HOPE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

## November 29, 2026

*Welcome one another*
*as Christ has welcomed you,*
*for the glory of God.*

Romans 15:7

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THIS WEEKEND

- **HANGING OF THE GREENS**: Our annual church decorating event will take place this Saturday (Nov 28) at **9:00AM**. Everyone is invited (*and yes, especially the men!)* to come help us deck the foyer and fellowship hall for Christmas! No experience necessary — just bring a cheerful spirit, willing hands, and a little Christmas enthusiasm. Please come lend a hand and help us get our church ready for the Christmas season. We'd love to have you join us! Many hands make light work!

## THIS SUNDAY

- **SUNDAY SCHOOL**: Join us at **9:30AM** before the worship service: youth downstairs and adults upstairs (*this week is a Q&A time*).
- **POTLUCK FELLOWSHIP**: Everyone is invited to join us for food and fellowship after the service downstairs in the fellowship hall.
- **EVENING SERVICE:** Please join us for a festive *carol sing* at **5:30PM**.

## THIS COMING WEEK

- **BIBLE STUDY**: We will continue our study of Paul's letter to the Romans next **Tuesday** (Dec 1) at **7:00PM**. Everyone is invited to participate, either in person (in the upstairs classroom) or online via Zoom (see the weekly Tuesday email for the Zoom link).
- **MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST**: Next **Saturday** (Dec 5) at **8:00AM**.

## THE FOLLOWING WEEK

- **SUNDAY SCHOOL**: We will be on break for the month of December.

- **POTLUCK FELLOWSHIP**: Everyone is invited to join us for food and fellowship after the service downstairs in the fellowship hall. Next Sunday (**Dec 6**) will have a special *International Fellowship* lunch theme. Bring your favorite foods from your favorite countries. See the signup sheet on the dessert table downstairs.
- **HOPE YOUNG ADULTS**: We meet every other Thursday. Our next meeting will be at **7:00PM** on **December 10** at the Boudreaux home. Contact Mackenzie for information.

**COMING UP**

- **MEMORIAL SERVICE**: For *Sandy Holton* on Saturday, **December 19**, at **11:00AM**.
- **CHRISTMAS RIP-OFF**: Join us for a beloved annual tradition: the Craig Vick Memorial Christmas Rip-Off on Saturday, **December 19**! The evening kicks off at **6:00PM** with delicious finger foods, followed by our hilariously unpredictable "rip-off" gift exchange. To participate, simply bring a wrapped gift valued at $15 or less — and be prepared for the very real possibility that your present might be snatched away! Family and friends are very welcome, so come ready for laughter, a little mischief, and plenty of holiday cheer! *NOTE: Since this is a family-friendly gathering with everyone from children to adults, we kindly ask that gifts be appropriate for all ages. Please do not bring alcohol or tobacco products as gifts*.
- **SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS**: Thursday, **December 24** at **6:00PM**.

# MORNING WORSHIP

## SILENT PRAYER & INVOCATION

## GREETING

MINISTER: Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God our Father and our Creator, from Christ Jesus our Lord and our Savior, and from the Holy Spirit our Helper and our Comforter.

**PEOPLE:** **Amen!**

## CALL TO WORSHIP *Psalm 27:1, 4, 14*

## SONGS OF PRAISE

*"Gloria Patri"* *#734*

**Glory be to the Father,**
**and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:**
**As it was in the beginning,**
**is now, and ever shall be,**
**World without end. Amen. Amen.**

*"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"* *#196*

**Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,**
**born to set Thy people free;**
**From our fears and sins release us;**
**let us find our rest in Thee.**
**Israel's Strength and Consolation,**
**hope of all the earth Thou art,**
**Dear Desire of ev'ry nation,**
**joy of every longing heart.**

**Joy to those who long to see Thee,**
**Dayspring from on high, appear;**
**Come, Thou promised Rod of Jesse,**
**of Thy birth we long to hear!**
**O'er the hills the angels singing**
**news, glad tidings of a birth;**
**"Go to Him, your praises bringing;**
**Christ the Lord has come to earth."**

