

WELCOME TO NEW HOPE

We are so glad you found your way here today. To our members and returning visitors, welcome back! To those of you who are new, welcome! There are a couple of things you might like to know.

First, New Hope Presbyterian is a Bible-believing congregation seeking to worship and serve God in response to the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Second, we believe gathered worship is the central event in the church's life together: it restores and shapes our whole lives in the pattern of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We also recognize that for some of you this is the first time (or the first time in a long time) in a more structured service of worship that calls for you to participate so actively. Relax! Everything you need is both printed in the Worship Guide you are holding and up on the screen. We encourage you to turn off the auto-pilot and join us in vibrantly and enthusiastically praising God, confessing, singing, and hearing the Scriptures. Worship is for all of God's people. Enjoy the service!

Wi-Fi Network: NewHope, Password: "Letusin!"

We have hearing aid assist devices available in the Narthex. See an elder or volunteer.



Give to NHPCA on our website.

MEDITATION

Reflect on these words about the Incarnation of Christ:

If Christ had arrived with trumpets and lain in a cradle of gold, his birth would have been a splendid affair. But it would not be a comfort to me. He was rather to lie in the lap of a poor maiden and be thought of little significance in the eyes of the world. Now I can come to him. Now he reveals himself to the miserable in order not to give any impression that he arrives with great power, splendor, wisdom and aristocratic manners." — Martin Luther

WELCOME

PRELUDE: Adestes Fideles
John Francis Wade

— G O D ' S G L O R Y —

CALL TO WORSHIP

Mark 11:9b-10

 9 ..."Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! 10 Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!"

INVOCATION

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (TH 196)

- OUR GUILT-

READING OF THE LAW

Matthew 5:20, 48; 6:1, 33; 7:12

Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ:

- 20 ... unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴⁸ You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.
- ¹ Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. ³³ ... seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.
- ¹² So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Confess your sins to God:

Almighty God and heavenly Father, we poor miserable sinners confess that from our childhood, until this very hour we have sinned against your commandments by evil thoughts, words, will and works, which we cannot count, and first of all by vast unbelief. Therefore, we are not worthy to be called your children, nor lift our eyes up to heaven. O God and Father, we wish that we had never provoked your anger. In your mercy and for the sake of your glory, we ask you to receive us into your grace by the forgiveness of our sins. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

— G O D ' S G R A C E —

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

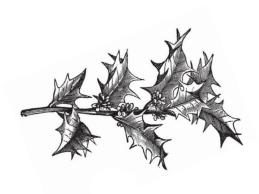
Ephesians 1:3-8

Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ:

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight[.]

CONGREGATIONAL SONG: Fullness of Grace

PASTORAL PRAYER OF INTERCESSION



- OUR GRATITUDE -

GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY: On Christmas Night Traditional English Carol, SUSSEX CAROL, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

On Christmas night all Christians sing, To hear the news the angels bring, News of great joy, news of great mirth, News of our merciful King's birth. When sin departs before Your grace, Then life and health come in its place.

Angels and men with joy may sing, All for to see the new-born King. All out of darkness we have light Which made the angels sing this night, "Glory to God and peace to men, Now and forevermore. Amen."



SERMON: "For Such a Worm as I"

Sola Gratia

Titus 2:11

Rev. Richard L. Burguet

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL: What Child Is This? (TH 213)

Guidelines for Reception of the Lord's Supper:

The Lord's Supper, also called "Communion" or "the Eucharist," is the ultimate family meal for Christians. We invite all followers of Jesus to partake of this sacrament— those who have believed the Good News, have repented of their sins, and are baptized members in good standing with the Lord's Church. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. We hope this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus and His people, the Church: "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself." - 1 Cor. 11:27-29

Reflection for Those Not Partaking:

Prayer for a Search for Truth: "Lord 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 me to the reality of who You are. Give me an understanding of You that is coherent, convincing, and that leads me into the life You promise."

Prayer for Awakening: "Lord Jesus, I have heard teaching from the Bible and have been in church for years, but very little of this seems real to me. Please show me the reality of what You are saying. Unnerve me with the bad news. Captivate me with the good news. Make what is familiar seem new."

Prayer for 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 to hope. I thank You for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the Cross, and offering me 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."

