

**"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 31, 2026, Trinity Sunday, Year A
Twenty-third Anniversary of the first public worship event in the Elmira Chapel
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: Exodus 3:1-17 NRSV 1st Test. Pg. 50

Psalm: Daniel 3:52-56 in this bulletin

Second Reading: 2 Cor.13:11-13 NRSV 2nd Test. Pg. 186

Gospel: John 3:16-18 NRSV 2ND Testament page 94

***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. We invite you to participate in as many or as few parts of this worship event as you feel

comfortable. 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.

Today is May 31, 2026, and we are celebrating Trinity Sunday.

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.**) 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 available in three locations: on Facebook Live, and 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 website.

If you are 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.

Ian McLaughlin: (**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)

Ian McLaughlin: 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, we give God thanks and praise for the Blessed Trinity, knowing God to be one Being with three Divine Persons. Today, we also celebrate the 23rd anniversary of the opening of the Elmira Chapel, which took place on June 1, 2003, the first Sunday in Pride Month, 2003.

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, 2026, is the twenty-third anniversary of the opening of the Elmira Chapel. We are in our 24th year at 380 W. First Street, Elmira, NY.



Lisa Frost: Christ is risen and truly present with us this morning as He promised. 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.

Ian McLaughlin: Our first song today is "Goodness Of God ," words and Music by Jenn Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram, Ben Fielding and Brian Johnson. Please find the words are printed below, and the music in the electronic Music Edition. Our first song today is a dialogue with God, and we acknowlege God is in relationship with us. Please rise as you are able to sing "Goodness Of God."

FIRST SONG: Goodness Of God

Goodness Of God Words and Music by Jenn Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram, Ben Fielding and Brian Johnson.

Verse 1
I love You Lord
Oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days

I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God

Chorus

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

Verse 2

I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In darkest night
You are close like no other
I've known You as a father
I've known You as a friend
I have lived in the goodness of God

Bridge

Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
With my life laid down
I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me

Goodness Of God. Words and Music by Jenn Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram, Ben Fielding and Brian Johnson. © 2018 Capitol CMG Paragon; Fellow Ships Music; So Essential Tunes; SHOUT! Music Publishing Australia; Bethel Music Publishing. Administrators Bethel Music Publishing, Capitol CMG Publishing, Essential Music Publishing LLC, Hillsong Publishing, LLC For use solely with the SongSelect® CCLI Song #7117726. Used with permission through our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121 and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.

Goodness Of God. Words and Music by Jenn Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram, Ben Fielding and Brian Johnson. © 2018 Capitol CMG Paragon; Fellow Ships Music; So Essential Tunes; SHOUT! Music Publishing Australia; Bethel Music Publishing. Administrators Bethel Music Publishing, Capitol CMG Publishing, Essential Music Publishing LLC, Hillsong Publishing, LLC For use solely with the SongSelect® CCLI Song #7117726. Used with permission through our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121 and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.

+ The Candle Of Hope

Kaiden: I 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: Ray Of Hope started in part to form a Church with an intentional ministry to persons affected by and infected with HIV and AIDS. It is forty-three years later, and still, some churches, religions, and, yes, even some countries continue rejecting the sick, lonely, and dying people with HIV and AIDS who deserve comfort and spiritual guidance. The World Health Organization reported nearly 40 million people were living with HIV globally in 2023. In 2024, the United Nations AIDS organization, UNAIDS, reported that the number had risen to 40.8 million people, and we are confident the number will continue rising in 2026. Currently, funds are being cut back for essential medications to help people living with HIV maintain undetectable levels of the virus, and thus not be able to infect others. The rolling back of these essential medications is sure to open the door to an increase in new infections. Therefore, to keep HIV and AIDS in the conscious prayers of people, we continue to read aloud over **110,000** names sewn into over 50,000 panels of the AIDS Memorial Quilt at the National AIDS Memorial. Please scroll the page to see the panels on block number 189.



These are the names on Block # 189

- Black & White Men Together (1)
 - Stephen Shapiro (1)
 - David Acker (2)
 - Steven Weber (3)
 - John Stem (4)
 - George Haney (5)
 - Rodney Jewell (6)
 - David Rude (7)
 - Ernest Johnson (8)

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

Kaiden: In silent prayer, we also remember the 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>)

Ian: Our second song is "Hymn Of Glory," words and music by Carey Landry. The song is in the white worship notebook, number 110, and in the Electronic Music Edition. Please rise as you are able to sing, "Hymn Of Glory."

