

THE HOUSE OF HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



“We have lived our lives by this assumption that what was good for us would be good for the world. We have been wrong. We must change our lives so that it will be possible to live by the contrary assumption, that what is good for the world will be good for us. And that requires that we make the effort to know the world and learn what is good for it.” - Wendell Berry

First Sunday of Christmas | December 27, 2020 10 a.m.

Welcome

We are delighted that you have found the House of Hope online!

Our caring and active community welcomes you.

We extend the hospitality of Christ to all.

Our streamed worship takes place on Sundays at 10 a.m. You can access our service on the home page of our website and on Facebook.

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Stewardship Update. We invite all members and friends of House of Hope to join the over 180 individuals and families, 9 out of 10 who have already increased or sustained their giving level in support of our 5 Campaign and funding our 2021 church budget. The average increase to date is approximately 9%. Thank you for your faithful generosity! On the home page, select "Support House of Hope" to pledge.

Children and Family Ministry Worship will resume on January 10.

Upcoming: *Hope in Winter: a gaggle of cool ways to celebrate the winter season.*

January 3:	Mississippi Mile Walk with Lynn and Mark Barger Elliott (2 p.m.)
January 9:	Youth Group Snowball Fight - Summit Lawn (2 p.m.)
January 10:	Snowshoeing with Ann and Bill Geery at Ft. Snelling State Park (1 p.m.)
January 17:	Dog Park Meet-up with Linda Lane (3 p.m.)
January 27, Feb 3,10,& 17:	Summit Avenue Pilgrimage with Julia Carlson (11 a.m.; approximately one mile each week)
February 14	Mardi Gras Snow Sculpture Contest, House of Hope Park - All ages welcome, hosted by Children and Family Committee (2 p.m.)
February 27	Sledding for Families – Hosted by Children and Families Committee (10 a.m.)

Pastoral Concerns. If you would like a pastor to call you, or if you are ill at home, please call the church office at (651) 227-6311, to let us know. If you know someone else in the congregation who could benefit from a call, please contact the church.

Today's Cover Art: Minstrel Gallery Window in the West Transept.



On September 15, the Session approved a 1-7-75-175 Initiative to enable us to prayerfully discern where God might be leading our congregation in the coming years. In addition, they set in motion a Long Range Planning Committee to assimilate input from the congregation and discern our mission and 7 major objectives we can tackle in the coming years as we move toward our 175th anniversary. Below are working documents approved by Session that we will discuss in January with further input from the congregation.

House of Hope Mission Statement

Hope is more than a word in our name—it is why we were founded on Christmas Eve in 1855.

Our inclusive and affirming community seeks to live out the word of God in our time. In the Presbyterian tradition we are Reformed, and yet always reforming. In this spirit we:

Glorify God in our worship and seek to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ by proclaiming the Gospel through preaching, prayer, and exceptional music;

Engage in a holy curiosity which seeks through ongoing learning to apply the teachings of the Bible and to follow the example of Jesus in our daily lives;

Offer fellowship to people both inside and outside the church, listening to and respecting perspectives other than our own;

Celebrate the dynamic and perpetual re-creation of God's world by nurturing a faithful expression of the arts from children's programs to hosting established artists and fostering musical gifts;

Create a welcoming spiritual home for people in all stages of life, from young families to singles, empty nesters to senior adults; and

Advocate for the just treatment of all people by offering tangible assistance and striving for structural change in racial equity, housing, and healthcare access, and environmental stewardship.

7 Objectives

1. Establish and implement a HOH Master/Site Plan that reflects our desire to be a hospitable and welcoming community.
2. Create and implement a HOH Master Financial Plan.
3. Develop and expand programs for children, youth, family, and adults.
4. Create dynamic new partnerships and programs to further our spiritual life through music, arts and adult education.
5. Update our governance system to be relevant to our current and future needs.
6. Take bold and courageous action to advance diversity, religious pluralism, social justice and environmental stewardship.
7. Capitalize on new technologies to engage prospective and current members.

THE APPROACH TO GOD

Introit

Once in Royal David's City
Hannah Armstrong, Soloist

English Carol

Carol

On This Day Earth Shall Ring
Bill Sales, Soloist

Personent Hodie

Affirmation of Faith

Malinda Johnson and David Goudzwaard-Vaught

Words to Celebrate Jesus' Birth – A Confession of Faith

A boy has been born for us

A child has been given to us.

