



## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2025

### Palm/Passion Sunday: April 13

Sanctuary | 10 a.m.

### Maundy Thursday with Holy Communion: April 17

Elizabeth Chapel | 12 noon

Office of Tenebrae: *Responsories* by Healey Willan | Sanctuary | 7 p.m.

### Good Friday: April 18

Elizabeth Chapel | 12 noon

Good Friday Choral Vespers | Sanctuary | 7 p.m.

Choral Vespers with Poetry of Mary Oliver and Susan Palo Cherwien  
*A moving and reflective collection of poetry alongside by Lotti, Culloton, Gibbons, Walker, and more.*

### Easter Sunday: April 20

Sunrise Service | Elizabeth Chapel | 7:30 a.m.

Festive Worship with Organ, Choirs, and Brass:  
Sanctuary | 9 and 11 a.m.

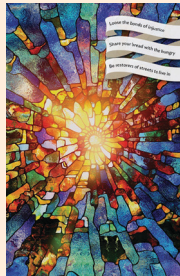
## One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

Received during the season of Lent, Presbyterians worldwide join in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing disaster assistance, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.

This Lenten season, please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing. You may give at any time.

### Ways to give:

- Special envelopes in the pew racks on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, or mail your gift with memo: OGHS
- Online: [bit.ly/HOHGiving](https://bit.ly/HOHGiving) > Fund: OGHS
- Text: **HOH OGHS** to 73256



## Reception for the Kenefakes

Sunday, April 13 | Kirk Parlour

Rev. Dr. Scott Kenefake's last Sunday at House of Hope will be Easter Sunday, April 20. A farewell reception with cupcakes for Scott and Gail will be held after worship on Palm Sunday, April 13. We invite you to bring cards and best wishes to the reception.



## Wednesday Lenten Series: Living into Matthew 25

Wednesdays, April 2 and 9

Dinner: 5:15 - 6 p.m.

Presentation: 6 - 7 p.m.

Join us in the Kirk Parlour for a soup and pizza supper followed by a program about Matthew 25.



Register for meals at <https://bit.ly/WednesdayLent> or call the church to sign up. Donations are appreciated to cover the meal cost.

For more than a year, House of Hope has been designated as a Matthew 25 congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Matthew 25 congregations commit to eradicating systemic poverty, dismantling structural racism, and building congregational vitality. Come learn more about this movement as we live out our unique calling to be a place of God's peace by working for God's justice.

**April 2:** Putting the Pieces Together with Rev. Anna Kendig Flores

**April 9:** Next Steps

# WORSHIP

10 a.m.

Sunday, April 6, 2025  
5th Sunday in Lent

**Motet Choir:**

*These are They Which  
Follow the Lamb, Goss  
O Sing Joyfully, Batten*

Sunday, April 13, 2025  
Palm/Passion Sunday

**Bells of Hope**  
*Awakening, Buckwalter*

**Choir School**  
*St Cecilia and St Nicholas Choirs*  
*Lift Up Your Heads, Lindh*

**Motet Choir:**  
*The Three Ravens, Ravenscroft*

Sunday, April 20, 2025  
Resurrection of the Lord/Easter Sunday

**Motet Choir:**  
*Surrexit Christus, Miller*  
*Music for Choir, Organ, and Brass*

Sunday, April 27, 2025  
Second Sunday of Easter with  
Holy Communion

**Motet Choir:**  
*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross,*  
Martin



## A Note from Scott

*Swan Song*  
(a farewell appearance or final act or pronouncement)

Easter Sunday will be my “swan song” at House of Hope. It has been an eventful and memorable (almost) three years of transitional ministry.

And a lot has happened both personally and professionally during this time:

- Gail and I are now the proud grandparents of two granddaughters: Jacqueline and Caroline.
- My father died last spring after a long illness.
- Our daughter, Mary Elizabeth, got engaged and will be married this summer in August. Joys and sorrows.

And professionally, my time at HOH has been a whirlwind:

- Calming the storm of discontent that existed within the congregation in the spring and summer of 2022.
- Visioning a new future through “Catch the Vision, Dream the Dream,” the “Dreamscape” and the “Master Site (architectural ) Plan.”
- Preparing and carrying out a Capital Campaign for the HVAC/Utility Infrastructure Improvement Project.
- Establishing a new Foundation, a 501(c)(3), to pursue grant funding to assist in the care and upkeep of the church’s buildings and campus, and to expand music and arts programming.

Add to this the completion of a successful search and call process for a new Senior Pastor, Head of Staff, and you have a transitional time

that has not just been successful but is designed to launch HOH into the future on a path of growth, sustainability, and effective service to community and world.

