

HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

January 9th, 2022

“The reason of my waking mind tells me that great evil has befallen and we stand at the end of days. But my heart says nay; and all my limbs are light, and a hope and joy are come to me that no reason can deny.”

JRR Tolkien, *The Return of the King*

“The mystery of the incarnation reveals to us the spiritual dimension of human solidarity. We cannot live in intimate communion with Jesus without being sent to our brothers and sisters who belong to that same humanity that Jesus has accepted as his own. Thus intimacy manifests itself as solidarity and solidarity as intimacy.”

Henri Nouwen, *Lifesigns*

“The picture at Jesus’ baptism is of God stepping out of heaven to address people, of God entering into their everyday world. Clearly God takes the initiative to show humanity the way to him.”

Darrell Bock

CALL TO WORSHIP

“Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

Know that the Lord, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.”

Psalm 100:1-3

Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee

Be Thou My Vision

CALL TO CONFESSION

Confession of Sin

God of salvation, by your power you lifted us out of the wasteland of sin and brought us with joy and laughter into your kingdom. Salvation is your gift to us. But we confess that often we try to replace your gift with our own efforts. We try to complete what is already perfect; we try to add to what is already full; we try to earn what we already have. Forgive us our foolishness. Help us to focus on your grace. Help us to live grateful lives in return, for Jesus’ sake alone. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

“God, who said, ‘Let light shine out of darkness,’ has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ...He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

2 Corinthians 4:6; Colossians 1:13-14

How Deep the Father’s Love for Us

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

Welcome and Prayers of the People

Offering & Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow / Praise him all creatures here below

Praise him above ye heavenly hosts / Praise father, son, and holy ghost

Life Together

Davis Mooney

PREACHING OF THE WORD

“The Messiah Enters Tension and Expectation”

Davis Mooney

1 In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, 2 during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. 3 And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 4 As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.

5 Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall become straight,

and the rough places shall become level ways,

6 and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

7 He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. 9 Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

10 And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” 11 And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” 12 Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” 13 And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” 14 Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”

15 As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, 16 John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 17 His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

18 So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. 19 But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, 20 added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

21 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, 22 and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

23 Jesus, when he began his ministry, was about thirty years of age, being the son (as was supposed) of Joseph, the son of Heli, 24 the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, the son of Melchi, the son of Jannai, the son of Joseph, 25 the son of Mattathias, the son of Amos, the son of Nahum, the son of Eslai, the son of Naggai, 26 the son of Maath, the son of Mattathias, the son of Semein, the son of Josech, the son of Joda, 27 the son of Joanan, the son of Rhesa, the son of Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel, the son of Neri, 28 the son of Melchi, the son of Addi, the son of Cosam, the son of Elmadam, the son of Er, 29 the son of Joshua, the son of Eliezer, the son of Jorim, the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, 30 the son of Simeon, the son of Judah, the son of Joseph, the son of Jonam, the son of Eliakim, 31 the son of Melea, the son of Menna, the son of Mattatha, the son of Nathan, the son of David, 32 the son of Jesse, the son of Obed, the son of Boaz, the son of Sala, the son of Nahshon, 33 the son of Amminadab, the son of Admin, the son of Arni, the son of Hezron, the son of Perez, the son of Judah, 34 the son of Jacob, the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham, the son of Terah, the son of Nahor, 35 the son of Serug, the son of Reu, the son of Peleg, the son of Eber, the son of Shelah, 36 the son of Cainan, the son of Arphaxad, the son of Shem, the son of Noah, the son of Lamech, 37 the son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch, the son of Jared, the son of Mahalaleel, the son of Cainan, 38 the son of Enos, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.

Luke 3:1-38

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

All: *Thanks be to God*

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: *And also with you.*

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: *We lift them up to the Lord.*

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation: *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

Leader: Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: *Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.*

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

BENEDICTION

²⁴ The Lord bless you and keep you;

²⁵ the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

²⁶ the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

ADDITIONAL PRAYERS AND MEDITATIONS

Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my needs and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the author and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

Prayer for Those Searching for the Truth

Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

LIFE TOGETHER

London Mission Trip Interest Meeting - TODAY, January 9th, 12:30pm: Pastors Ethan and Davis will be leading a mission trip next summer to serve with Serge missionaries in London. The dates are July 3-11, 2022, and the trip is open to both adults and youth (current 9th grade and up). Come hear what God is up to in London and how we'll be joining in that work! Lunch will be provided.

