page 109

***We use the term 1st for the "Old" Testament and 2nd for the "New" Testament. The
NRSV Bible 1st Testament numbers are found in the front portion, and the 2nd
Testament numbers are found in the later portion. If this confuses you, ask
someone around you to assist you. Thank you.**

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CALL TO WORSHIP

Visit and greet one another until the bell rings.

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

Our St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi bell at Ray Of Hope Church, 380 W. 1st St. in Elmira, NY, is a gift from Michael Quinnell of Syracuse, NY, given in September 2005. The bell rings out 39 joyful rings, in contrast to tolling the bell in single rings. The 39 joyful rings honor the 39 lashes Jesus endured, and we now celebrate victory and gratitude for our Salvation. "The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes, we are healed." (Isaiah 53:5) We ring the bell before worship and Bible Enrichment sessions. Listen carefully and see if you can hear all 39 rings.



WE GATHER TO PRAISE THE LORD AND GIVE THANKS

+ Pastoral Welcome

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 May 10, 2026, the start of the sixth week of the Season of the Resurrection.

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. The Zoom link is also posted on the webpage.

Katrina Lourdiane: 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. We will use these in the second half of the worship service. Now, gather all these items, and we will start shortly.



ALL PEOPLE HAVE RECEIVED SALVATION AS A FREE GIFT FROM GOD, ARE ETERNALLY SECURE IN GOD'S LOVE AND ARE BY MODERN TERMS, "SAVED." ALL LGBTQSIA2ss+ persons of every sexual orientation and every gender expression are SAVED and are called to live out the fullness of who they are so that God may be praised. Ray Of Hope Church, Inc. officially took this position on September 18, 2011 and changed the By-laws to secure this position. (www.rayofhopechurch.com/faith.htm) (www.rayofhopechurch.com/purpose.htm)

(The Congregation amended this By-law on September 18, 2011, and used to read: We believe that Salvation is available to all who call on the Name of Jesus Christ, and are re-born into the Life of Christ.)([Article 10 STATEMENT OF FAITH 10.01 Short Form Statement Lines 1140 – 1143](#))



Bell's 2nd ring will announce the start of the worship event.

Lisa Frost: (**PLEASE wait for the second bells to ring, and remember to look up at the people and smile.**) Good morning, my name is _____. 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)

Lisa Frost: 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 May 10, 2026, the start of the sixth Week of seven weeks in the

Season of the Resurrection. There are 40 days from Resurrection Sunday to Ascension Thursday, May 14, and we will celebrate the Ascension of Jesus back to the right hand of God next Sunday, May 17. St. Luke explained this in

Acts 1:1-3; ¹ In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ² until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³ After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

(NRSVUE)

Then, ten days later, at the end of the Omer, the counting of the 50 days from Passover to Pentecost, the Holy Spirit filled the believers, and the Church was born. We are still in the forty days between the Resurrection and the Ascension. We will celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church on Pentecost Sunday, May 24.

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.



Five Themes in our Worship this morning.

- 1. Celebrating the Sixth Week of the Season of the Resurrection**
- 2. Giving God thanks and praise for the life of Ruth Goyette and our time with her in our Faith Community. We will pray for and with her family.**
- 3. Celebrating Mother's Day**
- 4. Celebrating the Five Foundresses of the Elmira Chapel**

5. We had five immediate relatives of our Faith Community participants pass away in the last two weeks. We will acknowledge each person and pray for their families.

Lisa Frost: We begin with our first theme, the start of the Sixth Week of the Season of the Resurrection of Jesus. Christ is risen and truly present with us this morning. Christ is alive and present within our hearts, in this assembly of believers, in this very room, in the entire world. We are here to give God thanks and praise in Christ, and through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit. So now, 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 Frost: Our first song today is "Hymn of Glory," words and Music by Charles Christmas, Number 110 in the white Worship notebook, and in the electronic Music Edition. Please rise as you are able to sing "Hymn of Glory."

FIRST SONG: Hymn of Glory.

Text and Music: Charles Christmas, © 1974, Word of God Music. Onelicense Song #114026. Songs Of Praise Volume 1, number 34. Administered by The Copyright Company. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278.

+ The Candle Of Hope

Kaiden: We invite you to be seated at this time.



Kaiden: Now we light our Candle Of Hope to celebrate the Truth Jesus promises us. Jesus said: (John 5:25 and Titus 2:13)

ALL: "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." (John 11:25, 26)

Kaiden: Please look over and watch as the Candle of Hope is lit. When the flame flickers, we pray our proclamation of Faith.

(Light the candle here.**)**

Kaiden: Together:

ALL: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Kaiden: Today, we light our Candle Of Hope in honor and thanksgiving for our sister in faith, Aunt Ruth E. Goyette. We have enjoyed Aunt Ruth's participation in our Faith Community for nearly two years.

Veronica Floyd: Ruth brought joy to all of us. She sang in the Music Ministry; she was taking on leadership roles in worship. Ruth enjoyed starting the Sign of Peace, wishing all of us the Peace of the Lord be with you! Ruth wanted to learn everything she could about the depth and riches of the Liturgy. Last year, on Good Friday in 2025, Brother remembers taking her over to the Tabernacle and explaining that it reminded us of the empty tomb, as the doors were open, showing that the Blessed Sacrament was absent. One Sunday, this year during Holy Week, Ruth and Brother walked around the chapel and discussed each of the fourteen Stations of the Cross. She was profoundly moved by the story's pain, beautifully portrayed in the Artwork. She wondered why her churches never used such a beautiful tool to teach about the Sacrifice of the Cross.