**Come to earth to taste our sadness,**
**he whose glories knew no end;**
**By His life He brings us gladness,**
**our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.**
**Leaving riches without number,**
**born within a cattle stall;**
**This the everlasting wonder,**
**Christ was born the Lord of all.**

**Born Thy people to deliver,**
**born a child and yet a King,**
**Born to reign in us forever,**
**now Thy gracious kingdom bring.**
**By Thine own eternal Spirit**
**rule in all our hearts alone;**
**By Thine all sufficient merit,**
**raise us to Thy glorious throne.**

Words for stanzas 1&4 by Charles Wesley (1744).
Words for stanzas 2&3 by Mark E Hunt (1978).
Music by Rowland Hugh Pritchard (1855).
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## SUMMONS TO REPENTANCE

*Matthew 7:22–27*

## CONFESSING OUR SIN

**Our holy Triune God, Creator and King, Lord and Judge of all, we come before you and throw our good works at your feet. In our sin we are workers of lawlessness, hearing your words but not doing them. Let us not boast in our deeds, but instead look in repentance and faith to Jesus Christ and His saving work on our behalf. And so may our spiritual house be built on the Rock that is Jesus, able to stand not in our own strength but because we are rooted to our Savior. Grant that by your Spirit we may produce the fruit of righteousness for your glory. Amen.**

## SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

IN THESE MOMENTS, WE SILENTLY CONFESS OUR PERSONAL SINS TO GOD SO THAT WE MAY TAKE HOLD OF THE FORGIVENESS WON FOR US BY CHRIST, OUR REDEEMER.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Psalm 32:5*

## SINGING GOD'S GRACE

*"Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"* *#197*

**Comfort, comfort ye my people,**
**speak ye peace, thus saith our God;**
**comfort those who sit in darkness,**
**mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.**
**Speak ye to Jerusalem**
**of the peace that waits for them;**
**tell her that her sins I cover,**
**and her warfare now is over.**

**Yea, her sins our God will pardon,**
**blotting out each dark misdeed;**
**all that well deserved his anger**
**he no more will see or heed.**
**She hath suffered many a day**
**now her griefs have passed away;**

**God will change her pining sadness**
**into ever-springing gladness.**

**For the herald's voice is crying**
**in the desert far and near,**
**bidding all men to repentance,**
**since the kingdom now is here.**
**O that warning cry obey!**
**Now prepare for God a way;**
**let the valleys rise to meet him,**
**and the hills bow down to greet him.**

**Make ye straight what long was crooked,**
**make the rougher places plain;**
**let your hearts be true and humble,**
**as befits his holy reign.**
**For the glory of the Lord**
**now o'er earth is shed abroad;**
**and all flesh shall see the token,**
**that his word is never broken.**

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Translated by Catherine Winkworth (1863).
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## WE CONFES S OUR FAITH

*Scripture Statements of Faith*

**The LORD our God, the LORD is one** *(Deut 6:4)***. Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God** *(Matt 16:16)***. He has the words of eternal life; and we have believed, and have come to know, that He is the Holy One of God** *(John 6:68–69)***. And this is of first importance, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures** *(1 Cor 15:3–7)***. This Jesus who, though He was in the form of God, did not count**

**equality with God a thing to be grasped, emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father** *(Phil 2:6–11)***. Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of our religion: He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated in the Spirit, seen by angels, preached among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory** *(1 Tim 3:16)***.**

## SCRIPTURE READING

*Genesis 12:1–9*

1 Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and
your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will
show you. 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will
bless you and make your name great, so that you will be
a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who
dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of
the earth shall be blessed."

