HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday December 15th, 2024

Welcome

We believe that God uses our time in corporate worship to conform us. He is like a master craftsman, and we are his work of art. God is the one who invites us to worship him and in doing so we commune with the Father in Christ through the power of His Holy Spirit. We find a specific flow of worship in Scripture, so our liturgy is based on a pattern that has been followed throughout Scripture and church history. We see that God speaks, and we respond.

Remembering God's Presence - God's grace initiates an invitation to worship. We remember that God is holy and glorious, and it is by grace that we are invited into his presence.

Remembering God's Grace - Since we are ushered into God's holy presence, we are made aware of our sin. We are reminded that our sin is forgiven in Christ, so we approach our God as his children. So we can be honest with him about our failures and be assured of his mercy.

Renewal in Christ as Prophet - God speaks to us through the Word of God proclaimed. The Holy Spirit uses this time to convict, rebuke, and encourage. This is a divine encounter with the true and living God.

Renewal in Christ as Priest - In this meal, we are strengthened and nourished by the Spirit of Christ. We commune with God himself and with one another. This is not a time for mere commemoration, but God is at work in our hearts as we partake.

Renewal in Christ as King - Christ the King sends us out to be a missional presence in the world. We are assured of his presence as we seek to live in our communities with Christ as our king.

This worship pattern is both biblical and spiritual formative. We invite you to participate actively in worship or to just listen and observe at your discretion.

We would love to meet you and answer any questions you may have. Be sure to stop by the Welcome table after the service or reach out to us at info@hopecc.church.

Exploring?

Do you have questions about the Christian faith?

Do you desire to learn more about the person and work of Jesus Christ?

Do you wonder why we, a beautiful and messy community, love and are so committed to a local church?

Do you wrestle with intellectual barriers that make belief seem implausible, even irresponsible?

Do you struggle to reconcile a good God with a hurting world?

We recognize that you may have questions. That's why:

• We want to create a welcoming place where you feel comfortable coming with your questions and doubts.

• We seek to be a community where you can belong before you believe.

• We believe that God draws both the convinced and unconvinced to worship.

• We desire to listen to skeptics. We do not listen to respond, but we listen to hear the doubts and questions.

• We long to speak and show you how the love of Jesus Christ and a local church has changed us.

I would love to take you out to lunch and discuss with you how the gospel has changed my life, listen to your story, and try to answer your questions. Please reach out to me @ jc@hopecc.church.

Remembering God's Presence

Please stand.

The call to worship is a reminder that God is the great initiator. He is the one calling us into His presence

Bold text is read together by the congregation. Plain text is read by the leader. Responsive readings remind us that during corporate worship God speaks to his people and we respond together as a community.

CALL TO WORSHIP - 2 SAMUEL 22: 7 & PSALM 143:1

Minister: In your distress, call upon the Lord your God. From his temple he will hear your voice, and your cry will come to his ears.

All: Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my pleas for mercy! In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!

SONG OF ADORATION

Joy to the World

WORDS & MUSIC BY: Isaac Watts; Lowell Mason

Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her king
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and heaven and nature sing

Joy to the world the savior reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found
Far as the curse is found
Far as, far as the curse is found

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders of His love

SONG OF PREPARATION

Angels from the Realms of Glory
WORDS & MUSIC BY: James Montgomery; Henry Smart

Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story
now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.

Shepherds, in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
yonder shines the infant light:

Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.

Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star.

Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.

Remembering God's Grace

Please be seated.

The call to repentance is an opportunity to remember God's grace and the goodness of the gospel as we confess our sins to Him.

CALL TO REPENTANCE

Prepare the way of the Lord!
Let us make our confession to God.