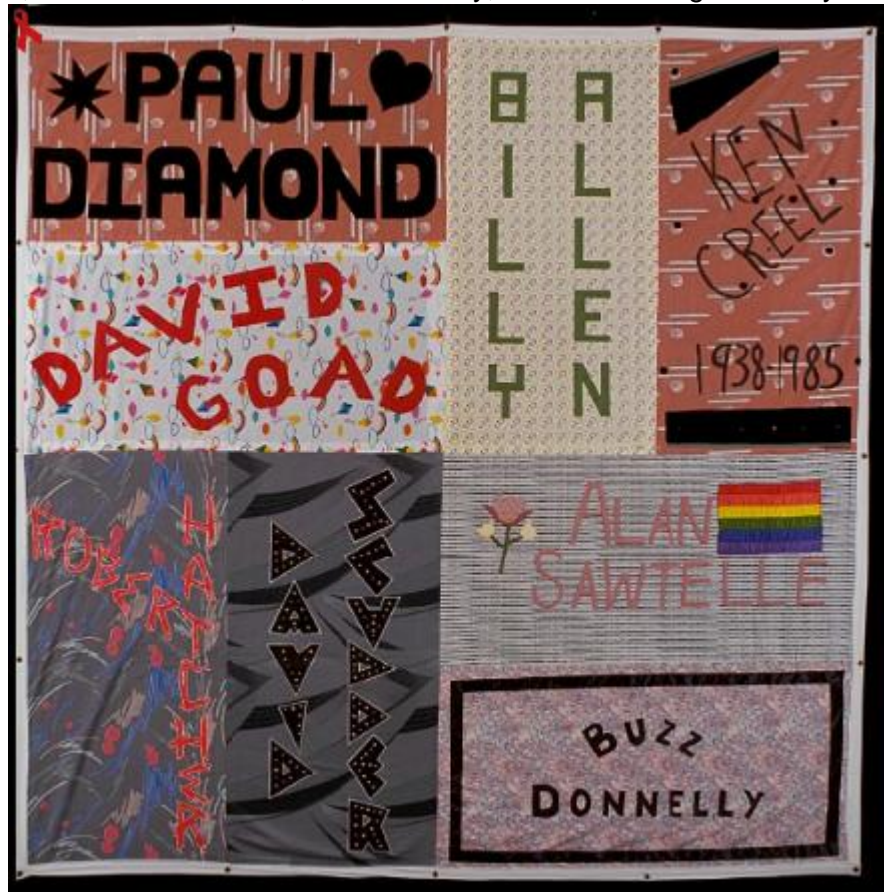
Lisa Frost: Ruth was very honored to present the Blessed Sacrament during Sunday Worship. She often attended the



Wednesday Mass and was planning to expand her leadership role in ministry. Ruth told us every week that she wanted "to do more" for the church and to come to every event we held. Ruth enjoyed our social time after worship and participated in all the conversations. Ruth wanted everyone at Ray Of Hope to be comfortable. Her faith, her life experience, her many years of service in the Methodist Church, and her love for Jesus informed and enriched her love for all of us. We are absolutely confident that she was welcomed into Our Father's House and led to the Kingdom of Light by the Good Shepherd, our Lord Jesus. Now, as she awaits the Return of Christ to gather all the Saints in resurrection bodies and to take us to the Marriage Feast of the Lamb, she will spend her hours praying for all of us, all of her family, her friends. Knowing her heart, she will be praying for all people to turn to Christ and follow Him as she did.

Pastor Benedict: We offer our prayer support and condolences to Glenn and Wayne, and all the family members and friends of Aunt Ruth, as we knew her. We will have a eulogy for Aunt Ruth after Holy Communion and before the final blessing this morning. During the eulogy, some prepared remarks will be shared, and the microphone will be open so that anyone may add their own tributes and memories.

Kaiden Benedict: We know Aunt Ruth would not want us to do things differently today; we know she loved all the customs of our worship event. So, we will view now the next block of panels on the AIDS Memorial Quilt. The panel today is number 187.



These are the names on Block # 187

- Paul Diamond (1)
- David Goad (2)
- Billy Allen (3)
- Ken Creel (4)
- Robert Hatcher (5)
- David Scudder (6)
- Alan Sawtelle (7)
- Buzz Donnelly (8)

(source: <https://www.aidsmemorial.org/interactive-aids-quilt>)

Pastor Benedict: Four families in our Congregation have been touched by the passing of loved ones on to Paradise within the last two weeks. I decided Aunt Ruth would want us to acknowledge the other people in our Congregation who have also been grieving in hope at this time.

Aunt Ruth unexpectedly passed on Monday evening of this week, May 4, at about 6:30 PM. Of course, Aunt Ruth, Wayne and Glenn were a family

You will all remember that Tami and Veronica asked us to pray for their dear friend Earlene Jones and her Spouse, Vicki Brackens, when on Monday, March 16, Earlene went into the Saint Francis House in Syracuse, for hospice care. Earlene passed away on April 22 and is now in Paradise. (B. February 20, 1941 - D. April 22, 2026). Last week, Tami and Veronica went to Syracuse to help Vicki welcome everyone who came to Earlene's Celebration of Life service, which was this last Tuesday, May 5th.

Then, at about 9:55 PM on the same Tuesday night, May 5th, after Bible Enrichment, I received a text from Lisa Frost, "My sister Donna's first husband, Brent passed just now." Lisa and I were in communication for about an hour. Elmer Brent Verguson. (B. December 17, 1939 - D. May 5, 2026), ex-husband of Lisa's sister Donna Cummings.

