

## 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

Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Sermon  
Prayers of the People Songs  
Prayers of the People

### MEAL

Offering  
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 10, 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 17th Scripture:** Isaiah 55:1-11

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

**December 17th Singers:** Sara Pollmann, Sara Shorter, Jill Renstrom, Terry Kempfert, Scott Gross

**Gathering Songs:** Dry Bones & Come, All You People

**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:** Love Divine, All Loves Excelling & Only By Grace

**Milestones:** Eagle's Wings

**Sending Song:** Days of Elijah

## 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

Dear Hopefuls,

We celebrated the work God has been doing through us this past year at our annual Riverpalooza on November 19. It was a great Sunday of worship and hearing just how God has been working through our community. Our community is growing, our giving is growing, our "going out" is growing, our discipleship groups are growing.

What IS God up to? A lot.

The bells continue to toll that the church is dying. And just in case you missed it, at the heart of our faith is death and resurrection. Our identity as Christians is dependent upon the fact that Jesus Christ died and rose again, promising to us that we too die and are raised to new life. Again and again. So while many are lamenting the "death of the church" I think there is good news in this tolling bell. There is new life.

New life! Will you **show up** at Laundry Love for a few hours once a month and risk meeting strangers and just, you know, being there?

New life! Will you **learn** about the new HOMES (Housing Options in McLeod for Emergency Shelter) and support it?

New life! Will you **participate** in the life of River of Hope in a discipleship group or a Bible study?

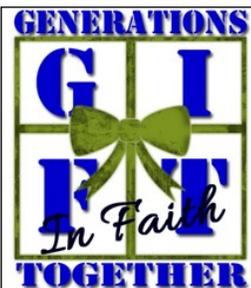
New life! Will you **engage** in daily scripture reading and prayer to stay connected with the story of God's love for you and the world?

New life! Will you **dare** to find God up to all kinds of stuff in your daily life and in the community of Hutchinson?

This is being Church. Showing up to give and receive love. Sure, maybe the church is dying, but the new life that is emerging is a whole different thing. It's not resuscitation, it's resurrection!

## 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  
candelight

## Connect

**Financial Giving to River of Hope:  
12/3/2017**

Worship attendance:	78
In-Worship Offering:	\$1,161.00
Laundry Love:	\$233.00
Auto Deposits:	\$1,590.00
November average attendance	113

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

## Disciple



"Giving Tuesday" for River of Hope  
Lutheran  
Fundraiser for River of Hope Lutheran by Laura Aase  
Aase · 0

**Thank you to all who gave on the Face-  
book fundraising on "Giving Tuesday".** A  
last minute "lets' try this" resulted in near-  
ly \$1,000 given and (fingers crossed)  
matched! Thank you to all who saw it and  
gave! Look for a note on how the money is  
used to live into our purpose of going out to  
love our community.

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 Dou-  
ble 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. Con-  
tact 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,  
[andreakoenig46@gmail.com](mailto:andreakoenig46@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)

**Voices of Hope Choir** will be singing in  
worship on Dec. 17.

**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 Church-  
es, Willmar. Speaker: Presiding Bishop  
Elizabeth Eaton.

**Table Updates** [Tables are groups of peo-  
ple meeting around things they have pas-  
sion 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. Dec. 11, 3 pm,  
Rachel Stearns' home

**Financial Stewardship:** Wed. Dec. 13,  
6 pm, 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.

**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!

**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 fam-  
ilies, 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  
Rive of Hope. Our focus is to make a signifi-  
cant difference in the lives of young adults  
facing extreme challenges. We have a vari-  
ety 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",  
& have an online gift store coming soon.  
You can make donations with checks paya-  
ble 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!

# 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
10 Worship 10:30 am 2nd Sunday of Advent	11 Staff Meeting noon Parish Personnel 3 pm	12	13 Financial Stewardship 6 pm	14	15	16
17 Worship 10:30 am 3rd Sunday of Advent 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

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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