

# THE HOUSE OF HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*"Why not recognize trees as participating in the company of the saints?"*  
—Belden Lane

Confirmation Sunday | May 3, 2026 10 a.m.

# Welcome!

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

*Building a loving community for all, House of Hope shares God's grace and presence through music, the arts, reflection, and action. Come join us as we walk through life together.*

Our regular Sunday Worship time is 10 a.m., followed by refreshments, social hour, and educational opportunities. If you have any questions, our ushers will be glad to help you.

**We invite you to join us for refreshments**, today served in the **Kirk Parlour** following the service.

## Sunday Morning Family Resources:

- **Chapel Worship:** Following the Kindergarten Bible Presentation, children may leave the service to engage in faith formation with adult leaders to the Chapel for worship for children. Caregivers should pick their children up from the Chapel.
- **Worship:** Children may also engage their faith by remaining in the service.
- **Worship bags** are available in the Narthex with age-appropriate materials to help kids focus as they worship alongside their families. You can ask an usher to help you find the best bag for you!
- A **Wiggle Space** for children needing a little more scope to move is available in the sanctuary entrance way during the service. There are books and toys there for your use. Feel free to come in and out of the Sanctuary as needed.
- A variety of **children's Bibles** are located in the church pews.
- Our **Nursery** is open for infants – toddlers. A parent/guardian must sign children in and out of the nursery. Bring a photo ID with you.
- **Nursing:** At House of Hope, parents are welcome to nurse their children wherever they feel comfortable. Feel free to ask an usher if you would feel more comfortable in a more private area.
- **Need help?** Ask an usher or Children and Family Ministry staff any time!

## Upcoming:

### **The House of Hope Choir School Spring Concert: *Together in Music***

**Sunday, May 17 | Sanctuary | 11:15 a.m.** All are welcome to the final Choir School concert of the season in the sanctuary and streamed at [hohchurch.org](http://hohchurch.org). Come experience the beauty of our choristers' voices as we close out our 42nd Season!



House of Hope's sanctuary is equipped with telecoil technology. To access the Hearing Loop, please sit in the long pews in the center of the sanctuary.

## THE APPROACH TO GOD

### Prelude

Psalm 9 (*I Will Give Thanks to You, O Lord*)  
Prelude on the Easter Carol *Now the Green Blade Rises*  
The Bells of Hope; Timothy Short, Director

Carl Wiltse  
Kevin McChesney

### Introit

*Deo Gracias*  
The Motet Choir; Matthew Culloton, Choirmaster

William Byrd

### +Processional Hymn 461

*God Is Here!*  
Aaron David Miller, Organist

ABBOT'S LEIGH

### +Eastertide Affirmation (*congregation reads text in bold*)

Rev. Phillip J. Romine

Once we were not a people,  
**but now we are God's people;**  
once we had not received mercy,  
**but now we have received mercy.**  
With hearts lifted in praise,  
**we come to worship.**

### +The Peace (*The Peace of the Lord is shared with those around you.*)

### +Doxology



### Welcome and Announcements

## THE WORD OF GOD

### Sung Affirmation



### First Lesson

1 Peter 2:1-10 (NT, p. 233 in pew Bible)

Nancy Stendahl

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

### Anthem

*Almighty and Everlasting God*

Orlando Gibbons

Almighty and everlasting God,  
Mercifully look upon our infirmities,  
And in all our dangers and necessities,  
Stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us;  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Rising-Kindergarten Bible Presentation and Blessing

Dr. Jimmy Hoke

**Dear God, thank you for creating us in your image. Guide these children and their families as they read, ask questions, and respond to these sacred stories. Teach us to follow Jesus, as we care for the world and everyone in it. Amen.**

*Following the presentation, children are invited to stay in the service with their guardians, or walk out with their guardians to be led to the Chapel. Caregivers should come to the Chapel immediately after the service to pick up their children.*

### Second Lesson

Ezekiel 17:22-24 (OT, p. 784 in pew Bible)

For the Word of God in scripture,  
For the Word of God within us,  
For the Word of God among us,  
Thanks be to God.