And his name shall be called

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

Once we were no people.

Now we are God's people.

Once we walked in darkness.

Now we have seen a great light.

Welcome and Announcements

Julia A. Carlson

THE WORD OF GOD

First Lesson

Matthew Culloton

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Solo

The Three Kings
Krista Costin, Soloist

Peter Cornelius

Three Kings from Persian lands afar
to Jordan follow the pointing star:
and this the quest of the travellers three,
where the new-born King of the Jews may be.
Full royal gifts they bear for the King;
Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

The star shines out with a steadfast ray;
the kings to Bethlehem make their way,
and there in worship they bend the knee,
as Mary's child in her lap they see;
their royal gifts they show to the King;
gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.

Thou child of man, lo, to Bethlehem
the Kings are travelling, travel with them!
The star of mercy, the star of grace,
shall lead thy heart to its resting place.
Gold, incense, myrrh thou canst not bring;
offer thy heart to the infant King.

Second Lesson

Luke 2:22-40

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sofia Ardalan

Sermon

What Are You Waiting For?

Julia A. Carlson

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

Carol

The First Nowell

The First Nowell

Offering - Three ways to give:

- **Website.** On the homepage, click "Support House of Hope", then click on "Donate Now". Members can also sign into MyHOH to give.
- **Text Giving.** Text HOH to 73256 and click the link to complete your gift.
- **Mail.** Mail a check to 797 Summit Ave. Saint Paul, MN 55105

Offertory Music

*O God beyond all praising, we worship you today and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder at every gift you send, at blessings without number and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word, we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.*

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Kiera Stegall and Dan Miglets-Nelson

from *When the World Was Dark: A Christmas Intercession*

When the world was dark and the city was quiet, you came.
You crept in beside us.
And no one knew.
Only the few who dared to believe that God might do something different.
Will you do the same this Christmas, Lord?

**Will you come into the darkness of today's world;
not the friendly darkness as when sleep rescues us from tiredness,
but the fearful darkness, in which people have stopped believing
that war will end or that food will come or that a government will change
or that the Church cares?**

Will you come into that darkness and do something different
to save your people from death and despair?

**Will you come into the quietness of this city,
not the friendly quietness as when snow falls in beauty and silence,
but the fearful silence when the phone has not rung, the letter has not come,
the friendly voice no longer speaks, the doctor's face says it all?**

Will you come into that darkness, and do something different,
not to distract, but to embrace your people?
And will you come into the dark corners and the quiet places of our lives?

**We ask this not because we are guilt-ridden or want to be,
but because the fullness our lives long for depends on us being as open and vulnerable to you
as you were to us, when you came.
Wearing no more than a diaper, and trusting human hands to hold their maker.**

Will you come into our lives, if we open them to you and do something different?

**When the world was dark and the city was quiet you came.
You crept in beside us.
Do the same this Christmas, Lord.
Do the same this Christmas.**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Carol

Joy to the World

Antioch

Benediction

Christmas Greetings from the House of Hope Staff

Carillon Postlude

David W. Johnson, Carillonneur

On This Day Earth Shall Ring

PERSONENT HODIE 6.6.6.6.6 with refrain

Piae Cantiones, 1582

Trans. Jane Marion Joseph (1894-1929)

Piae Cantiones, 1582

Arr. Gustav Theodore Holst, 1924

1. On this day earth shall ring With the song
 2. His the doom, ours the mirth; When He came
 3. God's bright star, o'er His head, Wise men three
 4. On this day an - gels sing; With their song

chil - dren sing To the Lord, Christ our King, Born on earth to
 down to earth Beth - le - hem saw His birth; Ox and ass be -
 to Him led, Kneel - ing low by His bed, Lay their gifts be -
 earth shall ring, Prais - ing Christ, heav - en's King, Born on earth to

Refrain

save us; Him the Fa - ther gave us.
 side Him From the cold would hide Him.
 fore Him, Praise Him and a - dore Him. *Id - e - o - o - o,
 save us; Peace and love He gave us.

R.H.
 L.H.
 R.H.

