



February 22, 2026

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT NEW HOPE

Our worship stems from the Presbyterian/Reformed branch of the Christian faith, and you'll find much of what you need to participate in this bulletin. If you're unfamiliar with these traditions, you may simply let the pray-ers of the community carry you forward. There is no wrong way to come to God in prayer.

We're glad you're here.

During Today's Worship

Children are especially welcome in our worship services, because faith is formed by the practices that shape it. Worship clipboards for children may be found on the table outside the office.

An usher will help you locate one. Parents who prefer child care will find the nursery (infant - Pre-K) in Room 204 (main level).

Worship Feast, an alternative Christian formation experience for elementary-age children is available during the service. Children who wish to participate may be dismissed after the Gospel Reading. They will exit by the side (north) door and be escorted across the hallway.

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 worshipers, please do not take flash photos during the worship service.

Large-print bulletins are available for ease of worship. An usher will be happy to assist you.

The offering...Your financial contributions to New Hope may be placed in one of the two offering stands located at the entry to the main sanctuary doors. Contributions may also be made securely online via the QR code toward the back of this worship bulletin.

The Eucharist (the Lord's Supper, Holy Communion) is open to all the baptized. The Lord's Supper and Baptism are inseparable. If you feel called by the Holy Spirit to meet Christ in Communion, we believe that you are also being called to Baptism. We will not turn anyone away from the Lord's Table, but we do invite you to speak to the pastor or a member of the Session about Baptism as soon as possible.

Restrooms are located on the south side of the building, across the hall from the kitchen. When you exit the worship space, turn left and they are down the hall on the right.

Liturgist: Linda Dencker **Tech team:** Jim Pettit & Scott Truett

If You Are New to New Hope

Information about our church can be found at the Outreach & Information area in the foyer.

Wifi network: NHPCGuest **Wifi password:** Reformed

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 (tjohnson@nhpres.org). To arrange for home-bound Communion, contact Pastor James at cqjames@nhpres.org or 936.2200 x.11.

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR
First Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026

10:15 a.m.

THE GATHERING

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

+ PRELUDE

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy
Nick Anderson, euphonium

arr. Eleanor Whitsett

✠ This prayer is offered to help worshipers center the heart and mind for worship.

God of wilderness and water,
your Son was baptized and tempted as we are.
Guide us through this season,
that we may not avoid struggle,
but open ourselves to blessing,
through the cleansing depths of repentance
and the heaven-rending words of the Spirit. Amen.

Lent was created by the Church with Easter and baptism in mind. So, Lent is not about the small stuff, but aims to place us at the center of it all: the crucified and risen Christ and our identity given in baptism. Lent, then, is a yearly invitation to go deeper into the heart of Christianity.

+ GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SENTENCES & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in love.
...in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Ps. 103:8

*HYMN 436

God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us

O QUANTA QUALIA

*THE CONFESSION

God of mercy,
you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost.
We confess that we have strayed from you
and turned aside from your way.
We are misled by pride,
for we see ourselves pure when we are stained,
and great when we are small.
We have failed in love,
neglected justice, *...cont.*

and ignored your truth.
Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin.
Return us to paths of righteousness
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

☞ *You may reflect on this prayer and offer personal confession in silence.*

Kyrie Eleison

Francis Patrick O'Brien

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Cantor/Choir

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

THE PEACE

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

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

EPISTLE READING

Romans 5:12-19

*THE GOSPEL

THE ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 4:1-11

SERMON

☞ *A moment for silence and reflection.*

*HYMN 783

When We Are Tested

ANGELS OF HEALING

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

...Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

THE EUCHARIST

OFFERING OF OURSELVES & OUR GIFTS

☞ *Financial contributions to the mission and ministry of New Hope may be placed through the slot of the offering stand located at the entry to the sanctuary, or securely online via the QR code on page 10.*

Come Home

Craig Courtney

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...

And now, with the confidence of the children of God, let us pray.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

☞ Ushers will invite worshipers to the Lord's Table by rows. Please approach the Table at the center and return by the outside aisles.

☞ Please cup your hands to receive the bread. Gluten-free bread is available at the plate in the center.