On Wednesday, May 6, Katrina called in the mid-morning to ask if I could see her in person right away. I said yes. When she sat down, she told me her father had passed away earlier that morning. Charles W. Edmister (B. December 20, 1935 - D. May 6, 2026).

Since I figured most of you would not have known about each other's experience this week with life and death, I decided we should come together around the Candle Of Hope today and pray for the family and friends of each of these people we have known and who have been in our families: Ruth, Earlene, Elmer Brent, and Charles.

Kaiden: In silent prayer, we also remember any other names of family and friends who have preceded us in death. (**pause for silent prayer.**)
May our candle's flame help bring to mind the Joy and happiness known in life, the comfort offered by the Holy Spirit in our loss, and the promise of the "Blessed Hope" we have in the Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

ALL: Amen

(National AIDS Memorial website where you can visit over 48,000 panels and over 110,000 names on the Quilt virtually:

<https://www.aidsmemorial.org/interactive-aids-quilt>)

Kaiden: It is the Lord Jesus who is our Good Shepherd. He alone is the Shepherd of Souls. As He has led our loved ones, remembered here today, into the Father's House, we pray that Jesus will shepherd us through this valley of tears. Our second song is "Shepherd Of Souls" in the green Glory and Praise hymnal number 501, and in the electronic Music Edition. Please rise as you are able for our first song, "Shepherd Of Souls."

SECOND SONG: Shepherd Of Souls. Refresh and Bless Glory and Praise Number 501 Text: CM; verses 1, 2, James Montgomery, 1771–1854; verses 3, 4, anon. Music: John B. Dykes, 1823–1876. Onelicense Song #84164 Glory and Praise 2nd Edition 501 Used with permission. Onelicense #81048 Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278.

Pastor Benedict: Please be seated. It was about 1998 that we started looking for a permanent location for Ray Of Hope Church in the Southern Tier. These five women were particularly dedicated to seeing us set a firm foundation for our Congregation.

FOUNDRESSES DAY AT THE ELMIRA CHAPEL OF RAY OF HOPE CHURCH.



Our Elmira Chapel Foundresses' pictures are hung above and become part of the Credence Table/Altar dedicated to the Incarnation of the Eternal Word and His Blessed Mother Mary.



+ Martha Cummings
born 5/18/1928
Member, 1997
Entered Paradise 2/15/2014



+ Margaret E. Walker
born 2/26/1918
Member, 1997
Entered Paradise 9/4/2006



+ Betty Lou LeHew Goodrich
born 1/31/1923
Member, 1997
Entered Paradise 4/26/2010



+ Jane Mc Dermott
born 3/12/1937
Member, 1997
Entered Paradise 10/1/2019



Lisa Cummings Frost

born 7/17/1957

Member, 1997

Visit our Foundresses, Founders, and Friends of the Congregation page on our website. [Right Click Here.](#)

In the story of Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc. it has been women who have led the way and sustained this Congregation. This is especially true as it was in fact five heterosexual women who established the Elmira Chapel of Ray Of Hope Church. Ephesians 6:11-17: 11 Put on the armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm against the tactics of the devil. 12 For our struggle is not with flesh and blood but with the principalities, with the powers, with the world rulers of this present darkness, with the evil spirits in the heavens. 13 Therefore, put on the armor of God, that you may be able to resist on the evil day and, having done everything, to hold your ground. 14 So stand fast with your loins girded in truth, clothed with righteousness as a breastplate, 15 and your feet shod in readiness for the gospel of peace. 16 In all circumstances, hold faith as a shield, to quench all [the] flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Visit the Foundresses page on our Website: [RIGHT CLICK HERE.](#)



WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS

+ Confession and Forgiveness of our sins, our failures.

Christina: 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. Today, we will make our confession as we sing "An Evening Prayer." This song, "An Evening Prayer," was a favorite sing with our Foundresses. will be our confession, and Lord Have Mercy prayers for today. Please turn in the Worship White notebook to song number 81. The song is also in the electronic music edition, and you may sit or stand as you are comfortable to sing "An Evening Prayer."

CONFESSION SONG: An Evening Prayer Words and Music by C. Maude Battersby, Charles Hutchinson Gabriel. 1911 **Notebook #81**

Verse 1

If I have wounded any soul today
If I have caused one foot to go astray
If I have walked in my own willful way
Dear Lord forgive

Verse 2

If I have uttered idle words or vain
If I have turned aside from want or pain
Lest I myself shall suffer thro' the strain
Dear Lord forgive

Verse 3

If I have been perverse or hard or cold
If I have longed for shelter in Thy fold
When Thou hast given me some fort to hold
Dear Lord forgive

Verse 4

Forgive the sins I have confessed to Thee
Forgive the secret sins I do not see
O guide me love me and keeper be amen

C. Maude Battersby, Charles Hutchinson Gabriel 1911
CCLI Song #172937. © Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain. For use solely with the
SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com. CCLI License #706121, and Christian
Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.

(After the song.. **)**

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

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

Christina: The Church now provides the service of praising God together in thanksgiving as we sing the Traditional Glory Be.

**ALL: Glory be to the One God,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.**

Wayne Harris: Please remain standing for the opening prayer.

+ 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

Veronica Floyd: Hello. My name is _____, and I am in the City of _____ in the State of _____.