### Sermon

*Sylvan Strength*

Rev. Dr. E. Scott Jones

## THE RESPONSE TO GOD

### +Hymn 344

*Christ of the Upward Way*

SURSUM CORDA

**Presentation of Confirmands** — Abram V., Mariano R., and Jack S.

### The Rite of Confirmation

#### Laying on of Hands

**Welcoming the Confirmands** (unison)

**With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you  
to share with us in the ministry of Christ,  
for we are all one in him.**

+**Affirmation of Faith** — from the *Second Helvetic Confession*, 1561      Rev. James D. Cochrane

**God enjoined God's ancient people to exercise the greatest care that young people, even from infancy, be properly instructed. Moreover, God expressly commanded in the law that they should teach them, and that the mysteries of the sacraments should be explained. Churches act most wisely when they early and carefully teach the youth, laying the first grounds of faith, and faithfully teaching the rudiments of our religion. Here let the Church show her faith and diligence in bringing the children to be taught, desirous and glad to have her children well instructed.**

### 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 Anthem

*Ave verum corpus*

William Byrd

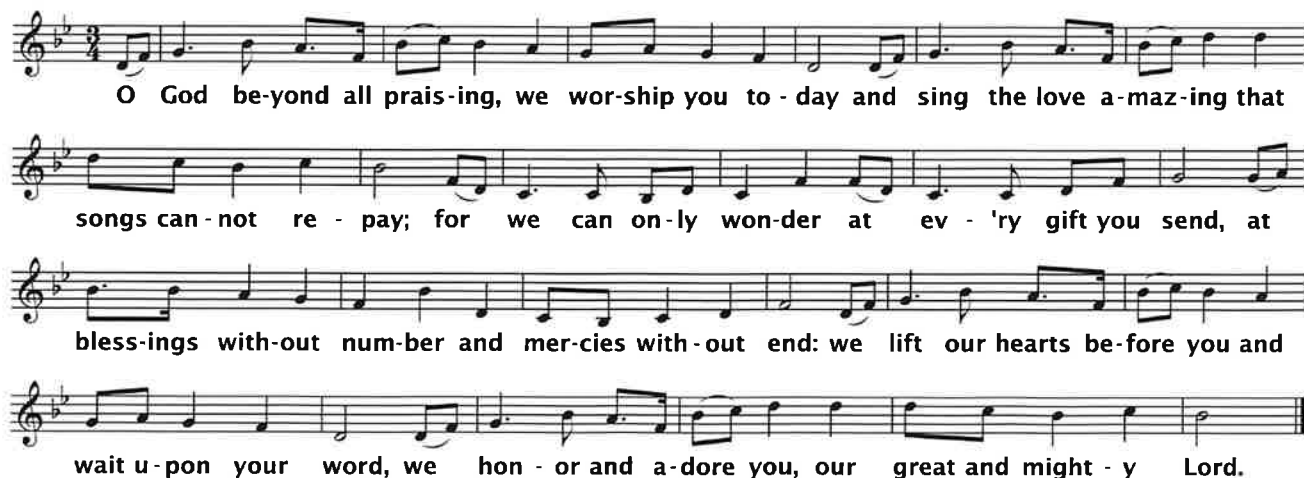
Ave verum corpus,  
natum de Maria Virgine,  
vere passum,  
immolatum in cruce pro homine,  
cuius latus perforatum  
unda fluxit et sanguine:  
esto nobis praegustatum  
in mortis examine.

O dulcis, o pie,  
O Jesu Fili Mariae,  
miserere nobis. Amen.

