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December 13, 2015

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT NEW HOPE

We are grateful you have joined us today and invite you to participate fully in the worship, education, and mission life of our church.

During Today's Worship

We welcome back to our worship today, the women's vocal ensemble, Alegria, which is the Spanish word for joy. Alegria is made up of Lindsay LaMarche, Judy Hodge, Glenda Schmitt, Kathy Carr, Kathy Kuehnle and pianist, Carol Koeppe.

Large-print bulletins and hearing enhancement equipment are available for ease of worship. An usher will be happy to assist you. At the close of worship, please return the unit to the sound booth at the rear of the sanctuary.

Children are especially welcome in our worship services, because faith is formed by the practices that shape it. Red worship bags for young children (non-readers) and blue bags for older children (readers) may be found on the wall outside the sanctuary. An usher will help you locate one. If you would like a worship bag with your child's name on it, you may fill out a request form on the Information Table or call the church office (936.2200). Parents who prefer child care will find the nursery on the first floor (Room 204).

Worship Feast, an experience to help elementary-age children develop awareness of God's presence and openness to mystery through a variety of prayer practices, is available during the 11:00 service. Children who wish to participate will be dismissed after the Gospel Reading. They will exit by the side (north) door and be escorted to the lower-level.

Preparing for worship...Please silence cell phones upon entering the sanctuary. The need may arise for you to exit the service early. If so, please refrain from exiting during prayers, reading of scripture and choral anthems. Natural and appropriate exit points are during congregational hymns or sung responses. Your courtesy is appreciated. Also, as a kindness to fellow worshippers, please do not take flash photos during the worship service.

Ushering for today's worship: (8:45) Michael Black, Cindy Martin, Jim & Debbie Phillips. (11:00) Craig Clarke, Kirk Garten, Bill & Linda Judd, Kristin Judd, Debbie McDanel, Joe Seidler.

Flowers: To the glory of God and in memory of Kimberly, Abbi, Sandi and Blake Vaughn, given by Del & Susan Phillips; and, to the glory of God and in honor of family and in memory of loved ones passed, given by Lindsay & Trevor Gonterman.

Liturgist: Elder Craig Graber

Sound Booth: (8:45) Bill Irvine (11:00) Deb Garten

Last Sunday's Attendance: 181

If You Are New to New Hope

Information about our church can be found at the Information Table in the foyer.

New Hope Cares

For pastoral care and to notify the church of illness, hospitalization, or death, please contact the church office at 636/936.2200 (lbrown@nhpres.org). To arrange for home bound Communion, contact Pastor James at cqjames@nhpres.org or 936.2200 x.11.

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2015

8:45 & 11:00 a.m.

THE GATHERING

*As the people gather, worshipers greet one another, welcoming newcomers.
Please silence electronic devices.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

+ GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

(11:00) CHORAL INTROIT *What Sweeter Music*

John Rutter

Prayer of Preparation

The start of the Prelude signals the time to enter a period of quiet reflection.

This prayer is offered as an aid to help worshipers center the heart and mind for worship.

Merciful God, you come into our midst
longing for communion with us,
becoming one of us.
Break our resistance to life with you,
show us the path toward just relations,
and bring us into your unimaginable peace,
in Jesus' name. Amen.

+ *CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT 88 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* v.1 VENI EMMANUEL
***O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.***

*LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE †

Sing praise and shout for joy!

(8:45) Rick & Bev Waldo

The Lord God is in our midst.

(11:00) Deb Mackin, Katie Ward, &

Barbara Lynn

Rejoice in the Lord always.

Again, rejoice! The Lord is near.

+ *HYMN 134

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

*THE CONFESSION

Eternal God, we confess

that we resist your holy realm.

You deliver us from judgment

but we continue to judge one another.

**You seek to restore our lives
but we fail to bear good fruit.
Forgive us, God of grace.
Baptize us with Spirit and fire
so that we may be ready to meet you
when you come again in glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Worshippers may reflect on this prayer and offer personal confession in silence.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

...In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

THE PEACE

Greet those around you with: "The peace of Christ be with you," responding, "And also with you."

RESPONSE OF PRAISE *Glory Be to the Father (Glory to God 581)*

GLORIA PATRI

***Glory be to the Father, 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.***

(11:00) ANTHEM

Runnin' to Bethlehem

Sally K. Albrecht

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Zephaniah 3: 14-20

EPISTLE READING

Philippians 4: 4-7

*THE GOSPEL

THE ACCLAMATION 100 *My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout* v.1 STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

***My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?
My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.***

GOSPEL READING

Luke 3: 7-18

THE ALLELUIA 586

ALLELUIA 7

***Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.***

SERMON

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

☞ In silent prayer and reflection you may renew the covenant into which you are baptized. If you would like to learn more about this sacrament, Pastor James would welcome the opportunity to speak with you about it.

