

WELCOME!



Worship ~ 10:30 am

WELCOME!

We are pleased that you are coming to worship at New Hope Presbyterian Church. In order to serve you well, please:

- ***Visit our Welcome Table***
- ***ESV Bibles are available on the welcome table for use during the service***
- ***Turn off the ringer on your electronic devices***
- ***Nursery is available for children up to age 4***
- ***Children's Church is available during the sermon (suggested ages 4-6)***
- ***Large Print bulletins available upon request***
- ***Children's bulletins available at the Welcome Table***
- ***Please fill out a gray visitor card if you are visiting and place it in the offering box***

Vision of New Hope Presbyterian Church

New Hope Presbyterian Church
is a grace and gospel-centered fellowship
which exists to magnify Jesus Christ
in the areas of worship, fellowship and outreach.

The music included in this document is used by permission under CCLI # 349461.

Morning Worship

December 24, 2023

Reflections

He who is godly is both a diamond and a loadstone [magnet], a diamond for the sparkling of his grace; and a loadstone, for his attractive virtue in drawing others to the love of God's precepts.

~ Thomas Watson

Approach to God

Welcome — Pastor Francis VanDelden

Prelude

Call to Worship — Psalm 95:6-7 (in unison)

⁶ Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

⁷ For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.

Prayer of Adoration

Praise

Hymn of Praise — O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant,
2. God of God, Light of Light;
3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing:

O come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem; come and be - hold him
lo, he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb: ver - y God, be -
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove; glo - ry to God
Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry giv'n; Word of the Fa - ther,

REFRAIN

born the King of an - gels;
got - ten, not cre - a - ted;
in the high - est; O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let
late in flesh ap - pear - ing;

us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

Latin hymn
Attr. to John Francis Wade, 1751
Tr. by Frederick Oakeley, 1841; alt.

ADESTE FIDELES 6.6.10.5.6.ref.
John Francis Wade's *Cantus Diversi*, 1751

Renewal

Confession of Sin

Most merciful God,

We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon — Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Offering* — John 3:16 ¹⁶ “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

**You can give on-line at the New Hope website: www.newhopeopc.org and click on the green “give” button in the corner.*

Response in Song — He Who is Mighty

Oh, the mercy our God has shown
To those who sit in death's shadow
The sun on high pierced the night
Born was the Cornerstone

PRE-CHORUS

Unto us a Son is given, unto us a Child is born

CHORUS

*He Who is mighty has done a great thing
Taken on flesh, conquered death's sting
Shattered the darkness and lifted our shame
Holy is His name*

Oh, the freedom our Savior won
The yoke of sin has been broken
Once a slave, now by grace
No more condemnation

BRIDGE

Now my soul magnifies the Lord
I rejoice in the God Who saves
I will trust His unfailing love
I will sing His praises all my days

Children's Message

Special Music (New Hope Children's Choir) — "Joy"

Song of Response (with the Children's Choir) — Go Tell it on the Mountain

Unison F C⁷ F C

(Ref.) Go, tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

F Dm F/C C⁷ F Fine

go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born.

F C F C⁷ Dm C F

1. While shep-herds kept their watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, be -
 2. The shep-herds feared and trem - bled when, lo! a - bove the earth rang
 3. Down in a low - ly man - ger our hum - ble Christ was born, and

C F Gm G⁷ C⁷ D.C.

hold, through - out the heav - ens there shone a ho - ly light.
 out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
 God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Congregational Prayer

Sermon Text — John 17:20-26

²⁰ “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

Sermon — Love, Unity, Glory

~ Pastor John Clifford

Closing Hymn — Come Thou Long Expected Jesus (page 10)