SECOND 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.



WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS

+ Confession and Forgiveness of our sins, our failures.

Christina: At this time, 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 "Sweet Wind" by Deacon Ray Defendorf. This song, "Sweet Wind," helps us see and confess some of our faults and failures. Then, we ask for the sweet wind, the Spirit of God, to fill up our souls. Please turn in the Worship White notebook to song number 130. The words are printed below. The song is also in the electronic music edition. Please rise as you are able to sing, "Sweet Wind."

CONFESSION SONG: LYRICS - Words only

SWEET WIND OF LOVE (Sweet Wind) Words and Music by Deacon Ray Defendorf

Verse 1

Sweet Wind of love,
blow down on me,
Give me the will to live in peace.
I have scarred my world
with unkind words and deeds.

And charity I've left as just a word.

Refrain

Spirit of love, fill up my soul.
Channel your grace to lead me on.
And I'll serve my Lord all the days of my life.
With you by my side my fears are gone.

Verse 2

Sweet Wind of hope,
banish my doubts.
Let me look up to the sky.
See through my darkness.
Open my eyes,
To look for tomorrow's rising sun.

Refrain

Spirit of love, fill up my soul.
Channel your grace to lead me on.
And I'll serve my Lord all the days of my life.
With you by my side, my fears are gone.

Verse 3

Sweet Wind of Faith,
enlighten my mind.
The puzzle of this life is much too hard.
But you hold the key that will open the door.
And finding God will be its own reward.

Refrain

Spirit of love, fill up my soul.
Channel your grace to lead me on.
And I'll serve my Lord all the days of my life.
With you by my side, my fears are gone.

Sweet Wind. Words and Music by Deacon Ray Defendorf. (Sweet Wind of Love) © 1973 Deacon Ray Defendorf, Celebrate Life Songs, 110 Creekside Drive, Apt. 106, Painted Post, NY, 14870. From Deacon Ray's CD – "Gentle Spirit". www.deaconray.com. email:

(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 "The Gloria." Please rise as you are able to joyfully sing, "The Gloria."

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

Refrain:

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

Verse 1:

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

Refrain:

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to all people on earth.
Glory to God in the highest.

We give you thanks and praise. Alleluia!
We give you thanks and praise.

Verse 2:

Lord, Jesus Christ;
The Only Begotten Son of God
You are Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of God;
receive our prayer.

Refrain:

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

Verse 3:

For You alone are the Holy One.
You alone are the Lord of all,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
With the Holy Spirit in the Glory of God.
In the Holy Spirit, in the Holy unity of God.

Refrain:

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

Verse 4:

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

Amen.

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

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

The Gloria

"Music for Worship"

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

Refrain

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

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

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

10
We give you thanks — and praise.

12 **Verse 1**
You are the One God, Sov - ereign of the Un - i - verse, On - ly

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

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

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

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

2

28

 praise. Al-le-lu_ia We give you thanks_ and praise.

31 **Verse 2**

 Lord, Jes - us Christ; The On - ly Be - got - ten

34

 Son of God, You are Lord God,

36

 Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; Have mer - cy on

41

 us; You are sea-ted at the right hand of God; re - ceive our prayer.

46 **Refrain**

 Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to all peo-ple on_ earth_

50

 Glo - ry to God in the high - est_ We give you thanks_ and

53

 praise. Al-le-lu_ia We give you thanks_ and praise.

56 **Verse 3**

 For You a-lone are the Ho - ly One You a - lone are the Lord of all,

61

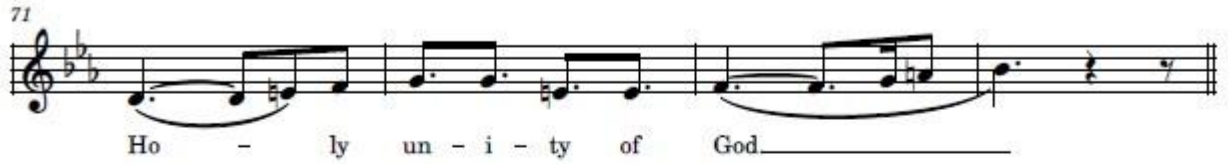
 You a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, With the Ho - ly

66



Spi-rit in the glo - ry of God. In the Ho - ly Spi-rit, in the

71



Ho - ly un - i - ty of God.

