

THE HOUSE OF HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



"May we find our foundation in the work of Love;
demanding, tiring, true and human and holy."

- Pádraig Ó Tuama, *Daily Prayer with the Corrymeela Community*

Fourth Sunday of Advent | December 24, 2023 10 a.m.

Welcome!

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

House of Hope extends the hospitality of Christ to all who gather here. Our church uses traditional worship, progressive values, and intellectual growth to enable people to better serve the neighborhood, community, and the world.

Our open and affirming, caring active community welcomes people of all ages and backgrounds.

Sunday Morning Family Resources:

- **Worship:** Children are invited to join their families in the Sanctuary for worship.
 - A variety of **children's Bibles** are located in the church pews.
 - **Children's bulletins and crayons** are located at all Sanctuary entrances. (Please return the crayons.)
- **Nursing:** At House of Hope, parents are welcome to nurse their children wherever they feel comfortable.

HVAC//Electrical Project Transitions to Phase 2. Major changes are ahead for HOH as we upgrade our HVAC and electrical infrastructure. Earlier this year, we vacated the eastern part of the property as Terra Construction and other contractors began their work. Planning is underway to vacate the western part of the building and move church staff offices and operations to the East Wing. We will regain use of the Kirk Parlour, Chapel, Great Hall, and Rooms A & B. We will not have access to the Kirby Lounge, Assembly Room, Library and church office. Watch for updates in the Enews. **In order to prepare for and navigate the process of moving, the church building will be closed and open as follows in January: January 3 - 6: Closed to pack; January 7: Open for worship January 8 - 10: Closed for set-up, open for AA and Al Anon; January 11: Open**

Christmas and New Year Office Schedule

The church office and building will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, December 25 and 26 as well as Monday, January 1.

Thursday, December 28, 2023

5:30 p.m. Capital City Grief Coalition, Sanctuary

Friday, December 29, 2023

9 a.m. Centering Prayer, Zoom

Sunday, December 31, 2023

10 a.m. Worship Service with Carols for Handbells and Harp, Sanctuary

THE APPROACH TO GOD

Prelude

Carols for the Season
Rachel Brandwein, Harp

+ Opening Hymn 28

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice
Aaron David Miller, Organist

IN DULCI JUBILO

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

Rev. Dr. Scott M. Kenefake

Leader: Watch for the light of Christ this Advent.

All: The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

Leader: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

All: The light of Christ is always coming to us, entering our broken world and troubled hearts. So we light the fourth candle, the candle of love, knowing that nothing can separate us from the love of God. There is no power greater than love, and we can dare to love because God first loved us. Amen.

+ Sung Response: Hymn 23 (Verse 1)

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

**Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Welcome and Announcements

THE WORD OF GOD

First Lesson

Ann Geery

Luke 1:26-38 (NT, pp. 56-57 in pew Bible)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Solo

The Hills are Bare at Bethlehem
Sandy Schoenecker, Soloist

American Folk Carol

The hills are bare at Bethlehem, no future for the world they show;
yet here new life begins to grow, from earth's old dust a greenwood stem.

The stars are cold at Bethlehem, no warmth for those beneath the sky;
yet here the radiant angels fly, and joy burns new, a fiery gem.

The heart is tired at Bethlehem, no human dream unbroken stands;
yet here God comes to mortal hands, and hope renewed cries out: "Amen!"

Second Lesson

Romans 16:25-27 (NT, p. 165 in pew Bible)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Christmas as Benediction

Rev. Dr. Julia A. Carlson

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

+ Hymn 44

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ST. LOUIS

+ Affirmation of Faith

Rev. Phillip J. Romine

As a gathered community of disciples, created by the hands of the Holy, born with Divine purpose, and bound together by the Spirit that breathes life into all things, we affirm our commitment to the way of Jesus Christ, who is The Liberator of the Oppressed, The Bread of Heaven, God enfleshed. With faith, we aim to live as Christ taught us, laboring towards liberation, and seeking a world free of domination and control. We believe in God's promise to uplift the lowly and bring the powerful down from their thrones. We believe the resurrecting power of Christ cannot be overcome by evil, but persists in all collective efforts to make life flourish in the midst of destruction, to birth beauty in places of death, and to tend gently to the aches of this world. We profess the transforming power of love. We profess that justice is a form of love. We profess that we are still growing into the mystery of love. In the company of the saints who go before us, we journey together by grace,

seeking always to unlearn all that obstructs authentic relationship, listening for the guidance of Sacred Wisdom, and praying earnestly for the day the 'Kindom' of God is born anew. Until it is so, we live in hope, for God is with us.