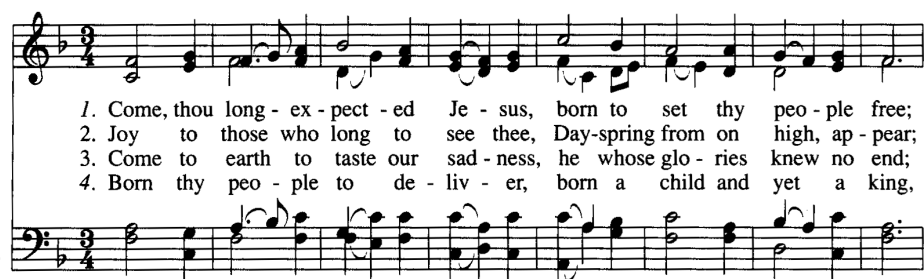
Benediction

Postlude

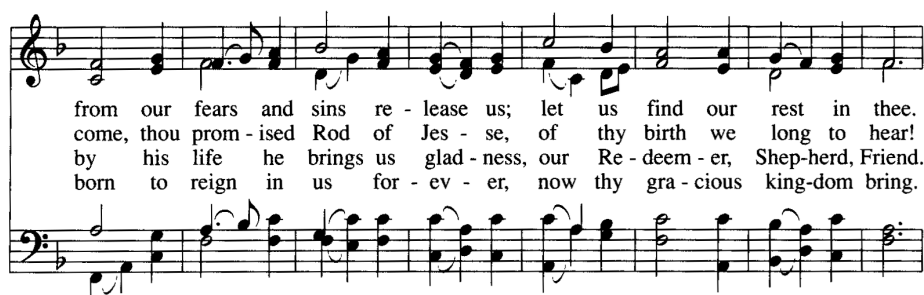
Love, Unity, Glory

John 17:20-26

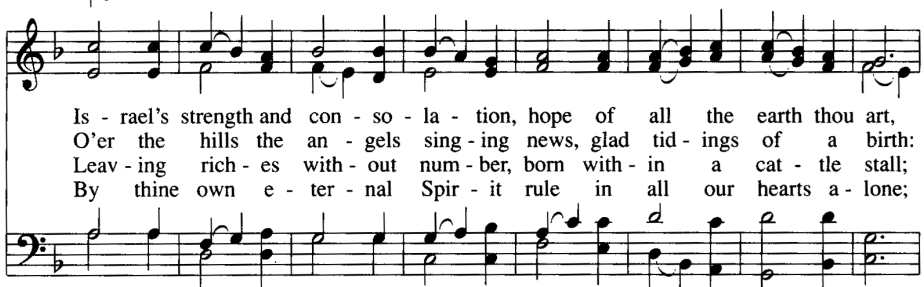
Closing Hymn — Come Thou Long Expected Jesus



1. Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
 2. Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on high, ap - pear;
 3. Come to earth to taste our sad - ness, he whose glo - ries knew no end;
 4. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
 come, thou prom - ised Rod of Jes - se, of thy birth we long to hear!
 by his life he brings us glad - ness, our Re - deem - er, Shep - herd, Friend.
 born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
 O'er the hills the an - gels sing - ing news, glad tid - ings of a birth:
 Leav - ing rich - es with - out num - ber, born with - in a cat - tle stall;
 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear De - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
 "Go to him, your prais - es bring - ing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."
 this the ev - er - last - ing won - der, Christ was born the Lord of all.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING

10:30 am

Welcome Team:	Monte & Matthew Festog, Laura VanDelden
Toddler Nursery:	Valory Snyder, Elaina Hake, Jessie VanDelden, Lillian Williams
Infant Nursery:	Rachel Clifford
Children's Church:	NO Children's Church
Sound:	Lance Duvall
Live Stream:	Lance Duvall
Nursery On-call:	Betsy Lalley
Prayer Team:	Cath Howard, Cynthia Wintermyer

Serving Next Week

10:30 am

Welcome Team:	Brian Burden, Calvin Wright, Laura Caruso
Toddler Nursery:	Mary Troxel, Katie Poortenga, Levi VanDelden
Infant Nursery:	Dawn Myers
Children's Church:	NO Children's Church
Sound:	Craig Lalley
Live Stream:	Johannes Haasbroek
Nursery On-call:	Amy Wright
Prayer Team:	Dave & Dawn Myers

THIS WEEK AT NEW HOPE

Today

Christmas Eve Program, 7:00 pm

Christmas Eve Party, at the VanDelden home after the church service.

Next Sunday

Nepal Update from Benny & Liesl Hake, following the worship service.

COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

Our Church Family

- Praise God for the gift of His son, Jesus, and the hope for salvation for those who trust in Him!
- Give thanks for the atoning work of Jesus and for His love for us. Pray that, as we now are His children and filled with His glory and love, we will share with the world who He is and what He has done so that all will hear the good news!
- Pray for Pastor Francis and his family and all who are travelling this coming week. Pray that time spent with family will be fruitful, relaxing, and full of joy.
- Give thanks for the good news that Marc & Justine Ohlwiler are pregnant with a little boy! Pray for a safe & healthy pregnancy and birth.
- Pray that Ginny Lundregan, Mavis Bauer, Barbara Ruch would have patience and healing while they are in rehab. Pray that they are able to return home soon.
- Pray for Michelle Williams who is expecting a new little one. Pray for the health and well-being of both mom and baby throughout the pregnancy.
- Continue to pray for those who are struggling: those who are suffering from the effects of abuse, are grieving the loss of loved ones, are suffering with dementia or other chronic illnesses, are fighting cancer, or any other difficult trial.

Frederick Area

- Pray for the missions that we support financially: CareNet Pregnancy Center, Child Evangelism Fellowship, and the Frederick Rescue Mission. Pray that they will be places where the gospel is proclaimed and Christ is honored.
- Pray that during the Christmas season the people of Frederick will hear the good news of the gospel and will respond to it!

Missionaries & Others

- Pray for our missionary of the month, Luke Hake, as he serves the Lord in east Asia and is away from his family during Christmas. Pray that as his language learning is progressing into higher levels that he would have opportunities to share the Word with the locals and for it to be received with true faith. Pray for Steve Hake as he travels to visit Luke next month: for safety in travel and that his time with Luke and his team will be a huge encouragement for all.
- Pray for the persecuted Christians in North Africa who are believing in Christ and leaving the Muslim faith. Pray that, despite the fear that comes from the possible persecution or rejection by family, they will continue to be hungry for the gospel and the peace it offers them.
- Pray for John and Rachel Clifford are able to raise all necessary funds so that they can leave for Rwanda. Pray that the Lord would continue to give them grace in this time of change.
- Pray for Benny and Liesl Boyed as they prepare for a two month trip to Nepal. Pray that the Lord would use them to encourage and bless the pastors and believers in this area.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Eve Program, TODAY, 7:00 pm, December 24th. Please plan to come out for this service and invite your friends, neighbors, and family! There are invitations on the back table that you can give out!

Memorial Service for Patti Deschamps, all are invited to the memorial service for Patti being held at the Frederick Church of the Brethren on Thursday, January 4th at 10:30 am. There is some help that is needed the day of the service. If, after reading the list below, you find you are able to assist, please let Giny know (admin@newhopepc.org).

- 3 greeter/usher people to help direct folks where they need to go. These helpers will need to arrive 45 minutes early and meet with Betsy Lalley to go over instructions.
- Clean up crew: we need folks to stay after the luncheon and help clean up. This includes taking down tables and chairs. We are hopeful the volunteers will include strong, able bodies!

Luke Hake Care Package, Steve Hake is going to visit missionary Luke in East Asia, and this is your chance to get a note or letter to Luke first hand. Let's send Luke lots of love and encouragement! You can put the note in Steve's (the elder) mailbox no later than December 31st and he'll take it from there.

Christmas Eve Party, The VanDelden family would like to invite you all to their home for a Christmas party after the Christmas Eve Service. They'll have turkey, ham, and snacks, and you're invited to bring something too. The service is at 7pm, and the party will be after that: address is 6917 Palace Court.

Pastor Francis away and limited office hours, during the week following Christmas, Pastor Francis will be out of town. If you have a pastoral need, please contact your shepherding elder. Also, there will be limited office hours that week but emails and phone messages will be checked.

From Benny & Liesl Boyed: *Dear New Hope, It has been long desired and often requested that we give a more formal, congregational update regarding Nepal and some of our involvement/plans. We would like to let you all know that on December 31st, immediately following the church service, we are doing exactly that. We are looking forward to the opportunity and hope you can join us! There will be snacks available to tide everyone over until they go home for lunch!*

Sunday School, the new Sunday school trimester will begin January 7th and run until March 24th. Stay tuned for details!

2023 Donation Deadline - Please note the following deadlines for donations to New Hope to be counted toward the 2023 tax year:

- *Cash* must be received in the offering basket on any Sunday through 12/31/2023 and must be in an envelope with your name and contact information marked in order to be recorded on your

(Continued on page 14)

donor contribution statement. Mailing cash is not advised.