***Transformation is the goal of transitional ministry.***

Did we get everything done? No. But we addressed most of the big stuff: the church’s finances and the need for a plan to care for and improve the church’s historic buildings over time, the need for a new outreach strategy that focuses both on the neighborhoods around the church and the larger metro area and developing partnerships with other religious organizations and nonprofits in the area to better utilize our buildings and expand our reach and impact.

I want to thank the many hundreds of people at HOH, as well as the church staff, who have actively helped in all of these endeavors during my time with you. There have been thousands of conversations, interactions and experiences we have shared. I greatly appreciate it. It has been a pleasure and honor to serve with you. I am “bullish” on House of Hope, and I look forward to seeing you go from strength to strength in the coming years.

Blessings,  
Rev. Dr. Scott M. Kenefake  
Transitional Pastor



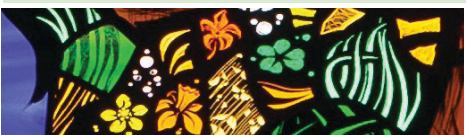
### To Scott and Gail Kenefake on Behalf of the Congregation and Staff

As we bid farewell to Rev. Dr. Scott and Gail Kenefake, we are grateful for their presence for the past several years. With Scott’s leadership and guidance, our congregation came together to complete the HVAC project, launch the *Bright Hope for Tomorrow* Capital Campaign, and strengthen connections with the neighborhood and wider community. Gail has been a steady presence at worship, events, and in our children’s programs. Join us in the Kirk Parlour on Palm Sunday to wish them well. A basket will be available to leave a card or personal note. Sincerely, Lynn Stein, Clerk of Session



## Easter Memorials:

You may purchase an Easter lily (\$15) or make a donation in any amount in memory of or in honor of loved ones for publication in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Your donation will support the ministries of House of Hope. The deadline for reserving Easter Memorials is Palm Sunday, April 13. Contact the church office, or sign up online: <https://bit.ly/EasterMemorials>



## Capital Campaign Update Campaign Surpasses \$5 Million

217 households have pledged and given to the **Bright Hope for Tomorrow** campaign in the amount of \$5,086,410.

We invite you to make a pledge or gift to our HVAC/Utility Infrastructure Improvement Project. All gifts, regardless of size, are important. Our goal is to repay the bridge loan, restore funds to our endowment, and minimize the debt from the project. Contact Michelle Freyholtz with questions about gifts.



## It's Time to Pay Per Capita



Thank you for the response to date! \$12,600 has been paid or pledged to HOH's obligation of \$46,680 for 2025. Per capita is a funding mechanism to support the work of the PC(USA) at the local, regional and national levels. HOH annually pays per capita for each of its members (not each household).

**2025 per capita is \$40 per member**, and we ask every member to contribute. Please note **Per Capita** when paying by check or give online at: <https://bit.ly/HOHGiving> > Fund: Per Capita Gifts

## Upcoming Capital Improvements: Roof Repairs and Solar Panels



At the March 18 meeting of the Session, the elders received a report from the House, Property, and Insurance Committee regarding major roofing work that is needed in order to maintain the integrity of the building envelope. The Session voted unanimously to go ahead with the full project which will be funded from the Legacy Building

Fund. The project will begin after Easter, and we will, once again, see signs of construction on the Portland side of the building. The project will be completed in three phases and go through the summer months. This may mean some adjustments in room use and scheduling. We will keep you informed as we go along.

### Phase 1

The flat roofs are currently showing significant signs of deterioration and water infiltration and need to be replaced. This work will begin after Easter.

### Phase 2

The slate roofs, while overall in sound condition and expected to last decades, have a number of broken and missing tiles that need to be replaced. Additional work will provide needed repairs to flashings and replacement of deteriorated capstone sealants. This work will be from mid-June to August.

### Phase 3

With replacement of the flat roofs, HOH can now proceed with the installation of solar panels. The system to be installed is expected to provide approximately 25% of the church's electricity needs. Work is expected to begin in June and be completed by August.



## Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

### Children and Family Ministry

Contact Jimmy Hoke:

[JimmyH@hohchurch.org](mailto:JimmyH@hohchurch.org)

### Sundays at House of Hope:

Nursery: Room 8

8:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

PreK - 2nd Graders: Room 4

3rd-5th Graders: Room 7

### Palm Sunday, April 13

Children's Palm Procession

### Easter Sunday, April 20:

Sunday School and Egg Hunt

between 9 and 11 a.m. services

### Youth and Family Ministry

Contact Elsa Kendig:

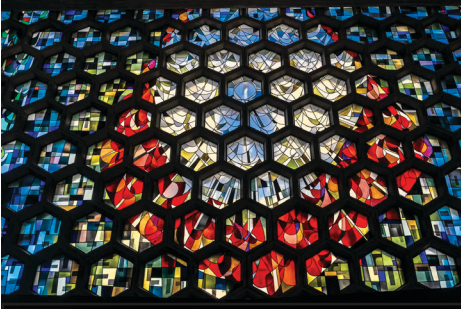
[ElsaK@hohchurch.org](mailto:ElsaK@hohchurch.org)

### Youth Group

Sundays, April 6 and 13

Youth Room | 6-8 p.m.

