

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2016



Crafts, snacks and caroling – 3pm
Worship – 4pm



www.riverofhopehutchinson.org

Gathering

Music to Prepare Us for Worship

Gathering Songs

O Come, All Ye Faithful

The First Noel

Away in a Manger

All kids are invited up front to sing the first verse. The congregation will join in on the 2nd and 3rd verses. The kids may remain up front for the entire song.

Welcome, Worship 101, Bells, Connection Cards

No Longer Strangers Prayer

Blessed be God the Word, who came to his own and his own people did not accept him. It is in this way God glorifies the stranger.

O God, show us your image in all who we meet, especially those we call stranger or other. Show us that when we welcome them, we welcome you. Amen

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the community of the Holy Spirit is with you all.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray: God of rejoicing, you dare to send your son to be born into this mess of a world you love to liberate us, to turn the whole world upside down. Help us to look for you and not earthly power or authority. You are the savior of the world. Give us joyful hearts to rejoice in this news. It is your love that changes everything. Amen.

The Story

We 3(re) Kings? They're Here, Already?!

Rejoice! A message for Mary - based on Luke 1:26-38

Angels We Have Heard on High

Rejoice! Jesus comes to us – based on Luke 2:1-14

Joy to the World

Rejoice! The Shepherds Seek Jesus – based on Luke 2:15-20

*Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow
Good Christian Friend, Rejoice*

The Feast

Offering

All that we have and all that we are comes from God. Let us give back to God in a spirit of generosity. There will be enough. Please put your offering of gratitude to God in the plate as it passes by. Prayerfully consider giving a consistent financial gift to River of Hope so our community cannot just survive but thrive.

Music During Offering

The watering can is to collect offering to then give to Common Cup and to Bread for the World. Any money you place in the offering plates as they are passed will be received by River of Hope to further the ministry of getting the church out of the building and into the community.

Kids are invited to help set the table. Meet Pastor Laura at the back of the worship space to help bring the gifts of bread and wine to the table.

Setting the Table

As the kids help set the table, they make a circle around the table and lead the congregation in the table prayer written by Martin Luther: Let's pray: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest. And let these gifts to us be blest. Blest be God who is our bread, may all the world be clothed and fed. Amen.

Thanksgiving at the Table

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

Words to Bless the Feast

On the night in which he was betrayed...

O God, our hope, our life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence. Come, Holy Spirit, Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

You are invited to join hands with those around you in prayer. If you are not the hand-holding type, then simply fold your hands in front of you or hang onto this bulletin as you pray.

Our Father...

Invitation to the Meal

You are welcome to this meal. If you hunger and thirst for grace and mercy that comes through Jesus Christ, then Christ has set this table just for you. Bring all that you are and all that you have to the table. You will be fed. You are forgiven. There is enough.

On the night we celebrate the birth of Jesus, we also remember his death and resurrection. This is how love comes to us.

Communion Songs

O Little Town of Bethlehem
What Child is This
Angels from the Realms of Glory

|Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

Loving God, thank you for the gift of grace received at this table. Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of the world in need. Draw us near to you through your body and blood, through your presence in this world here and now. Amen.

The Sending

Blessing

Blessing of Hope

So may we know
the hope
that is not just
for someday
but for this day—
here, now,
in this moment
that opens to us:
hope not made
of wishes
but of substance,
hope made of sinew
and muscle
and bone,
hope that has breath
and a beating heart,
hope that will not
Silent Night

keep quiet
and be polite,
hope that knows
how to holler
when it is called for,
hope that knows
how to sing
when there seems
little cause,
hope that raises us
from the dead—
not someday
but this day,
every day,
again and
again and again

Sending Song

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Go in peace – serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Music to Send You Out