*Hail, true Body, born  
of the Virgin Mary,  
who having truly suffered, was sacrificed  
on the cross for mankind,  
whose pierced side  
flowed with blood:*

*May it be for us a foretaste  
in the trial of death.  
O sweet, o blessed,  
O Jesus, Son of Mary,  
Have mercy on us. Amen.*

## + 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

## + Recessional Hymn 361

*How Firm a Foundation*

FOUNDATION

## +Benediction

### Postlude

Fanfare

Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens

**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 Sherla Mayer.

**The Pulpit Flowers** are given in loving memory of Sherla Mayer.

### **Rising-Kindergartners receiving their Bibles today:**

Jack H.  
Perry J.  
Margeaux H.  
Asher N.  
Desmond S.  
Valerie T.  
Ian Y.

### **A Little About the Ministry Transformation Lab**

When House of Hope took the Innovation Culture Index in 2024, one of the goals was to work with our results. As we begin, we're asking you to help us refresh our ICI results with up-to-date feedback. Follow the QR code or <https://bit.ly/HOHICI>

The Ministry Transformation Lab, where we'll use this updated data, brings together design thinking, practical theology, and asset-based community development to help us practice a process that fosters an innovate culture and enhances ministry outcomes.

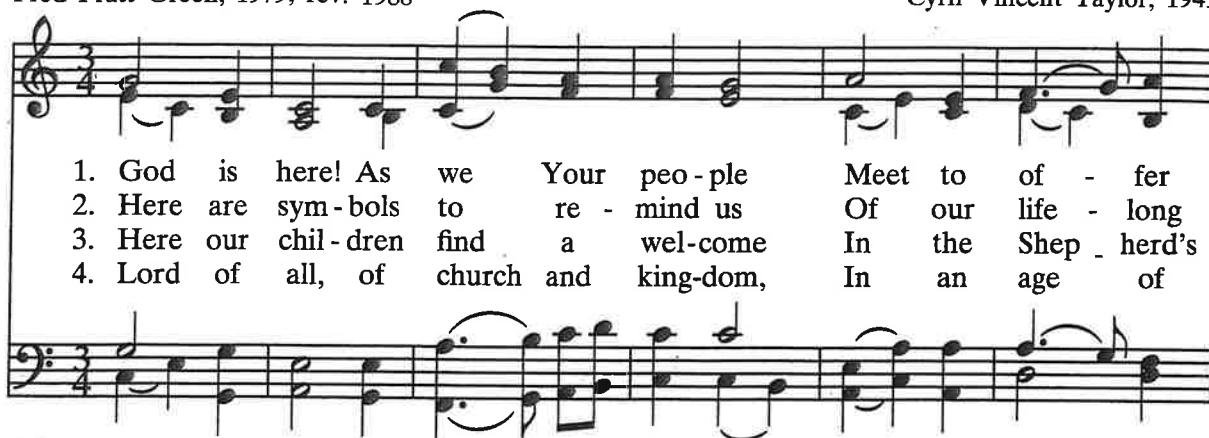
Not only can this lead to more successful and vibrant ministries, but also to fostering life-giving community along the way.

Still curious? Hear more in a video in this week's House of Hope e-news.



