

Gospel Reading: Luke 13:31-35

Sermon: “Judgment and Mercy”

Rev. Dr. Brian Jones

Prayers for the People/The Lord’s Prayer

***Sermon Hymn: “Jesus, Lover of My Soul”**

(Blue #303/Screen)

Litany - “Wise Women Also Came”

A poem by Jan Richardson

One: Wise women also came, the fire burned in their wombs long before they saw the flaming star in the sky.

ALL: They walked in shadows, trusting the path would open under the light of the moon.

One: Wise women also came, seeking no directions, no permission from any king

ALL: They came by their own authority, their own desire, their own longing.

They came in quiet, spreading no rumors, sparking no fears to lead to innocents’ slaughter, to their sister Rachel’s inconsolable lamentations.

One: Wise women also came, and they brought useful gifts:

ALL: water for labor’s washing, fire for warm illumination, a blanket for swaddling.

One: Wise women also came, at least three of them, holding Mary in the labor, crying out with her in the birth pangs, breathing ancient blessings into her ear.

ALL: Wise women also came, and they went, as wise women always do, home a different way.

***Affirmation of Faith/The Apostles’ Creed**

Offering/HPW Birthday Offering/Offertory: “Soften My Heart, Lord” Adult Choir

***Doxology**

(Blue #592/Screen)

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Closing Hymn: “Guide My Feet”**

(Blue #354/Screen)

***Charge/Benediction: “Aaron’s Blessing”**

Rev. Dr. Brian Jones/Cong. Echo

Postlude

Maggie

Hope Presbyterian Church

7730 North Shore Drive
Spicer, MN 56288
320-796-2650

E-mail: hopepres@gmail.com

Website: hopechurchspicer.org

Sunday, March 16, 2025

9:15 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship

10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

(On Facebook Live & KGLH Radio 96.9)

Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday
March 9, 2025



The Raising of Dorcas by Saint Peter, final sketch, Violet Oakley. La Salle University Art Museum, Philadelphia, PA

SAINTS AND WIDOWS

As a community of Christ, Hope Presbyterian Church demonstrates the good news of God’s love, grace and hope.

- *We build relationships with one another in order that we might strengthen our ability to love God and love others.*
- *Visitors, youth and children are welcome to participate in worship, Bible Study, spiritual development opportunities, prayer, and service.*

*God is here and welcomes you! If you are a visitor and are looking for a church home, be assured you are welcome and needed at Hope Presbyterian Church. We are a people who seek to respond to God's love in Christ and we invite you to join us.
Please be advised that our sanctuary worship service is on Facebook Live and taped for television broadcast, aired on Channel 18 (Windstream Cable) and Channel 181 (Charter Cable) on Sundays (2:15 pm), Tuesdays (11:30 am and 3:00 pm), and Thursdays (8:00 am and 5:00 pm).*

***(Please stand as you are able)**

Prelude

Maggie Harp

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

Lay Reader: Jonelle Foreman

One: The psalmist sings, One thing I asked of the Lord,

ALL: That I will seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in God's temple.

One: Sisters and brothers, God is good,

ALL: And in love and mercy greets us here.

***Hymn of Praise:** "Sing Praise To God, Who Reigns Above" (Blue #483/Screen)

***Call to Confession**

One: Loving God, you save all who seek refuge in you. Grant that we who know your salvation may walk always in your light, take courage in your faithfulness, and rejoice in your astounding goodness to us. Through Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray.

ALL: Amen.

***Prayer of Confession**

ALL: Merciful God, you have made us citizens of heaven, but we confess that we have set our minds on earthly things. We have let our desire for security restrain our commitment to serve the poor. We have let our fear of danger curb our obligation to love our enemies. We have let our love of things dull our generosity to the needy. We have let our craving for public status prevent our honesty about hidden sins. Yet, you know the desires of our heart, and nothing is hidden from you. By the power of the Holy Spirit, conform our sin-weakened bodies to the glory of Christ, so that we may be the body of Christ for the world. Amen.

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

***Gloria Patri**

(Screen)

***Passing of the Peace** (Let us share Christ's peace by greeting each other)

Announcements/Prayer Concerns/Joys

Special Music: "Thy Holy Wings"

Adult Choir

Children's Sermon

Response: "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" (Sing the Faith #2193/Screen)

Prayer for Illumination

One: Lord, open your Word by your Holy Spirit, so that we, like Abraham, may believe your promises to us.

ALL: Amen.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 27

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

² **When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh—**

my adversaries and foes— they shall stumble and fall.

³ Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.

⁴ **One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.**

⁵ For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.

⁶ **Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;**

I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

⁷ Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!

⁸ **'Come,' my heart says, 'seek his face!' Your face, LORD, do I seek.**

⁹ Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!

¹⁰ **If my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will take me up.**

¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.