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 passed throughout the congregation at this time.
- **Website.** On the homepage, click "Support House of Hope", then click on "Make a Gift"
- **Mail.** Mail a check to 797 Summit Ave. Saint Paul, MN 55105
- **QR Code.** Please see insert.

Offertory Solo

Jul, Jul Strålande Jul

Swedish Carol

Christmas, Christmas, glorious Christmas,
shine over white forests,
crowns of heaven with sparkling light.
shining arches in all the houses of God,
hymn, which is sung from time to time,
eternal longing for light and peace.

Come, come, blessed Christmas.
Lower your white wings over the din of battle,
over all the sighing from human hearts,
over the loved ones that go to rest,
over the dawning nest of the young.
Come, come, blessed Christmas.

+ 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.

+ Prayer of Dedication

+ Closing Hymn 56 (Verses 1-4)

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

+ Unison Benediction

May the Holy One bless you and keep you.

May the Holy One shine light upon you and be gracious to you.

May the Holy One turn towards you and give you Shalom.

Postlude

Carillon Postlude

Timothy Short, Carillonneur

Peace Candle. The single candle near the pulpit is our Peace Candle, lighted as a reminder of the ongoing need for our prayer for peace in the world.

The Communion Table Flowers are given in loving memory of Delmar E. Bowers.

Cover Art: This depiction is from the lower middle predella of the Nativity window on the east side of the sanctuary. The scene is depicting the Angel Gabriel visiting Mary and announcing that she will give birth to Jesus. Photo credit: Dick Crone.



NEXT SUNDAY:

CAROLS FOR HANDBELLS & HARP SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 | 10 A.M.

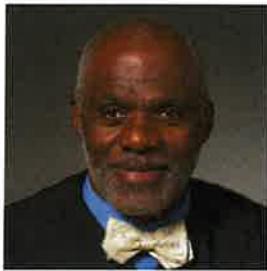
Join us for a celebration of Christmas by the Bells of Hope with special music for handbells and harp throughout the service.



SUNDAY SERIES

Inviting well-known speakers to discuss key issues of our day and artists to share their artistic engagement with life and faith.

Retired Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Alan C. Page Sunday, January 14 | 2 p.m.



Justice Alan Page received his BA in political science from the University of Notre Dame in 1967 and his JD from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1978 while playing for the Minnesota Vikings. After retiring from the NFL in 1981, Justice Page practiced law full-time before winning a seat on the Minnesota Supreme Court in 1992, becoming the first African American on the court. Page and his late wife Diane founded the Page Education Foundation assisting Minnesota students of color pursuing post-secondary education, awarding \$16 million to

date to more than 8,000 students. **Register on our website or by using this link:**
<https://bit.ly/HOHALanPage>



Community Sing with The Singers *The Justice Choir Songbook* Sunday, January 28 | 2 p.m.

The Justice Choir organization builds awareness of social, environmental, and racial justice and elevates these topics through singing. Join The Singers for a sharing of the *Justice Choir Songbook*, including stirring songs by Melanie DeMore, Tesfa Wondemagegnehu, and Abbie Betinis.

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO 6.6.7.7.8.5.5

Medieval Latin

Trans. and para. John Mason Neale, 1853; alt.

