

WELCOME!



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

# Morning Worship

February 2, 2025

## Reflections

*Possess yourself with this maxim, that godliness is the end [purpose] of your creation; God never sent men into the world, only to eat and drink and put on fine clothes, but that they 'might serve him in righteousness and holiness.'* (Luke 1:75).

~ Thomas Watson

*"The massive gulf between God and humanity removed any equality of being between them. This Creator-creature distinction protects the incomprehensibility of God. So the believer follows God's thoughts after him in a true, yet analogical fashion."*

~ John Meuther

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## Approach to God

**Welcome** — Steve Hake, elder

## Prelude

**Call to Worship** — Isaiah 40:25-26 (responsive)

<sup>25</sup>To whom then will you compare me,  
that I should be like him? says the Holy One.

<sup>26</sup>**Lift up your eyes on high and see:  
who created these?**

**He who brings out their host by number,  
calling them all by name;  
by the greatness of his might  
and because he is strong in power,  
not one is missing.**

## Prayer of Adoration

# Praise

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## Songs of Praise

### Come Praise & Glorify

Come praise and glorify our God  
The Father of our Lord  
In Christ He has  
in heav'nly realms  
His blessings on us poured  
For pure and blameless  
in His sight  
He destined us to be  
And now we've been adopted  
through His Son eternally

*To the praise of Your glory  
To the praise of Your  
mercy and grace  
To the praise of Your glory  
You are the God who saves*

Come praise and glorify our God  
Who gives His grace in Christ  
In Him our sins are washed away  
Redeemed through sacrifice  
In Him God has made  
known to us  
The myst'ry of His will  
That Christ should be  
the head of all  
His purpose to fulfill (chorus)

Come praise and glorify our God  
For we've believed the Word  
And through our faith  
we have a seal  
The Spirit of the Lord  
The Spirit guarantees our hope  
Until redemption's done  
Until we join in endless praise  
To God, the Three in One (chorus)

### All My Boast is in Jesus

What wonder of wonders,  
what love is this  
That Christ would die for me  
His goodness, His merit,  
His righteousness,  
this sinner's only plea  
O foolish pride, be crucified  
The work is finished

*All my boast is in Jesus,  
all my hope is His love  
And I will glory forever,  
in what the cross has done*

Now fully forgiven, my life is filled  
with graces undeserved  
For mercy that flowed down  
that sacred hill  
Let praises now return  
Rise up, my soul,  
and bless the Lord  
Who else is worthy? (chorus)

O praise the One forever blessed  
Him alone my heart adores  
And I will boast in nothing less  
Than the love of Christ, my Lord  
(2x)

I boast not in riches,  
in strength, or might  
But in the grace of God  
I glory in weakness, to live is Christ,  
in plenty or in want  
That I may know, that all may see  
His pow'r within me (chorus)

Now I stand in this freedom,  
ransomed, clean in His sight  
Oh, and I cannot be ashamed for  
My boast is Jesus Christ,  
my boast is Jesus Christ  
Forever my boast is Jesus Christ

# Renewal

## Assurance of Pardon — Ephesians 2:8-9

<sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

## Response in Song — Blessed Assurance

1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a fore - taste of  
2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, vi - sions of rap - ture now  
3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest, I in my Sav - ior am

glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God,  
burst on my sight; an - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a - bove  
hap - py and blest; watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove,

born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.  
ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love. This is my sto - ry,  
filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long; this is my

sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

## Confession of Sin — Ephesians 2:10, Titus 2:11-14

<sup>10</sup>For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

<sup>11</sup>For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, <sup>13</sup>waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup>who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

**Offering\*** — *Proverbs 28:22* <sup>22</sup>A stingy man hastens after wealth and does not know that poverty will come upon him.

*\*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

### O Great God

O great God, of highest heav'n, occupy my lowly heart.  
Own it all and reign supreme, conquer every rebel pow'r.  
Let no vice or sin remain, that resists Your holy war,  
You have loved and purchased me. Make me Yours forever more.

I was blinded by my sin, had no ears to hear Your voice,  
Did not know Your love within, had no taste for heaven's joys.  
Then Your Spirit gave me life, opened up Your Word to me,  
Through the gospel of Your Son, gave me endless hope and peace.