4 So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went
with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he
departed from Haran. 5 And Abram took Sarai his wife,
and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that
they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in
Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan.
When they came to the land of Canaan, 6 Abram passed
through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of
Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land.
7 Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your

offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. 8 From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. 9 And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

"*See, amid the Winter's Snow*" *#199 (verses 1–3)*

**See, amid the winter's snow,**
**born for us on earth below,**
**see the tender Lamb appears,**
**promised from eternal years.**

***Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!***
***Hail, redemption's happy dawn!***
***Sing through all Jerusalem,***
***Christ is born in Bethlehem.***

**Lo, within a manger lies**
**he who built the starry skies:**
**he who, throned in height sublime,**
**sits amid the cherubim.**

***Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!***
***Hail, redemption's happy dawn!***
***Sing through all Jerusalem,***
***Christ is born in Bethlehem.***

**Say, ye holy shepherds, say —**
**what's your joyful news today?**
**Wherefore have ye left your sheep**
**on the lonely mountain steep?**

***Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!***
***Hail, redemption's happy dawn!***
***Sing through all Jerusalem,***
***Christ is born in Bethlehem.***

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## PRAYER

*Russia (prayercast.com):* From Swan Lake to the works of Tolstoy and Dostoevsky, Russia has shaped both classical performing arts and world literature. As the largest country on Earth, the Russian Federation covers over 6.6 million square miles and includes eleven time zones. Its vast landscape features deserts and tundras, remote villages and cityscapes painted with colorful, domed palaces and cathedrals. Over 100 different languages are spoken across more than 190 ethnic groups, who preserve unique traditions. Tatars maintain their Turkic roots through their distinctive cuisine and Islamic beliefs, while Chechens live in clan-like communities and perform traditional dances like the Lezginka. Russia was the backbone of the USSR for more than 70 years, and is ruled today by one of the world's most powerful leaders, Vladimir Putin.

With the memories of Communist rule still fresh and the scars of oppression still healing, Russians continue to search for a future amid the lingering shadows of the Soviet Union. Today, Russia is a source, destination, and transit route for human trafficking. Millions, especially those in rural communities, live in poverty and tens of thousands of children are orphans. Narcotic and opioid use contributes to the spread of HIV/AIDS through shared needles. Russia's invasion of Ukraine has deeply impacted the nation. Thousands of Russians have left the nation in opposition, while those who stay await the return of family members at war. The government has increased its defense spending,

and inflation levels have risen, contributing to hardships for low-income communities.

While a majority of Russians are Orthodox, 25% identify as atheist or non-religious. Though the nation has a long history with the Christian Church, believers suffered immense persecution under the former Communist regime that destroyed many churches. Today, church attendance has risen, but persecution is on the rise again. Non-Russian Orthodox churches, such as evangelical Protestant congregations, have been denied registration and are viewed with suspicion. The Yarovaya laws passed in 2016 restrict and regulate missionary activity. More Bible teachers are desperately needed to provide sound doctrine despite these barriers. Only God, manifested through the Body of Christ, can bring the hope and deliverance this nation seeks.

- Pray for Russians to seek Christ's peace, truth, and justice.
- Pray for transformed leadership that upholds freedom of expression and human dignity.
- Pray for hope in Jesus for those struggling with addiction and poverty.
- Pray for shared vision for reaching Muslims with the Gospel.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MINISTER'S PRAYER,
THE CONGREGATION SHALL PRAY TOGETHER:

**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.**

## SERMON TEXT

*Hebrews 11:8–16*

8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to
a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went
out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he went to
live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents
with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise.
10 For he was looking forward to the city that has
foundations, whose designer and builder is God. 11 By faith
Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she
was past the age, since she considered him faithful who
had promised. 12 Therefore from one man, and him as good
as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of
heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by
the seashore.

13 These all died in faith, not having received the things
promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar,
and having acknowledged that they were strangers and
exiles on the earth. 14 For people who speak thus make it
clear that they are seeking a homeland. 15 If they had been
thinking of that land from which they had gone out,
they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But as it is,
they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one.
Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God,
for he has prepared for them a city.

