

March 15, 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 prayers 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: Elder Colleen Shear

Tech team: Bob Davenport & 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
Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15, 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

Fortune My Foe

John Dowland (1563-1626)

Scott Lyle, guitar

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

Faithful God, we profess
that you are the light of the world.
Empower us through our worship of you today,
that we may live as children of the light
and be faithful witnesses to your love in the world.
We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

+ GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LITANY FOR LENT

For forty days and nights the rain fell,
and the waters covered the face of the earth.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

For forty years the people wandered,
seeking the land of God's promise.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Moses spent forty days on the mountain,
learning the commandments of God.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Elijah traveled forty days in the wilderness
to hear the voice of God in the silence.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Jonah cried out to the people of Nineveh:
Repent, or in forty days you will perish.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Jesus fasted and prayed for forty days
and was tested by the devil.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life. ...cont.

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.

...and rose again for us, Jesus our Savior.

Amen.

*HYMN 165

The Glory of These Forty Days

ERHALT UNS, HERR

*THE CONFESSION

**God of compassion and mercy,
we sometimes fail to see
what you are doing in the world.
We want you to act in ways we predict,
but we forget:
you do what is good, not what is expected.
Forgive us when we do not recognize your miracles.
Forgive us when we doubt the wisdom of your actions.
Most of all, forgive us
when we do not respond to your call,
ignoring what we need to do
to show the world your love and grace.**

☞ 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."

During Lent we "fast" from singing the Alleluia, but we still acclaim the Gospel that brings us God's promised steadfast love.

The Gospel readings from John during this season have been proclaimed for over 1500 years to prepare the church for its baptisms at Easter.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

1 Samuel 16:1-13

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 5:8-14

*THE GOSPEL

THE ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL READING

John 9:1-41

SERMON

☞ A moment for silence and reflection.

*HYMN 490

Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters

BEACH SPRING

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.

Were You There?

arr. Mary McDonald

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.

“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.”

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.*

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

arr. Dan Forrest

PRAYER AFTER THE MEAL

THE SENDING

*HYMN 649

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

AMAZING GRACE

*BLESSING & CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

*Please rise in body or spirit.

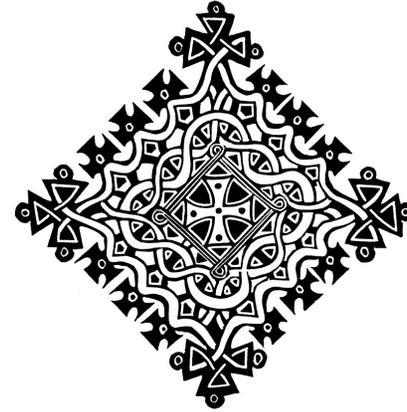
+ Those arriving may be seated.



About the cover image...

Cross (Ethiopian)

This cross is based on an Ethiopian design pattern. The rhythmic interlocking movements of the lines symbolize our unity with Christ in his death and resurrection. The Greek cross in the middle has arms of equal length to remind us that Christ's sacrifice reaches to the four corners of the earth. During the Lenten season we focus not only on the darkness—the seeming absence of God because of our waywardness—but also on the presence of God and our unity with Christ, through God's grace of reconciliation and renewal, indicated by the empty cross and the design's entwined lines.



-Elizabeth Steele Halstead. Reprinted by permission from *Visuals for Worship*, ©2006, Faith Alive Christian Resources, 46.

HOLY WEEK AT NEW HOPE

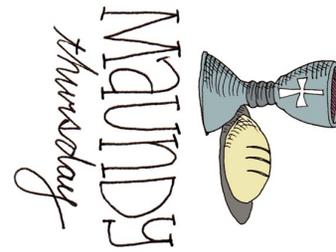
March 29

10:15 a.m. Liturgy of Word & Sacrament
11:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Brunch &
Easter Egg Hunt



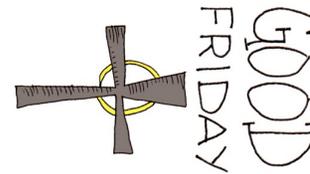
April 2

7:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Word,
Footwashing (opt.), & the Eucharist



April 3

7:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Word,
Intercessory Prayer, &
Solemn Reproaches of the Cross



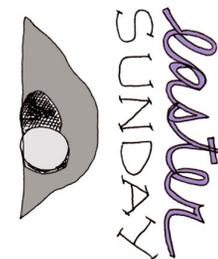
April 4

8:00 p.m. Great Vigil of Easter
Liturgies of Light, Readings,
Affirmation of Baptism &
Eucharist



April 5

10:15 a.m. Liturgy of Word & Sacrament



WORSHIP RESOURCES

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"What Wondrous Love Is This." Music: WONDROUS LOVE, arr. Stan Pethel. ©2021 Choristers Guild.

Prayer of Preparation, *Connections: Worship Companion, Year A, Vol.1* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2022), 128.

Litany for Lent. *Book of Common Worship* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2018), 233-234.

Prayer of Confession. *Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching, & the Arts*, 56.1, 76.

"Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters." Text: Ruth Duck. ©1989 The United Methodist Publishing House. Music: BEAC SPRING, harm. Ronald A. Nelson. ©1978 Lutheran Book of Worship.

"Were You There?" Text and music: traditional. This arr.: Mary McDonald. ©2025, ©2026 Lorenz Publishing Co

"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.

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross." Music: O WALY WALY, English folk song. This arr.: Dan Forrest. ©2013 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.

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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