75

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, - and peace to all peo-ple on_ earth_

79



Glo-ry to God in the high-est_ We give you thanks_ and praise. Al-le-lu_ia

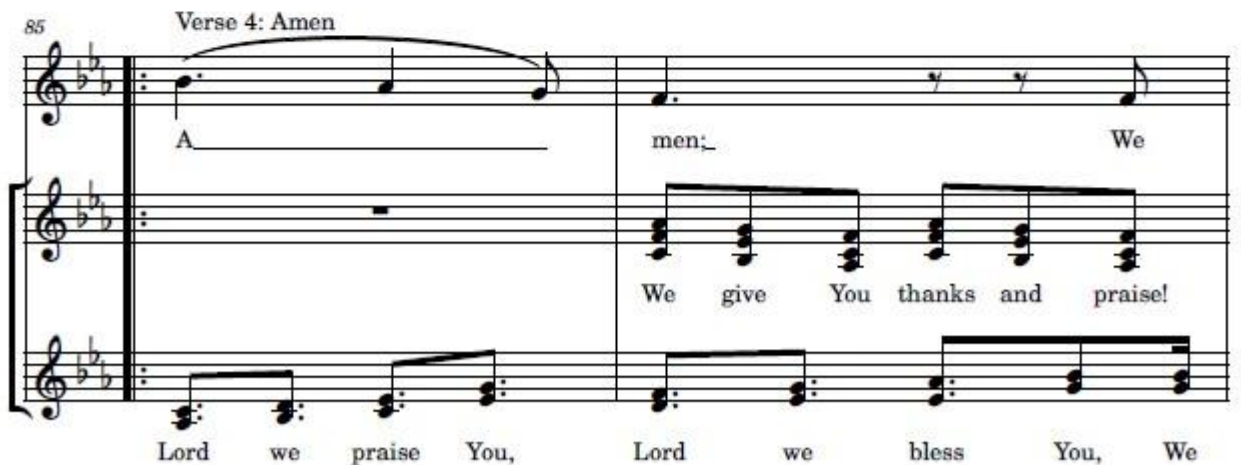
83



We give you thanks and praise.

85

Verse 4: Amen



A_ men_ We
We give You thanks and praise!
Lord we praise You, Lord we bless You, We

4

87

give You thanks and praise!

We give You thanks and praise!

give You thnks, We give You praise We give You thnaks and praise

89

A men

A men. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

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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 Book of Exodus, chapter 3, verses 1-17. We are reading from the NRSV pew bibles on page 50 in the First Testament. This is the account of the Angel of the Lord appearing in the flame and God was speaking to Moses. Keeping in mind that the Holy Spirit appeared as tongues of fire on Pentecost, therefore, we see here the presence of the Holy Trinity, the voice of God, the Angel of the Lord – the Christ in the flame, and the Holy Spirit being the power of God expressed in the fire that burned without damage. Here begins the reading.

Moses at the Burning Bush

3 Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock to the back of the desert, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God (H430). ² And **the Angel of the LORD (H3068)** **appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush.** So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning **with fire, but the bush was not consumed.** ³ Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn."

⁴ So when the LORD (H3068) saw that he turned aside to look, **God (H430)** **called to him** from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."

⁵ Then He said, "Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand *is* holy ground." ⁶ Moreover He said, "I *am* the God (H430) of your father—the God (H430) of Abraham, the God (H430) of Isaac, and the God (H430) of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God (H430).

⁷ And the **LORD (H3068) said:** "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who *are* in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. ⁸ **So I have come down to deliver them out** of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites. ⁹ Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰ Come now, therefore, and **I will send you** to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."

¹¹ But Moses said to God (H430), "Who *am* I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?"

¹² **So He said, "I will certainly be with you.** And this *shall be* a sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt,

you shall serve God on this mountain."

¹³ Then Moses said to God (H430), "Indeed, *when* I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God (H430) of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What *is* His name?' what shall I say to them?"

¹⁴ And God (H430) said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

¹⁵ Moreover God (H430) said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'The LORD God (H430) of your fathers, the God (H430) of Abraham, the God (H430) of Isaac, and the God (H430) of Jacob, has sent me to you. This *is* My name forever, and this *is* My memorial to all generations.' ¹⁶ Go and gather the elders of Israel together, and say to them, 'The LORD God (H430) of your fathers, the God (H430) of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared to me, saying, "I have surely visited you and *seen* what is done to you in Egypt; ¹⁷ and I have said I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, to a land flowing with milk and honey.'"