The first reading is in the Second Letter to Timothy, chapter 1, verses 1-13. We are reading from the NRSV Updated Edition of ©2021. The NRSV pew bibles have a similar reading on page 211 in the Second Testament. In this reading, chosen especially for today, we hear Paul celebrate the faith of Timothy's grandmother, Lois, and his mother, Eunice. Timothy's grandmother and mother successfully raised him in the Faith. We see here the witness of these good women of faith, and how their faith has been passed down to us through Saint Timothy. Here begins the reading:

Salutation

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

2 To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

Thanksgiving and Encouragement

3 I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. **4** Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. **5** I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. **6** For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, **7** for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

8 Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, **9** who saved us and called us with a holy

calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,^[a] ¹⁰ but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ,^[b] who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹ For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher,^[c] ¹² and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard the deposit I have entrusted to him.^[d] ¹³ Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Read full chapter

Footnotes

- a. [1.9](#) Gk lacks *began*
- b. [1.10](#) Other ancient authorities read *Christ Jesus*
- c. [1.11](#) Other ancient authorities add *of the gentiles*
- d. [1.12](#) Or *the deposit he has entrusted to me*

(<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Timothy+1&version=NRSVUE>)

Scripture quotations are taken from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. See notice above announcements in this bulletin.

+ Psalm:

Pastor Benedict: (Introduction only if needed.) Hello. My name is _____ and I am in the City of _____ in the State of _____.

The Psalm today is part three, the most well-known part of the Canticle of the Three Young Men in the Fiery Furnace, recorded in Daniel, Chapter 3, verses 57 - 88, with verse 56 being the theme.

The Canticles of Daniel, part three: the Three Young Men and the Son of God in the fiery furnace. Daniel 3:57-88, 56 (Lyrical prose by Br. Shawn Benedict, for Mother's Day, Foundresses Day, and Aunt Ruth Goyette. Composed May 4 - May 10, 2026)

⁽⁵⁷⁾L: Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.

All: Give God highest praise and exultation forever.

⁽⁵⁸⁾L: Angels of the Lord, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁵⁹⁾L: All you heavens, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁶⁰⁾L: All you waters above the heavens, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁶¹⁾L: All you, the hosts of the Lord, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁶²⁾L: Come forth you sun, and moon, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁶³⁾L: Praise God, every star in the heavens, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁶⁴⁾L: Praise God, every shower and dew, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁶⁵⁾L: Praise God, all you winds, soft and strong, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁶⁶⁾L: All the fire and heat, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁶⁷⁾L: Every degree, from cold to hot, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁶⁸⁾L: All the dew and the rain, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁶⁹⁾L: Every frost with its chill, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁷⁰⁾L: Frozen ice, and falling snow, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁷¹⁾L: All the nights and all the days, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁷²⁾L: The bright light and the deep dark, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁷³⁾L: Flashing lightning, and rolling clouds, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁷⁴⁾L: Let the whole Earth bless the Lord.

All: Give God highest praise and exultation forever.

⁽⁷⁵⁾L: Every mountain, and every hill, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁷⁶⁾L: Everything growing in the Earth, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁷⁷⁾L: All the seas, and all the rivers, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁷⁸⁾L: Brimming springs and flowing water, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁷⁹⁾L: Every living creature moving in the water, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁸⁰⁾L: All the birds and flying life in the air, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁸¹⁾L: All the living animals, wild and tame, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁸²⁾L: Calling all the people to, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁸³⁾L: May Israel, **All: bless the Lord.**

All: Give God highest praise and exultation forever.

⁽⁸⁴⁾L: All priests of the Lord, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁸⁵⁾L: Every servant of the Lord, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁸⁶⁾L: All the spirits and souls of the just, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁸⁷⁾L: Holy people of humble heart, **All: bless the Lord.**

⁽⁸⁸⁾L: Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael, **All: bless the Lord.**

All: Give God highest praise and exultation forever.

L: Now, we bless the only Living God, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Give God highest praise and exultation forever.

⁽⁵⁶⁾L: Blessed are you, O God, in the highest firmament of heaven,

All: You are worthy of highest praise and exultation forever, Amen.

The Canticles of Daniel, part three: the Three Young Men and the Son of God in the fiery furnace. Daniel 3:57-88, 56 (© May 4 - May 10, 2026 Lyrical prose Composed by Br. Shawn Benedict, for Mother's Day, Foundresses Day, and Aunt Ruth Goyette.)

+ Second Reading

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

The second reading is in the First Letter of Peter, chapter 3, verses 15-18. We are reading from the NRSV Updated Edition of © 2021. The NRSV pew bibles have a similar reading on page 234 in the Second Testament. Here begins the reading:

Beloved: Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts. ¹⁵^bAlways be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned,^[a] those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered^[b] for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you^[c] to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit,

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Read full chapter

Footnotes

- a. [3.16](#) Other ancient authorities read *when they malign you as evildoers*
- b. [3.18](#) Other ancient authorities read *died*
- c. [3.18](#) Other ancient authorities read *us*

(Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Peter+2%3A4-10&version=NRSVUE>) Scripture quotations are taken from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. See notice above announcements in this bulletin.

SECOND READING RESPONSE: In The Garden words and Music by Charles Austin Miles, 1912 Notebook #128

Verse 1

I come to the garden alone,
While the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear,
The Son of God discloses.

Chorus

And He walks with me,
And He talks with me,
And He tells me I am His own;
And the joy we share as we tarry there
None other has ever known.

Verse 2

He speaks and the sound of His voice
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing;
And the melody that He gave to me
Within my heart is ringing.

Verse 3

I'd stay in the garden with Him
Tho' the night around me be falling;
But He bids me go, thro' the voice of woe;
His voice to me is calling.

Charles Austin Miles 1912

CCLI Song #62858

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+ The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

Lisa Frost: 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

6 truth, O Lord; We are Yours e - ter - nal - ly. So we stand to hear Your

11 Word. We praise You for Your Word. Al-le - lu - a! for Your Word. It heals our

16 hearts, souls and minds. For Your Word, Al - le - lu - ia! Thank You Je - sus!

