

## Worship Outline

### GATHERING

Music to Prepare Us for Worship  
Gathering Songs  
Welcome, 101, Connection Cards  
No Longer Strangers Prayer  
Meet Someone New  
Lighting of the Advent Wreath  
Greeting  
Prayer of the Day

### WORD

Luke 1:26-45 [46-56]  
Children's Sermon  
Sermon  
Voices of Hope/Victorian Carolers  
Prayers of the People  
Offering  
Offering Song

### FEAST & SENDING

Setting the Table  
Confession  
Assurance of Forgiveness  
Thanksgiving at the Table  
The Lord's Prayer  
Invitation to the Meal  
Communion  
Communion Songs  
Prayer After Communion  
Purpose  
MILESTONES  
Blessing  
Sending Song  
Music to Send You Out

December 18, 2016



LUTHERAN CHURCH

*We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.*

(re-)

(re)sist

(re)turn

(re)pair

(re)joice

*Advent (re)membered*

*Re-member. You are brought back into community, back into love, back into forgiveness. However you've fallen away or apart, God re-members you, makes you whole through God's love and faithfulness. Be re-membered this Advent.*

Welcome. We are so glad you are in worship at River of Hope today.

**Come as you are.** Well, you're already here. We don't care what clothes you wear or what kind of shape your spiritual life is in. God meets you and loves you where you are.

**Where everybody knows your name?** We all wear name tags each week - not just the visitors. Even when we think we know everyone at River of Hope, it's simply not true. These name tags are our awkwardly friendly way to help us stick out our hand, say, "hello, you're new to me" and practice being the friendly church everyone swears we are. If we practice this awkward move here, we've got a shot at actually doing it in our everyday lives.

**We like kids.** No kidding. We think kids are leaders in worship and lives of faith. Just look around you.

**Nursery care.** Weeping and gnashing of teeth? There is a "cry room" available outside the worship area. The "Pray Ground," located in the worship space, is for those younger than kindergarten age.

**Communion.** You are welcome, without exception. If you are hungry and thirsty for unbounded grace, mercy, and forgiveness through Jesus Christ, you are welcome at Christ's table.

**Connection Cards.** For visitors and regulars to communicate. We won't use your info to bother you. We promise.

**Worship Style.** We are an intentional intergenerational community. "Sunday School" happens within worship! We sing hymns, we sing songs. We pray ancient words and words that are new to us. We actively practice faith during worship. Sometimes it's beautiful. Sometimes it's awkward. Sometimes it's both. It always "counts" as worship. Then we try it again next week. We are a pro-participation, anti-excellence community.

## We Prepare For Worship

### December River Guides:

Mike & Katie Weisenberger

### December 25th Scripture:

Luke 2:8-20

To find daily readings go to <http://clergystuff.com/category/daily-devotions/>

**December 24th Singers:** Abby Thomson, Sara Nelson, Mike Weisenberger, Ruth Hamlow

## Today's Music:

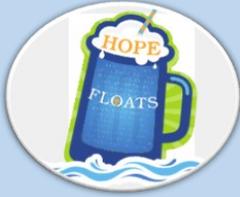
**Gathering Songs:** "He Came Down"

**Voices of Hope/Victorian Carolers:** "Lo, How A Rose/The Rose"

**Offering Song:** "Rejoice Ye Pure In Heart!"

**Communion:** "Lamb of God" & "My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness"

**Closing Song:** "Bethlehem Highway"



### River Team Schedule

#### December - Nile

River Guides:

Mike & Katie Weisenberger

320-234-7229

[weisenberger@mchsi.com](mailto:weisenberger@mchsi.com)

#### January - Tigris

River Guides:

Steve & Chanda Kropp

320-234-7051

[steve1145@hotmail.com](mailto:steve1145@hotmail.com)

[cahdakropp@hotmail.com](mailto:cahdakropp@hotmail.com)

Nancy Jorgenson

320-587-7788

[njjorgenson@me.com](mailto:njjorgenson@me.com)

#### February - Shenandoah

River Guides:

Chris & Lisa Kraft

320-234-7680

320-583-6784

[clkraft123@hotmail.com](mailto:clkraft123@hotmail.com)

#### March - Jordan

River Guides:

Jennifer & Brian Tillmann

320-587-1007

320-296-2758

[tillmann@hutchtel.net](mailto:tillmann@hutchtel.net)

#### April - Nile

River Guides:

Mike & Katie Weisenberger

320-234-7229

[weisenberger@mchsi.com](mailto:weisenberger@mchsi.com)

#### May - Nile

River Guides:

Mike & Katie Weisenberger

320-234-7229

[weisenberger@mchsi.com](mailto:weisenberger@mchsi.com)

## River Conditions

Dear Hopefuls,

re-

Just look at that dash following the "re." There's a lot going on in that dash, isn't there?

