

WELCOME!



Sunday School ~ 9:30 am  
Worship ~ 10:45 am

# Morning Worship

November 24, 2024

## Reflections

*Perhaps self-dependence – and forgetting the strength to be found in Christ-dependence – is always our biggest blind spot.*

~ Jack Miller

*“God uses chronic pain and weakness, along with other afflictions, as his chisel for sculpting our lives. Felt weakness deepens dependence on Christ for strength each day. The weaker we feel, the harder we lean. And the harder we lean, the stronger we grow spiritually, even while our bodies waste away. To live with your ‘thorn’ uncomplainingly—that is, sweet, patient, and free in heart to love and help others, even though every day you feel weak—is true sanctification. It is true healing for the spirit. It is a supreme victory of grace.”*

~ J.I. Packer

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## Approach to God

**Welcome** — Pastor Francis VanDelden

## Prelude

**Call to Worship** — Psalm 145:17-21 (responsive)

<sup>17</sup> The LORD is righteous in all his ways  
and kind in all his works.

<sup>18</sup> **The LORD is near to all who call on him,  
to all who call on him in truth.**

<sup>19</sup> He fulfills the desire of those who fear him;  
he also hears their cry and saves them.

<sup>20</sup> **The LORD preserves all who love him,  
but all the wicked he will destroy.**

<sup>21</sup> My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,  
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

## Prayer of Adoration

# Praise

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## Songs of Praise

### Higher Throne

There is a higher throne,  
Than all this world has known,  
Where faithful ones  
from every tongue,  
Will one day come.  
Before the Son we'll stand,  
Made faultless through the Lamb,  
Believing hearts  
find promised grace,  
Salvation comes... (chorus)

*Hear heaven's voices sing,  
Their thunderous anthem rings,  
Through emerald courts,  
and sapphire skies,  
Their praises rise,  
All glory, wisdom, power, strength,  
Thanks and honor are,  
To God, our King,  
who reigns on high.  
Forevermore*

And there, we'll find our home,  
Our life before the throne,  
We'll honor Him, in perfect song,  
Where we belong...  
He'll wipe each tearstained eye,  
As thirst and hunger die,  
The Lamb becomes  
our Shepherd King,  
We'll reign with Him... (chorus)

### How Long, O Lord (Ps 13)

O Lord, our God, to You we come  
Will You still hide Your face?  
We cry before You  
and on our knees we pray  
How long, O Lord, how long?  
Our sorrows leave us weak and worn  
Surrounded by our fears  
We look to heaven  
through feeble faith and tears  
How long, O Lord, how long?

### CHORUS

*Till Your glory fills our eyes  
And our faith is turned to sight  
Till our thirsty souls are satisfied  
How long, O Lord, how long?*

Our foes and enemies rejoice  
Injustice seems to reign  
Lord, we are shaken  
and we are losing strength  
How long, O Lord, how long?  
(chorus)

But we will trust Your steadfast love  
Your grace will be our song  
You bring new mercies  
with ev'ry rising sun  
How long, O Lord, how long?  
(chorus)

# Renewal

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## **Confession of Sin — Colossians 4:2-4, Luke 18:1**

<sup>2</sup>Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.

<sup>3</sup>At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison—<sup>4</sup>that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.

<sup>1</sup>And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.

## Assurance of Pardon — Romans 8:31-34

<sup>31</sup> What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup> Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

## Testimony — Kyle & Hannah Graf

**Offering\*** — *Psalm 116:12-14*<sup>12</sup> *What shall I render to the LORD for all his benefits to me?* <sup>13</sup> *I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD,* <sup>14</sup> *I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.*

*\*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

### Great is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy Faithfulness O God, my Father  
There is now shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not Thy compassions they fail not  
As Thou hast been Thou forever will be.

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. (chorus)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (chorus)

## **Approach My Soul**

Approach my soul the mercy seat, where Jesus answers prayer  
There humbly fall before His feet for none can perish there  
Thy promise is my only plea with this I venture nigh  
Thou calls our burdened souls to Thee  
And such O Lord am I

Chorus

*Oh wondrous love, Oh boundless grace  
Rejoice my soul forever, Christ has made a way*

Bowed down beneath a load of sin, by Satan sorely pressed  
By wars without and fears within I come to Thee for rest  
Be Thou my shield and hiding place  
That sheltered near Thy side, I may my fierce accuser face  
And tell him Thou hast died (chorus)

O wondrous love to bleed and die to bear the cross and shame  
That guilty sinners such as I might plead Thy gracious name  
The tempted soul He tells be still my promised grace receive  
'Tis Jesus speaks I must I will I can I do believe  
'Tis Jesus speaks I must I will I can I do believe (chorus)

## **Commitment**

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### **Congregational Prayer**

*Children ages 4-5 are welcome to go to children's church at this time  
at parents' discretion.*

### **Sermon Text — Ephesians 6:14-20**

<sup>14</sup>Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, <sup>15</sup>and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; <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.