Snacks, chat, games and more.



## HOH Women's Retreat:

### *Finding Steady Ground in These Turbulent Times*

**Julie Neraas, Facilitator**

**April 25 – 27**

**Saint John's Abbey Guesthouse  
Collegetown, MN**

The retreat begins Friday evening shifting into quiet as we listen to our own lives through a guided meditation. Saturday will offer pragmatic time in nature, discussing the actual down-to-earth habits and practices that steady us, and how hope and faith help. We worship together on Sunday morning with readings and poetry capturing the retreat theme, a simple ritual, and Communion. Watch for registration information in the weekly Enews and Sunday bulletins.



Julie Neraas is an educator, writer, spiritual director, public speaker, and retreat leader. She is also skilled

in group facilitation. An ordained Presbyterian minister and spiritual director for more than thirty-five years, Julie Neraas has a particular interest in helping busy people find regular spiritual practices.



# THE DIDIER SEMINAR

## with **Caroline Oakes**

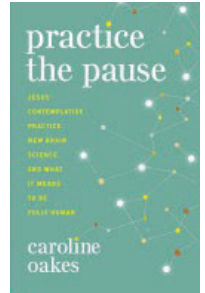
**Saturday, May 3 - Sunday, May 4**

**Kirk Parlour**

## *Practice the Pause: The Good News of Neuroscience and Ancient Scripture*



**Caroline Oakes**, author of the newly-released book *Practice the Pause*, is a writer and spiritual director whose essays have been published at The OnBeing Project, the *Huffington Post*, and in her bimonthly "Mind & Spirit" column in the *Bucks County Herald*, an award-winning regional newspaper.



She received her master's degree from The General Theological Seminary and has been trained in teaching contemplative practice and meditation by Shalem Institute and Mindful Schools, Inc.

### **Saturday, May 3 Schedule**

**8:30 a.m. Coffee and Treats**

**9 a.m. Session One**

#### ***The Centering Pause: What New Brain Science Is Telling Us About the Power of Our Spiritual Practice***

Caroline Oakes will share the exciting dialog between neuroscientists and religious scholars about how the spiritual practices of mindfulness meditation, centering prayer, and other spiritual practices actually rewire the brain and reorient our heart toward greater compassion, empathy, and kindness allowing us how to learn how to live into our highest human potential. These findings are seen by some scholars as a spiritual evolution toward a "divine-human way of relating to ourselves, to others and to God.

**10:15 a.m. Break**

**10:45 a.m. Session Two**

#### ***The Way Between Fight and Flight: The Revolutionary Way of Jesus of Nazareth***

Caroline Oakes will discuss how intentional and consistent meditation and silent prayer practices can equip us to see beyond our fight/flight reflexes and allow our innate inner wisdom to facilitate a creative and loving choice from fight and flight to a way of being that aligns our inner spiritual life with the life Jesus of Nazareth as our example.

**11:45 a.m. Wrap Up and Q&A**

**Book Study with Phil Bolinder: Wednesdays, April 9, 16, and 23 Room 1 | 7 p.m.**

**Caroline Oakes will preach on Sunday, May 5 and lead our Enrichment Hour.**

## **Stewardship 2025: CONNECT**



Thank you to all who have pledged or give regularly to support the financial needs of House of Hope. Every gift is appreciated. As of March 11, \$959,420 has been pledged which is 83% towards our pledge goal of \$1,150,000. Thank you to the **88 households who increased** their gifts over last year and to the **43 new contributors!** We are grateful for your generosity. It's not too late to pledge! Pledge cards are available in the office, or you can pledge online: <https://bit.ly/HOH2025Pledge>

# APRIL

## **Concert: *Voices for a Cathedral*** **Friday, April 4**

**Cathedral of St. Paul | 7:30 p.m.**

Let the engaging sounds of music by Scottish composer and conductor Sir James MacMillan captivate you. MacMillan's music draws from his Scottish heritage, strong Catholic faith, and social conscience, and is influenced by Celtic folk music as well as Far Eastern, Scandinavian, and Eastern European music. Hear seven Twin Cities church choirs (**including our own Motet Choir**) join forces to perform MacMillan's pieces, including a world premiere commission performed in the majestic Cathedral of Saint Paul. **Free, no ticket required.**

## **A New Foundation: Innovation and Growth for House of Hope with Executive Director Madeline Cieslak**

**Sunday, April 6**

**Assembly Room | 11:15 a.m.**

Madeline Cieslak will discuss the innovative model for the House of Hope Foundation, offering a vision for growth of both community and funding support. The Foundation will support the care of House of Hope's people, historic architecture, instruments, programs, and community park, enhancing the Church's mission to build a loving community for all.