Fred Pratt Green, 1979; rev. 1988

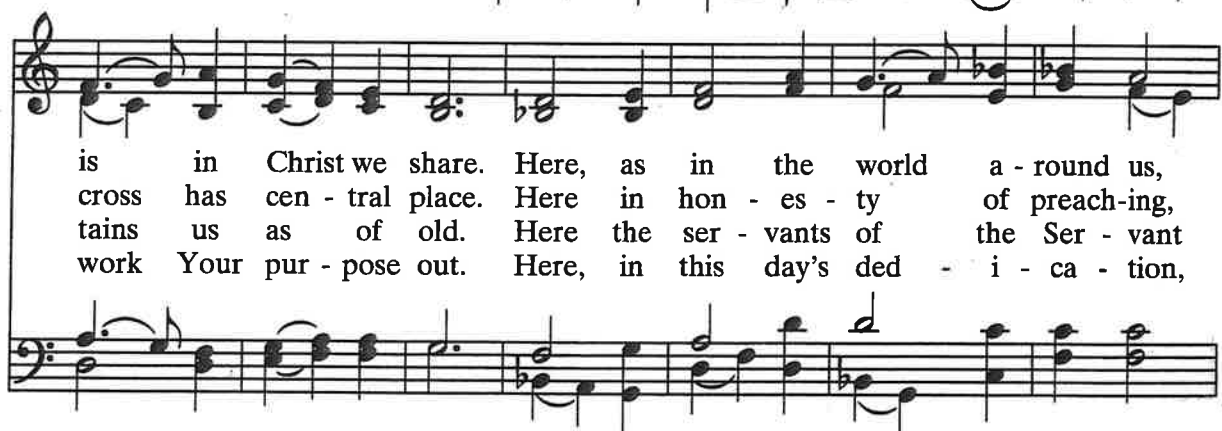
Cyril Vincent Taylor, 1941



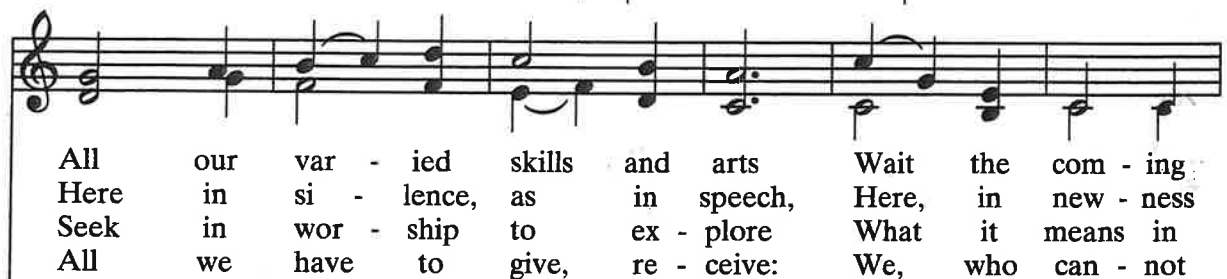
1. God is here! As we Your peo - ple Meet to of - fer  
 2. Here are sym - bols to re - mind us Of our life - long  
 3. Here our chil - dren find a wel - come In the Shep - herd's  
 4. Lord of all, of church and king - dom, In an age of



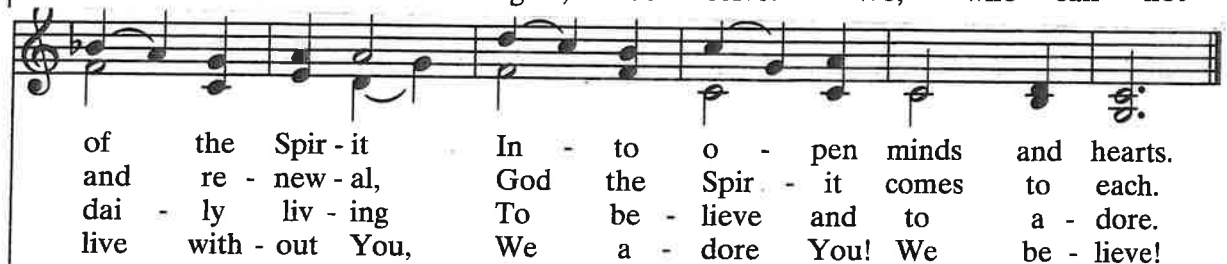
praise and prayer, May we find in ful - ler mea - sure What it  
 need of grace; Here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit; Here the  
 flock and fold, Here, as bread and wine are tak - en, Christ sus -  
 change and doubt Keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel, Help us



is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world a - round us,  
 cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing,  
 tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant  
 work Your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion,



All our var - ied skills and arts Wait the com - ing  
 Here in si - lence, as in speech, Here, in new - ness  
 Seek in wor - ship to ex - plore What it means in  
 All we have to give, re - ceive: We, who can - not



of the Spir - it In - to o - pen minds and hearts.  
 and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.  
 dai - ly liv - ing To be - lieve and to a - dore.  
 live with - out You, We a - dore You! We be - lieve!

