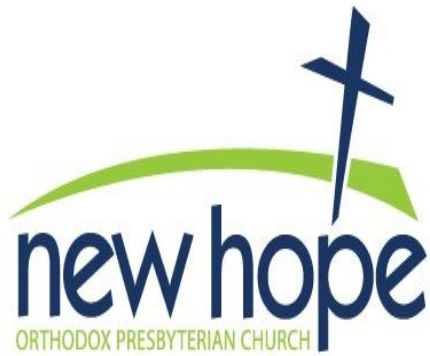


WELCOME!



Worship ~ 10:45 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 back table for use during the service***
- ***Turn off the ringer on your electronic devices***
- ***Nursery is available for children up to age 4***
- ***Large Print bulletins available upon request***
- ***Children's bulletins available at the Welcome Table***
- ***Please fill out a blue visitor card if you are visiting and place it in the offering box or give to a greeter***

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## ***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 8, 2024

## Reflections

<sup>14</sup> “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup> In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup> In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’

~ Jeremiah 33:14-16

*What is God doing? He’s overturning our expectations. God has ordered the world such that weakness overcomes power, foolishness overcomes wisdom, a child defeats all evil. It’s an unlikely, improbable, incredible story. When everything else in this world fails, when all our best plans are found wanting, when we’ve reached the very end of what we can do, unto us a child is born. There is a baby in a manger to set it all right again. We like to think we’re strong and mighty, capable of conquering it all on our own, or at least collectively, but it turns out God doesn’t need us at all; we need him. And in this child, we have him: the baby born in a manger 2,000 years ago, Jesus Christ our Savior.*

~ David McLemore

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## Approach to God

**Welcome** — Elder Joel Poortenga

**Missions Moment** — Outreach Committee

**Call to Worship** — Isaiah 9:1-7 (responsive)

But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup> **The people who walked in darkness**

**have seen a great light;**

**those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,**

**on them has light shone.**

<sup>3</sup> **You have multiplied the nation;**

**you have increased its joy;**

**they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,**

**as they are glad when they divide the spoil.**

<sup>4</sup> **For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder,**

*(Continued on page 4)*

the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.  
 5 For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult  
 and every garment rolled in blood  
 will be burned as fuel for the fire.

6 **For to us a child is born,  
 to us a son is given;  
 and the government shall be upon his shoulder,  
 and his name shall be called  
 Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
 Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

7 Of the increase of his government and of peace  
 there will be no end,  
 on the throne of David and over his kingdom,  
 to establish it and to uphold it  
 with justice and with righteousness  
 from this time forth and forevermore.  
**The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.**

## Praise

### Hymn of Praise — O Come, O Come Emmanuel

The musical score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It features a treble and bass staff. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
 2. O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes, on  
 3. O come, thou Rod of Jes - se, free thine own from Sa - tan's  
 4. O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us by thy  
 5. O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come and o - pen wide our

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here,  
 Si - nai's height, in an - cient times didst give the law  
 • tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple save,  
 draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,  
 heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads on high,

un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.  
 • and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -  
 and death's dark shad - ows put to flight.  
 and close the path to mis - er - y.

REFRAIN

man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

## Prayer of Adoration

### Songs of Praise

#### Come Ye Sinners

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore  
 Jesus ready, stands to save you. Full of pity, love and power

Come, ye thirsty, come and welcome, God's free bounty glorify  
 True belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh

Come, ye weary, heavy-laden, lost and ruined by the fall  
 If you tarry 'til you're better, you will never come at all

I will arise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in His arms  
 In the arms of my dear Savior, oh, there are ten thousand charms

Lo, the incarnate God ascended, pleads the merit of his blood  
 Venture on him, venture wholly. Let no other trust intrude

I will arise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in His arms  
 In the arms of my dear Savior, oh, there are ten thousand charms

*(Continued on page 6)*

## **Prepare Him Room**

O behold, the mystery now unfolds  
See the star shine on the virgin foretold  
Angels sing and light up the sky  
Hope rings out in a newborn's cry  
Swing wide, you ancient gates  
for Christ is born today!