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Reader: The Gospel reading is John, chapter 14, verses 15-21. We are reading from the NRSV Updated Edition of ©2021. The NRSV pew bibles have a similar translation on page 109 in the second testament.

Lisa Frost: Truly present among us, the Lord is with you.
ALL: And also with you.

Lisa Frost: A reading of the Holy Gospel according to John.

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

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep^[a] my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate,^[b] to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be^[c] in^[d] you.

¹⁸ "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord!

ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

[Read full chapter](#)

Footnotes

- a. [14.15](#) Other ancient authorities read *me, keep*
- b. [14.16](#) Or *Helper* or *Comforter*
- c. [14.17](#) Other ancient authorities read *he is*
- d. [14.17](#) Or *among*

(Source: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+14%3A15-21&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

Glo-ry to the One God! Glo-ry to our Sa - vior Je - sds the
 Christ! And, to the Ho - ly Spi - rit, for - ev - er You're Our God!
 You brought us out of dark - ness, in - to Your mar - ve - lous Light! Your Word is our
 joy! For this we give You glo - ry, both now and ev - er more!
 For - ev - er we are Yours! For - ev - er we are Yours!

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+ Sermon

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 ⁵ For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves (workers, servants, assistants) for Jesus's sake. ⁶ 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 ===5-10-26=====

Mother's Day from Wikipedia [Right Click Here.](#)

At Ray Of Hope Church Of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc., we welcome persons of all sexual orientations and all gender expressions. This "welcome" is not just a static tolerance, but a heartfelt embrace, a celebration of the whole person who is in the very person of Christ Himself. This is why we embrace the command of Romans Chapter 15, verse 7 "Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God." (NABRE) It is also why we repeat the words of Fr. O'Brien; "You are as welcome here as Christ Himself."

It can be challenging at times to hear about or think about a sexual orientation or gender expression that is not one's own. This is one way we call each other to grow, by listening to other's experiences.

Today, Mother's Day 2024 (read again on May 10, 2026), is a good day to thank God for Heterosexuality, and the very special gift that is enjoyed in the heterosexual physical union that may result in God granting new life. Certainly, God has granted the Human Race the gift of participating in the ongoing act of Creation by enabling us to bear children. When the family is organized around this gift of birthing and then raising children, the spiritual joys may be innumerable. When two people decide to be parents and raise children, they marry and form a family. God blesses their efforts as God designed this idea. When God is central to this family unit, the spiritual benefits will be countless as the children grow up. Obviously, for a society to survive, there must be new babies born at least at the rate of adults passing away. If people are the building blocks of a society, they must be replaced constantly. So, we honor those who have the gift, the desire, and the sacrificial character to bring children into the world and carefully raise them.

Today, it is very possible for persons of any gender to enter this type of union. Today, there are many ways to form a family and to raise children. A quick review of humanity across different ages and locations will reveal many different family structures, including communal families. God equally blesses all of the possibilities of family formation because family love is based on friendship. In today's readings, the theme of love rooted in friendship runs throughout the sacred texts. Jesus raises friendship to the highest form of human love and

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then calls us his friends. The Quakers got it right when they named themselves "the Society of Friends."

One of the greatest joys in a mother's or a parent's life is holding their newborn baby. The song, "Because He Lives," might seem a little dated in style, but it has a beautiful second verse. It reads: "How sweet to hold a newborn baby, And feel the pride and joy he gives; But greater still the calm assurance: This child can face uncertain days because He lives." (Text: Gloria Gaither and William J. Gaither) The song was written in 1971, before we were thinking about inclusive language. I like to sing and feel the pride and joy they give, so that all children are included. If we have time, we might sing this song later today.

In every family, the elders participate in showing the motherhood of God to the younger members. God blesses us with the gifts of motherhood in ways that perfectly reflect God's own self, God Who is "male and female" according to Genesis 1:27 and many other verses. Our modern "Western" society has taken a very hard and binary standard of male and female. As we come into the 21st Century, many in our society emphasize the failure of this "either male or female" standard. Many religious traditions, even ones that predate the Christianization of this Continent, celebrate and practice gender and parenting as much more fluid than our strictly binary system. There are many verses in the Bible in which God shows God's "feminine" side. We are called to do the same.

Today, we are thankful for those who bond together in life, intending to bring new life into the world and make a home, a place, a nest in society to raise the children. We are grateful that people are willing to make the sacrifices parenting requires. Today, we give thanks to God for anyone who ever held us, who helped us, who listened to us with a motherly love. Today, we thank God for our mothers, for the women who carried us in the womb so that we could have life. Our second reading today, 1 John 4:7-10, teaches us that love is of God, for God is love. So, since we love, we bring the Divine God to another and share in God's real presence.

We are not pretending that things always work out so textbook-perfectly. So, today we are also grateful for those who stepped into our lives when the normal family structure had to change for so many reasons. We are also grateful today to the parents who raised us, even if they were not our genetic parents. We are grateful today for the grandmothers, aunts, and other women who reached out to help us understand the changes in our lives.

We are grateful today for the times when we shared motherly love with those who needed it. We are grateful for those moments that surprised us when God helped us help others in very motherly ways.

Going forward, we might think of ways we can support mothers raising children. Perhaps we might offer to help with errands or to be the secure listener. Also, we might consider ways to increase the dignity of older women in society. We might consider taking Holy Communion and sharing the readings, for example. As we prepare for Pentecost, perhaps we might ask the Holy Spirit for guidance in these areas.

