

River Source - Your Guide to Worship

3rd Sunday of Advent—December 16, 2018



Welcome. We are so glad you are here.

*Everything you need to participate in worship is projected on the screen.
If you read music, it is available on the usher stand in the hallway. Ask an usher or help yourself.*

**As the scripture is read to you, circle or underline the words or phrases that you notice most.
What are your #questions to God? About the world?**

Isaiah 42:1-9 -The Message version of the Bible

“Take a good look at my servant. I’m backing him to the hilt.
He’s the one I chose, and I couldn’t be more pleased with him.
I’ve bathed him with my Spirit, my *life*.

He’ll set everything right among the nations.
He won’t call attention to what he does with loud speeches or gaudy parades.

He won’t brush aside the bruised and the hurt and he won’t disregard the small
and insignificant, but he’ll steadily and firmly set things right.

He won’t tire out and quit. He won’t be stopped until he’s finished his work
—to set things right on earth.

Far-flung ocean islands wait expectantly for his teaching.”

God’s Message, the God who created the cosmos, stretched out the skies,
laid out the earth and all that grows from it,

Who breathes life into earth’s people, makes them alive with his own life:

“I am God. I have called you to live right and well.

I have taken responsibility for you, kept you safe.

I have set you among my people to bind them to me,
and provided you as a lighthouse to the nations,

To make a start at bringing people into the open, into light:
opening blind eyes, releasing prisoners from dungeons,
emptying the dark prisons.

I am God. That’s my name.

I don’t franchise my glory, don’t endorse the no-god idols.

Take note: The earlier predictions of judgment have been fulfilled.

I’m announcing the new salvation work.

Before it bursts on the scene,
I’m telling you all about it.”

Here's what to expect at River of Hope:

GIFT - Generations In Faith Together. Worship is intentionally intergenerational. "Sunday School" happens within worship. You'll speak ancient words in new ways and sing old hymns that never get old. We practice the story together. We are actively engaged in questions, prayers, and singing together. We learn so much from each other when we worship together. It's a gift, isn't it? Remember, this isn't about excellence or perfection, it's about participation.

Come as you are. Well, you're already here. It doesn't matter what 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? Name tags are awkward, right? We all wear them - not just the visitors. It's an effort to be open and to show this is a safe place to be called by name.

We like kids. No kidding. We think kids are leaders in worship, always teaching us how to live. Parents, please breathe easy. We are with you.

Pray Ground. Stay in worship with your kids. Join them on the pray ground. If it all falls apart, take to the halls. We'll pray for you. ☺

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 regulars and visitors to use to communicate and pray. We won't use your info to bother you.

Financial Offering. Giving generously is part of an active faith life. It looks different for each person. River of Hope depends on your giving and is grateful for how and what you share.

- There is a card reader located at the back of the worship space. There are instructions with it. Go ahead and use it.
- Go online to riverofhopehutchinson.org. Click on "give."
- You can support Laundry Love by putting money in the watering can.

On the way out...You'll be handed the River News that includes prayers to pray and scripture to read for the week, along with a calendar and other goings-on in our life together.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHER

Music to Prepare Us
Gathering Songs
Welcome 101
No Longer Strangers Prayer
Practice Saying Hello
Confession
Promise of Forgiveness
Greeting
Prayer of the Day

WORD

Hymn of Praise
Isaiah 42:1-9-The Message
version of the Bible
Wade in the Word
Sermon
Prayers of the People (*Put your prayer in the "in box" in the waiting room.*)
Offering + Singing

FEAST

*Setting the Table
Thanksgiving at the Table
The Lord's Prayer
Communion + Singing
Prayer after Communion

SEND

What is Our Purpose?
Blessing
*Sending Song
*Sending Charge
Music to Send You Out to Serve

**Kids are invited to participate throughout worship, but especially in these spots.*



Walk the labyrinth anytime during worship. Please accompany children.