"The gifts of God for the people of God," a part of the invitation to the Lord's Table, comes from the Latin, *Sancta sanctis*, meaning, literally, "The holy for the holy" or "Holy things for holy people," i.e. "Set-apart things for set-apart people."

What Wondrous Love Is This

Nick Anderson, euphonium

arr. Eleanor Whitsett

PRAYER AFTER THE MEAL

THE SENDING

O God, Who Gives Us Life

*HYMN 53

NOEL

*BLESSING & CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

*Please rise in body or spirit.

+ Those arriving may be seated.



About the cover image...

Kyrie Eleison

“Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison” — “Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy” — we pray these words of petition for all creation, our world, ourselves, our community, the church worldwide, and for those who cannot or will not pray. Together we say, “So be it” (“Amen”), in agreement and thankful assurance that our help is in the name of the Lord from whom this mercy comes.



-Elizabeth Steele Halstead. Reprinted by permission from *Visuals for Worship*, ©2006, Faith Alive Christian Resources, 16.

“I’ve Been Wondering...”
FAQs about Worship

Why do we “bury” the alleluias at the start of Lent?

What we do with *alleluias* only makes sense in context with the larger meaning of Lent. So let's start there. Lent arrives each year as the earth prepares to awaken from its winter slumber. So, too, does the church prepare itself for renewal in the springtime of Christ's resurrection. Lent is about the church recovering its center in the dying and rising of Christ as well as preparing candidates being called by God to the waters of baptism. In short, we all learn again how deep is our hunger for God. Marking this spiritual journey are faith practices: communion with God, restraint from excess, and generous sharing. We know these practices as prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. When we bury *alleluias* at the start of Lent, we begin a “fast” from using a word which is pungent with the fragrance of Easter. Like seed planted in the soil, we put away our *alleluias* until that time (at the Great Vigil of Easter) when their return to the liturgy trumpets the glory of the resurrection. So, on Transfiguration Sunday, we sing an entire feast of *alleluias* and, then, with reverence and joy, place them in a “coffin” for 40 days.

WORSHIP RESOURCES

Cover image. Linoleum block prints by Elizabeth Steele Halstead. Reprinted by permission from Visuals for Worship, ©2006, Faith Alive Christian Resources.

"Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy." Music: RESTORATION, arr. Eleanor Whitsett. ©2008 Birnamwood/MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc.

Prayer of Preparation, *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2002), 76.

Prayer of Confession. *Book of Common Worship* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2018), 236.

"When We Are Tested." Text: Ruth Duck. ©1996 Hope Publishing Co. Music: Carlton R. Young. ©1996 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Co.).

"Come Home." Music: Craig Courtney. ©2016 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.

"Kyrie; Lenten Gospel Acclamation; Holy, Holy, Holy; Memorial Acclamation; Amen; and Lamb of God" from Mass of the Lamb. Texts: Traditional liturgical. ©2010 ICEL. Music: Francis Patrick O'Brien. ©2018 GIA Publications, Inc.

"What Wondrous Love Is This." Music: WONDROUS LOVE, arr. Eleanor Whitsett. ©2008 Birnamwood/MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc.

"O God, Who Gives Us Life." Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr. ©1990 Hope Publishing Co.

Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE #A-726483. All rights reserved.



To contribute securely online to New Hope's mission and ministry, scan here.



To see our latest News & Opportunities e-newsletter, scan here.



*Striving to welcome and include all,
worship God,
grow in Christian faith,
serve others,
and be God's love in the world.*

The Rev. Dr. Christopher Q. James, *Pastor*
Dr. Gay Holmes Spears, *Director of Music Ministries*
Trudi Johnson, *Office Manager*

Session

2026
Jeff Connor
Lynn Harmon
Holly Martinez
Stan Whiteley

2027
Rick Getz
Bill Lamey
Deb Mackin, Clerk of Session
Colleen Shear

2028
Kirk Garten
Kathy Gibbs
Randy Malta
Lynne Snyder

Diaconate

2026
Bryan Eikmann, Moderator
Shari Mahon
Joe Seidler
Amie Tilk

2027
Ruth Connor
Bob Davenport
Jane Johnston
Robin Murphy

2028
Mike Black
Donna Huffman
Bill Irvine
Chris Waddell

1580 Kisker Road
St. Charles, MO 63304
636/936.2200
www.nhpres.org