### **Sermon — Pray for Vigilance and Victory**

~ Pastor Francis VanDelden

# Pray for Vigilance and Victory

Ephesians 6:14-20

1. Prayer's Power (v 18)
2. Pray for Vigilance (v 18)
3. Pray for Victory (v 19-20)

# Closing Song — Spirit of the Living God

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, Fall fresh on me. Spir - it of the

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains the melody with lyrics underneath. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the liv - ing God, Fall fresh on me. Spir - it of the".

liv - ing God, Fall fresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me,

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "liv - ing God, Fall fresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me,".

use me. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, Fall fresh on me.

The third system of musical notation concludes the piece with a double bar line. The lyrics are: "use me. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, Fall fresh on me.".

## 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

### 9:30 am

Welcome Team: Dustin Mixon, Becky Wood (early team)  
Gene Wood, Laura Caruso (late team)  
SS Nursery: Dennis Caruso, Dave Myers

### 10:30 am

Toddler Nursery: Dawn Myers, Heath Kooops, Lillian Williams  
Children's Church: Amy Wright, Nancy Howell  
Sound: Craig Lalley  
Live Stream: David Ochs  
Nursery On-call: Dave Myers  
Prayer Team: Cath Howard, Cynthia Wintermyer

## Serving Next Week

### 10:30 am

Welcome Team: Monte Festog, Rayann/Mike McGlamary (early team)  
Matthew Layman, Dan Bull (late team)  
Toddler Nursery: Jordan Roberts, Katie & Micah Poortenga  
Children's Church: No Children's Church  
Sound: Kim Hanlin  
Live Stream: Johannes Haasbroek  
Nursery On-call: Mary Troxel  
Prayer Team: Monte & Rosemarie Festog

# THIS WEEK AT NEW HOPE

**Tuesday**      **Trustee Meeting**, 7:00 pm in C8

**Wednesday**      **Thanksgiving Eve Service**, 7:00 pm at New Hope Church.

**Saturday**      **Men's Ministry Discussion Group**, 8:00-10:00 am



# COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

## **Our Church Family**

- Praise God and give thanks that Riccardo Bastardo's wife and daughter are now here in the United States with him!
- Pray for the board of trustees that are meeting this coming week. Pray for wisdom, unity, and clarity as they oversee and care for the church property and the church's finances. Give thanks for Elease Layman and her consistently excellent work as treasurer.
- Pray that we will be a people devoted to prayer, steadfast in faith, and making supplication for fellow believers. Pray that we will proclaim the Truth of scriptures believing they are the words of life, and be bold in our witness to share the hope that can only be found in Christ Jesus.
- Pray for Pastor Francis that he will have courage to do uncomfortable obedience.
- Pray that during the upcoming resting month, we will have rich relational opportunities.
- Pray for those who find the holiday season difficult and lonely. Pray particularly for those who have lost loved one this year. Pray that God will bring joy and contentment to them, that the church will be mindful and gather them in, and that they will cling to Christ in the midst of difficulty.
- 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 that God will compel us as a church and individually to proclaim the truths of the scripture to the dying world around us.

## **Missionaries & Others**

- Pray for our mission of the month, Worldwide Outreach. Pray particularly for the Thank Offering that was collected last week and this week. Pray that people in the OPC will give generously to the Thank Offering and that through it God would be glorified, people will hear the gospel, and hearts will be changed.
- Pray for John and Rachel Clifford and their family as they serve the Lord in Rwanda. Pray for wisdom and discernment as they grapple with the often untenable restrictions the Rwandan government has put on the churches and the repercussions of this.
- Continue to pray for Luke Hake as he ministers in Central Asia. Pray for the man that is his language teacher who is intrigued by the Word of God as Luke uses it for his language learning. Pray that Luke has opportunity to share the gospel with him and that this man's heart will be softened to the words of truth.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Thanksgiving Eve Service**, Wednesday, November 27th at 7:00 pm at New Hope Church. Please bring cookies to share for after-service fellowship.

**Operation Christmas Child** is due TODAY. Contact Colin Brooks for more information: [colin.brooks2@gmail.com](mailto:colin.brooks2@gmail.com)

**Thank you to Bruce Johnson**, We give thanks for Bruce Johnson's investment in many of our youth over the last almost 4 years. He has led the Wednesday night bible study faithfully during that time, challenging and discipling our youth. He taught his last class this past Wednesday night, and we give thanks for his faithful labors.