Help me now to live a life, That's dependent on your grace,  
Keep my heart and guard my soul From the evils that I face.  
You are worthy to be praised With my every Thought and deed,  
O great God of highest heav'n, Glorify Your Name through me.  
(repeat last 2 lines)

# 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 — Genesis 1:1

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

## Sermon — God the Sovereign Creator

~ Pastor Francis VanDelden

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## Celebration of the Lord's Supper

*New Hope Presbyterian Church welcomes all baptized Christians who are forsaking their sins and trusting in Jesus Christ for salvation, and who are members of congregations that proclaim the gospel, to receive communion with us. The bread served today is gluten free.*

## Closing Song

### Behold Our God

Who has held the oceans in His hands?  
Who has numbered every grain of sand?  
Kings and nations tremble at His voice. All creation rises to rejoice

*Behold our God seated on His throne; Come, let us adore Him  
Behold our King—nothing can compare; Come, let us adore Him*

Who has given counsel to the Lord?  
Who can question any of His words?  
Who can teach the One who knows all things?  
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds? (*Chorus*)

Who has felt the nails upon His hands? Bearing all the guilt of sinful man  
God eternal, humbled to the grave Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign  
(*Chorus*)

*Tag*

You will reign forever, Let Your glory fill the earth

## Benediction

## Postlude

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

# ———— **God the Sovereign Creator** ————

Genesis 1:1

1. God is the Sovereign Creator

2. You Owe Him Unswerving Allegiance

# THANK YOU FOR SERVING

## Serving This Week

### 9:30 am

Welcome Team: Dustin Mixon, Becky Wood (early team)  
Gene Wood, Laura Caruso (late team)  
SS Nursery Dawn Myers, Heath Koops

### 10:30 am

Toddler Nursery: Dan Godoy, Jacob Mendez, Siena Quist  
Children's Church: Amy Wright, Matt Festog  
Sound: Lance Duvall  
Live Stream: David Ochs  
Nursery On-call: Betsy Lalley  
Prayer Team: Cath Howard, Cynthia Wintermyer

## Serving Next Week

### 9:30 am

Welcome Team: Brian Burden, Chris Boyles (early team)  
Jackie Plowman, Tim Howell (late team)  
SS Nursery Mary Troxel, Ronnie Socash

### 10:30 am

Toddler Nursery: Elaina Hake, Talia Wright, Levi VanDelden  
Children's Church: Giny Socash, Samantha VanDelden  
Sound: Mark Nichols  
Live Stream: John Godoy  
Nursery On-call: Betsy Lalley  
Prayer Team: David & Kathleen Porter

# THIS WEEK AT NEW HOPE

- Today** **Church Family Meeting**, immediately following the worship service.
- Tuesday** **Session Meeting**, 7:00 pm in C8
- Wednesday** **10:00-11:30 am Women's Bible Studies**
- "Living in Light of Inextinguishable Hope, The Gospel according to Joseph," meeting in C8, no childcare
  - Study on 1st, 2nd, & 3rd John, meeting at Amy Wright's home, child care is provided, contact Amy Wright (amy.r.dewit@gmail.com).
- Evening Bible Study**, 6-7:30 pm
- **GEMS & CSB**, 6-7:30 pm in sanctuary building
- **Youth Group**, 6-8 pm in C8
- Christianity Explored**, in the sanctuary building from 6-7:30
- Saturday** **Men's Ministry Discussion Group**, 8-10 am in the sanctuary building



# COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

## Our Church Family

- Pray for our session this week as they meet. Pray for wisdom, unity, clarity, and hearts of service.
- Praise God for who He is: the creator of all! Pray that we, as His creation, will be moved to worship and service as we honor and glorify Him.
- Pray that God will raise up men for leadership within the church particularly in the diaconate.
- Pray that the Lord would move folks within the church to serve in the various ministries that are in need of volunteers. Give thanks for the many people who give of their time and talent in service to New Hope.
- Pray for the upcoming Christianity Explored class. Pray for folks that you can invite and pray for their hearts to be softened by the gospel.
- Give thanks that God continues to provide for all of New Hope's needs. Pray that it will be a church that is marked by joyful, faithful, and generous giving.
- 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 churches in the Frederick area will be faithful to the truths scriptures in their preaching and teaching.

## Missionaries & Others

- Pray for our mission of the month, the foreign missions works of the OPC. Pray that within the various countries where missionaries are serving, that indigenous reformed churches would be established so that fellowship and instruction will be present and so that the gospel will be made known in its own culture and language.
- Pray John Clifford and his wife, Rachel, and their family, as they serve the Lord in Rwanda. Pray particularly that they would be healthy given the fact that their children have been struggling with sickness on and off for the past 2 weeks. Pray that the Lord would protect them from malaria as well as any other odd virus that is making the rounds.
- Pray for Luke Hake who is a missionary in Central Asia. Give thanks for the group of deaf believers that have befriended him and invited him to their church. Pray for his deaf neighbor kid, Farkhod, who has gone with Luke to the deaf church is seems receptive to the gospel. Pray that God would work true faith in Farkhod's heart.
- Pray for Kristen and Thanos serving the Lord in Greece. Praise God for the work they are able to do at their local church, serving the youth group, in childcare, and on the worship team. Give thanks for Kristen's excelling in language learning.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Christianity Explored,** Do you know someone who would like to learn more about your faith, someone searching for the truth? Invite your friends and neighbors to our new Christianity Explored Class beginning Wednesday, February 5th. This 7 week course will be from 6-7:30 pm and will answer many frequently asked questions in a relaxed environment. If you are interested in inviting someone, there are invitations on the ushers stand. Do you want more information? Just contact Ann Burden (annburd6656@gmail.com) or Jordan Roberts (jordan.roberts234@gmail.com).