- *Checks* must be properly dated (no later than 12/31/2023). They can be put in the offering on any Sunday through 12/31/2023 or mailed to the church with a postmark of no later than 12/31/2023 *and* received by 1/7/2024. Mailed checks received after 1/7/2024 will be recorded for tax year 2024, regardless of check date, unless there is a clear postmark of 12/31/2023 or earlier.
- *Online Donations* must be processed no later than 11:59pm ET on 12/31/2023.

Contribution statements for 2023 will be provided no later than 1/31/2024. If you have any questions, please contact Elease Layman at treasurer@newhopeopc.org.

Change to Worship Time, On January 14, 2024, Session plans to start a three month trial of beginning our worship services at 10:45am instead of 10:30am. This idea came to us from the Welcome Team, and was studied and then recommended to us by the Worship Committee. Before we implement this, however, we'd like to weigh any concerns or questions you have. So if you have any, please email or talk to any elder. There are two pain points that this resolves: a rushed transition time between Sunday School and worship, and lack of fellowship time prior to the service. This shift will more than double the time for fellowship (10:20 to 10:45), and give ample time to pick up children from their classes and go to the bathroom. Here are answers to some of the questions that have already been asked:

- *Will Sunday School go longer?* Sunday school will still start at 9:30am and end at 10:20am. Although this will not extend the Sunday School teaching time, it does give parents time to get their kids, teachers a chance to clean up or answer questions after class.
- *Why a three month trial?* Although we don't anticipate changing it after three months, this allows a significant trial to see if it is actually making a difference, and to see if there are any unanticipated effects.
- *Why not start Sunday School at 9am?* We did not want to lengthen anyone's day if at all possible. Starting Sunday school earlier would affect musicians, sound techs, and parents of young children. For some it would likely mean skipping Sunday School.
- *Won't the services end well past noon?* Although ending at noon has never been a priority, our little ones in nursery and children's church and the folks that serve in them are a priority and we want to be mindful of the length of time that the service goes. For several reasons the services have recently been about 10 minutes short-

(Continued on page 15)

er than a year ago and so the 15 minute later start time should not be much of a pain point.

Although the services will start later, we encourage you to still arrive by 10:30am for worship so that you can enjoy fellowship time, and we can all start worship on time together. If you have questions or comments, please let us know!

DAILY DEVOTION

Memory Verse: **Luke 1:78-29** — ⁷⁸because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high ⁷⁹to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

Westminster Shorter Catechism 21: Who is the Redeemer of God’s elect? The only Redeemer of God’s elect is the Lord Jesus Christ, who, being the eternal Son of God, became man, and so was, and continues to be, God and man in two distinct natures, and one person, for ever.

Monday: Luke 1:79 talks about guiding our feet into the way of peace. What is the opposite of the “way of peace” (consider Gen 3:8-13, 16-19; Ex 2:23-25; Rom 3:10-17)? Contact this lack of peace with Psalm 23 and the shepherd’s leading his flock into the way of peace (wholeness, happiness, well-being, joy). Muse on how Jesus does this with you.

Tuesday: How does Luke 1:78-70 relate to Isaiah 9:1-11? Imagine yourself sitting in physical darkness and finally the sun rising. How would you respond? How do people in Isaiah 9:3 respond? Why? How is Christ’s coming (and return) like a sunrise? How does his light guide our feet “into the way of peace”?

Wednesday: Luke 1:79. Jesus guides us into the way of peace. But his life was not one of peace. How do you see this already in Luke 2:12, Mt 2:13f, Col 1:19-20. What did Jesus have to accomplish to be able to say “Peace to you” (Luke 24:36, 45f)? Praise him for the cost of his peace-making!

Thursday: Read Luke 2:8-14 and Rev 5:9-14. How does Christ’s work bring peace between God and sinners (Rom 5:1)? How does this spread between Christians and others? What part of both these relationships is reserved for full reality in heaven? Where in the church or at home are you “pasting over” issues that need true peace brought to bear (Rom 14:19, 2 Cor 13:11)? How will you do this?

Friday: Read Luke 2:8-14. How do the angels connect Jesus’ birth with peace? What is their response? This peace results in the presence of God - how is that pictured in v 11-12? This peace also results in God’s pleasure on the believer—how do you see that in v 14? Exercise your faith by actively believing throughout today that God is present with you. Pleased with you. At peace with you.

Saturday: Read Leviticus 23:23-44. What stamped Israel’s time?