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

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+ Psalm:

129

Canticle of the Three Young Men

Refrain by Michael Gilligan, Verses by Patricia Uhl

REFRAIN

Capo 2, Play G

A(G) D(C) A(G) D(C) A(G)

Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord. Praise Him! Ex- alt Him for- ev- er!_____ to verse

VERSES

A(G) D(C) A(G) D(C) E(D)

1. Sun and moon,___ bless the Lord.___ Stars of the heav-ens, bless the Lord.---

A(G) D(C) A(G) D(C) A(G)

Speed- ing light,___ bless the Lord.___ Praise Him! Ex- alt Him for- ev- er!_____ to refrain

A(G) D(C) A(G) D(C) E(D)

2. Moun- tains and___ hills,___ bless the Lord. Light- ning and___ clouds, bless the Lord.
 3. Seas___ and___ riv- ers, bless the Lord. Birds___ of the air, bless the Lord.
 4. Young___ men and maid- ens, bless the Lord. Sons___ of___ men, bless the Lord.

A(G) D(C) A(G) D(C) A(G)

Let___ the earth___ bless the Lord. Praise Him! Ex- alt Him for- ev- er!_____ to refrain
 Beasts___ and___ cat- tle, bless the Lord. Praise Him! Ex- alt Him for- ev- er!_____
 Ser- vants of the Lord,___ bless the Lord. Praise Him! Ex- alt Him for- ev- er!_____

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+ Second Reading

Ed Askins: **** 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 Second Letter to the Corinthian Church,

chapter 13, verses 11-13. We are reading from the NRSV pew bibles on page 186 in the Second Testament. In this reading we recognize the Apostolic roots of the Trinitarian greeting we are used to hearing at worship. Here begins the reading:

¹¹ Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. ¹² Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints (G40) greet you. [Some Bibles render Hagios – the holy ones (RC) All God's People (NIV, NLT, Weymouth NT)] ¹³ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you. [many Bibles use fellowship of the Holy Spirit]

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Up to 500 verses of the RSV or NRSV may be quoted in any form (written, visual, electronic or audio) without charge and without obtaining written permission...

+ 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 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 John, chapter 3, verses 16-18. We are reading from the NRSV pew bibles on page 94 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.

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

¹⁸ Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

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

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Gospel Acclamation

Forever, We Are Yours!

To my friends in Christ
 at Ray Of Hope Church
 for the 1996 New Year,
 The Year of The Holy Spirit!

"Music For Worship"

Music by: Gaude! Liturgical Arts
 December 31, 1995

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

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+ Sermon

 **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 ===5-24-26=====

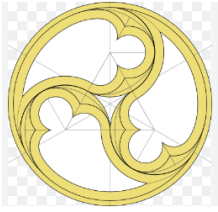
PRAYER FOR OUR CONGREGATION

Prayer for our Congregation: (revised, 5/28/2023)

Lord Jesus Christ, we ask that your Holy Spirit continue to move in our Congregation in new and refreshing ways. We open our hearts to be a dwelling place, a home, a temple of your Holy Spirit. Empower us with the gifts of the Holy Spirit to be used as servants of God, disciples of Christ, and witnesses of God's love and eternal plan. Come, Holy Spirit, and impassion us with your Divine Love. Stir and enkindle within us the flames of compassion, forgiveness, patience, empathy, Joy in believing, thanksgiving and praise, and love for God's holy Will. Build an expectant faith within us with a view of a church full of possibilities and potential. Guide our lives; we pray through Christ our Lord, Amen.

9) If Time allows - some vocabulary:

Perichoresis - a word often used of the Holy Trinity to describe how the three persons of the Trinity move in, around, through, with, above, and below each other in constant movement. Perichoresis is used to describe the dance of the colors of fire, red, orange, yellow, blue, and some see other colors too. While the colors are discernible, they are also constantly interacting with one another. While this symbol is often used to describe the Trinity, I also like to use it to describe our living relationship with the Trinity. Jesus prayed, "May they be one in us as we are one, etc." Therefore, we are part of the movement too. There are many symbols in Art to show Perichoresis, see here: [RIGHT-CLICK Here](#).



Often, this Perichoresis may be seen in stained-glass window configurations in Churches. There is such a window at St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church in Elmira, NY.

Anamnesis

The TWENTY-THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF THE ELMIRA CHAPEL



Celebration, dedication of the new mobile friendly version of our website.