PRAYER OF REPENTANCE

Lord Christ, we confess our willingness to be loved
but also our reluctance to love.
We confess our readiness to accept your forgiving love
but also our refusal to forgive.
We confess our eagerness to grasp your offer of redeeming love
but also our resistance to follow you without question.
In this Advent time, forgive us our failure
to respond as we should.
Come to us anew, and by your grace, assist us to receive you with joy,
as the shepherds; with gratitude,
as Simeon; with obedience,
as Mary; with love, as you have loved us.
Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Amen

Silent Confession

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS - ROMANS 5:1-5

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

SONG OF ASSURANCE

COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS
WORDS & MUSIC BY: CHARLES WESLEY

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 every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

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.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S CLASS
(At the parents' discretion, children up to 3rd grade may go to a class designed for them or remain in the service.)

God uses His Word to speak to us.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 Peter 1:18-19

18 knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, **19** but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

Reader: The Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON **REV. J.C. BAYSINGER**

The Spirit uses His Word as a powerful means of nourishing and comforting God's people, and awakening people to new faith.

The 5th Gospel

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;
2 it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.
3 Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
4 Say to those who have an anxious heart,
"Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God
will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
He will come and save you."
5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
6 then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
7 the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
8 And a highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
9 No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
10 And the ransomed of the Lord shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Notes

Faith Seeking Understanding:

1. What does Isaiah's question, 'Who are you going to trust?', reveal about our tendency to rely on human solutions during crises?
2. In what ways can trusting in God impact our daily decisions compared to trusting in worldly things?
3. In what ways can you be an encouragement to one another? In what ways are you willing to receive encouragement?
4. How does the assurance of salvation comfort you?
5. How is the gospel connected with joy? How might the gospel bring you joy?

All we have is given to us by God. Our offerings express this joyful dependance and our commitment to join God in his work of renewal.

CHILDREN'S CLASS/NURSERY
(Parents are now excused to pick up their children and have them join us for the rest of worship.)

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel."
— LUKE 2:29-32

PRAYER OF FAITH

OFFERING

SONG OF PREPARATION

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Words & Music by: JM Neale; Thomas Helmore

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny
From depths of hell Thy people save
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel

O come Thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel

O come, Thou Key of David, come
And open wide our heavenly home.
Make safe the way that leads on high
And close the path to misery

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel

SURSUM CORDA

Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Minister: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.
Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PRAYER FOR THE SACRAMENT

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Minister: Therefore, let us proclaim the mystery of faith.
People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.
Minister: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.
People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

INVITATION

Minister: These are the Gifts of God, for the People of God. Feed on him in your hearts by faith, and with thanksgiving.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP
(Directions for taking communion are on pages 14-15)

PASSING THE PEACE
Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: And also with you.

Sursum Corda is Latin for "lift up your hearts." One of the oldest liturgical pieces still in use, it calls us to be heavenly-minded and summons us into the Lord's presence. Along with the voices around you, hear the echo of 2,000 years of worshiping Christians who have gone before.

Communion (i.e., the Lord's Supper or Eucharist) is a covenant renewal meal instituted by Jesus the night before his crucifixion. It points back to the cross, forward to the return of the King, but also, when we receive it in faith, it is true fellowship with King Jesus,

SONG OF BLESSING

O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL
WORDS & MUSIC BY: John Francis Wade; Tr. Frederick Oakeley;

O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

BENEDICTION

The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.

THE DISMISSAL

Minister: Go in Peace

NEXT AT HOPE

Christmas Party
Sunday, 12/15/2024, 5:00 pm
The Arrowoods
2770 E. Wyatt Way
Gilbert, AZ 85297
Gate Code: #1776

CHRISTMAS EVE
Join us on December 24th at 3:30 pm for Lessons and Carols. The nursery will not be available for the afternoon service, but kids are welcome to attend.

YTD	Budgeted	Actual	Difference
Internal Giving	$81,250	$69,549	-$11,171
Expenses	$97,317	$87,031	-$-10,286

To stay up to date on all our activities or add your name and contact information, sign up with Church Center at faithhopelove.churchcenter.com

STAFF
J.C. Baysinger | Pastor |jc@hopecc.church

CONTACT
www.hopecc.church
480-269-4517

DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

Directions for taking communion:
Hope Community Church welcomes all baptized believers who are trusting in Jesus Christ for salvation and understand the meaning of the Lord's Supper to eat with us. Please note that we use wine for Communion; if you prefer non-alcoholic grape juice, the grape juice is white, and the wine is red. Our bread is gluten-free.