*Therefore, glory to God in the highest.

Id - e - o - o - o, Id - e - o glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

The score consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a steady bass line with chords and some arpeggiated figures in the right hand.

Still, Still, Still

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STILL, STILL, STILL 3.6.9.8.3.6

Austrian carol
Trans. George K. Evans (b. 1917)

Austrian melody
Arr. Walter Ehret (b. 1918)

E \flat E \flat maj7 Cm Cm7 Fm B \flat 7 E \flat

1. Still, still, still, He sleeps this night so chill! The
2. Sleep, sleep, sleep, He lies in slum - ber deep While

The first system includes a vocal line with two verses and a piano accompaniment. The piano part has a simple harmonic accompaniment.

B \flat B \flat 7 E \flat B \flat B \flat 7 E \flat

Vir - gin's ten - der arms en - fold - ing, Warm and safe the Child are hold - ing.
an - gel hosts from heaven come wing - ing, Sweet - est songs of joy are sing - ing.

The second system continues the piano accompaniment for the second verse.

E \flat E \flat maj7 Cm Cm7 Fm B \flat 7 E \flat

Still, still, still, He sleeps this night so chill.
Sleep, sleep, sleep, He lies in slum - ber deep.

The third system concludes the piece with a final vocal line and piano accompaniment.

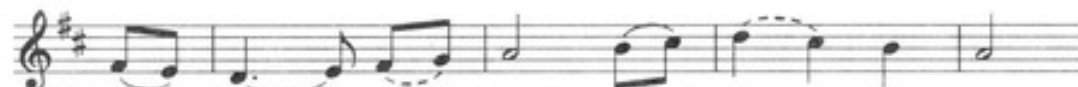
Verses



1. The first No - well, the an - gel did say,
2. They look - ed up and saw ___ a star
3. And by the light of that ___ same star
4. This star drew nigh to the ___ north - west,
5. Then en - tered in those wise ___ men three,
6. Then let us all with one ___ ac - cord



1. Was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
2. Shin - ing in ___ the east, ___ be - yond ___ them far;
3. Three ___ wise ___ men came ___ from coun - try far;
4. O'er ___ Beth - le - hem ___ it took ___ its rest,
5. Full ___ rev - 'rent - ly ___ up - on ___ the knee,
6. Sing ___ prais - es to ___ our heav - 'nly Lord;

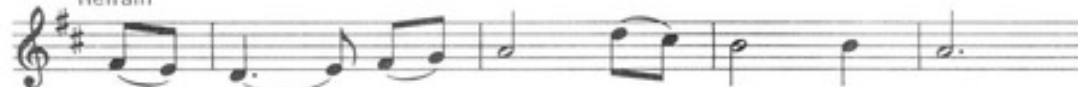


1. In fields where _ they lay keep - ing their sheep,
2. And to the ___ earth it gave ___ great light,
3. To seek for a king was their ___ in - tent,
4. And there it ___ did both stop ___ and stay,
5. And of - fered _ there, in his ___ pres - ence,
6. Who with the ___ Fa - ther we ___ a - dore



1. On a cold win - ter's night ___ that was ___ so deep.
2. And ___ so it con - tin - ued both day ___ and night.
3. And to fol - low the star ___ wher - ev - er it went.
4. Right _ o - ver the place ___ where Je - sus lay.
5. Their _ gold ___ and myrrh ___ and frank - in - cense.
6. And ___ Spir - it blest ___ for ev - er - more.

Refrain



No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,



Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Joy to the World!

ANTIOCH CM with repeat

Attr. George Frederick Handel, 1742

Arr. Lowell Mason, 1836

Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth re -
 2. Joy to the world! the Sav - ior reigns: Let us our
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, Nor thorns in -
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the

ceive her King; Let ev - ery heart pre - pare Him room,
 songs em - ploy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 fest the ground; He comes to make His bless - ings flow
 na - tions prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous - ness,

And heaven and na - ture sing, And heaven and na - ture
 Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
 Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
 And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His
 And heaven and na - ture sing,

And

sing, And heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.
 heaven and na - ture sing,



The House of Hope Presbyterian Church

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The House of Hope
Presbyterian Church is a
Stephen Ministry Church.

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