Please follow me here: <http://www.rayofhopechurch.com/ElmiraChapel.htm>

[Ray Of Hope Church NY - LGBTQSIANE2ss+ 2nd Channel](https://www.youtube.com/@RayOfHopeChurchLGBTQSIANE_CH2)

(https://www.youtube.com/@RayOfHopeChurchLGBTQSIANE_CH2)

THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A GREAT EVENT IN THE HUMAN STORY.

Last Sunday, we were so taken by the reality of the Gift of the Holy Spirit to all Humanity that a couple of important points were not spoken about. Romans 8:22-27

²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in **hope we were saved**. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen?

²⁵ But if **we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience**.

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit **helps us in our weakness**; for we do **not know how to pray as we ought**, but that very **Spirit intercedes** with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷ And **God**, who searches the heart, knows what is **the mind of the Spirit**, because the **Spirit intercedes for the saints**

according to **the will of God.**

The Trinity in the first reading.

H3068

יהוה

y^hôvâh

yeh-ho-vaw'

From H1961; (the) *self Existent* or eternal; *Jehovah*, Jewish national name of God: - Jehovah, the Lord. Compare H3050, H3069.

Total KJV occurrences: 6521

H430

אלהים

'êlôhîym

el-o-heem'

Plural of H433; *gods* in the ordinary sense; but specifically used (in the plural thus, especially with the article) of the supreme *God*; occasionally applied by way of deference to *magistrates*; and sometimes as a superlative: - angels, X exceeding, *God* (gods) (-dess, -ly), X (very) great, judges, X mighty.

Total KJV occurrences: 2601

The Gospel: God dispatched the Christ.

***** Finally, ***** We are here because of those original fourteen people who clearly experienced the Risen Christ in their lives. They wanted to leave a living and vibrant witness to the fact that God loves all of us and God is responsible for the glorious spectrum of sexual orientation and gender expression. Speak up and speak out for God as you give witness to the fact that Christ is risen indeed and that He lives within our hearts.

*)- 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 *****



WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

+ (optional) Profession Of Faith

Creed #1: The Apostles' Creed

I believe in the One Eternal, Loving, Life Giving,
Forgiving, Good, and Gracious God,
Creator of heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus the Christ, the only Begotten Son of God,
our Lord and Saviour.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day God raised Jesus from the dead.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God.

Christ will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, Who is equal with God and the Son.

I believe in the one, holy, Christian Church, the Body of Jesus Christ
that is universal/catholic, and apostolic.

I believe in the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen

(Revised 10-31-20 Br. Benedict)

Leader – 4: Having heard the Word Of God we bring our prayers to God in Christ, through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

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

Christina McLaughlin: 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 ask you to grant your will in their lives. We pray to the Lord,

ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

Christina McLaughlin: We pray for all who are in danger because of acts of war and violence, especially children, the elderly, those in hospitals, nursing centers, and schools that the weapons of war have leveled or severely damaged. We pray to the Lord,

ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

Ian: Lord Jesus, we seek the outpouring of your Holy Spirit in every way that we engage with ministry. May everything we do begin with your inspiration and continue with your saving help. We pray to the Lord,

ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

Ian: Lord, your disciples were to be as wise as serpents and as simple as doves; through your Holy Spirit, teach us prudence and simplicity. We pray to the Lord,

ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

Lisa: We pray for people who suffer oppression and discrimination, especially when it is based on poverty, social status, ethnicity, religion, sexual identity, and gender expression. We ask your Holy Spirit to reveal to them your Presence as you walk alongside each person through the difficulties of life. We pray to the Lord,

ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

Ed: Lord, look with kindness on those who are slow to enter into a relationship with you, those who do not recognize your presence. Reveal yourself to them so they, too, will welcome you as their Savior. We pray to the Lord,

ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

Veronica: We pray for all people who are sick, especially Marcus, Deacon Ray Defendorf, Ed Askins, and those in any form of treatment. We pray that the challenges of living in this world will not tarnish or dim the light of faith. We pray to the Lord,

ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.

Katrina: We pray for all people who care for the sick, and all who support those delivering care and their families. We ask the Holy Spirit to inspire caregivers to turn to Christ for support and strength to do the difficult work of caring for others. 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.](#))

Ian McLaughlin: 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 2026. 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."

Ian McLaughlin: As we set the Table of the Lord here in the chapel and in your homes, we are going to sing: "Spirit Of The Living God," Words and Music by

Daniel Iverson. The Music is in the electronic Music Edition. The words are printed below. Please sing along as we set the Table of the Lord.