When and how to come forward for communion:
Starting with the first row, walk towards the center aisle and come forward. Once you have received the elements, please wait till all have been served, and we will partake together.

A Word to Parents:
Children are welcome at the communion table. To receive the Lord's Supper, a child must have been baptized and been formally received as a communing member at Hope Community Church or the governing body of the church to which you belong. If you have any questions about how the process works, please contact Pastor J.C. Send him an email at jc@hopecc.church

Children may take the wine at their parents' discretion.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE NOT COMMUNING

(Hope Community Church is not only for those who are committed followers of Jesus Christ, but also for those who are curious, skeptical, unsure, etc. Our desire is for you to feel that you belong, even if you are unsure if you believe that Jesus is Lord.)

PRAYERS FOR THOSE SEARCHING FOR TRUTH

Lord, I am restless, and I am unsure why. I have desires that have no explanation. I am thirsty, but nothing seems to satisfy. I am hungry, but I can never get enough. I am restless. Please help me to understand and trust that you are my rest. Reveal yourself to me and show me that you are the way, the truth, and the life. I am restless; help me find my rest in you.

PRAYERS OF BELIEF

Lord, I am convicted that I am a sinner in need of forgiveness. Forgive me for sinning against you in thought, word, and deed. Enable me to turn from trusting in my own efforts to trusting in you. Thank you for taking the punishment my sins deserved on the cross and by giving me new life in Christ, forgiveness of sins, and a righteousness that is not my own. Just as you raised Jesus Christ from the dead, I ask that you give me new life in him. Empower me to love you with my heart, soul, mind, and strength and my neighbor as myself. Help me to follow you in baptism and live as a committed disciple to you by faith in the power of your Spirit.

Prayer Requests and Comments

We want to pray for you and hear your comments, suggestions, and praises. Please write them in the space below.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Name:_____

I would like to speak with someone about the prayer request or other concerns. Please contact me at:

(_____)_____

Day Evening

Please hand this card in at the welcome table.

We Are Glad You Are Here Today!

We know it can be hard to connect with a new church. We want to help you in any way we can. Feel free to fill out the tear-off card and return it to the welcome table. Don't hesitate to check the box to meet with our pastor to help you learn more about HCC. We are here to serve you.

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Children: _____

_____

_____

Address: _____

_____

_____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Spouse Cell: _____

Spouse Email: _____

☐ Please add me to the church directory.

☐ Please add me to the church email list.

Please Let Us Know If You Are:

☐ First Time Visitor

☐ Repeat Visitor

Please Contact Me About:

☐ Joining a Community Group

☐ Membership at Hope

☐ Meeting with a Pastor

☐ Getting Involved

Hope Community Church

Our Vision: At Hope Community Church, we are a worshiping community of believers in Jesus Christ who are committed to developing our faith in him, depending on the hope he offers in the gospel, and deepening our love for Him and our neighbors.

Developing Faith-Everybody expresses faith to some degree. The question is, where is that faith directed? Are you banking on yourself, your family, science, the good of humanity, or are you ultimately depending on Christ? The beauty of the gospel is that when we begin to trust in Jesus, everything changes. We believe living by faith means moving into a realm whereby we are uncertain of ourselves but more confident of God and his faithfulness. As our faith increases, we become more like Christ as we seek to follow him.

Depending on Hope-As we express faith in Christ, we also depend on hope in the gospel. One Christian thinker puts it this way, "all hope must rest on something, but the key question is whether God and his scriptural promises are that foundation on which we find refuge by the power of the Spirit." One of the purposes of our church is to point people to the true source of hope, Jesus Christ.

Deepening in Love- As we develop our faith and depend on hope, our love for God and one another will increase. Our motive for loving others, not only those like us, but those who are radically different than us, is to glorify God in obedience to the gospel.

STAFF

J.C. Baysinger | Pastor |jc@hopecc.church

CONTACT

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