## Christ of the Upward Way

SURSUM CORDA (Lomas) 6.4.6.4.10.10

Walter John Mathams, c. 1915; alt.

George Lomas, 1876

1. Christ of the up - ward way, My guide di - vine,  
 2. Give me the heart to hear Your voice and will,  
 3. Christ of the up - ward way, My guide di - vine,

Where You have set Your feet May I place mine;  
 That with - out fault or fear I may ful - fill  
 Where You have set Your feet May I place mine;

And move and march wher - ev - er You have trod,  
 Your pur - pose with a glad and ho - ly zest,  
 And when Your last call comes se - rene and clear,

Keep - ing face for - ward up the hill of God.  
 Like one who would not bring less than the best.  
 Calm may my an - swer be, "Lord, I am here."

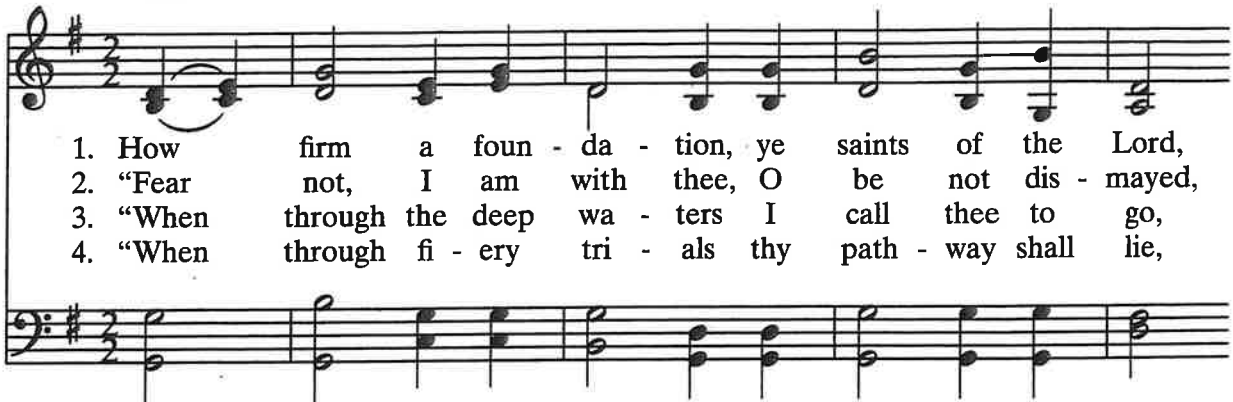
## How Firm a Foundation

361

FOUNDATION 11.11.11.11

"K" in *A Selection of Hymns, 1787*  
Ed. John Rippon; alt.

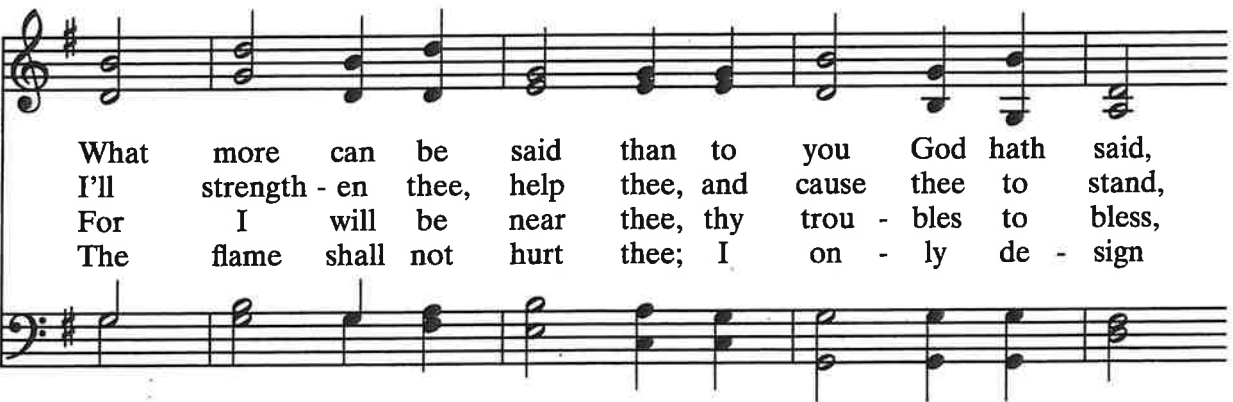
American folk melody  
Funk's *Genuine Church Music, 1832*



