

## Worship Outline

### GATHERING

Music to Prepare Us for Worship  
Gathering Songs  
Welcome, 101, Connection Cards  
Children+Youth Help Introduce Day  
No Longer Strangers Prayer  
Meet Someone New  
Lighting of the Advent Wreath  
Confession  
Greeting  
Hymn of Praise  
Prayer of the Day

### STORY

Isaiah 55:1-11  
Sermon  
Prayers of the People Songs  
Prayers of the People

### MEAL

Offering  
Voices of Hope  
Offering Song  
Setting the Table  
Thanksgiving for Gifts  
The Lord's Prayer  
Invitation to the Meal  
Communion  
Communion Songs  
Blessing & Prayer after Communion

### SEND

Purpose  
MILESTONES  
Blessing  
Sending Song  
Music to Send You Out

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



December 17, 2017



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

## Today's Music:

### December River Guide:

Rob & Jennifer Hauser

**December 24th Scripture:** John 1:1-18

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

**December 24th Singers:** Sara Nelson, Ruth Hamlow, Mike Weisenberger, Thayne Johnson

**Gathering Songs:** Come, Now Is The Time To Worship & Messiah

**Hymn of Praise:** Vagabonds

**Prayers of the People Songs:** All Who Are Thirsty & Come and Fill Our Hearts

**Offering Song:** Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

**Communion Songs:** For Those Tears I Died & O Come O Come Emmanuel

**Milestones:** Eagle's Wings

**Sending Song:** The Trees Of The Field

### River Team Schedule



#### December - Jordan

River Guides:

Rob & Jennifer Hauser

320-587-7072

robert.c.hauser@gmail.com

jennifer.g.hauser@gmail.com

#### January - Nile

River Guide:

Mike & Katie Weisenberger

320-234-7229

weisenberger@mchsi.com

#### February - Tigris

River Guides:

Nancy Jorgenson

320-587-7788

njjorgenson@icloud.com

Steve & Chanda Kropp

320-234-7051

Steve: 320-583-2220

steve1145@hotmail.com

Chanda: 320-583-4307

chandakropp@hotmail.com

#### March - Shenandoah

River Guides:

Chris & Lisa Kraft

320-234-7680

Lisa: 320-583-6784

Chris: 320-583-4434

clkraft123@hotmail.com

#### April - Amazon

River Guide:

Ruth Hamlow

320-587-5045

320-223-5859

rhamlow@hutchtel.net

#### May - Jordan

River Guides:

Rob & Jennifer Hauser

320-587-7072

robert.c.hauser@gmail.com

jennifer.g.hauser@gmail.com

## River Conditions

We are in the middle of the season of waiting called Advent. Have you been able to wait? Or are you breathless from the demands of life? Do you make the effort to slow down, to sit for an extra minute in your car before heading for your day just to breathe and to ask God for peace, to show you love, to show you how you should live that day? Waiting is a spiritual practice. And, like any other spiritual practice, it is boring. Or it might seem impossible. Or it might seem silly. Waiting? For what?

That's just it. Make some time to actively wait and you just might find out. Dare to sit in silence and to wonder to God what you might be waiting for. Ask God to wait with you, to stir up something new, to bring new life to an old dead thing. This season of waiting results in God's greatest communication effort with us ever. Jesus came to show us the way. To show us how to love. To show us how to wait. It's the greatest gift ever, revealed to us in the most subversive way.

Your Advent waiting will reveal to you the joy and peace that only God in Jesus Christ can bring. It's a miracle.

## 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



**Beer & Carols: Tues. Dec. 19, 6-8 pm,  
Main Street Sports Bar**



**Christmas Eve is on a Sunday!**

10:30 am: regular worship

3:00 pm: crafts, caroling & snacks

4:00 pm: worship with "instant"

Christmas program, concluding with  
candlelight

## Connect

**Financial Giving to River of Hope:  
12/10/2017**

Worship attendance:	85
In-Worship Offering:	\$966.00
Laundry Love:	\$28.15
Auto Deposits:	\$1,590.00
November average attendance	113

Check out River of Hope's 3rd Quarter Report, available at the Connect Table.

## Disciple

Pick one up on the Connect Table: **A Daily Advent Calendar**, to remind you to stop, watch & listen.