We are grateful for all holy women of any gender who live, work, and pray among us, those on Earth and those in Paradise. To the many mothers "seen and unseen" we have met, we shall meet, and we might become, we give thanks to God on this very Mother's Day.

"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, 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 SONG: Rock Of Ages

Rock Of Ages words and music by Augustus Montague Toplady, Thomas Hastings. 1830. Notebook # 34 Public Domain. CCLI SONG # 40588

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

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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. We do have some special needs at this time. Our cash flow is very low due to unexpected repairs we had to address during the first four months of 2026. 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."

Veronica: As we set the Table of the Lord here in the chapel and in your homes, we are going to sing: "Alleluia! Alleluia! Give Thanks." The Music is in the Glory and Praise Book, number 389, and in the electronic Music Edition. Please sing along as we set the Table of the Lord.

OFFERTORY: Notebook #71

The Old Rugged Cross. Music and Words by George Bennard, 1913 in the Public Domain. The Hymnal Project © 1990 MCC San Francisco used by permission. Onelicense song#95144. All rights reserved. Onelicense song #80668 Used with permission by our Onelicense # 81048 Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278.

Lisa Frost: (**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. Ian, please show the Bread today, and Kaiden, 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!

Marcus: 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

Marcus: 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

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

ALL: And also with you.

Marcus: 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.

Marcus: 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.

Katrina: We continue our prayers now by singing together: "Walking Up The King's Highway," words and Music by Charles Christmas, Number 110 in the white Worship notebook, and in the electronic Music Edition. Please rise as you are able to sing "Hymn of Glory."

COMMUNION SONG: Notebook #7 Because He Lives. Words and Music by Gloria Gaither, William J. Gaither. © 1971 Hanna Street Music (Admin. by Gaither Copyright Management) CCLI Song # 16880 For use solely with the SongSelect®. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com Used with permission through our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121 and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.

EULOGY FOR RUTH E. GOYETTE



Aunt Ruth giving the Sign of Peace April 19, 2026

Ruth E. Goyette Obituary

Age 86 of Horseheads, NY. She was born October 27, 1939 in Ithaca, daughter to the late Seymour Rathbun and Edna Poppino, and passed away Monday, May 4, 2026. Her loving husband of 60 years Roger Goyette predeceased her in death in 2016. She is also predeceased by her two brothers Keith and David Rathbun; son-in-law Scott Beverly and grandson-in-law Jordan Adams. She is survived by her children Roger Goyette Jr., Karen (Phil) Corby and Teresa (Bob) Morris; grandchildren Barbara Goyette, Joshua Beverly, Matthew Beverly, Raven Goyette and Chasse Goyette; great grandchildren Kirstin Weber, Benjiman (Allie) Weber and Lindzey Goyette; great great granddaughter Ellianna Adams; brothers Paul Rathbun and Glenn Rathbun; sister Carol Rathbun; special nephew Glenn (Wayne) Rathbun; special neighbor Dave Kane and many other loved nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Ruth was everyone's Grams. She was welcoming and loving to all and her house was always the one to gather at. She was a woman of strong faith who attended Community Wesleyan Church in Horseheads and sang in the choir at the Ray of Hope Church. In her free time, she loved to sew. Before retiring she worked a job she treasured in the cafeteria of Horseheads School District. She was the center of the world to many and will be missed deeply.

See the Obituary at the Barber Funeral Home website:

<https://barberfuneralhome.com/tribute/details/1446/Ruth-Goyette>

Treasurer's Report for the month of March 2026

Blessings to everyone and thank you for your donations for the month of March 2026.

General Fund opening balance at the beginning of March was \$944.63. Regular donations to the General Fund were \$2,713.15. I transferred in from savings \$216.68. Payments out of this account were: Pastoral compensation of \$2,575.00, Verizon \$62.75, Bank charges for checks \$38.85, US Treasury was paid \$250.00 for the 1st quarter self-employment tax for the appointed Pastor, Corning Pride \$50.00, Rainah Barnes \$70.00. Larger bills monthly allotment was moved to savings in the amount of \$160.00 and Paypal charges were \$13.15 and I transferred \$555.00 to the Building Fund towards the hot water tank repair. After these were paid the balance of this account at the end of the month was \$99.71. There were no undeposited funds for March.

Building Fund opening balance was \$483.51. Donations to the Building fund were as follows: Ian and Christina McLaughlin \$450.00, Brother Shawn Benedict \$700.00, Marcus \$50.00, Ed Askins \$40.00. I transferred in from Savings \$483.00, from General fund \$555.00 and from Building Improvement fund \$1,175.00. Bills that came out of the fund this month was the Credit Card bill with Key Bank of \$52.67, electric bill \$352.92, gas bill \$812.86, Finger Lakes Casualty for insurance \$307.40, and Christian Kalwest, electrician \$1,175.00, water bill \$62.15, Bank charges for check \$31.25, Isaac's Plumbing and Heating \$555.00 toward hot water heater I transferred \$246.00 to saving toward the large bill allotment. Ending balance of this fund was \$341.26.

Building Improvement Fund opening balance on this account was \$1,212.36. Deposits to this account were Katrina \$100.00, Deanna Caputo \$320.00. I transferred in \$1,175.00 to the Building fund. The ending balance was in the account was \$457.36.

Savings (Council) Account opening balance in this account was \$2,039.21. Transfers to this account were \$160.00 from General Fund for large bills and \$246.00 from Building fund for large bills. Transfers out of this account was \$483.00 to the Building Fund which had been saved for the water bill and CCLI,

5-10-26 Resurrection Wk 6, Elmira Foundresses, Mother's Day, & remembering Ruth Goyette, Year A Page 39 of 52
\$166.68 to General Fund for the self-employment tax and \$50.00 to General Fund which had been saved for Pride applications. The balance at the end of the month was \$1,745.53.