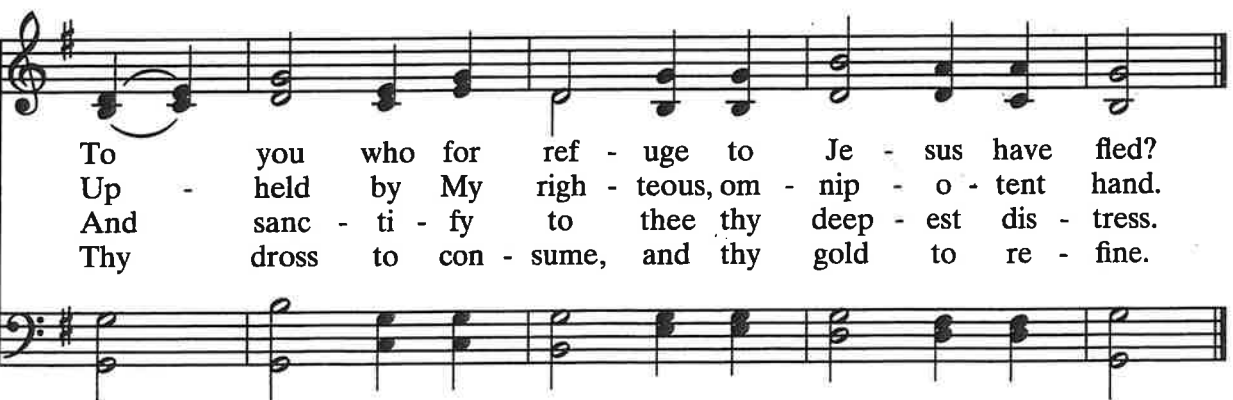
1. How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2. "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,  
3. "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4. "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,



Is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!  
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
The riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;  
My grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;



What more can be said than to you God hath said,  
I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
For I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
The flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign



To you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
Up - held by My righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.  
And sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
Thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.

5. "The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."



# News & Opportunities

May 3 – 10, 2026

## CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY

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

Nursery available at 8:45 a.m. in Room 8

Children's Chapel Worship | 10:10 a.m. | Chapel

## YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

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



**The Saint Paul Farmers' Market returns to House of Hope!**

Fridays, May 8 - October 30

1:15 - 5 p.m.

Summit Avenue Parking Lot

## Welcoming Class | Today, Sunday, May 3

11:15 a.m. in the Library

Whether you're new to House of Hope, or just want to know more about how our community works, join our Welcoming Class. This is an opportunity to learn about our congregation and church membership, as well as other ways to connect to community life at House of Hope. 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.

## Caregiver Conversations

**Today, Sunday, May 3 | 11:15 a.m. | Bridal Room**

House of Hope has a support group for Caregivers on the first Sundays of each month, following worship. Providing support to a loved one is taxing; frustrations, loneliness, and even guilt can accompany caregiving. Facilitated by our pastoral staff, this month's Caregiver Conversation is May 3, 2026, at 11:15 a.m. in the Bridal Room (near the Kirk Parlour). For information, see Rev. Dix Brachlow, Care Pastor, [dwbrachlow@gmail.com](mailto:dwbrachlow@gmail.com).

**Sunday, May 17, is Music Sunday!** For the first time since 1989, The House of Hope Motet Choir and Chamber Orchestra will perform Vaughan Williams' *Five Mystical Songs*.