**Mark your Calendars!** Please plan to stay after church TODAY for a relaxed “Family Meeting.” We will be providing a lunch of either Taco Rice Bowls (gluten free) or Walking Tacos. We hope to see you there!

**OPC Winterlight Youth Retreat,** All young people grades 8th-12th are invited to attend Winterlight Youth Retreat on February 21-22, 2025 at Covenant OPC in Sinking Spring, PA. This retreat will be a wonderful time of fellowship with other youth, along with excellent teaching from Rev. Filipe Schulz. Register online at [philadelphia.opc.org/winterlight](http://philadelphia.opc.org/winterlight) for \$20.

## **Invitation to the Lord's Supper**

Since it is our privilege today to celebrate the blessed sacrament of the Lord's Supper, we are called to prepare our hearts by rightly examining ourselves.

**"Do This in Remembrance of Me,"** says Jesus as He invites us to His Holy Supper. It is not only a privilege, but also a personal responsibility to respond to this gracious invitation. The apostle Paul alerts us to this responsibility in 1 Corinthians 11:27, "Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord." Furthermore, the Lord, through the Apostle Paul also instructs us that those who eat and drink "without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgement on himself."

In light of the scriptural teaching, the elders invite you to join in the communion celebration on the basis of the following personal affirmations:

- 1. I confess that I am a sinner and repent of my sins.**
- 2. I have been baptized into the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.**
- 3. I believe in Jesus as my Savior and Lord who forgives all my sins because of His sacrifice.**
- 4. I desire to show my thankfulness to God by resolving to live in faith and obedience before my Lord, and in love and peace with my neighbors.**
- 5. I have made a public profession of faith in a church that recognizes the sovereign authority of God's Word and that we are saved only by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.**
- 6. I am not under the discipline of my home church.**

If, for some reason, you do not believe you should partake of communion with God's people at this time, the elders would then urge you to refrain from participating today and they would also urge you to actively seek out either one of the elders or the pastor for further instruction. They are eager and willing to discuss these matters in light of God's Word, as they are called to tend to these matters for the purity of Christ's Church, His Glory, and the good of His people.

We are confident that the Savior accepts us at His table when we come in faith, with sorrow for our sins, and with a will to follow Him as He commands.

# DAILY DEVOTIONS

**Memory Text** — Genesis 1:1-2 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup>The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

**Belgic Confession article 12: Of the Creation** — We believe that the Father, by the Word, that is, by his Son, hath created of nothing, the heaven, the earth, and all creatures, as it seemed good unto him, giving unto every creature its being, shape, form, and several offices to serve its Creator....

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**Monday:** Gen 1:1. Have you ever been told that when a character/person dies they become part of nature (e.g. a star)? Have you heard people refer to mother nature? Do you know of any religions that teach we become gods or part of One when we die? How does Genesis 1:1 distinguish between Creation and created? Can we ever become God? Consider how we're tempted to be or to play God and repent of it.

**Tuesday:** According to Gen 1:1, did God use any materials to create the world (Heb 11:3, Rev 4:11)? "Create" here is unique -used only of God, and of his creating out of nothing. What all did God create out of nothing? If this is true, then why must we conclude that he is the Sovereign Creator? Is God only transcendent, or is he also imminent? Why do both matter?

**Wednesday:** Gen 1:1. How is worship a natural outflow of God being the Sovereign Creator? Linger over Ps 95:2-5, Is 40:11-15, 25-26, Ps 33:7-8, Job 38 and pray God moves you to praise/worship him for his creativity, majesty, glory.

**Thursday:** Gen 1:1. How is obedience a natural outflow of God being the Sovereign Creator? How do you see this connection between Creator and obedience in Eccles 12:1, Prov 14:31, Rom 1:25-31? How does God as Sovereign Creator clash with the autonomy of my feelings, desires, and definitions in today's culture? Pray for a new obedience (Eph 2:10), and for those given to autonomy.

**Friday:** Gen 1:1. How does Ps 124:8 apply the theology of God as Sovereign Creator? How does 1 Pet 4:19 do the same thing in a different way? How does Jesus work (2 Cor 5:17-18) give us the strength and desire to walk in worship, obedience, and rest?

**Saturday:** Read Genesis 1:1-2. What was the Spirit doing in hovering?