Our year-to-date income is \$14,198.96 and our year-to-date expenses are \$17,550.38

Upcoming bills: Transfer to savings for General fund large bills \$160.00 and \$83.32 for the Appointed Pastor's April Self-employment tax, Isaac's Plumbing and Heating \$1,295.00 on the balance of the hot water heater and then a balance of \$726.15 on the boiler pump repair and also the \$453.00 that was charged on the credit card for the CCLI bill which was used towards the down payment for the hot water tank.

Credit Card

The balance on the credit card is \$ 2,516.98. Available balance on the last statement was \$1,483.02

Balances as of April 24, 2026

General fund: \$184.74

Building fund: \$316.72

Building Improvement fund: \$457.36

Savings: \$1,544.64

Savings breakdown is: Building fund large bills \$1,295.63 and General fund large bills \$249.01

Respectfully Submitted,
Ed Askins, Treasurer.

Unexpected Building Equipment Malfunctions since January 1, 2026

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.

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.

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

General Offering for the week of April 4 & 5 \$1,655.00 Attendance 12 at the Vigil Wednesday, April 8, Mass - 8,

General Offering for the week of April 12, \$00.00 THAT Attendance 11 on Sunday Wednesday, April 15, Mass - 9

General Offering for the week of April 19, \$195.00 Attendance 9 on Sunday Wednesday, April 15, Mass - 9

General Offering for the week of April 26, \$320.00 Attendance 9 on Sunday Tuesday, April 28 - 5 Wednesday, April 29, Mass - 9

General Offering for the week of May 3, \$1,490.00 Attendance 8 on Sunday Tuesday, May 5 - 6 Wednesday, May 6, Mass - 9

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: 0 APRIL:

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. **APRIL:**

Exterior Building Improvement Summer, 2026 Fund: We are looking to raise \$15,000.00 to repair siding, seal, prime and paint the siding on the exterior of the building.

HOT WATER TANK: \$100.00 by Katrina Lourdiane, 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:** Ed Askins donated \$240.00 to the Building Fund, thank you Ed. Brother donated \$355.00 to the Building Fund, thank you Brother.

**** Recent Special Gifts made in addition to offering plate gifts.** The week of April 19, \$20.00 was donated by Christina for the entry fee for Elmira Pride. Thank you, Christina. Lisa Frost donated \$350.00 to Building Fund for the annual fee on the Fire Alarm communicator board. Thank you, Lisa. Phillipa Askins made a \$100.00 donation to the Building Fund toward recent repairs. Thank you, Phillipa. Ian and Christina made a \$450.00 donation toward the Building Fund

On April 2, Brother made a \$648.00 donation to the Building Fund, thank you Brother. On April 2, Ed Askins

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

UPCOMING EVENTS ON OUR CALENDAR



MAY BIRTHDAYS

* * * * We want to thank Kaiden for adding page 128 "In The Garden " to the white Notebooks yesterday, Saturday, May 9. Thank you, Kaiden. * * * *

Sunday, May 10 Resurrection Wk 6

May 12, Tuesday, 7:15 PM Bible Enrichment- The Book of Revelation

May 13, Wednesday, 2026 NOON ecumenical Mass.

May 14, Music Ministry Rehearsal 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Sunday, May 17, Ascension

May 19, Tuesday, 6:30 PM Bible Enrichment- The Book of Revelation

May 20, Wednesday, 2026 NOON ecumenical Mass.

May 21, Music Ministry Rehearsal 7:00 - 8:30 PM

May 24, Sunday Pentecost

May 26, Tuesday, 6:30 PM Bible Enrichment- The Book of Revelation

May 27, Wednesday, 2026 NOON ecumenical Mass.

May 28, Music Ministry Rehearsal 7:00 - 8:30 PM

May 29, Friday Council 6:30 PM

May 31, Trinity, Memorial Sunday - Celebrating the 23rd Anniversary of the first public worship event in the Elmira Chapel, June 1, 2003.

June 2, Tuesday, 6:30 PM Bible Enrichment- The Book of Revelation

June 3, Wednesday, 2026 NOON ecumenical Mass.

June 4, Music Ministry Rehearsal 7:00 - 8:30 PM



June 6, Saturday, Pride Elmira

June 7, Sunday, Corpus Christi - relicense Servants of the Eucharist

June 9, Tuesday, 6:30 PM Bible Enrichment- The Book of Revelation

June 10, Wednesday, 2026 NOON ecumenical Mass.

June 11, Music Ministry Rehearsal 7:00 - 8:30 PM



SOFLX Pride's 7th Annual Pride Festival Weekend: *We Bloomed Anyway* is June 12 - 13, 2026!

Join us as we celebrate our community. This year's theme, *We Bloomed Anyway*, honors every queer and trans person who has grown, thrived, and found joy despite the horrors of 2025.

June 13, Saturday, Pride Corning

June 14, Sunday, 30th Ordination Anniversary

June 16, Tuesday, 7:15 PM Bible Enrichment- The Book of Revelation

June 17, Wednesday, 2026 NOON ecumenical Mass.

June 18, Music Ministry Rehearsal 7:00 - 8:30 PM

June 20, Saturday, Juneteenth in Elmira E.O.P.

June 21, Sunday, Father's Day, Juneteenth Celebration (19th), and 30th Ordination Anniversary

June 23, Tuesday, 7:15 PM Bible Enrichment- The Book of Revelation

June 24, Wednesday, 2026 NOON ecumenical Mass.