## Happy Retirement, Michelle Freyholtz!

**Next Sunday, May 10** when we will celebrate Michelle Freyholtz's 41 years at House of Hope as she heads into a well-deserved retirement. Please join us as we recognize Michelle in the service followed by a reception in the Kirk Parlour with cake and a sparkling cider toast! If you'd like to give Michelle a gift, please enclose in an envelope and place in the baskets provided in the Parlour at the reception, or mail to the church office.

## Spring Congregational Retreat at Clearwater Forest | May 29 – 31

Looking for a chance to enjoy the company of your church family before summer adventures? Join us for a delightful and low-key retreat at Clearwater Forest in the Leaning Tree Lodge. All ages are not only welcome, but will find the weekend offers opportunities to engage in activities that you'll find by turns relaxing and enlivening. We hope you'll join us for what everyone who is gone previously agrees is a wonderful opportunity to experience the House of Hope Church community at its fullest! Cost: \$110 per individual, with a \$260 family max. **Please RSVP by May 15 to reserve your spot.** [ElsaK@hohchurch.org](mailto:ElsaK@hohchurch.org)

## Great Decisions | Tuesday, May 12

**3:30 p.m. in the Kirk Parlour.** Robert Scarlett, Senior Advisor to Clearwater Biologic, LLC, will present *Venezuela and the Trump Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine*. Our session will review and discuss the impact of this strategy on our country's global role.

The House of Hope offers text giving. Text HOH to 73256 and click the link to complete your gift. It's that easy.



**2026 Eco Fair at House of Hope:** Saturday, May 16, 12 p.m. - 3 p.m. in the Portland Parking Lot. Enjoy good food and learn about all things green, from e-bikes to pollinator gardens, electric vehicles to solar installations at the Eco Fair on Summit Avenue. Come spend time with your neighbors and find new ways for you and your community to transition to a greener future.



**Midweek Contemplative Prayer in Elizabeth Chapel | Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m.**

On Wednesdays, House of Hope offers a short, contemplative prayer service in the Elizabeth Chapel. Led by clergy, Scripture reading, prayers, bells, and silence will invite us to ground and center ourselves.

**Week Beginning May 3, 2026**

**Confirmation Sunday, May 3, 2026**

- 8:45 a.m. Nursery, Room 8
- 10 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 10:10 a.m. Children's Worship, Chapel
- 11:15 a.m. Social Hour, Kirk Parlour
- 11:15 a.m. Alleluia Choir, Choir School Room
- 11:15 a.m. Welcoming Class, Library
- 11:15 a.m. Stephen Ministry Cont. Ed., Room 1/Zoom
- 11:15 a.m. Caregiving Conversations, Bridal Room
- 1 p.m. Sherla Mayer Visitation, Sanctuary
- 2:15 p.m. Sherla Mayer Memorial Service, Sanctuary
- 3:15 p.m. Sherla Mayer Reception, Kirk Parlour

**Monday, May 4, 2026**

- 3 p.m. Choir School Lessons, Choir School Room
- 6 p.m. AA, Assembly Room
- 6 p.m. Al-Anon, Room 1
- 7 p.m. Eco Fair Planning Committee, Kirk Parlour

**Tuesday, May 5, 2026**

- 7 a.m. Men's Breakfast, Day by Day Cafe/Zoom
- 9:30 a.m. Centering Prayer, Chapel/Zoom
- 2 p.m. Choir School Lessons, Choir School Room
- 4 p.m. House and Property Meeting, Room 1
- 6:30 p.m. Deacons Meeting, Kirk Parlour

**Wednesday, May 6, 2026**

- 9:30 a.m. Bible Study, Room 1
- 12:15 p.m. Midweek Prayer Service, Elizabeth Chapel
- 4 p.m. Choir School Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 1:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry Supervision, Zoom
- 5 p.m. Childcare, Room 8
- 6 p.m. Stephen Ministry Supervision, Zoom
- 7 p.m. Bells of Hope Rehearsal, Room 5
- 7 p.m. Motet Rehearsal, Sanctuary