OFFERTORY: G&P # 536 Come Worship The Lord (Psalm 95) Words and Music by John Michael Talbot ©1980 Troubadour For The Lord Music (admin. in the U.S. by Music Services and elsewhere in the world by Capitol CMG Publishing). All Rights Reserved. International Copyright Secured. CCLI Song#17511 AND original Performance Recording: Come Worship The Lord (Psalm 95) John Michael Talbot/Michael Card Album Name: Brother To Brother **Track 2 | Length: 5:21.** Used with permission through our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121 and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.
Come Worship The Lord (Psalm 95)

Chorus

Come worship the Lord
For we are His people
The flock that He shepherds
Alleluia

Chorus

Come worship the Lord
For we are His people
The flock that He shepherds
Alleluia

Verse 1

Come let us sing to the Lord
And shout with joy to the Rock who saves us
Let us come with thanksgiving
And sing joyful songs to the Lord

Chorus

Come worship the Lord
For we are His people
The flock that He shepherds
Alleluia

Bridge

The Lord is God the mighty God

The great King o'er all other gods
He holds in His hands the depths of the earth
And the highest mountains as well
He made the sea it belongs now to Him
The dry land too was formed by His hand

Chorus

Come worship the Lord
For we are His people
The flock that He shepherds
Alleluia

Instrumental Interlude.

Verse 2

Come let us bow down and worship
Bending the knee before the Lord our Maker
For we are His people
We are the flock that He shepherds (short Instrumental measure.)

Chorus

Come worship the Lord
For we are His people
The flock that He shepherds
Alleluia

Chorus

Come worship the Lord
For we are His people
The flock that He shepherds
Alleluia
Alleluia
Alleluia_____.

Come Worship The Lord (Psalm 95) Words and Music by John Michael

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Song#17511 AND original Performance Recording: **Come Worship The Lord (Psalm 95)** John Michael Talbot/Michael Card Album Name: Brother To Brother
Track 2 | Length: 5:21. Used with permission through our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121 and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152. For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use.

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

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+ We Invoke the Blessing Of The Holy Spirit

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. Glenn, please show the Bread today, and Katrina, 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: 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

Katrina: 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.

Katrina: 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.

Katrina: 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: "All Creation Worships You," words and Music by Jim Mills and Kirk Dearman

COMMUNION SONG: *Jim Mills and Kirk Dearman*

All Creation Worships You. Words and Music by Jim Mills and Kirk Dearman

Chorus

You are God and we praise You

(And we praise You)

You are Lord we acclaim You

(We acclaim You)

You are eternal Father

All creation worships You

All creation worships You

Amen

All Creation Worships You. Words and Music by Jim Mills, Kirk Dearman ©1988 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (Administered by Integrity Music) CCLI Song # 190469 All rights reserved. International copyright secured. Used with permission through our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121 and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152 with accompaniment recording: All Creation Worships You. Album: The Cup of Life. Songs of Worship for the New Millennium. Track 5 | Length 4:49 Used with permission through our Christian Copyright License Incorporated License Number 706121 and Christian Copyright License Incorporated Streaming Plus License 21787152.

Treasurer's Report for the month of April 2026

Thank you all for your generous donations. Please know they are greatly appreciated.

General Fund opening balance at the beginning of April 2026 was \$99.71. Regular donations to the General Fund were \$2,455.41. I transferred in from savings \$81.99. Payments out of this account were: Pastoral compensation of \$2,060.00, Verizon \$62.77, Grape juice reimbursement to Ed Askins \$30.99, and M E Burgess \$51.00 for palms. Large bills monthly allotment was moved to savings in the amount of \$160.00, April Self Employment tax for the Appointed Pastor. \$83.34 was moved to savings and Paypal charges were \$10.41. After these were paid the balance of this account at the end of the month was \$178.60. There were no undeposited funds for April.

Building Fund opening balance was \$341.26. Donations to the Building fund were as follows: Ian and Christina McLaughlin \$450.00, Brother Shawn Benedict \$648.00, Lisa Frost \$339.39 and Ed Askins \$180.00. I transferred in from Savings \$365.00. Bills that came out of the fund this month was the Credit Card bill with Key Bank of \$53.65, electric bill \$352.92, gas bill \$367.96, Finger Lakes Casualty for insurance \$307.40, FAST cellular bill \$314.00 (which Lisa donated the money for) and the Sewer tax \$365.00. I transferred \$246.00 to saving toward the large bill allotment. Ending balance of this fund was \$316.72.

