

WELCOME!



Worship ~ 10:45 am

# Morning Worship

April 14, 2024

## Reflections

*In His triumphant ascension, Christ demonstrated His victory over all powers of evil. Though His reign has yet to be realized on earth, when He ascended, Christ gave each of His followers unique and purposeful gifts enabling us to serve God. While these gifts are not equal in size or significance, they are a result of God's grace and should not be a cause for pride or comparison. All Christians are called to serve because Christ has equipped us to do so, and we have no excuse for failing to use the gifts He has given.*

~Alistair Begg

*Gifts are abilities God gives us to meet the needs of others in Christ's name.*

~ Tim Keller

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## Approach to God

**Welcome** — Pastor Francis VanDelden

## Prelude

**Call to Worship** — Psalm 68:18-20, 32-35 (responsive)

<sup>18</sup>You ascended on high, leading a host of captives in your train  
and receiving gifts among men,  
even among the rebellious, that the LORD God may dwell there.

<sup>19</sup>**Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up;  
God is our salvation.**

<sup>20</sup>**Our God is a God of salvation,  
and to GOD, the Lord, belong deliverances from death.**

<sup>32</sup>O kingdoms of the earth, sing to God;  
sing praises to the Lord,

<sup>33</sup>to him who rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens;  
behold, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.

<sup>34</sup>**Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel,  
and whose power is in the skies.**

<sup>35</sup>Awesome is God from his sanctuary;  
the God of Israel—

he is the one who gives power and strength to his people.

**Blessed be God!**

# Praise

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## **Song of Praise — Glorious and Mighty**

Majesty, Your glory is shining  
Brighter than the moon and the stars.  
Marveling, we honor and fear You above all gods.

*Glorious and mighty, You're awesome in beauty  
Joyful songs we raise.  
Glorious and mighty, You're awesome in beauty  
Greatly to be praised*

Majesty, You fashioned the heavens,  
Your decrees can never be changed.  
Over all the plans of the nations  
Your judgments reign. (CHORUS)

Majesty, we'll sing with creation  
When You come again in the clouds.  
Every knee will bow down and worship  
The one true God. (CHORUS)

## **Prayer of Adoration**

### **Song of Praise — When I Consider (Psalm 8)**

When I consider your heavens, the works of your fingers,  
The moon and the stars  
What is man that you are mindful of him  
That you care for him?

*O Lord our Lord how majestic your name, in all the earth  
O Lord our Lord how majestic your name, in all the earth.*

You have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings  
And crowned him with glory  
You have made him a ruler  
Over the works of your hands and set everything under his feet  
You set everything under his feet (chorus)

Bridge

Your enemies they challenge your rule  
They raise their fists to you sovereign Lord  
But you have set your glory above the heavens  
From the lips of children you have ordained praise

## Song of Praise — Isaiah 40

(men) Do you not know?

(women) Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,  
The Creator of the ends of the earth. (repeat)

(men) He will not grow tired or weary,

(women) And His understanding no one can fathom.

(men) He gives strength to the weary,

(women) And increases the power of the weak.

(men) Even youths grow tired and weary,

(women) And young men stumble and fall;

But those who hope in the LORD

Will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles;

They will run and not grow weary,

They will walk and not be faint. (repeat)

(chorus after 2nd time)

Do you not know?

Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God

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## Renewal

### Confession of Sin — Romans 12:9-21

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

<sup>10</sup>Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

<sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. <sup>17</sup>Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup>To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

## Assurance of Pardon — Galatians 2:19-20

<sup>19</sup>For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. <sup>20</sup>I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

## Commitment

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**Offering\*** — *Hebrews 13:5* <sup>5</sup>Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

*\*You can give on-line at the New Hope website: [www.newhopeopc.org](http://www.newhopeopc.org) and click on the green "give" button in the corner.*

## Response in Song — How Deep the Father's Love for Us

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son, to make a wretch His treasure

How great the pain of searing loss, the Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the chosen One, bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice, call out among the scoffers

It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life, I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything. No gifts, no power, no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ His death and resurrection

Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart, His wounds have paid my ransom  
(REPEAT)

## Congregational Prayer

## **Sermon Text — Ephesians 4:7-13**

<sup>7</sup> But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. <sup>8</sup> Therefore it says,  
“When he ascended on high he led a host of captives,  
and he gave gifts to men.”

