

THE HOUSE OF HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



The Earth reminded us of a Christmas tree ornament hanging in the blackness of space. As we got farther and farther away it diminished in size. Finally it shrank to the size of a marble, the most beautiful marble you can imagine. That beautiful, warm, living object looked so fragile, so delicate, that if you touched it with a finger it would crumble and fall apart. Seeing this has to change a person, has to make a person appreciate the creation of God and the love of God.

James Irwin
U. S. Astronaut

First Sunday of Christmas | December 26, 2021 10 a.m.

Welcome

We are delighted you have joined House of Hope for worship.

Our caring and active community welcomes you.

We extend the hospitality of Christ to all.

Regarding Masks for In-Person Worship.

Please know in light of the evolving situation regarding variant guidelines, we now strongly encourage all those who attend worship to wear a mask. In this fluid situation with changing national, state and local protocols, we will continue to monitor developments and discern how best to respond while keeping in mind the safety of church staff and those attending worship.

Please continue to maintain physical distance from other worshippers not in your household, as children under the age of 5 are not yet able to be vaccinated.

Deacons will provide offering plates at the sanctuary doors.

Our worship service is also livestreamed and can be accessed on the home page of our website (hohchurch.org) and on our Facebook page (The House of Hope Presbyterian Church.)

After the service, please join us for a time of fellowship in the Kirk Parlour.



IF

We invite you to join the over 185 House of Hope members and friends who have already pledged with an overall average pledge increase of 12% .

Pledge cards can be found in the narthex information racks and in the front office.

"If" is one of the most significant words in the Bible. Jesus uses it repeatedly to deepen our understanding of what it looks like to follow him in our lives. Jesus said, for example, "if you listen..." "If you forgive..." "If you believe..."

Our 2022 Stewardship Campaign that seeks to fund our Annual Budget focuses on how the word "if" has shaped the past, present, and future of The House of Hope.

If generations before us had not generously provided the means to build The House of Hope, we would not be able to enjoy our lovely sanctuary and building.

If members and friends had not given to The Houses of Hope Fund, we would not be able to make substantial grants to provide affordable housing in our community.

If members and friends had not contributed generously to our 2021 Stewardship Campaign, we could not have funded Mission Outreach giving from our annual operating budget for the first time in seventeen years.

THE APPROACH TO GOD

Prelude

Carols for the Season
Cathy Victorsen, Harp

+ Opening Hymn 23

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Giver of every mercy, you call us to clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. However, we often clothe ourselves with different attire: apathy, hatred, arrogance, and brashness. Help us bear one another and forgive each other even as we ask forgiveness from you. Help us to don the clothing of love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. This we pray in the name of your child, Jesus Christ.

Assurance of Pardon

+ Sung Response

Glo - - - ri-a, in ex - cel - sis De - - - o!

Glo - - - ri-a, in ex - cel - sis De - - - o!

Welcome and Announcements

THE WORD OF GOD

First Lesson

Ingrid Verhagen

Psalm 148 (OT, p.p. 582-583 in pew Bible) *Read Responsively*

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Harp Solo

English Traditional

What Child is This

Second Lesson

Colossians 3:12-17 (NT, p. 201 in pew Bible)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Let Heaven and Nature Sing!

Julia A. Carlson

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

+ Hymn 40

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

+ **Affirmation of Faith** — A Brief Statement of Faith

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.**

**Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,**

healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Offering - There are four ways to give an offering:

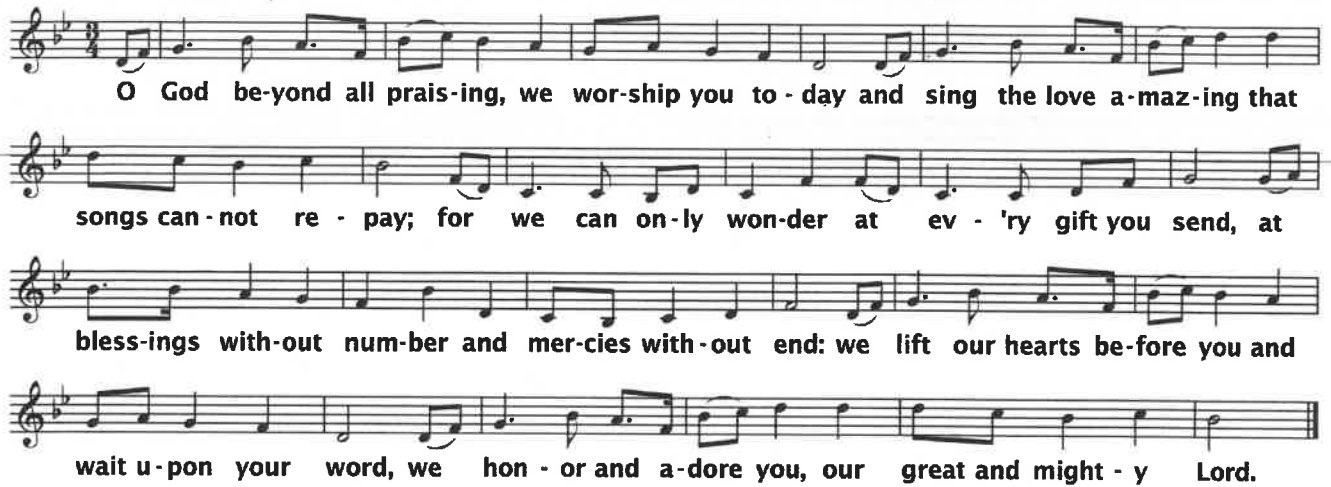
- **In-Person.** Offering plates will be provided by deacons at the sanctuary doors.
- **Website.** On the homepage, click "Support House of Hope", then click on "Make a Gift"
Members can also sign into MyHOH to give.
- **Mail.** Mail a check to 797 Summit Ave. Saint Paul, MN 55105
- **QR Code.** Please see page 9.

Offertory Solo

Still, Still, Still

Johann Pachelbel, arr. Veenker

+ Offertory Response



O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to - day and sing the love a - maz-ing that
songs can - not re - pay; for we can on - ly won - der at ev - 'ry gift you send, at
bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end: we lift our hearts be-fore you and
wait u - pon your word, we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might - y Lord.

+ Closing Hymn 56 (verses 1-4)

THE FIRST NOWELL

The First Nowell

+ Benediction

Postlude

Angels We Have Heard on High

French Carol

Carillon Postlude

David W. Johnson, Carillonneur

Children and Family Ministry

Contact Kiera Stegall: KieraS@hohchurch.org



The HUB

Where Faith and Families Connect

In-Person Sunday Morning Children's Ministry Beginning January 9:

- Nursery: Infants – Toddlers | 9:45 a.m. | Room 8
- Preschool – PreK | 9:45 a.m. | Room 2
- Kindergarten – Grade 5 | 10:15 a.m. | Rooms 4 & 5

Parenting Session: Race & Education

Sunday, January 9 | 11:15 a.m.–12 p.m. | Room 1

Join us for a monthly Children & Family Ministry education session, as Jill Winter talks about her experience and knowledge surrounding racial inequities in the education system.

Creative Expressions

Sunday, January 9 | 11:15 a.m.–12 p.m. | Rooms 4 & 8

Preschool – Grade 5 (Room 4) are invited to join us for a time of art-making as we explore our spirituality via the creative process. Infants and toddlers will meet in Room 8.

Virtual Sunday School

January 16 – 30 | 11:30 a.m. | Zoom

Children, grades 5 and younger, are invited to join us for a time of faith formation via stories, artwork, and prayer.

Tweens Minute-to-Win-It

Friday, January 21 | 6–7:30 p.m. | Great Hall

Grades 4–5 and their friends are invited for silly, wacky, and skillful games! We'll design t-shirts, play a life-size game of Hungry, Hungry, Hippos, and more. Cost is \$5 per person.

Cocoa & Canvas

Saturday, January 22 | Great Hall | 6–7:30 p.m.

(See cover page for details.)

Youth and Family Ministry

Contact Dan Miglets-Nelson: DanMN@hohchurch.org

Middle School Sunday School

Sundays, Beginning January 9 | 10:15 a.m. | Room 1

Confirmation Classes | Wednesdays | 7 p.m.

The SUMMIT Youth Group, Grades 6-12

Sundays, Beginning January 9 | 7 p.m. | Great Hall

This year, we will focus on how God calls us to live out our faith, and finalize our plans for Triennium, Clearwater Forest Camp, and a mission trip through YouthWorks.

Hope in Winter | Youth Events

Sunday, January 16 | Ice Skating | Location TBD | 2 p.m.

Sunday, February 13 | Snowball Rumpus | 2 p.m.

Date TBD | Dodgeball | Great Hall

House of Hope Choir School

Contact Sofia Ardalan: SofiaA@hohchurch.org

The Choir School offers outstanding music education for all children ages 4-18. Contact Sofia Ardalan, Choir School Director, for more information and to register.