German folk tune, 14th century
Harm. David Hugh Jones, 1953

1. Good Christian friends, re - joice With heart, and soul, and voice;
 2. Good Christian friends, re - joice With heart, and soul, and voice;
 3. Good Christian friends, re - joice With heart, and soul, and voice;

Give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 Now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 Now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

Ox and ass be - fore Him bow, And He is in the man - ger now.
 He hath o - pened heav - en's door, And we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all To gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

O Little Town of Bethlehem

44

ST. LOUIS 8.6.8.6.7.6.8.6

Phillips Brooks, 1868

Lewis Henry Redner, 1868

1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
 2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry; And gath - ered all a - bove,
 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, The won - drous gift is given!
 4. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by.
 While mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won - dering love.
 So God in - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heaven.
 Cast out our sin and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.

Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light;
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
 No ear may hear His com - ing, But in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;

The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
 And prais - es sing to God the King, And peace to all on earth.
 Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us, a - bid with us, Our Lord Em - man - u - el!

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.

*Refrain may be omitted except after final stanza.

Alternate refrain

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

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics "Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell," are written below the top staff, with hyphens indicating syllables across notes. The music features a mix of quarter and eighth notes, with some notes beamed together and others held as half notes.

Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

The second system of musical notation also consists of two staves in the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics "Born is the King of Is - ra - el." are written below the top staff. The music continues with similar rhythmic patterns, ending with a double bar line. The bass line provides a steady accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 3

The First Sunday of Advent

10 a.m. Worship

11:15 a.m. Advent Celebration and
Christmas Carol Sing-Along,
Sanctuary

Sunday, December 10

The Second Sunday of Advent

10 a.m. Worship

11:15 a.m. Choir School
Christmas Concert, Sanctuary

Sunday, December 17

The Third Sunday of Advent

10 a.m. Worship

11:15 a.m. Children's Christmas Pageant,
Sanctuary

Saturday, December 23

5:30 p.m. Traditional Tableaux Service

The Christmas story as told through
Scriptures, through lovely carols and
anthems, and in the adaptation in
tableaux, or "living pictures,"
of well-known paintings and
familiar scenes of the nativity.



*Childcare available for
children under 6.*

Sunday, December 24

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

10 a.m. Worship

(No Nursery or Sunday School at the 10 a.m. service)

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

4:30 and 6:30 p.m. Carillon Recitals
by David Johnson and Timothy Short

NEW TIMES:

5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Candlelight Services

The Motet Choir and Orchestra

Special Music (7 p.m. only):

Gerald Finzi's: *In Terra Pax*

Both Candlelight Services
include Christmas Anthems.

(Childcare available at both services)

There is no service on Christmas Day.

Christmas Day Carillon Concert

Monday, December 25 | 3 p.m.

Carillonneur Tim Short, will present
a concert of Christmas music. Email
requests: TimS@hohchurch.org

Sunday, December 31

First Sunday of Christmas

10 a.m. Worship

(No Nursery or Sunday School on December 31)

The season of Christmas is celebrated
by The Bells of Hope with the annual
"Carols for Handbells and Harp."

The prelude begins at 9:45 am.

Visit hohchurch.org for livestreaming of the Advent and Candlelight Services.

Christmas Memorials

Christmas Tributes in memory or in honor of loved ones have been donated by friends and family of those named below. These gifts have been designated as benevolence gifts for the ministry of the church or for poinsettias used for decoration throughout the church.

In Memory:

James Patrick Adams
Sarah Mcl. and George F. Amend
Marina Anderson
Navonne Andre
Behrouz Ardalan
Margaret Ann Atmore
Ronald Aune
Marian and Fred Bailey
Mary Bailey
Ginger Bailey
Virginia C. Baker
Joshua Luke Beal
Kelly Beenen
Mary Ellen Berg
Leonard F. Berg, Jr.
Leonard F. Berg, Sr.
Robert Bland
Marion and Gerhard Blomhom
Chris Boosalis
Tom Bowers
Del and Marge Bowers
Herman and Anna Brooks
Adeline Brouillard
Marion A. Calph
Jean Campbell
Elizabeth Campbell
Margaret and Ray Charlton
John and Mikey Clayton
Robert Clayton
Miles and Olive Cooper
Mae and Mort Cravath
Carol Damberg
Dr. Joy Davis
Dinh-Quang-Vinh
Arnold and Adele Erickson
Lee Morgan Fleming
Wendell and Jeanette Fleming
Evelyn and Howard Floyd
Karl and Jose Foss
Ruth Freeburg
James and Jean Freeburg
Terry E. Freyholtz
Lua B. and Alfred M. Fulton
Sara A. and Donald B. Fulton
Martha J. Fulton
Kelly A. Fulton
Ellen Goudzwaard
Francis and Elizabeth Gruber
Gottlieb and Ingeborg Heidmann