**Ladies' Christmas Party**, save the date! Saturday, December 14th at Giny 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

**Ladies' Thursday Night Zoom Bible study** will be starting a new topic in January. We will be 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).

**Ladies' 10 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study that meets in C8** will not meet on Weds. Nov 27th. The group will also observe December's resting month and will restart its meetings on Jan. 8, 2025.

**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.

**Sunday School and Resting Month**, please note that this week is the last week of Sunday school until the new trimester begins in January. Also, the resting month of December begins next Sunday. What does that mean? One reason we do resting months is because God is a God of rest. He values rest, refreshment, and enjoyment. Resting months seek to reflect this priority. Resting months are also for refreshment—a break from serving. They also serve to reflect—am I serving? Where am I serving? Should I continue serving here? And then deepening relationships: resting months are meant to give opportunity to fellowship, hospitality, and prayer in lieu of formal ministries.

*(Continued on page 11)*

**Blessing the Cliffords**, this Christmas, New Hope will be helping to meet the needs of our “in house” missionary John Clifford and his family who are serving the Lord 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. We are asking for the following from the congregation:

- 1 or 2 large suitcase(s) that are no longer needed (one has already been donated and we’d like to send 2 or 3 over)
- 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.
- Donations to finance sending the suitcases on the airplane (about \$100 each). If you want to help with this, please speak to or email Gingy (admin@newhopeopc.org) directly about this.
- 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 for you to look through. 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.

**Christmas Flowers**, Help decorate the church with fresh flowers by buying some to be displayed in the sanctuary. You can buy any of the following for \$10 a plant that you will then be able to take home with you after the Christmas Eve service:

- Poinsettias in 6 inch pots, Pink or Pink/White
- Christmas Cactuses in 4.5 inch pots, various colours, mostly Pink , Purple or White
- Cyclamen in 4.5 inch pots, various colours, mostly Pink, Purple or White

To order flowers, please contact Julie Wesolek (juliewesolek@gmail.com) or Gingy in the office (admin@newhopeopc.org) and indicate your choices of flowers.

## DAILY DEVOTIONS

**Memory Text** **Ephesians 6:14-15** <sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, <sup>15</sup> and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace.

**Westminster Larger Catechism 195** In the sixth petition (lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil) we pray that God would so overrule the world and all in it, subdue the flesh, and restrain Satan, order all things, bestow and bless all means of grace, and quicken us to watchfulness in the use of them, that we and all his people may by his providence be kept from being tempted to sin; or, if tempted, that by his Spirit we may be powerfully supported and enabled to stand in the hour of temptation: or when fallen, raised again and recovered out of it, and have a sanctified use and improvement thereof: that our sanctification and salvation may be perfected, Satan trodden under our feet, and we fully freed from sin, temptation, and all evil, forever.

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**Monday:** Eph 6:18. The participle “praying” connects with “stand therefore” in v 14. Why is that significant? Review each piece of armor and think about why prayer is necessary to put on each one. How is this essentially doing v 10? Is it fair to say that prayer is depending on God? How will you deepen your dependence? How is prayer a trusting of God, and a magnification of his character?

**Tuesday:** Eph 6:18-19. To pray “in the Spirit” is to pray inspired, guided, prompted by the Spirit, in accord with the Spirit-given and empowered Word. How do the 5 “alls” expand our prayers? How can you move closer to praying for “all” rather than “some” (e.g. all of the time vs some of the time)?

**Wednesday:** Eph 6:18-19. Pray so that you “keep alert” (For what specific things do *you* need to keep alert (e.g. v 11-12, Mt 6:13)? How does praying about your temptations keep you on guard against them? Why is prayer so effective (Eph 3:16, 20-21)? So pray! Pray yourself strong prior to the crisis even coming.

**Thursday:** Eph 6:18. Reflect on the phrase “making supplication for all saints.” What does that say about: the church praying with and for each other; outward-bent prayers; knowing church members well enough to pray for them? Why is “arming each other through prayer” so powerful? How can you practice this? Who is praying for you (Rom 8:34)?

**Friday:** Eph 6:19-20. Why does Paul want prayer? What is the yearning that drives this prayer request (e.g. Acts 26:18, Rom 9:2-3, Phil 1:18)? Pray about those yearnings until they grow bigger in you. Pray for opportunity to engage and evangelize unbelievers. Ask God for clarity and courage to take advantage of the opportunities.

**Saturday:** Eph 6:21-24. What are Paul’s 4 wishes for the Ephesians in these verses?