## **CHORUS**

*Prepare Him room, Prepare Him room  
Let the King of glory enter in*

God with us, the promise has come to be  
This, the one the prophets were longing to see  
In the darkness a blazing light  
To the hungry the words of life  
His kingdom now is near for those  
with ears to hear (chorus)

Oh, our hearts, as busy as Bethlehem  
Hear Him knock, don't say  
there's no room in the inn  
Through the cradle, cross, and grave  
See the love of God displayed  
Now He's risen and He reigns.  
Praise the Name above all names!

## **Renewal** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Confession of Sin — Ephesians 2:11-12, 4:17-19**

<sup>11</sup>Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called "the uncircumcision" by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— <sup>12</sup>remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

<sup>17</sup>Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. <sup>18</sup>They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. <sup>19</sup>They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity.

## **Assurance of Pardon** — Luke 2:10-14, Ephesians 2:13

<sup>10</sup>And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup>For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>“*Glory to God in the highest,*

*and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”*

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

**Offering\*** — Matthew 6:19-21 <sup>19</sup>“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup>but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

*\*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**

### **This Fathomless Love**

Lord, what moved your heart to love lowly man  
Before any star could herald your praise?  
And why did you come abasing yourself  
Veiled in a robe of frail human clay?  
Why would you, the pure, give your life for the vile  
The innocent seeking the guilty to be reconciled?

*I can't comprehend this fathomless love.  
I'm gripped and amazed at what you have done.  
Why would the adored become the despised?  
To bear all the furious wrath that was mine?  
How awesome this mystery of your fathomless love for me.*

Why would you adopt and take as your own  
Those who had crushed your one precious Son?  
Why mercy and grace towards your enemies?  
Your name they have cursed  
And your throne they have shunned  
O how could you choose to show kindness to these?  
The ones who would mock you and hate you.  
The ones just like me. (chorus)

# Commitment

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## Congregational Prayer

### Sermon Text — Luke 1:67-79

<sup>67</sup> And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying,

<sup>68</sup> “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,  
for he has visited and redeemed his people  
<sup>69</sup> and has raised up a horn of salvation for us  
in the house of his servant David,  
<sup>70</sup> as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,  
<sup>71</sup> that we should be saved from our enemies  
and from the hand of all who hate us;  
<sup>72</sup> to show the mercy promised to our fathers  
and to remember his holy covenant,  
<sup>73</sup> the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us  
<sup>74</sup> that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies,  
might serve him without fear,  
<sup>75</sup> in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.  
<sup>76</sup> And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,  
<sup>77</sup> to give knowledge of salvation to his people  
in the forgiveness of their sins,  
<sup>78</sup> because of the tender mercy of our God,  
whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high  
<sup>79</sup> to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of  
death,  
to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

### Sermon — Christmas Is Hope

~ Pastor Francis VanDelden

### Closing Song — Christ Our Hope in Life and Death

(page 10)



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# **Christmas Is Hope**

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Luke 1:67-79

## **Closing Hymn — Christ Our Hope in Life & Death**

What is our hope in life and death  
Christ alone, Christ alone  
What is our only confidence  
That our souls to Him belong  
Who holds our days within His hand  
What comes, apart from His command  
And what will keep us to the end  
The love of Christ, in which we stand

*O sing hallelujah, Our hope springs eternal  
O sing hallelujah, Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death*

What truth can calm the troubled soul  
God is good, God is good  
Where is His grace and goodness known  
In our great Redeemer's blood  
Who holds our faith when fears arise  
Who stands above the stormy trial  
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh  
Unto the shore, the rock of Christ (chorus)

Unto the grave, what will we sing Christ,  
He lives, Christ, He lives  
And what reward will heaven bring  
Everlasting life with Him  
There we will rise to meet the Lord  
Then sin and death will be destroyed  
And we will feast in endless joy  
When Christ is ours forevermore (chorus)