<sup>9</sup> (In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? <sup>10</sup> He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) <sup>11</sup> And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ...

## **Sermon — Gifts to Mature the Church**

~ Pastor Francis VanDelden

## **Closing Hymn — We Are God's People** (page 8)

## **Benediction**

## **Postlude**

*Please come forward for prayers with our prayer team  
after the service.*

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# **Gifts to Mature the Church**

Ephesians 4:7-13

1. The Triumphant Giver (8-10)

2. The Hand-Crafted Gift (7)

3. The Maturity-Goal (13)

# Closing Hymn — We Are God’s People

1. We are God’s peo - ple, the cho - sen of the Lord, born of his  
 2. We are God’s loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord, for we have  
 3. We are the Bod - y of which the Lord is Head, called to o -  
 4. We are a tem - ple, the Spir - it’s dwell - ing place, formed in great

Spir - it, es - tab - lished by his Word; our cor - ner - stone is  
 known it, the love of God out - poured; now let us learn how  
 bey him, now ris - en from the dead; he wills us be a  
 weak - ness, a cup to hold God’s grace; we die a - lone, for

Christ a - lone, and strong in him we stand: O let us live trans -  
 to re - turn the gift of love once giv’n: O let us share each  
 fam - i - ly, di - verse yet tru - ly one: O let us give our  
 on its own each mem - ber los - es fire: yet joined in one the

par - ent - ly, and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.  
 joy and care, and live with a zeal that pleas - es heav’n.  
 gifts to God, and so shall his work on earth be done.  
 flame burns on to give warmth and light, and to in - spire.

Bryan Jeffery Leech, 1976

Text and tune © 1976, Fred Bock Music Co. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

SYMPHONY 11.11.8.6.8.9.  
 From Johannes Brahms, *Symphony No. 1 in C Minor*, 1876  
 Arr. by Fred Bock, 1976



# THANK YOU FOR SERVING

## **10:30 am**

Welcome Team: Jacob Mendez, Mary Troxel, Dustin Mixon  
Toddler Nursery: Rachel Neahusen, Cynthia Wintermyer, Samantha VanDelden, Caelyn Poortenga  
Children's Church: NO Children's Church  
Sound: Ed Wright  
Live Stream: Isaac Wright  
Nursery On-call: Gingy Socash  
Prayer Team: Dave & Dawn Myers

## **Serving Next Week**

## **10:30 am**

Welcome Team: Marc Quist, Zack Gillette, Hannah Foster  
Toddler Nursery: Valory Snyder, Elaina Hake, Jessie VanDelden, Lillian Williams  
Children's Church: NO Children's Church  
Sound: Craig Lalley  
Live Stream: John Godoy  
Nursery On-call: Monica Laird  
Prayer Team: Monte & Rosemarie Festog

# THIS WEEK AT NEW HOPE

**Tuesday**      **Sermon Study group, 4:00 pm in C8**

# COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

## **Our Church Family**

- Pray for Man Kim since he remains in the hospital. Pray for a speedy recovery for Man, trust in the Lord and a deeper resting in his grace for Man, Annie, and the family.
- Give thanks that Christ gives each of His followers unique and purposeful gifts enabling us to serve God. Pray that with these gifts we will help meet the needs of others.
- Pray that during this resting month we will use this time well to spend more time with the Lord, with one another, and practicing hospitality.
- Give thanks for those serve so faithfully at New Hope and give of their time and their gifts for the good of the church body and for the sake of Christ. Pray that they will be joyful in service and blessed in their work.
- Pray for those who struggle with anxiety, fear, and/or depression. Pray that the Lord would meet them in their need as they study scripture and pray and that they will trust in His promises each and every day.
- Barbara Ruch who is in hospice care but doing well and is in good spirits. Pray that Mavis Bauer continues to improve physically so that she can return home.
- Pray for Alanna Duvall and Hannah Graf who are expecting new little ones. Pray for the health and well-being of both moms and babies throughout the pregnancies.
- 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 honoring.
- Pray for opportunities to have deep, meaningful conversations about faith and the gospel with unbelieving friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers. Pray that God will use these conversations to bring about changed hearts and lives.