Building Improvement Fund opening balance on this account was \$457.36. There were no deposits or withdrawals from this account for the month of April, so the ending balance in the account was \$457.36.

Savings (Council) Account opening balance in this account was \$1745.53. Transfers to this account were \$160.00 from General Fund for large bills, \$83.34 from General Fund for the April Appointed Pastor Self-Employment taxes and \$246.00 from Building fund for large bills. Transfers out of this account was \$365.00 to the Building fund to cover the Sewer tax and \$81.99 to cover the Palms payment and the Grape juice reimbursement. The balance at the end of the month was \$1,787.88.

Our year-to-date income is \$18,271.76 and our year-to-date expenses are \$21,526.48.

Upcoming bills: Isaac's Plumbing and Heating \$1,095.00 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 downpayment for the hot water tank. May's bill still outstanding for regular bills that will need to be done in June due to low cash flow- the transfer from General fund for large bills of \$160.00 and the transfer of \$83.32 for May's Self-employment tax for the Appointed Pastor

Credit Card

The balance on the credit card is \$ 2,586.64 with an available credit of \$1,413.36.

Balances as of May 29, 2026

General fund: \$358.60

Building fund: \$552.61

Building Improvement fund: \$357.36

Savings: \$1,928.88

Savings breakdown is: Building fund large bills \$1,436.53, General fund large bills \$409.01 and April's Self-employment tax of \$83.34.

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~~ \$1,095 due on this project (\$100 was received from Katrina, and \$100.00 was received from Wayne and Glenn 5-14-26 designated to this balance. Thank you Katrina, Wayne and Glenn.)

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 May 3, \$1,490.00 Attendance 8 on Sunday
Tuesday, May 5 - 6 Wednesday, May 6, Mass - 9

General Offering for the week of May 10, \$590.00 Attendance 17 on Sunday
Tuesday, May 12 - 5 Wednesday, May 13, Mass - 8

General Offering for the week of May 17, \$230.00 Attendance 11 on Sunday
Tuesday, May 19 - 7 Wednesday, May 20, Mass - 10

General Offering for the week of May 21, \$0.00 Attendance 12 on Sunday
Tuesday, May 26 - 5 Wednesday, May 27, 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: 0 APRIL: 0 MAY:**

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:0 MAY:**

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. \$100.00 by 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:** \$100.00 from Wayne and Glenn from their rummage sale to the General Fund, Thank you. Brother made a \$150.00 donation to the Building Fund, thank you. Ian and Christina made a \$450.00 donation to the Building Fund. Ian made a \$161.11 donation to the Building Fund.

**** Recent Special Gifts made in addition to offering plate gifts.** \$30.00 from Wayne and Glenn from their rummage sale to the General Fund, Thank you. Brother made a \$100.00 donation to the Building Fund, thank you.

The week of May 11, Brother made a \$355.00 donation to the Building Fund, Thank you. 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

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 23, a revised printing of "This Is Why We Are Here," to the white Notebooks this last week. Thank you, Kaiden.

* * * *

Visit our new YouTube page: [Ray Of Hope Church NY - LGBTQSIANE2ss+ 2nd Channel](https://www.youtube.com/@RayOfHopeChurchLGBTQSIANE_CH2)
(https://www.youtube.com/@RayOfHopeChurchLGBTQSIANE_CH2)

May 31, Trinity Sunday

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 - **relicensing Servants of the Eucharist moved to June 28, Stonewall Anniversary Sunday.

June 9, Tuesday, 7:15 PM Bible Enrichment- The Book of Revelation

June 10, Wednesday, 2026, NOON ecumenical Mass.


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

June 12, Friday - Brother goes for foot surgery. NAACP EVENT:


ELMIRA/CORNING NAACP
57TH ANNUAL FREEDOM FUND AWARDS
CELEBRATION


**“NAACP: Thriving and Surviving
During Uncertain Times”**

FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2026
6:30PM MIXER & CASH BAR
7:00 – 10:00PM DINNER, AWARDS, SPEAKER
RADISSON HOTEL, 125 DENISON PARKWAY, CORNING, NEW YORK



Speaker
Dr. Terence L. Finley
President
SUNY Corning Community College
Corning, NY





Honorary Chair
and Mistress of Ceremony
Miss Ebony Lewis
WETM 18 News Reporter

Tickets \$80.00 Adults / \$40.00 Youth Ages 6-11 / 5 & Under Free
Each Ticket Includes: An Organization Membership

For Ticket Information Call:
(607) 962-8398, (607) 936-6770, (607) 962-5362, (607) 733-7963

SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2026



**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 15, 1996)

June 16, Tuesday, 6:30 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)

June 23, Tuesday, 6:30 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 - Stonewall Anniversary, Relicensing of our Servants of the Eucharist.