## **Benediction**

## **Postlude**

*You are invited to come pray with the prayer team up front  
after the worship service.*

# THANK YOU FOR SERVING

## Serving Next Week

### 10:30 am

Welcome Team:	Brian Burden, Chris Boyles (early team) Tim Howell, Jackie Plowman (late team)
Toddler Nursery:	Steve Hake, Dan and Lily Godoy
Children's Church:	No Children's Church
Sound:	Craig Lalley
Live Stream:	Lance Duvall
Nursery On-call:	Laura VanDelden
Prayer Team:	David & Kathleen Porter

## Serving Next Week

### 10:30 am

Welcome Team:	Marc Quist, Mary Troxel (early team) Mark & Sally Rice (late team)
Toddler Nursery:	Jacob Mendez, Steve & Lizzie Ochs
Children's Church:	No Children's Church
Sound:	Ed Wright
Live Stream:	Isaac Wright
Nursery On-call:	Elaina Hake
Prayer Team:	Mark & Sally Rice

# THIS WEEK AT NEW HOPE

**Saturday**      **Ladies' Christmas Party**, 7:00 pm at Gingly Socash's home. See announcement page for details

**Next Sunday**      **Youth Group Caroling & Christmas Party**, see announcement page for details

**Children's Choir Rehearsal**, immediately following the worship service. See announcement page for details.

# COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

## **Our Church Family**

- Pray for Pastor Francis to grow in compassionate leadership.
- Pray for our session to be renewed and refreshed and to have fruitful ministry.
- Give thanks for the hope that is only found in Christ. Pray that as we ponder the birth of our Savior, the light in the darkness, we will rejoice in the mercy we have been shown and delight in the great gift of salvation we have been given.
- Pray for the upcoming Christmas Eve service. Pray that God will bring many unbelieving souls to this service to hear the good news of the hope that is found in Jesus.
- Pray for those who find the holiday season a difficult one and a lonely one. Pray that God's people will surround and care for those who are struggling or lonely and be loving and hospitable.
- 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 that the Lord will raise up folks from New Hope to serve in these missions.
- Pray for the upcoming outreach events that will entail inviting folks around the church property as well as folks in downtown Frederick to come to our Christmas Eve service. Pray that God will bless these efforts and bring many unbelievers to church.

## **Missionaries & Others**

- Pray for our missionaries of the month, John Clifford and his wife, Rachel, and their family, as they serve the Lord in Rwanda. Please pray for and rejoice with them they have reached the 6 month mark which means the newness wearing off and homesickness setting in, especially in this holiday season. Pray for boldness for Rachel for sharing the gospel with unbelieving friends, and for the Christmas events she will be helping run for Rwandan women and children to be jumping points for relationships and the gospel!
- Pray for Luke Hake as he ministers in Central Asia. Continue to pray for his language teacher as Luke shares the gospel and the scriptures with him and pray that his heart will be changed. Give thanks for Luke's opportunities to share God's word and pray that God will continue to bless his work, sustain him through difficult times, and give him joy in his calling.
- Pray for Kristen and Thanos who are serving the Lord in Greece. Pray for Betsy and Craig Lalley as they travel to visit them later in December. Pray that they will be of great encouragement to them!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Christmas Eve Service CHANGE OF TIME**, the Christmas Eve service time has been changed to 6:00 pm. Please make note of this on your calendar!

**Children's Choir**, all school aged children are invited to participate in the children's choir which will be singing at the Christmas Eve service. The first practice will be December 15th immediately following the worship service.

**Ladies' Christmas Party**, save the date! Saturday, December 14th at Gingy Socash's home at 7:00 pm. Bring a dessert or appetizer to share and a \$10 wrapped gift (if you want to play the swap game). Address: 591 Over Ridge Drive, Frederick, MD

**Men's Night Out**, This Tuesday, December 10, will be our monthly evening for the men to gather for dinner and conversation. Please join us beginning around 6:15 PM at Ledo Pizza in the Weis Festival shopping center at 490 Prospect Blvd in Frederick.