## **Missionaries & Others**

- Pray for our missionaries of the month, John & Rachel Clifford who will be serving in Rwanda with Mission to the World (MTW). As they deal with their local partners in Rwanda, pray for clarity in communication, grace, discernment, and wisdom. Pray, too, that they would be filled with the Spirit as they pray, witness, and obey.
- Pray for Luke Hake as he serves the Lord in west Asia and for continued joy in the work that he is called to do. Pray for him as he prepares for his 3 month furlough in the United States and all the details that accompany that transition.
- Pray for the Christians around the world that are persecuted for their faith.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Clifford Missions Presentation**, please plan to stay after church on April 21st when John and Rachel Clifford will do a missions presentation about their upcoming missions work in Rwanda. We will be having a hot dog lunch and we hope everyone can stay and enjoy this time!

**Annual Reports due**, as we head toward the close of our 2023-24 fiscal year, it's time for the publication of the annual report! If you are a ministry team leader or in charge of a specific ministry, you should have been asked to submit an annual report! All reports are due May 20th!

**New Members Class**, May 11th, 8:00 am until 1:00 pm. If you are interested in participating in this class, please contact Pastor Francis.

**Brunch for New Members Class**, we are looking for someone to help provide brunch for the New Members class in May. If you are able to make brunch for about 10 people, please contact Pastor Francis or Giny in the office.

**New Directory!**, it's about time for a new picture directory! You will be receiving an email from the church office with your current directory listing (if you have one) or with a request for information. Please make any changes to your listing and send back the info! We will have a couple of Sundays in the near future where new pictures can be taken.

**Congregational Meeting**, mark your calendars for June 30th for our annual meeting of the congregation and the corporation. It will take place immediately following the worship service and will include lunch. Stay tuned for details!

## DAILY DEVOTIONS

**Memory Verse** — Ephesians 2:13 <sup>13</sup>But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

**Heidelberg Catechism 51:** What profit is this glory of Christ, our head, for us? *First, that by his Holy Spirit he pours out heavenly graces upon us his members; and then that by his power he defends and preserves us against all enemies.*

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**Monday:** Eph 4:8. How does Eph 4:8 picture Jesus as a Triumphant, Victorious General? What battle has he won (e.g. Rev 12:7-11)? Who are the captives (Col 2:15)? What is his triumphal march (Eph 1:20)? How does it help you to know that Jesus is your reigning, victorious King (Eph 5:10-11, Rom 8:1, Rom 16:20)? Pray about this.

**Tuesday:** Eph 4:8, Ps 68:18. Paul has been accused of tinkering with Ps 68:18 by changing the word “received” to “gave” gifts. Paul intentionally changed the word to capture the whole psalm’s meaning. Look for powerful King (Ps 68:1); the triumphant King (68:17-18); the present King (Ps 68:19); the giving King (68:35). Do you believe Jesus is all these things? How can you actively live out of these truths?

**Wednesday:** Eph 4:8-10. When did Jesus ascend (Acts 1:9)? Why was his ascension so significant (Acts 1:8, 2:1-4, 35)? When and why did Jesus have to descend to earth (Lk 1:35, Phil 2:6ff)? As Victorious King, what is Jesus now doing (v 8, v 7)? What are his gifts for (1 Cor 12:7, 1 Pet 4:10)? If Jesus’ gifts are apportioned, hand-crafted, is there any room for jealousy? How can others’ gifts be doors to thanksgiving?

**Thursday:** Eph 4:13. What is Jesus purpose for giving each believer a gift (v 13, 16)? If his grand design it to take us from Adam-like sinners to Jesus-like saints, how should we view our gifts? How can you bless, strengthen, encourage, love, serve the church body today? What does this maturing through one another’s gifts require? Pray for yourself and the church body to grow in faithfulness here.

**Friday:** Using Eph 4:7-10, 13, how would you answer someone who said the following: “No one’s hurt if I just keep my distance”? “My gift is not that important.” “The church is doing just fine without my gift.” “I don’t know what my spiritual gift is, so I can’t serve.” What is Jesus doing by gifting each believer (Eph 5:26-27)? Beautiful, isn’t it?

**Saturday:** Eph 4:11-16. What roll to the teaching gifts have in the church? To what are they to lead?