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.

=====



We Are Sent Forth To Serve

Lisa Frost: SAINTS: The Lord is with you!

ALL: And also with you!

Ian McLaughlin: 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

Lisa Frost: We pray Romans Chapter fifteen, verse thirteen together,

saying:

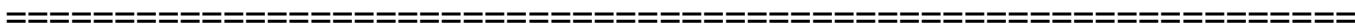
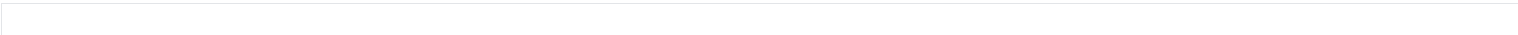
ALL: Now may the God of hope fill you with all Joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen (Romans 15:13)

Ian McLaughlin: 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.

Ian McLaughlin: Okay, we are going out with a celebration, singing "Glorify The Lord," words and music by Sandra Crouch. The words are printed below, and in the electronic Music Edition. Please rise as you are able to sing and celebrate "Glorify The Lord."

LAST SONG G&P 542 **Here I Am, Lord. Words and Music by Dan Schutte.**
Text: Based on Isaiah 6. Text and Music ©1981, OCP. All rights reserved.
Onelicense Song #80670 Used with Print Permission and Streaming License A-741278.



The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. Isaiah 9:7 This is all God's fault, God's design, God's doing from start to end.

Br. Benedict at the time of Renewal of Vows, June 20, 2021: "Looking forward, I like to say the first twenty-five years were spent on **stabilization**, **survival**, and **sustainability**. The second twenty-five years will be spent on growth to help Ray Of Hope **thrive**, **train**, and **transplant** this Congregation to new leadership. The founders and foundresses successfully transferred the leadership to a new generation, us, and now we must do the same. I plan to fade into the Congregation and continue providing support to the new leadership. My goal is to leave the Congregation with new leadership, in good standing, and thriving."



We never held a vote to decide if we would be an **INCLUSIVE** church for you.

We are not an **OPEN AND AFFIRMING** church for you.

We are not a **RECONCILING CHURCH** or **RECONCILING CONGREGATION** for you.

We are not an **OPEN MINDED** or **ACCEPTING** or **WELCOMING** Church where you can attend as long as you blend in quietly and discretely.

WE ARE YOU!

THIS is the Church where YOU belong.

Ray Of Hope Church is the Church by us, for us, and made by You.

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

Genesis
 Exodus
 Leviticus
 Numbers
 Deuteronomy
 Joshua
 Judges
 Ruth
 1 Samuel
 2 Samuel
 1 Kings
 2 Kings
 1 Chronicles
 2 Chronicles
 Ezra
 Nehemiah
 Esther
 Job
 Psalm
 Proverbs
 Ecclesiastes
 Song of Songs
 Isaiah
 Jeremiah
 Lamentations
 Ezekiel
 Daniel
 Hosea
 Joel
 Amos
 Obadiah
 Jonah
 Micah
 Nahum
 Habakkuk
 Zephaniah
 Haggai
 Zechariah
 Malachi

APOCRYPHA - MORE HERE

Tobit
 Judith
 Greek Esther
 Wisdom of Solomon

OLD TESTAMENT NRSVUE-CE

Genesis
 Exodus
 Leviticus
 Numbers
 Deuteronomy
 Joshua
 Judges
 Ruth
 1 Samuel
 2 Samuel
 1 Kings
 2 Kings
 1 Chronicles
 2 Chronicles
 Ezra
 Nehemiah
 Tobit
 Judith
 Esther
 1 Maccabees
 2 Maccabees
 Job
 Psalm
 Proverbs
 Ecclesiastes
 Song of Solomon
 Wisdom
 Sirach
 Isaiah
 Jeremiah
 Lamentations
 Baruch
 Ezekiel
 Daniel
 Hosea
 Joel
 Amos
 Obadiah
 Jonah
 Micah
 Nahum
 Habakkuk
 Zephaniah
 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)