**Ladies' Thursday Night Zoom Bible study** will be starting a new topic in January, using the book "Gentle and Lowly" by Dane Ortlund. We meet most Thursdays except LNO from 7 - 8:30. If you want more information or are interested in joining, contact Monica Laird for details at (410) 963-6522 or [monlaird@gmail.com](mailto:monlaird@gmail.com).

**CareNet Needs**, CareNet Pregnancy Center is in need of clothes donations (new or used) for boys and girls sizes 0-5T (bigger sizes most needed). Donations of these clothes can be dropped off at the center or brought to church to give to Sue Bridenbaugh who volunteers there on Mondays.

**"Hark the New Hope Youth Group Sings"**: All New Hope Youth (MS and HS) are invited to "Sing and Eat" on Sun Dec 15<sup>th</sup>. After church, we will eat a brown bag lunch that each of us has brought, leave New Hope to go Christmas caroling at a nearby neighborhood and then return to New Hope for Christmas food and fun. We expect to be done around 3:30/4:00. If you want to participate, dress for the weather, bring a treat to share, and your own brown bag lunch. RSVP to Monica Laird [monlaird@gmail.com](mailto:monlaird@gmail.com) or (410) 963-6522 so we can figure out transportation to the neighborhood.

**Blessing Kristen and Thanos**, Craig and Betsy Lalley are traveling to visit Kristen and Thanos on the mission field later this month. If you would like to send notes or drawings of encouragement, please place it in a specially marked basket on the counter by Sunday, December 22nd.

**Blessing the Cliffords**, this Christmas, New Hope will be helping to meet the needs of our "in house" missionary John Clifford and his family in Rwanda. In Rwanda. It is hard to get a number of things and Rachel Clifford's sister will be traveling to visit them in January. So we are asking folks in the church to help bless them by filling a couple of suitcases that will go over to them with her.

- Christmas Cards — please fill out or make your own Christmas card from your family to send in the suitcase. Consider adding a note or a picture of you or your family.

*(Continued on page 14)*

- Purchasing items on the Clifford's "wish list" and bringing them to church to be put in the suitcase. The wish list will be sent out via email. If you do buy anything, please mark the item as "purchased). If you don't have email, please ask Gingy for a list.

It is important to note that NONE of the above donations will be tax deductible. And no checks written to New Hope will be able to be used for this.

**"Got Books?"** On Wednesday Nights, starting in January, the Youth will begin a study of the Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis. Some youth may have a copy at home that they can bring, but we would like to have some copies available in case someone doesn't have one or their personal copy forgotten/lost. If you have a copy collecting dust that you would allow us to use, please put it in my mailbox. If you want to be assured it gets returned to you, please put your name in it. Any questions, reach out to Monica Laird [monlaird@gmail.com](mailto:monlaird@gmail.com) or 410 963-6522.

**Youth Volunteers:** In accordance with our child protection policy, we re-run background checks on all of our youth volunteers on a 3-year cycle. If you are currently working with or have previously worked with children age 0-18, you will find a form in your mailbox giving consent for New Hope to re-run your background check. If you intend to continuing working with the youth in any capacity, please complete the form and put it in Amy Wright's mailbox. Anyone without an updated background check will be removed from our list of approved youth volunteers.

**Youth Workers Needed!** Would you like to be involved with kids of any age at New Hope? Please contact Amy Wright to find out more about how to get approved as a youth volunteer! We'd love to connect you with any of our youth ministries (nursery, Children's church, Sunday School, GEMs, CSB, youth group, etc).

**Approved for membership,** the session of New Hope is please to let you know that Annamarie Haasbroek and Faye Layman have been interviewed and approved for membership.