¹² **Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence.**

¹³ I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

¹⁴ **Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!**

HOSPITALITY SERVANTS

Coffee Servers

March 16: Jody & Jerry Leason

March 23: Tyann Jones

Ushers

March 16: Lisa Thorson, Sandy Meyer, Karen Hagemeyer, Robin Mulder

March 23: **Open**

*****Please sign up on the sheets in the Fellowship Hall (by the library) to usher or lay read. Thank You!**

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lay Readers

March 16: Jonelle Foreman

March 23: Jeff Wersal

Sound Operators: Pete Bratberg, Duane Taatjes, Daryl Taatjes, Wally Titus

Video Operators: Carter Taatjes, Pete Bratberg, Wally Titus, Daryl Taatjes, & Barry Sampson

Screen Operators: Stephanie Bents, Sherry Bratsch, Jerry Bents

Radio Operators: Harold Foreman, Daryl Taatjes, Duane Taatjes

FINANCE REPORT

	February	Year to Date 02/28/2025	Year to Date Monthly Average
Income	\$16,040.78	\$43,561.14	\$21,780.57
Expenses	\$22,021.98	\$50,622.74	\$25,311.37
Net Profit (Loss)	(\$5,981.20)	(\$7,061.60)	
Income Needed to Cover Monthly Budgeted Expenses			\$26,748.96
Per Capita Assessment for 2025			\$7,500.00
Per Capita Paid by Members Through 02/28/2025			\$1,664.00

Kristene Foreman, Treasurer

HOPE HAPPENINGS!

CARE Pantry Challenge: March is Food Share Month, so we are collecting food for the Link. Please leave your donations on the table by the mailboxes. You can also give a monetary donation. Envelopes provided by the food box. Thanks!

Fun Day Sunday

The Fun Day has been moved to Sunday, March 23rd. Times and activities are still being planned but save the date! You won't want to miss this one!

Bible Study on the book of John

Our next Bible Study has started! It focuses on the book of John. This will be in the Fireside Room following worship. Pastor Brian will be leading the Bible Study. EVERYONE is welcome to join us!

Soup 'n' Bread Suppers

The Soup 'n' Bread suppers have started! Please see the Sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Hall. This Wednesday Group 2 will be in charge of the kitchen.

Online Lenten Bible Study

A Lenten Bible Study called The Final Days, presented by Methodist Pastor Matt Rawle, is being offered for members and churches of Minnesota Valleys Presbytery. It will be held on Sunday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86926049131>

Bridal Shower for Kristene Foreman

Saturday, March 22, 2025 from 2:00 – 4:00 pm at the River of Hope Youth Center
The couple is registered at Amazon, Target or online at theknot.com/kristeneandskyllar/registry

Camp GK Bear

Saturday, April 5th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm - Registration can be done online at www.CentraCare.com/CampGKBear. The registration deadline is Friday, March 28th 2025. If you have questions, please contact either Gina Jacobs or Kathy Tweten at (320) 231-4450.

April-May-June Devotionals

These devotionals are available on the table in the Narthex, on the table by the kitchen door, or in the office.

THIS WEEK AT HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 16 (Sunday) 9:15 a.m. Fellowship Time
10:00 a.m. Worship (Also on Facebook Live and Radio)
Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday
(Birthday Offering-Use Yellow Envelopes in Pews)
11:15 a.m. Bible Study in Fireside Room

March 17 (Monday) **Hope Scope Deadline**
8:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
10:00 a.m. Coffee & Conversation
(Deacon's meeting rescheduled to March 24th)

March 18 (Tuesday) 11-2 CARE Pantry Distribution with Devotion and Lunch at noon
6:00 p.m. Tuesday's Table at Faith Lutheran Church
6:30 p.m. Christian Education & Families Committee

March 19 (Wednesday) 10:00 a.m. Coffee & Conversation
5:45 p.m. Soup 'n' Bread Supper (Group 2 in kitchen)
6:15 p.m. WOW-No Class
6:15 p.m. Lenten Service
6:30 p.m. TAG-No Class
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

March 20 (Thursday)

March 21 (Friday)

March 22 (Saturday) 2-4 p.m. Bridal Shower for Kristene Foreman (in Youth Center)
7:00 p.m. AA

March 23 (Sunday) 9:15 a.m. Fellowship Time
10:00 a.m. Worship (Also on Facebook Live and Radio)
11:15 a.m. Bible Study in Fireside Room
4:00 p.m.(?) Fun Day

PRAYER REQUESTS

*Denotes New

Members with Health Issues:

Larry Bratsch, Palmer Norling, Shar & Eldy Williams, Wayne Thompson, Frank & Shelly Peralta, Darlene Thompson, Bob Hinderks

Family and Friends with Health Issues:

Kim (Friend of Jeff Lamphere) Dale & Barb (Friends of Karen Hagemeyer)
Dick Bratsch (Larry's brother) Dakota Rich (NLS athlete)
Joanna Hanson (Helmstetter's niece) Krista (Brooke Appleby's friend)
Pam & Scott Prouty (Pastors at Redwood Falls) The Pope

Grieving:

*Family of Larry Terpstra (Dave's brother), Family of Jeri Jergenson (Rev. Al Jergenson's wife), Family of Jerry Gault, Family of Helen Ford (Rev. Mark Ford's mother), Family of Verona Thompson (Wayne's relative), Family of Tommy Griffith (Gospel singer)

Care Facilities:

Shar Williams (Carris Health Care Center-Willmar), David Carlson (Bethesda North Pointe-New London), Jeanette Gault (GlenOaks-New London), Betty Harder (Bethesda North Pointe-New London), Barb Morris (Copperleaf-Willmar), Mary Lou Swart (Bethesda North Pointe-New London)

Other Concerns:

For those dealing with mental health issues and who struggle with addiction
For those deeply wounded by domestic violence
For those grieving the death and injury of a loved one due to violence and war
For those affected by natural disasters, COVID-19

Please Note** If you have a prayer request, please fill out the prayer request card from the ushers and return it to them, which will be given to Pastor Brian.

March Deacons of the Month: Jeff Wersal & Sandy Meyer