## SERMON

*"Faith Going Home"*

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken" #345

**Glorious things of thee are spoken,**
**Zion, city of our God;**
**he whose word cannot be broken**
**formed thee for his own abode:**
**on the Rock of Ages founded,**
**what can shake thy sure repose?**
**With salvation's walls surrounded,**
**thou may'st smile at all thy foes.**

**See, the streams of living waters,**
**springing from eternal love,**
**well supply thy sons and daughters,**
**and all fear of want remove;**
**who can faint, while such a river**
**ever flows their thirst t'assuage? —**
**grace which, like the Lord, the giver,**
**never fails from age to age.**

**Round each habitation hov'ring,**
**see the cloud and fire appear**
**for a glory and a cov'ring,**
**showing that the Lord is near:**
**thus deriving from their banner**
**light by night and shade by day,**
**safe they feed upon the manna**
**which he gives them when they pray.**

**Savior, if of Zion's city**
**I, through grace, a member am,**
**let the world deride or pity,**
**I will glory in thy name:**

**fading is the worldling's pleasure,**
**all his boasted pomp and show;**
**solid joys and lasting treasure**
**none but Zion's children know.**

Words by John Newton (1779). Music by Franz Joseph Haydn (1797).
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## THE LORD'S SUPPER

PLEASE **HOLD** ELEMENTS UNTIL **ALL** ARE SERVED.
**WHITE GRAPE JUICE** IS IN THE TRAYS.
**GLUTEN-FREE BREAD** IS IN THE BOWL IN THE **CENTER** OF THE TRAYS.

MINISTER: Lift up your hearts.
**PEOPLE: We lift them up to the Lord.**

## GRATEFUL OFFERINGS

*"See, amid the Winter's Snow"* *#199 (verses 4–6)*

**"As we watched at dead of night,**
**lo, we saw a wondrous light;**
**angels singing, 'Peace on earth,'**
**told us of the Savior's birth."**

***Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!***
***Hail, redemption's happy dawn!***
***Sing through all Jerusalem,***
***Christ is born in Bethlehem.***

**Sacred infant, all divine,**
**what a tender love was thine,**
**thus to come from highest bliss**
**down to such a world as this!**

***Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!***
***Hail, redemption's happy dawn!***
***Sing through all Jerusalem,***
***Christ is born in Bethlehem.***

**Teach, O teach us, holy child,**
**by thy face so meek and mild,**
**teach us to resemble thee,**
**in thy sweet humility.**

***Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!***
***Hail, redemption's happy dawn!***
***Sing through all Jerusalem,***
***Christ is born in Bethlehem.***

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*"Doxology"* *#733*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**
**praise him, all creatures here below;**
***alleluia, alleluia!***
**Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;**
**praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost;**
***alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

Words by Thomas Ken (1709; alt.).
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## BENEDICTION

*Hebrews 13:20–21*

*"Angels We Have Heard on High" (refrain)* *#214*

***Glo—ria in excelsis Deo.***
***Glo—ria in excelsis Deo.***

**CHURCH INFORMATION:**

10936 NE 24th Street, Bellevue, WA 98004

*office@hopepreschurch.org*

(425) 454-1247

*www.HopePresChurch.org*

*www.sermonaudio.com/HopePresChurch*

*www.facebook.com/HopePresChurch*

"HopePCA" (password: Gloria734)

**LEADERSHIP:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Pastor: | Rev. Martin Hedman: *martin@hopepreschurch.org* |
| Intern: | Mackenzie Boudreaux: *mbdrx70@hotmail.com* |
| Ruling Elders: | Jim Sherwin: *jim@hopepreschurch.org*<br>Chris LaBonte: *chris@hopepreschurch.org* |
| Deacons: | Ben Anderson, Harry Satterfield, Don Shorno, Brad Smith, Henk van Nieuwenhuyzen: *deacons@hopepreschurch.org* |
| Christian Education: | Jan Anderson: *herbofgrace@gmail.com* |
| Women in Church: | Kathleen Hedman: *kshedman@yahoo.com* |