David F. Herr
Esther Hewitt
Betty and Norm Jensen
Myrtle and Percy Jensen
Alisandra Johnson
V. Albert and Ruth Johnson
Sam Joy
Lillias Joy
Daniel Juarez
Donna R. Klein
Lindsay Jean Knutson
Marian and Thomas J. Koeck
Paul and Mary Kramer
Sylvia and Warren Kromroy
Ruth and Herb Kueck
Cindy Kueck
Barbara Kuhn
Christian and Alta Larson
Tamara Lengacher
Gunnar Ljungkull
Jon Ljungkull
Loren L. Lundeen
Ann, Ruth, and Robert Lyon
Lottie and Roscoe Lyon
Winston Mahar
Mai-Dinh-Thanh
Rev. Henry A. Mayer and Doreen G. Mayer
Harriet E. McCloskey
Thomas and Peg McHugh
Molly McMillan
Sally Nelson
Joyce and Harold Nicholls
Catherine and Roy Nienhauser
John and JoAnn Noland
Mary Jacqueline O'Keefe
Mardell and Leonard Opitz
Carl and Ida Opitz
Ero and Ellen Ostman
Kayton and Marilyn Palmer
Leonard and Louise Pearson
Vern and Beatrice Pearson
Daniel R. Pearson
Justin V. Pearson
Sharon Sullivan Pearson
Molly Ann Pearson
Lisa M. Pearson
Florence and Dr. Benjamin A. Pomeroy
June and Dr. James Pomeroy
Mary and Dr. Harold Pomeroy
Margaret L. and Dr. Benjamin S. Pomeroy

Benjamin A. Pomeroy
James T. Pronger, Jr.
Calvin and Annabel Randolph
Mary Jo Reed
Albert A. Rosner
Tom and Phyllis Schluter
John Gavin Scott
Phyllis and Jack Sjoholm Sr.
Michael Skarich
Myrtis Skarich
Carol Slocum and Elmer Eugene
Engelbert, Sr.
Gene and Ginny Smetana
Don and Loretta Smith
Robert L. Smith Family
William (Bill) Smith
Manville D. Smith, Jr.
Darlene and Ken Stensby
Chuck and Mary Ellen Stewart
Irma and Harold Sunderland
Henry Sylvester
Erin Thornton
Karen Tyler
Dorothy and Wylie Van
Coleen Vaught
Martha and Arie Verhagen
Jean Wardin
Andy and Gene Warlich
Jack and Dorothy Warren
Sandy Watters
Peter Mark Westra
Ted Weyerhaeuser
Wendy White
Sara Whitten and Elmer Eugene
Engelbert, Jr.
William and Evelyn Widmann
Elsie and Harry Worden
Christine Yaeger
Edith Elizabeth Young
All family members we have lost

In Honor:

Julie Stanley
Don and Rosemary Gruber
Rev. Dr. Scott M. Kenefake
Rev. Dr. Julia A. Carlson
Rev. Dr. J. Michael Anderson
Rev. Phillip J. Romine
Dr. Aaron David Miller



Drawing by John A. Goodding

The House of Hope Presbyterian Church

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 (651) 227-6311 | hohchurch.org



Clergy

Rev. Dr. Scott M. Kenefake, Transitional Pastor
 Rev. Dr. Julia A. Carlson, Senior Associate Pastor
 for Spiritual Life and Care
 Rev. Phillip J. Romine, Transitional Associate Pastor
 for Faith Formation and Lifelong Learning



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

Program, Administrative, and Facility Staff

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