June 25, Music Ministry Rehearsal 7:00 - 8:30 PM

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

Pastor Benedict: Before conclude and depart today, I want to assure you that the Congregation of Ray Of Hope extends our condolences and our prayers to the members of each of the four families who have been touched by the passing of loved ones in the last couple of weeks. To the families of Earlene Jones, Elmer Brent Verguson, Charles W. Edmister, and Ruth E. Goyette, we pray God will bless you with inner peace and comfort in knowing God's eternal will shall be accomplished in the New Heavens and the New Earth when we shall all be resurrected and live eternally. Rest in these truths as you go from this place.

Wayne Harris: **SAINTS:** The Lord is with you!

ALL: And also with you!

Wayne Harris: **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

Glenn Rathbun: **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)

Glenn Rathbun: 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.

Wayne Harris: Please rise as you are able for our final song, "Walking Up The King's Highway," by Thomas A. Dorsey and Mary E. Gardner. Notebook number 108, and in the electronic Music Edition. Please rise as you are able to sing "Walking Up The King's Highway."

LAST SONG: Walking Up The King's Highway. Words and Music Mary E. Gardner | Thomas A. Dorsey © Words: 1940. Renewed 1967 Unichappell Music, Inc. (Admin. by CURB | Word Music Publishing) Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp. (Admin. by CURB | Word Music Publishing) Music: 1940. Renewed 1967 Unichappell Music, Inc. (Admin. by CURB | Word Music Publishing) Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp. (Admin. by CURB | Word Music Publishing) CCLI Song # 78385 Used with permission through our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121 and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.



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

5-10-26 Resurrection Wk 6, Elmira Foundresses, Mother's Day, & remembering Ruth Goyette, Year A Page 46 of 52
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))

New Revised Standard Version Bible: Catholic Edition, copyright © 1989, 1993 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.)

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.

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.

OLD TESTAMENT NRSVUE	OLD TESTAMENT NRSVUE-CE
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
APOCRYPHA - MORE HERE	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

Women: Rev. Sandra Crouch:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sandra_Crouch#:~:text=Personal%20life.%20Sandra%20Crouch%20was%20born%20on,of%20God%20in%20Christ%20in%20Pacoima%2C%20California. Ordination, Sandra Crouch said, "doesn't mean that you will be doing ministry; it means you are doing it and that we bless you in what you are doing." (Source: <https://www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-1998-jul-25-me-6993-story.html#:~:text=By%20JOHN%20DART,at%20this%20year's%20national%20convention.>)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/COGICHistoryPage/posts/707610996447028/>

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, which is available from the Clerk upon request and is on our website; http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/Minors_At_Events.htm. Please enjoy your visit with us, and we hope you will return.

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

The Chapel is not open to the general public, the way it used to be from 7:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. daily, as we try to do our part to stop the spread of COVID-19. Call for an appointment if you want some time to come in to pray, read, or visit The Blessed Sacrament. 1-607-280-0374 Our regular services will be blended with live participation in the Chapel, live on Skype and Facebook. To read the information on how to use Skype to participate with us, [Click Here](#).. Recordings of most of our Worship events are on our Facebook page, to see [Click Here](#). We will reopen the Chapel as soon as it is reasonably safe and prudent.

Visitors: Please feel free to fill out the information slip below and place it in the collection plate. Please indicate any special needs you may have. All information will be used for church purposes *only*.

(Optional) Name: _____

(Optional) Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

I would like to be included on the church Email list.

I would like to schedule an appointment with the Pastor.



Ray Of Hope Church Statement Of Purpose

In the Spirit of God, and in the footsteps of Christ Jesus, we the Faith Community at Ray Of Hope Church commit to:

- **guide** and welcome all people to the Free Gift of Salvation in Christ Jesus, with a God-ordained celebration of all sexual orientations, and gender expressions, with an open ministry to persons affected by or infected with HIV/AIDS, their families and friends,
- **declare** and openly assert the Truth that same-sex relationships, founded and fostered in God-centered Love, are holy and blessed, and in fact originate by the work of the Holy Spirit; and, that God equally uses blessed same-sex and heterosexual Holy Unions and Marriages to bring God's own Love and good news of "Salvation to all who believe" into the World,
- **uphold**, proclaim, and teach the historic Biblical Christian Doctrine, build community through worship and prayer, break the Bread, and live the ministry of the Holy Spirit,
- **change** the World around us by living Gospel principles of social justice in everything we do, thereby exposing all forms of prejudice, oppression, racism, homophobia, sexism, and misogyny,
- **proclaim** the ray of hope, which is the soon coming return of Christ Jesus, and the fullness of His Eternal Community where the Will of God will establish liberty, justice, equity, and Peace for all God's People and the Universe.

Visit us online:

Our website: <http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/> Mobile-Friendly website version: <http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/P2023-Bookmark.htm> Facebook Page (like and follow) [Click Here](#). Our YouTube page: www.youtube.com/rayofhopenyglbtqs

—————Scripture verses to share with others:—————

Romans 15:13 Now may the God of **hope** fill you with all Joy and Peace in believing, that you may abound in **hope** by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

John 5:24 Those who hear my Word and **believe in God** who sent me, **have** eternal life, will **never** come under judgment and have passed from **death to life** already.

Romans 10:13 "For **whoever** calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." (repeated @ Joel 2:32; Acts 2:21) "everyone, anyone who" asks. "Lord" here refers to God principally as in the book of Joel that is being quoted, so all persons who call on God shall be saved.

"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"

(Isaiah 43:19 ESV)

"Behold, I make all things new." (Revelation 21:5)