## **Welcoming Class**

**Sunday, April 6**

**Library | 11:15 a.m.**

Whether you're new to House of Hope, or just want to know more about how our community works, join our Welcoming Class. This class provides information about church membership, as well as other ways to connect to community life at HOH. We'll get to know each other, learn about shared congregational values, and connect to opportunities to live out those values through our church life.

## **Great Decisions — The Middle East: American Foreign Policy with Henry Berman**

**Tuesday, April 8**

**Kirk Parlour | 3-4:30 p.m.**

The Hamas-Israel War continues with immense distrust on both sides, and many outside actors trying to mediate an acceptable conclusion—especially the United States. We will examine the latest up-to-date events and implications for the entire region. Henry Berman is a retired businessman, working for 34 years at Ecolab. Henry has personal ties to the Middle East Region and has recently returned from two weeks in Israel. He looks forward to sharing impressions, close to the front lines.

## **Sunday-Weekday Connections**

**Tuesday, April 22**

**Kirk Parlour | 5:30 p.m.**

Join us for dinner and conversation. Annie Yetter will be our speaker. Annie and her family have been members since 2001— and my, how the time has flown! Annie lives in St. Paul and appreciates the opportunity for fellowship that HOH offers. Please sign up by April 17 at: <https://bit.ly/HOHSundayWeekday>

## **The Singers' Concert:**

### ***When Music Sounds***

**Sunday, April 27 | 3 p.m.**

The Singers' uplifting season finale will include love songs from around the world! This joyful collection of music includes Brahms's *Liebeslieder Walzer*, Eric Whitacre's *Five Hebrew Love Songs*, and music of Claude Debussy, René Clausen, and Morten Lauridsen and bring the subscription series to a joyful, hopeful close. Tickets: [www.singersmca.org](http://www.singersmca.org)

## **Congregational Retreat at Clearwater Forest: May 30-June 1**

Watch for more information!



## **Eco Fair: *Fueled by Faith • Driven by Climate***

**Saturday, May 17**

**House of Hope | 1-4 p.m.**

Hosted by six area congregations. Join six St. Paul congregations for this free, family-friendly event! You can enjoy good food and learn about all things green, from e-bikes to pollinator gardens, electric vehicles to solar installations. Join us rain or shine under the big tent! [bit.ly/EcoFair2025](http://bit.ly/EcoFair2025)



## **Earth Care**

*House of Hope was recertified as an Earth Care Congregation by the PC(USA)'s Presbyterian Hunger Program through February 2026. This certification recognizes churches that make the commitment to take seriously God's charge to "till and keep" the garden.*

## **Earth Action Day**

The first Earth Day in 1970 launched the birth of the modern environmental movement. Each year billions of people worldwide commemorate the day by taking action to show their commitment to halt climate disruption. The theme for Earth Day 2025—OUR POWER, OUR PLANET, invites everyone around the globe to unite behind renewable energy, and to triple the global generation of clean electricity by 2030. Join this year and help educate, advocate, and mobilize. Pledge an Earth Action on social media and follow through. Find a local event and participate. Make a financial donation. For resources and ideas to help you **take action** this **Earth Day, April 22** (and every day), visit [www.earthday.org/earth-day-2025](http://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2025)

THE ANCHOR (Pub. No. 011-331)  
is published monthly except in August by the  
House of Hope Presbyterian Church,  
797 Summit Avenue, St Paul MN 55105-3392

Periodicals postage paid at St Paul, MN

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:  
THE ANCHOR, 797 Summit Avenue  
St Paul, MN 55105-3392



*The Anchor is printed on recycled paper as a part of House of Hope's commitment as an Earth Care Congregation.*



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**COVENANT NETWORK OF PRESBYTERIANS**

*The House of Hope Presbyterian Church is a Covenant Network Congregation.*

## MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION



### Chili Cook-off Winners

Congratulations to the Winkelman family for the winning chili recipe at our Chili Cook-Off on Sunday, March 2! Thank you to our other chefs who offered their favorite chili recipes for the event!

