

HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

February 19th, 2023

“Consider the mighty ways in which God used a dead stick of wood. ‘God so used a stick of wood’ can be a banner cry for each of us. Though we are limited and weak in talent, physical energy and psychological strength, we are not less than a stick of wood. But as the rod of Moses had to become the rod of God, so that which is me must become the me of God. The Scripture emphasizes that much can come from little if the little is truly consecrated to God.”

Francis Schaeffer, “No Little People, No Little Places”

“Take these hands / Teach them what to carry

Take these hands / Don't make a fist

Take this mouth / So quick to criticize

Take this mouth / Give it a kiss

Yahweh, Yahweh / Always pain before a child is born

Yahweh, Yahweh / Still I'm waiting for the dawn”

U2, “Yahweh”

“For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong...”

1 Corinthians 1:26-27

CALL TO WORSHIP

Stand up and bless the LORD your God from everlasting to everlasting. Blessed be your glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise.

You are the LORD, you alone. You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and you preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you.

Nehemiah 9:5b-6

In Christ Alone

May the Mind of Christ, My Savior

CALL TO CONFESSION

Confession of Sin

Merciful God, we confess to you now that we have sinned. We confess the sins that no one knows and the sins that everyone knows. We confess the sins that are a burden to us, and the sins that do not bother us because we have grown used to them. We confess our sins as a church. We have not loved one another as Christ loved us. We have not forgiven one another as we have been forgiven. Father, forgive us. Have mercy on us, and make us whole. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of God's Pardoning Grace

Leader: Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

All: *Praise be to the Lord, for he has heard my cry for mercy.*

Proverbs 28:13 and Psalm 28:6

Laden with Guilt and Full of Fears

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

****Children ages 3-Kindergarten are dismissed for Worship Class. (8:30am)***

Welcome and Prayers of the People

Offering & Doxology

Life Together

Davis Mooney

PREACHING OF THE WORD

“Layers of Resistance and God's Gracious Provision”

Davis Mooney

¹ Then Moses answered, “But behold, they will not believe me or listen to my voice, for they will say, ‘The Lord did not appear to you.’” ² The Lord said to him, “What is that in your hand?” He said, “A staff.” ³ And he said, “Throw it on the ground.” So he threw it on the ground, and it became a serpent, and Moses ran from it. ⁴ But the Lord said to Moses, “Put out your hand and catch it by the tail”—so he put out his hand and caught it, and it became a staff in his hand— ⁵ “that they may believe that the Lord, the God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you.” ⁶ Again, the Lord said to him, “Put your hand inside your cloak.” And he put his hand inside his cloak, and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous like snow. ⁷ Then God said, “Put your hand back inside your cloak.” So he put his hand back inside his cloak, and when he took it out, behold, it was restored like the rest of his flesh. ⁸ “If they will not believe you,” God said, “or listen to the first sign, they may believe the latter sign. ⁹ If they will not believe even these two signs or listen to your voice, you shall take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground, and the water that you shall take from the Nile will become blood on the dry ground.”

¹⁰ But Moses said to the Lord, “Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue.” ¹¹ Then the Lord said to him, “Who has made man's mouth? Who makes him mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the Lord? ¹² Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall speak.” ¹³ But he said, “Oh, my Lord, please send someone else.” ¹⁴ Then the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses and he said, “Is there not Aaron, your brother, the Levite? I know that he can speak well. Behold, he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you, he will be glad in his heart. ¹⁵ You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth, and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth and will teach you both what to do. ¹⁶ He shall speak for you to the people, and he shall be your mouth, and you shall be as God to him. ¹⁷ And take in your hand this staff, with which you shall do the signs.”

Exodus 4:1-17

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.*

Jesus Paid It All

BENEDICTION

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Romans 15:13

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.

Prayer Requests: Fill out the online prayer card at <https://bit.ly/3BkKMis>.

LIFE TOGETHER

Ash Wednesday: Join us for our Ash Wednesday service on February 22nd at 7:00pm.