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-GOD COMMUNES WITH US-

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; And he shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*"Catholic" means universal- one church across all times, places, and peoples.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL: While by the Sheep We Watched at Night (TH 215)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERMON NOTES:	

SERMON REVIEW

"Don't Rush To The 'Good Stuff!'" (Matthew 1:1-19)

Last week we celebrated the first week of Advent, which celebrates the arrival of Christ and the ushering in of the new Covenant. Senior Pastor Richard Burguet said Matthew's Gospel reveals the genealogy of Christ and how the Bible alone—Sola Scriptura—shows Christ's promises fulfilled. As the only source of infallible revelation, the Bible is sufficient for Christian faith and practice. It is the lens through which we view truth, the standard since Old Testament days (see questions 1-6 in the Larger Catechism of the Westminster Confession of Faith). God's word is the only rule of faith and obedience and teaches the place of Sola Scriptura in our lives. Matthew opens his Gospel listing 46 names, from Abraham to Jesus, a period covering over 2,000 years. It was God's family tree, and he was precise in what the scriptures recorded. The people of Judah had waited impatiently over 400 years to hear from God. They felt God had forgotten them and that his Messianic prophecies and promises of the coming Messiah, his Kingship, and his Kingdom weren't going to be fulfilled. Matthew's overarching theme was that Jesus is the Sovereign King for whom all Creation has waited. Matthew has accurately preserved something that is so important to us- our faith, our being, and our salvation. He is saying we can trust the Word of God and its accuracy in pointing to Christ, the promised King. He purposely listed the genealogy in three sets of 14 generations because 14 had numerical value in Hebrew. David's name value is 14 and he is related to the promised king Jesus Christ, the Anointed One who is the Savior and the true Son of God. Matthew says we need to follow the truth in the Bible alone—Sola Scriptura—to know who Jesus is.

Waiting for the consolation of Israel. Luke 2:25

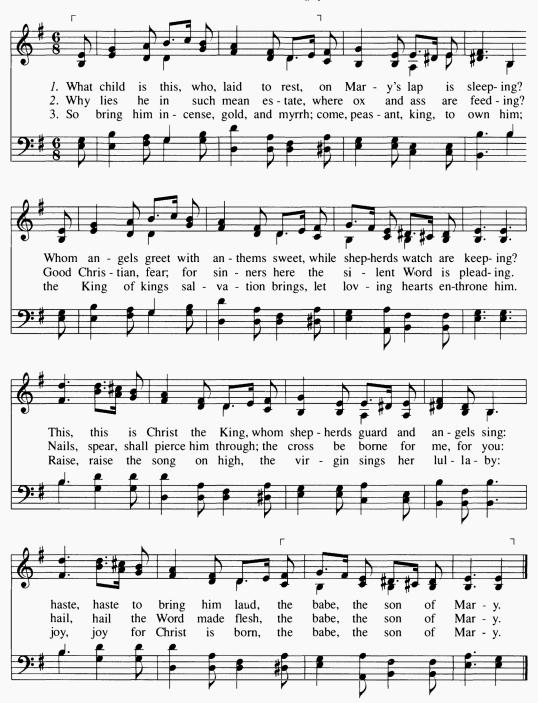


Fullness of Grace



Words & Music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend, @ 2004 Thankyou Music, CCLI License 11313046

Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? Matt. 2:2



With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. Is. 12:3



HISTORY OF HYMNS: "WHAT CHILD IS THIS"

C. Michael Hawn | June 19, 2013 | umcdiscipleship.org

What child is this who, laid to rest, On Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, While shepherd's watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Haste, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the son of Mary.

GREENSLEEVES, the tune for which this text was probably written, is one of the most beautiful and beloved melodies of the season.

Though not exclusively a Christmas tune, its association with this season goes back to at least 1642, where it is paired with the Waits' carol, "The old year now away is fled." Shakespeare refers twice to GREENSLEEVES in his play *Merry Wives of Windsor*, helping to date it in the 16th century.

William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898), an Anglican layman, was the son of a surgeon in Bristol, England. He spent most of his life as a businessman, working as a manager for the Maritime Insurance Company in Glasgow, Scotland. We know of his church affiliation only through his hymns that were published in Altar Songs, Verses on the Holy Eucharist, and A Vision of All Saints.

Hymnologist Albert Bailey notes that some of Dix's hymns are "horribly sentimental," but on the whole says, "his hymns are simple, reverent, sincere, imaginative, not above the average comprehension, and two of them at least have proved to be continuously serviceable." In addition to "What child is this," Dr. Bailey is referring to "As with gladness men of old," an Epiphany hymn.

Stanza one, influenced by the Romantic poets of his day, perhaps skirts the edges of sentimentality. Beginning with a rhetorical question, "What child is this?" the poet condenses Luke 2:8-16 into a single stanza, painting a picture of a classic Nativity scene with the Christ Child sleeping on "Mary's lap" while angels sing "anthems sweet" and shepherds "watch are keeping."