The definition of re- is: *a prefix, from Latin, used with the meaning "again" or "again and again" to indicate repetition, or with the meaning "back" or "backward" to indicate withdrawal or backward motion*

To remember is to recall, a moment of "ah-ha!" To re-member is also an act of being gathered back together, reunited, made part of a whole again or to be made whole our own selves. This season of waiting, Advent, finds God remembering us as Children of God. Bringing us into God's love. It's an act of mercy and grace we cannot achieve. It is pure gift.

So amidst the sometimes relentless and beautiful nature of the run-up to Christmas, know that you are re-membered by God through Jesus Christ. Come to worship to breathe in and out and to know God is with you and is sending Jesus once again into your life.

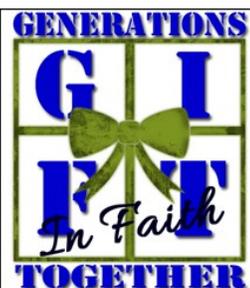
You are re-membered!

Love,  
Pastor Laura



## G.I.F.T. Worship

### GENERATIONS IN FAITH TOGETHER.



River of Hope practices worship together with all generations, believing that faith and life are connected in a meaningful way when we worship together.

G.I.F.T. Worship is River of Hope's version of Sunday School for all ages. And it prepares us to go out into our lives, knowing Jesus Christ is transforming us and the world.

## Invite

January 1 is a Sunday - yippee! I am thinking about having 2-3 people share a New Years resolution (either current or past) that has/had you starting out the year in God's peace. (Our story that day will be Simeon and Anna in the temple found in Luke 2:21-38) 5 minutes or so. You interested?



### Saturday December 24

3 pm - caroling, snacks & crafts  
4 pm - worship

**\*AND\*** there will be **NO WORSHIP** on Christmas day, Sunday the 25th. (Regularly scheduled worship will resume the next Sunday, I promise.)

**Blue Christmas Service** Sun. Dec. 18, 6:30 pm at New Journey UCC. 45 minutes for prayer, silence & music.

**Check out all the opportunities** for small groups under the Disciple category & invite a new or old friend to come along!

## Connect

### Financial Giving to River of Hope: 12/11/2016

Worship attendance:	64
In-Worship Offering:	\$1,340.00
Children's Offering:	\$15.83
Auto Deposits:	\$5,012.48

Nov. 2016 average attendance \*117

**\*Did You Know...** that 80% of our River of Hope community attends worship during a typical month?

## Small Groups

**Men's Bible Study:** Wed. Dec. 21, 9 am @ Dunn Bros. Meets 1st & 3rd Wed. of the month.

**Women of Hope:** Wed. Jan. 4, 9:30 am @ Andy Koenig's home. Meets 1st Wed. of the month.

**What's the Word?:** Tues. Jan. 10, 7 pm @ Caribou. Meets 2nd Tues. of the month.

**55+ Diners:** Next date TBA

## Disciple



Classes will be from 6-7:30 pm at New Journey UCC. Dates are Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22, Mar. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29. The facilitator is Kelly Johnson. Here is the registration link: <https://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/classes/1032250>

**Voices of Hope - Next date TBA** Come and sing in our "instant choir!" Practice at 9:45 that morning and ready to sing for worship! All vocal styles welcome.

**Table Updates** [Tables are groups of people meeting around things they have passion to do for the purpose of River of Hope's going out to transform lives through Jesus Christ. Would you like to be part of one? You are invited. We need you.]

**Parish Personnel:** Meets 2nd Mon. of the month at 3 pm at Flagship. Next meeting is Jan. 9.

**Financial Stewardship:** Meets Jan. 5.

**Vision Table:** Met Dec. 6

**River Table:** Congratulations to the newly elected River Table members: Nancy Jorgenson, Warren Kempfert, Emma Kraft, Rod Riewer, Jill Springer & Mike Weisenberger.

Please check our website for Table meeting minutes. There will also be a link in the E-News.