Women's Bible Study: We will be offering two opportunities for women to study the life of Elijah and Elisha (I Kings 17- II Kings 2) together this Spring. You may join us on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm in the Adult Sunday School Room or on Wednesday mornings at 9:30am in the Worship Center. Childcare will be available on Wednesday mornings so please indicate your need for childcare when you register. Our registration deadline is Wednesday, January 5th. If you already registered for the I Peter study in the Fall, no need to register again. Registration link can be found at hopechurchws.org/women.

Women's Wednesday Evening Study: All women are welcome to join us on January 12th, 2022, 7:30-9:00pm. We will dive into *Gentle and Lowly* by Dane Ortlund. We will meet weekly on Wednesday evenings in various homes. For more information, contact Sue Spainhour, spainhourj13@gmail.com.

Discovering Hope: This is our course on what it means to follow Jesus and participate as a member of a local church, and it is the next step for those who wish to become a member of Hope Church. We have two upcoming offerings:

1. **January 14th-15th**, a weekend version where we will cover everything in a Friday evening (7:30-9pm) and Saturday morning (9-11:30am)
2. **February 6th - March 13th**, a weekly version during the Sunday School hour, 10-10:45am.

Registration for both versions is available on our website (hopechurchws.org/discoveringhope) or the Church Center app.

Raising Study Kids Conference - January 14th-15th: Friendly Hills PCA is hosting Keith McCurdy, a family and parenting educator and consultant, for a weekend of teaching on such topics as "the correct role of emotions," "learning how to allow your child to struggle in healthy ways," "the goal of parenting," and more. Cost is \$60 per family and includes childcare and some meals/snacks. More information and registration can be found here: friendlyhillchurch.org/parenting-seminar.

Adult Sunday School: Beginning January 23rd, Rev. Tim Muse is leading a course on Proverbs. We'll meet in the Adult Education Room from 10-10:45am. Masks are required.

Youth Sunday School: Youth Sunday School will continue on January 23rd. We'll meet in the Youth Room from 10-10:45am. Masks are required.

Childcare During Sunday School Hour: Beginning January 23rd, indoor nursery childcare will be offered in room #101 during the 10:00-11:00am Sunday School hour. Masked volunteers will be serving. Please sign your child in on the computers prior to dropping off your child. If your child will be attending nursery during one of the worship services, you can click on both the worship service and Sunday School at the same time and only sign-in once.

Congregational Meeting: Please join us for a Congregational Meeting on January 30th, 2022. We will gather to vote upon new Deacons and Elders, to review the plans for the Pavilion Project, to receive an update on the 2022 Hope Church budget, and to hear about the Session's vision for reigniting ministry in the new year. More details will follow in the coming weeks.

Childcare During Worship Services: Please **reserve** your nursery spot for indoor childcare for infants-36 months. This is the best way to secure your nursery slot. As the church transitions to new schedules, availability will be adjusted according to weekly average attendance numbers and staffing availability. **We may not be able to accommodate those who do not pre-register.** Please be patient with us as we go through this transition process and determine the best way to serve our youngest members. A link to register can be found at hopechurchws.org/worship.

Prayer Requests: text **hopeprayers** to 94000 if you would like to send us your prayer requests.

Mother's Nursing Room: The indoor nursing room is available. For the safety of everyone, but especially these precious new babies, please use wise judgment concerning social distancing.

MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

Pat Abbott has continued to live and work in Uganda, partnering with Serge since 1993. She founded a discipleship ministry for women called Women of Proverbs. In addition to studying the Bible together, these women are also trained in sewing skills to create fabric goods to be sold in local markets. This past year one of her daughters (Kym) was able to get married which was a huge praise because weddings are very expensive in Uganda.

Prayer Requests: Pat is working to buy land for Kym and Gaso to live on and farm - pray that they are able to purchase the land quickly because the woman who owns it is very old. Pray for her girls (Kym and Lydia) as they continue in school and for Kym and Gaso as they navigate life as newlyweds. Pat also asks that we pray for wisdom for her and her missions partner Jenna as they figure out the future of the women's group - including how to pay the women who are sewing goods to sell in the market (sales have been "way down" as of late). Finally, Pat asks that we pray she is approved for Ugandan Residency so she doesn't have to pay for work permits every three years.

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