Stanza two makes fleeting reference to the less than ideal conditions—"mean estate"—under which the idyllic scene of the previous stanza is situated. Like stanza one, the poet begins with a rhetorical question, "Why lies he in such mean estate?" In essence, he asks why the Christ Child should be in such a humble setting "where ox and ass are feeding." The original second half of this stanza [found in the Trinity Hymnal but not in others], provides a more complete response to this question:

Nails, spear shall pierce him through; The cross he bore for me, for you; Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the Son of Mary!

Dix's answer to the reason for the "mean estate" under which Christ was born lies in his future suffering on the cross. Possibly Dix knew the Waits' New Year's carol mentioned earlier. The second stanza of this carol written over a century earlier also alludes to the suffering of Christ:

The name day now of Christ we keep, Who for our sins did often weep; His hands and feet were wounded deep, And his blessed side with a spear...

In the final stanza, the poet expands the circle of those attending this humble scene. Drawing from the Epiphany season and the gifts brought by the magi, we take our place at the manger, bringing metaphorical gifts of "incense, gold, and myrrh." This is a setting that defies the conventional class structures of the time; the invitation is open to both the "peasant" and "king." In a sentiment that is very common in hymnody, "the King of kings" will be "enthrone[d]" in "loving hearts."

Dr. C. Michael Hawn was director of the sacred music program at Perkins School of Theology and is now retired as Professor Emeritus of Church Music.

PRAY THIS WEEK:

MISSIONS PARTNERS: From Fred and Sheila Reid (Alive Again Ministries in Tokyo): "Please pray that we can raise \$45k by the end of the year (\$15k to make our deficit for 2025 and the rest for a stable 2026). Our Japanese friends are blown away when they find out that we are sustained by the sacrificial financial giving of Christian friends like you. Your act of love, which is upholding Sheila and me and our ministry financially, is a Witness of Grace and Love to our neighbors, including our landlord, the Yamazaki family! Because of your continued partnership, we are able share the Gospel of God's Grace in a place where giving is rare and Christians are even rarer." (Check New Hope's newsletter for a link to give to Fred and Sheila and a short video update.)

NEW HOPE: For our Living Nativity to be a fun and safe event with good weather, and that the Spirit will use it to do a good work in our community by reaching many who have never heard the Gospel.

LAKESIDE COVENANT: For Lakeside as they elect elders and near the end of the process of particularization.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH OF KHERSON, UKRAINE: For God's continued protection and provision for Vova, Max and his family, and the Holy Trinity Church family, and preservation of the church building. That as the war drags on, seemingly endlessly, you'll give those who have remained there strength and courage to continue to endure and serve those around them.

YEAR-TO-DATE GIVING

General Fund

(Budget)	(\$436,932)
Contributions	\$442,002

IMAGES

Cover: Stained glass window depicting crown of thorns and nails. High Street United Methodist Church in Muncie, Indiana. Ca. 1930. Artist unknown.

Page 5: "Holly or Mexican holly." Engraving. Date Unknown. Via alamy.com

Page 6: Border Illustration from <u>Love is Enough</u>. Engraving. 1872. The Birmingham Museum.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Randy Somers
- 8 Sue Vibert
- 10 Maddee Mosley
- 11 Michael Hamel, Richard Burguet
- 15 Howard Yates
- 19 Linda McMillin
- 21 Clara Matulia
- 25 David Kelly, James Overfield
- 26 Christi Stormant
- 27 Leon Libby
- 28 Nathalie (Rosel) Stager
- 30 Matthew Johnson

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Shane and Jennifer Overfield
- 4 Kevin and Rebekah Beary
- 19 Dave and Linda Wieboldt
- 20 Theresa and Wes Ohland
- 23 Randal and Vianne Stormant
- 29 Bill and Elaine Haley



TEACHING ELDER:

Rev. Richard L. Burguet, Senior Pastor

MINISTRY STAFF:

Dr. Randall Van Meggelen, Music Director Tina Van Meggelen, Children's Director Lyndsey Coyle, Administrator Olga Kolpakova, Accompanist

RULING ELDERS:

Dr. David All, Clerk of Session
Ryan Stormant, Treasurer
Dr. Jim Barnes
Franz Frank
Kenn Hall
Dr. John Minatelli
Ashley Minnig
Dan Rick

DEACONS:

Bob Peyton, Chairman
Bill Haley, Secretary
Bill Brownlee
Mike DiGiacomo
Shane Overfield
Dan Read
Edmund Swearingen