PRAYERS OF JOY & CONCERN

THE EUCHARIST

OFFERING OF OURSELVES & OUR GIFTS

(11:00) OFFERTORY ANTHEM

One King

Borders/Alexander
arr. Phillip Keveren

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The prayer continues. After the words, "... who forever sing to the glory of your name:" the congregation sings,

...Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The prayer continues. After the words, "Great is the mystery of faith," the congregation proclaims,

...Christ has died;

Christ is risen;

Christ will come again.

The prayer continues and ends with the Lord's Prayer...

...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 debts,

as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation,

**but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

☞ Coming to the Table—Ushers will invite worshipers to the Lord's Table by rows. All the baptized may come to the Table at the center and return by the outside aisles.

☞ Receiving the elements—You may take the bread, dip it into the chalice and partake of both together (intinction), or you may partake of the bread first, and then proceed to partake of the juice separately from the tray of individual cups. Gluten-free bread is available with Pastor James from the plate in his left hand.

☞ After the presider and communion servers have received the elements, and before the concluding prayer, the whole assembly is invited to share a moment of silent contemplation before God.

PRAYER AFTER THE MEAL

THE SENDING

*HYMN 363

Rejoice, the Lord is King!

DARWALL'S 148TH

*BLESSING & CHARGE

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout*, refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.

Let the fires of your justice burn.

Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,

and the world is about to turn.

*Please rise in body or spirit.

+ Those arriving may be seated.



PRAYERS

of Joy

Marissa Malta's safe flight and arrival in Morocco
the birth of Edith Genevieve Carron, granddaughter of Mark Phillips (Nov. 18)

for the Grieving

Scott & Leigh Lindahl Truett on the death of his step-father, Robert Osterbur (Dec. 5)
Kathy & Herb Gibbs and Eric on the death of her uncle, Carl Yauch (Nov. 23)
Richard & Sharon Martin on the death of his sister-in-law, Judy Martin (Nov. 22)
Ben & Kathy Kuehnle on the death of his sister, Shiela Kuehnle (Nov. 20)
Barbara & Greg Newman and family on the death of her aunt, Shirley Buxton (Nov. 15)
Steve Gerke on the death of his wife, Sally (Oct. 28)

for Healing & Wholeness

Ruth Irvine, thyroid testing
Deb Mackin, thumb surgery
Paul Hacker, knee replacement
Steve Marsh, pneumonia (father of Kelly Hantack)
Susan Phillips, recovering from surgery
Richard Amos, cancer treatment (co-worker of Chris Meinert)
Ron Edwards, cancer treatment

for the World & its People

Victims of terror attack in Paris, Colorado, and California
Syrian refugees

† *In the ancient world, various peoples lit fires to mark the turning of the light into winter's season and to pray for the return of the light. The church has Christianized that practice in the lighting of the Advent wreath. To us, these candles are signs of the growing light of Christ who is coming again in all fullness into the darkness of our world. Until the dawning of that great day, we watch and wait in the Holy Spirit for Christ's coming into the darkness of our world, lighting candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, and remembering the promises of God with prayer.*



The Rev. Dr. Christopher Q. James, *Pastor*
Brian Parrish, *Director of Music Ministries*
Mike Greene, *Pianist*
Laura Meinert, *Office Manager*
Monica Schrautemeier, *Child Care Provider*
Regina Jones, *Child Care Provider*
Marion Hamilton, *Child Care Provider*
Vickie Moore, *Sexton*

Session

Fellowship
Craig Graber (2016)
Margo Van Mill (2017)

Formation for Discipleship
Deb Garten (2015)
Shelley Geiger (2016)
Jennifer Everly (2017)

Ministry, Mission & Evangelism
Jim Salter (2016)
Jim Cox (2017)

Worship, Music & the Arts
Michael Ray (2015)
Linda Dencker (2016)
Lynne Snyder (2017)

Administration & Support
Kathy Gibbs (2015)
Bill Pires (2016)
Clark Hurrell (2017)

Diaconate

2015
Jerry Dyer
Jackie Etling
Bill Judd
Kristen Moore
Jim Phillips

2016
Earl Bostic
Ruth Connor
Marion Hamilton
Stan Whiteley
Jan Parker

2017
Laura Eikmann
Steve Gerke
Donna Huffman
Kay McCarthy
Kurt Romkey

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