**Lutheran Marriage Encounter** Get an A+ in gifting when you give the one you love your time & attention. Feb. 16-18. 2018 at Double Tree by Hilton Hotel in Brooklyn Center. Apply at [godlovesmarriage.org](http://godlovesmarriage.org) or contact Peter & Phyllis McMahon at [mcmahonp@comcast.net](mailto:mcmahonp@comcast.net) or 763-561-1575. Pre-registration required. Dave & Linda Pedersen will be a presenting couple. Contact them to learn more at 320-328-9911.

**Women of Hope:** Wed. Jan. 3, 9:30 am, Andy Koenig's home, 885 Otter St. SW, Hutchinson, 320-587-9052, [andreakoening46@gmail.com](mailto:andreakoening46@gmail.com)

**Men's Bible Study:** Wed. Dec. 20, 9 am, Dunn Bros. Contact Dave Pedersen, 320-328-9911, [dlpeders@msn.com](mailto:dlpeders@msn.com)

**Homelessness Task Force** A task force to address homelessness in McLeod County has been hard at work. How can River of Hope participate in this critical issue of housing in our community & country? Check out the new HOMES website: <https://www.homesmcleod.org>.

**2018 Equipping Congregations Day**, Feb. 10, 2018, Vinje & Bethel Lutheran Churches, Willmar. Speaker: Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.

**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:** Mon. Jan. 8, 3 pm

**Financial Stewardship:** Next date TBA, Sue Benson's home, [sbenson@hutchtel.net](mailto:sbenson@hutchtel.net)

**Vision Table:** Sun. Dec. 17, 5:30 pm, Pastor Laura's home

**River Table:** Sun. Dec. 17, 5:30 pm, Pastor Laura's home

**Vision Table & River Table:** Tues. Jan. 23, 6 pm, Main Street Sports Bar.

**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:

**Watering can** - collects quarters (or any other kind of money) for Laundry Love

**Backpack** - Chef Boyardee cups for Common Cup Backpack Program

**Simply Giving** To sign up or update your info, contact Sue Benson at 320-587-2907 or [sbenson@hutchtel.net](mailto:sbenson@hutchtel.net), or go online to [riverofhopehutchinson.org](http://riverofhopehutchinson.org) & click "give". New paper forms are on the Connect Table.

**Please** consider using your bank account rather than a credit card when signing up. It saves us from having to pay monthly fees to use the credit card.

## 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 December 19. We're partnering with Vineyard United Methodist Church to help people afford to do their laundry. Introverts, extroverts & quarters needed. Two people per shift, 9:00-noon; noon-3:30; 3:30-6:30. Find the SignUp Genius link in our Facebook group or contact Allen Gislason at 320-403-7004 or [alleng747@hotmail.com](mailto:alleng747@hotmail.com).

**In November**, Laundry Love served 40 families, of which 6 were new, and spent \$606. **In December**, small plates of cookies will be provided to families. It's rumored that Santa will make appearances at 10 am, 2 pm and 5 pm.



**Starfish Tribe** is an outreach project under River of Hope. Our focus is to make a significant difference in the lives of young adults facing extreme challenges. We have a variety of ways for you to get involved & help! We sell River of Hope Art Cards on Sundays, have a jar to collect "Change for Change", & an online gift store coming soon. You can make donations with checks payable to River of Hope, earmarked "Starfish Tribe". Watch our page at [www.starfishtribe.com](http://www.starfishtribe.com)! Most of all, keep us in your prayers. We have big goals for 2018, & with your help we'll get there!

**Jim Nelson will be leading a sing-a-long** at Woodstone on December 21 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.



## 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.*



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.

December 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
17 Worship 10:30 am 3rd Sunday of Advent Voices of Hope  Vision & River Tables 5:30 pm	18 Staff Meeting noon	19 Laundry Love  Beer & Carols 6 pm	20 Men's Bible Study 9 am	21 Sing-a-long 10 am	22	23
24 Worship 10:30 am 4th Sunday of Advent  3 pm crafts, snacks, caroling 4 pm worship	Merry Christmas	26 Office closed	27	28	29	30

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  
riverofhopehutchinson.org

### Staff

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