**Thursday, May 7, 2026**

- 7 a.m. Men's Breakfast, Day by Day Cafe/Zoom
- 9:30 a.m. Mission Sewing, Dining A&B
- 1 p.m. Drop-in Knitting and Crafting, Library
- 2 p.m. Choir School Lessons, Choir School Rm
- 5:30 p.m. Capital City Grief Coalition, Kirk Parlour

**Friday, May 8, 2026**

- 8 a.m. Women's Book Group, Zoom
- 9 a.m. Trustees Meeting, Kirby Lounge/Zoom
- 9:30 a.m. Centering Prayer, Zoom
- 1:15 p.m. St. Paul Farmer's Market, Summit Lot
- 1:30 p.m. Nancy Mansergh Memorial Service, Elizabeth Chapel
- 2:30 p.m. Nancy Mansergh Reception, Kirk Parlour

**Graduation Sunday, May 10, 2026**

- 8:45 a.m. Nursery, Room 8
- 10 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 10:10 a.m. Sunday School, Rooms 2&4
- 11:15 a.m. Social Hour, Kirk Parlour
- 11:15 a.m. Alleluia Choir, Choir School Room
- 6 p.m. Youth Group, Room 1/Youth Room

To support House of Hope, please use this QR code.

For a full listing of events and activities, see our calendar on the homepage of our website [www.hohchurch.org](http://www.hohchurch.org).



**THE HOUSE OF HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
 797 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105 | (651) 227-6311 | hohchurch.org



**Clergy**

**Rev. Dr. E. Scott Jones**, Senior Pastor and Head of Staff  
**Rev. Phillip J. Romine**, Transitional Associate Pastor  
 for Faith Formation and Lifelong Learning  
**Rev. James D. Cochrane**, Transitional Associate Pastor

**Care Pastors:**

Rev. Dix W. Brachlow ..... DWBrachlow@gmail.com  
 Rev. Dr. J. Michael Anderson ..... MikeA@pobox.com



House of Hope is a  
 Stephen Ministry Church.

**Program, Administrative, and Facility Staff**

Jessica Bandelin, Acting Choir School Director. .... JessicaB@hohchurch.org  
 Shelley Baumgart, Facility Staff ..... ShelleyB@hohchurch.org  
 Madeline Cieslak, Hope Arts Center Executive Director ..... MadelineC@hohchurch.org  
 Preston Conley, Facility Staff ..... PrestonC@hohchurch.org  
 Matthew Culloton, Choirmaster ..... MatthewC@hohchurch.org  
 Janice Dickinson, Wedding Coordinator. .... hoh@hohchurch.org  
 Christopher Freeze, Director of Development ..... ChristopherF@hohchurch.org  
 Michelle Freyholtz, Director of Administration. .... MichelleF@hohchurch.org  
 Mike Gibson, Finance Manager ..... MikeG@hohchurch.org  
 David Goudzwaard-Vaught, Executive Assistant ..... DavidGV@hohchurch.org  
 Jimmy Hoke, Director of Children and Family Ministry ..... JimmyH@hohchurch.org  
 Elsa Kendig, Director of Youth and Family Ministry ..... ElsaK@hohchurch.org  
 Aaron David Miller, Director of Music/Organist ..... AaronM@hohchurch.org  
 Evan Schaaf, Facility Staff ..... EvanS@hohchurch.org  
 Mark Schwister, Administrative Assistant ..... MarkS@hohchurch.org  
 Timothy Short, Music Associate, Carillonneur ..... TimS@hohchurch.org  
 Julie Stanley, Facility Staff. .... JulieS@hohchurch.org  
 Michelle Theisen, Facility and Event Manager ..... MichelleT@hohchurch.org  
 Ellie VanderHaar, Nursery Coordinator. .... JimmyH@hohchurch.org  
 Johan Wyckoff, Communications and Events Coordinator ..... JohanW@hohchurch.org