Spring Session I: January 12-March 9

This Week at House of Hope

Sunday, December 26, 2021

9:45 a.m. Sunday School Infants - Toddlers, Rm 8
10 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:15 a.m. Social Hour, Kirk Parlour

Monday, December 27, 2021

Office and Building Closed

Tuesday, December 28, 2021

Office and Building Closed

Thursday, December 30, 2021

7 a.m. Men's Breakfast Group, Louisiana Cafe
5:30 p.m. Capital City Grief Group Coalition
6:30 p.m. Bells of Hope Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Friday, December 31, 2021

Office and Building Closed
9 a.m. Friday Centering Prayer, Zoom

Sunday, January 2, 2022

10 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:15 a.m. Social Hour, Kirk Parlour



To support House of Hope
please use this QR code

Festival of HOPE

“Hope is the last thing ever lost.” The words of this Italian proverb inspire us to scan our horizons to detect places of emerging hope, especially in challenging times. Festival of Hope, our online conference, invites us to find hope in the landscapes of the refugee crisis, faith and science, the writings of William James, racial injustice, the sacred within us, and the American identity.

These conversations will be available on our website, hohchurch.org



Becca Stevens, a “CNN Hero,” is a social entrepreneur, author, priest, and founder of Thistle Farms. Her new book *Practically Divine* is about experiencing the sacred in our lives.



Jess McHugh is a writer and researcher whose work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, and *TIME*. Her book, *Americanon*, was published this year.



Dr. John Kaag is an award-winning author and Chair of Philosophy at UMass Lowell. He will speak on his new book, *Sick Souls, Healthy Minds: How William James Can Save Your Life*.



Jessica Goudeau is author of *After the Last Border: Two Families and the Story of Refuge in America*, named a *New York Times* Editors' Choice book. She has written for *The New York Times* and *The Atlantic*.



Greg Cootsona is a professor, author and noted speaker on the intersection between science and faith. He has written for *The Wall Street Journal* and has been interviewed by CNN and the BBC.

In Memoriam

Marjorie L. Douse

joined The House of Hope Presbyterian Church on June 7, 1994.

She entered the Church Triumphant on December 14, 2021.

"If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's" - Romans 14:8

The House of Hope Presbyterian Church

797 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105

(651) 227-6311 | hohchurch.org



Clergy

Rev. Lynn Barger Elliott, Co-Pastor Head of Staff

LynnBE@hohchurch.org

Rev. Dr. Mark Barger Elliott, Co-Pastor Head of Staff

MarkBE@hohchurch.org

Rev. Dr. Julia A. Carlson, Associate Pastor

JuliaC@hohchurch.org



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

Program Staff

Sofia Ardalan, Choir School DirectorSofiaA@hohchurch.org

Matthew Culloton, ChoirmasterMatthewC@hohchurch.org

Dan Miglets-Nelson, Director of Youth and Family Ministry.....DanMN@hohchurch.org

Aaron David Miller, Director of Music/Organist.....AaronM@hohchurch.org

Kiera Stegall, Director of Children and Family MinistryKieraS@hohchurch.org

—A Reading from The Letter of Paul to the Colossians

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Colossians 3:12-17

December 26, 2021

A Reading from The Book of Psalms – Read Responsively

¹Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

²Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

³Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

⁴Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

⁵Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.

⁶He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

⁷Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

⁸fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!

⁹Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

¹⁰Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

¹¹Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

¹²Young men and women alike, old and young together!

¹³Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

¹⁴He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Angels We Have Heard on High

23

French carol

GLORIA 7.7.7.7 with refrain

French carol

Trans. James Chadwick (1813-1882); alt.

Arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937

1. An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
 2. Shep-herds, why this ju - bi-lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro-long?
 3. Come to Beth-lè - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;

And the moun-tains in re-ply Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heaven - ly song?
 Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain

Glo - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; Glo - - -

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Joy to the World!

ANTIOCH CM with repeat

Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

Attr. George Frederick Handel, 1742
Arr. Lowell Mason, 1836

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.

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL Irregular with refrain

English carol, 17th century

English carol
Sandys' *Christmas Carols*, 1833

1. The first Now - ell the an - gel did say Was to cer - tain poor
 2. They look - ed up and saw a star Shin - ing in the
 3. And by the light of that same star, Three wise men
 4. This star drew nigh to the north - west; O'er Beth - le -

shep - herds in fields as they lay; In fields where they lay a - - keep - ing their
 east be - yond them far, And to the earth it gave great
 came from coun - try far; To seek for a king was their in -
 hem it took its rest; And there it did both stop and

*Refrain**

sheep, On a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
 light, And so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 tent, And to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went. Now - ell, Now -
 stay, Right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.

ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Alternate refrain

Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,

Born is the King of Is - ra - el.