Marriage Weekend with The Barnabas Center - February 24-25: Heart to Heart is a course led by The Barnabas Center counselors, Ben Jones and Kristin Leathers, with biblically-based, story-filled lectures designed to set up guided conversations between husband and wife afterwards. Cost is \$100 per couple. On-site childcare will be available on Saturday. [>>Register Here](#)

Hope Kids Connection:

- **Hope Kids Camp:** We are excited to offer a new and fresh take on VBS this Summer at Hope. We are calling it Hope Kids Camp and will kick off the summer fun with dinner and games on July 16th. Mark your calendars and be on the lookout for more information about how you can get involved. If you have any questions, please reach out to [Katie Denton](#) or [Lisa Applegate](#).
- **Here's the new verse for the month of February.** [Exodus 15:2 Verse Link](#)
- **Countdown to Easter - Verse Chains:** Envelopes are available on the back bookshelf in the Worship Hall. They contain 40 paper chain links that can be created to make a "Countdown to Easter" chain. Each chain contains a short verse relating to Lent. Feel free to take one for your family.

First Wednesday Fellowship Remix - March 1st - New Start Time at 5:30pm! In conjunction with our First Wednesday Fellowship, this coming month, we will be having a Family Worship Service. Our Connections Coordinator and our Children's Director are working together to create a combined event. We'll kick things off at 5:30pm with a brief Family Worship Service. This service will be designed to teach our kids the elements of our Worship Service, in terms that they can comprehend. Dinner will be served following the service and will continue until 7:00pm. All ages are welcome to come at 5:30pm to support our families with young children. This is a beautiful way to support our larger family as a whole.

Souper Bowl: All women at Hope Church are invited to participate in a community service opportunity to support our local Samaritan Ministries on Friday, March 3rd. We will be making and serving soup to the overnight guests at Samaritan Inn. You may volunteer for the Prep and Cooking Team from 2-5pm or the Serving and Clean-up Team from 5-8pm. **The deadline to sign up is February 26th.** [>>Register Here](#)

- We are also fundraising for Samaritan Ministries. If you would like to make a donation on behalf of our team, [click here](#).

Great Wolf Lodge: All Middle Schoolers are invited to join us on March 3-4 for an overnight trip to Great Wolf Lodge. The cost is \$100 and scholarships are available. Space is limited so sign up today! [>>Register Here](#)

Upcoming Adult Sunday School Course: "Answering Defeaters": Tim Keller writes: "Every culture hostile to Christianity holds to a set of 'common-sense' consensus beliefs that automatically make Christianity seem implausible to people. These are what philosophers call 'defeater beliefs.'" Starting March 5th, we'll take 10 weeks to understand and unpack several "defeaters" of the Christian faith, including, "How Can a Good God Allow Suffering?"; "Doesn't Science Disprove Christianity?"; and "What about Genocide in the Bible?" The goal is to equip you to be able to understand the Christian faith more deeply so that you're able to confidently engage in hard conversations with your friends, family, coworkers, and neighbors. This course will be led by Ethan Smith.

The Gathering Hour: Women of Hope, please join us on Tuesday, March 7th at 9:30am for The Gathering Hour; a monthly morning of fellowship, with the purpose of connection. Coffee and nibbles will be provided and childcare is included. Friends and neighbors are welcome!

Men of Hope BBQ & Skeet Shooting - Saturday, March 18th, 12-2pm: We'd love for you to join our annual afternoon of skeet shooting and BBQ at Ahava Farm in Mt. Airy. Ammo and clay pigeons are provided, but you are welcome to bring your own firearm/ammunition. This event is free and open to friends, coworkers, and neighbors (and fathers are welcome to bring their sons!) [>>Register Here](#)

FINANCIAL STANDING AS OF FEBRUARY 13th, 2023				
	Actual	Budget	Difference	
Tithes & Offerings	\$99,160	\$124,988	\$ (25,828)	-20.66%
Expenses	\$99,407	\$117,056	\$ (17,649)	-15.08%
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (247)	\$ 7,932	\$ (8,179)	
Annual Ministry Budget: \$1,069,040				