**Parents!** Look for KID CORNER resources on the name tag tables. They relate directly to worship for the day.

**Common Cup** Fare For All, Thur. Dec. 22, 4:30-5:30 pm. More info on the Connect Table.

**Financial Offering** In addition to your Simply Giving or putting money in the plate (thank you!) consider these other ways to give back during worship:

**Offering can** - \$ for House of Grace

**Laundry Basket** - collects quarters (or any other kind of money) to support Laundry Love

**Backpack** - pudding cups for Backpack Program

## We Go Out



laundry love

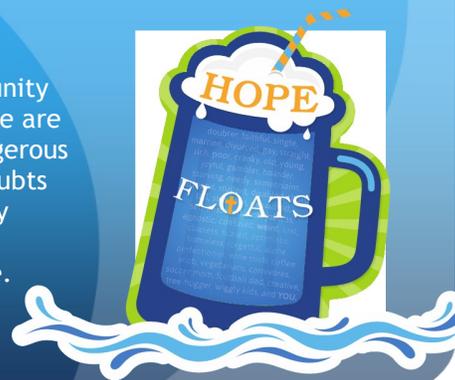
**Laundry Love is the perfect "We Go Out!"** opportunity to put on your calendar the **3rd Tues. of every month.** The next time is Dec. 20. We're partnering with Vineyard United Methodist Church to help people afford to do their laundry. Introverts & extroverts needed. Quarters needed. 3 people per shift, 9:00-noon; noon-3; 3-6:30. Contact Allen Gislason at 320-403-7004 or [alleng747@hotmail.com](mailto:alleng747@hotmail.com) for more information.

**Did you know?** In November, Laundry Love served 46 families, (14 brand new) and spent a total of \$652.75.

**Jim Nelson will be leading sing-alongs** at Woodstone on Dec. 29 at 10 am. Might you be able to assist the residents in getting to the place where we are singing, help them find the music in the songbooks or pass out rhythm instruments? Please call Jim at 320-552-9734 with any questions or just show up & help!

# River of Hope Lutheran Church

We are the ELCA church in town. We are a purposely intergenerational community who is following Jesus out of the building and into the world where we live. We are learners (disciples) and practice-ers. Worship is a safe place to practice a dangerous gospel. And, believe us, it takes practice. Your questions, critical thinking, doubts and imperfect lives are welcome here. In fact, no matter your status in society (divorced, never-been-to-church, gay, straight, old, young, cranky, liberal, conservative, questioning, allergic-to-church, snarky) you'll be welcomed here. Then you'll be sent out, to live your life, transformed by Jesus Christ. And we believe, through the love of Jesus, you'll help to transform other lives.



IF YOU KEEP UP WITH BRANDS,  
THEN YOU SHOULD KNOW WE  
ARE PART OF THE  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN  
CHURCH IN AMERICA (ELCA).  
WE'RE PRETTY PLEASED  
ABOUT THIS.

## Our purpose as a church:

*We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.*

## Our Guiding Principles:

*(Disciple = learner)*

*God is God and we are not.*

*We are called to grow together as disciples: to forgive, to teach, to love.*

*Disciples are inspired by the Holy Spirit to take risks.*

*Disciples seek God's justice.*

*Disciples serve with no strings attached.*

*Disciples invite and welcome through loving acceptance.*

*We meet you where you are.*

~ December 2016 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
18 Worship 10:30 4th week of Advent Voices of Hope  Blue Christmas 6:30 pm, New Journey UCC	19 Staff Meeting noon	20 Laundry Love	21 Men's Bible Study 9 am, Dunn Bros.	22 Pastor Laura Harmony River Service 10 am	23	24 Christmas Eve Worship 3 pm-Caroling, snacks & crafts 4 pm-Worship
25 NO WORSHIP MERRY CHRISTMAS!	26 Office closed  Pastor Laura & Jim Nelson off this week	27 Pam in office	28	29 Sing-a-long 10 am, Woodstone	30	31

Scan this code to make your financial gift to River of Hope.



### Worship

Sundays at 10:30am  
Hutchinson Event Center  
1005 Hwy 15 S. Plaza 15  
Hutchinson, MN 55350

### Office Hours

Mon-Fri 9am-2pm  
Pam's Hours M-W-F 9am-2pm  
16 Washington Avenue W, Suite 100  
Hutchinson, MN 55350  
320.587.4414  
RoH Cell 320.583.8005

### Staff

Laura Aase, Pastor  
pastor@riverofhopehutchinson.org  
Jim Nelson, Worship & Music Curator  
music@riverofhopehutchinson.org  
Pam Johnson, Office Administrator  
office@riverofhopehutchinson.org