**New Members Class,** we are in the process of trying to schedule a New Members class in January. If you would like to participate in this class and haven't been contacted by Gingy already, please either email Pastor Francis ([pastor@newhopeopc.org](mailto:pastor@newhopeopc.org)) or Gingy ([admin@newhopeopc.org](mailto:admin@newhopeopc.org)) to let them know.

**Mark your Calendars,** then next Sunday school trimester will begin January 5th and the next Wednesday Dinner & Bible study will begin January 8th.

**Outreach Opportunities!** The outreach committee has a few exciting endeavors in the works. More details to come; contact us if you're interested/have questions! Steve Hake ([srhake@phc.edu](mailto:srhake@phc.edu) // 304-707-1327) or Hannah Foster ([fosterhm1@gmail.com](mailto:fosterhm1@gmail.com) // 330-407-6560)

1. Door to door Christmas Eve Invites: Sunday December 15, we plan to stay after church, eat our own packed lunches, bundle up, and go door to door in a couple local communities inviting

our neighbors to the Christmas Eve service. (Note that this is also the youth caroling day, so consider it two birds, one stone if you have youth kids)

2. Street Evangelism: Saturday December 21 from 2-4pm, we plan to post up in a busy public area in Frederick to share the gospel, hand out tracts, and invite people to visit New Hope. Come participate or simply observe and be encouraged! More to come on future plans and training!
3. Christianity Explored: We hope to invite people to not just Christmas Eve or a Sunday morning, but also to this class! Dates yet to be established but the class will likely run from sometime in January through end of February/beginning of March. Teachers needed; Contact us!

## DAILY DEVOTIONS

**Memory Verse: Ephesians 6:19-20** <sup>17</sup>and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, <sup>18</sup>praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, <sup>19</sup>**and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel,** <sup>20</sup>**for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.**

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**Westminster Confession 18.1 Of Assurance of Grace and Salvation.** Yet such as truly believe in the Lord Jesus, and love Him in sincerity, endeavoring to walk in all good conscience before Him, may, in this life, be certainly assured that they are in the state of grace, and may rejoice in the hope of the glory of God, which hope shall never make them ashamed.

**Monday:** Luke 1:67-68. How do you think not believing in God, or believing we exist by chance produces despair and purposelessness? Do people ever really avoid worshipping something? God had been silent for 400 years. Do you think Israel ever wondered if God was really there (would their sin, failure, and even persecution compound that)? How do vv 67-68 answer some of those questions and speak hope?

**Tuesday:** Luke 1:69. For what do unbelievers seek “salvation” (e.g. happiness)? How do they try find salvation (e.g. self-actualizing, success)? How do you think the failure of David’s throne to produce salvation affected the Jews (v 69)? How does “salvation is from the Lord” in v 69 produce renewed hope? How is Jesus a “horn of salvation”?

**Wednesday:** Read Luke 1:68-74 and Acts 4:24-30. How has Christ already saved and delivered us from our enemies (see also Col 1:13). How does that give confidence in the battle against sin? How has he not yet delivered us from our enemies? How does that give courage and comfort when sinned against or in trial?

**Thursday:** Read Luke 1:76-77 and Psalm 32:1-5. This forgiveness of sins is a big deal for Zechariah. Do you think it is for us today? Why or why not? Do you feel conviction and grief over sin? Ask the Holy Spirit to work greater conviction of sin in you so that you might be more joyful as you taste the “tender mercy” of God in Christ in v 77.

**Friday:** Read Luke 1:78-79 and Isaiah 9:1-6. What is the darkness of Isaiah 9:1-2 (see Isaiah 8:19-22, 8:5-8)? How is Jesus’ coming the dawn of salvation from judgment? What despair, frustration, futility, and sorrow do you experience, and have you seen? How does Jesus’ birth, life, death, and resurrection testify that the light will overcome the darkness?

**Saturday:** Read Luke 2:14. How does Christmas deliver the gift of peace?