

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Shall We Gather At The River* by Robert Lowry

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** based on Genesis 1

God spoke Light into being and made Day dance with Night.
There was evening and there was morning, the first day.

God lifted Sky from the waters and brushed colors on its canvas.
There was evening and there was morning, the second day.

God pulled Sea to the side and let Earth breathe the air.
There was evening and there was morning, the third day.

God let Sun run with joy and made Moon and Stars shimmer.
There was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

God gave the narwhal its tusk and flung the puffins into flight.
There was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

God gave the stegosaurus its spines and made us in God's image.
There was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

To all creatures great and small, to everything that has breath:
God gave every green plant for food.

God saw everything that God had made.
And indeed, it was very good!

*** HYMN 393** "O Day of Rest and Gladness"

*** CONFESSION AND PARDON**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Creator God, you have placed us in earth's glorious garden.
We confess that we have lost our connection to our habitat:
 the land beneath our feet, the air that fills our lungs,
 and the water we depend on for life.

We confess that we forget our connection to our neighbors:
 the birds of the air, the fish of the oceans,
 and everything that walks and crawls upon the earth.
Forgive us, O God.

Open our eyes to our local habitat—
 to native flowers, trees, birds, and wildlife,
 and even to the tadpoles that wiggle in drainage ponds.
Help us to remember our place in this sacred ecosystem,
 that we may reconcile with all who share this home,
 and preserve it for all who will come after us.

Silent Prayers & Assurance of Pardon

*** SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE**

Hymn 240, vv. 1, 4 "Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks"

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Job 12:7-10

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON 2 Corinthians 3:17-18

SERMON "What the Tadpoles Taught Me"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*** HYMN 250** "In the Bulb There Is a Flower"

*** HYMN 503** "Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation"

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *The Apostle's Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Self Offering

Offertory *The Old Castle* by Modest Mussorgsky

*** Doxology** Hymnal, back page

*** Prayer of Dedication**

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

O God, we thank you...

Let us pray for God's rule on earth as Jesus taught us, saying:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

The Words of Institution & The Feast

Please request a gluten-free bread option if you need it.

Our juice is non-fermented.

Prayer After Communion

GOING OUT TO SERVE

*** HYMN 366** "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

During the singing of the hymn, you are invited to come forward with your monthly Daily Change offering to fight hunger, both here and throughout the world. Please place your cash or check in the soup can by the Communion Table.

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *Old Time Religion* Traditional

END OF WORSHIP ... BEGINNING OF SERVICE



We light two candles in worship. The white candle reminds us of the presence of Christ's spirit in worship. The smaller candle is in a candle holder made by a member of our partner church, Iglesia El Divino Salvador in Guatemala, and it reminds us of our covenant with them.

Bold font indicates congregational participation.

* You are invited to stand in body or in spirit

Today's liturgist: Janet Black
Today's greeters: Jean and Russ Moxley
Today's ushers: Susan and Jay Maveety

Sunday, May 19: Pentecost Luncheon

Join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall as we celebrate Pentecost and the kick-off of Summer Spirit together! The meal will be a “parade of salads.” The church will provide the drinks only, and you are invited to bring a salad or dessert to share. Please bring your dish down to the Fellowship Hall before worship to be set up buffet style. Sign up on the sheet in the Narthex, or sign up by contacting Lynne in the church office at (828) 274-0191 or officenewhope@gmail.com. We are looking forward to this time of fellowship together!

Voices of Conflict, Voices of Hope: A Poetry and Faith Series

In our next Faith Formation opportunity, Virginia Hebert will lead us in an exploration of poetry from countries that have experienced or are experiencing war: Guatemala, Israel/Palestine, and Ukraine. Come listen to poets from these countries speak to their pain and to their hope, and consider how their words may inform our faith. The group will meet for one more Monday— May 6—at 7 PM at the church.

Don't Miss “Sweet Treats” on Wednesday, May 8

The men get together on the second Wednesday of the month at The Well-Bred Bakery & Café in Biltmore Village at 11 AM for coffee and treats. Questions? Contact Bruce Rasmussen at (828) 633-0327 or by email at bandj.online@yahoo.com.

MANNA Food Bank Volunteering

We volunteer on the second Friday of every month from 1-3 PM. Join us on May 10 directly at MANNA. Contact Linda Lewis at (828) 483-6296 to sign up.

Worship bulletin announcements for Sunday, May 12 are due to Administrator Lynne Petty by noon on Wednesday, May 8.

New Hope Presbyterian Church

We are a welcoming, inclusive faith community, seeking to respond to Christ's call to love and serve, through ministries of compassion and social justice.

Session Members

Terri Carpenter (2025)
Woody Ferrell (2025)
Virginia Hebert (2024)
Susan Maveety (2024)
Barbara McLean (2026)
Andy Morse (2026)
Jean Moxley (2024)
Nan Riley (2026)
Nancy Spann (2025)
Kim Wells (Moderator)

Deacons

Bill Carpenter (2024)
Janet Ferrell (2025)
Tom Fife (2026)
Ann Moorefield (2024)
Cal Reid (2026)
Karen Ward (2025)

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Kim Wells, Pastor | Lynne Petty, Church Administrator
Rob Blackwell, Director of Music Ministry/Pianist

New Hope
Presbyterian Church
“Including, Renewing, Serving”

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 5, 2024
11 o'clock



“What the Tadpoles Taught Me”



“But ask the animals, and they will teach you ...”(Job 12:7)