



HOPE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

+ *Hope Always* +



December 29, 2024 10:00 am

The Rev'd Bradley L. Mattson, Rector

The Rev'd Nancy Leshar, Deacon

Beloved in Christ,

Welcome to Hope Episcopal Church, where we celebrate the joy of Christmas and the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. This holy season reminds us of the light that shines in the darkness, the hope that sustains us, and the promise of God's unending love.

This year, we are especially blessed as we celebrate our 175th year of ministry. Our Hope Always 175th Anniversary Campaign invites us to honor our rich history while looking ahead to a vibrant future. Through this campaign, we are renewing our commitment to serve, grow, and share God's love as a beacon of hope in our community and beyond.

At Hope Church, Christmas is more than a moment—it is an invitation to live into the miracle of Emmanuel, God with us. We are delighted that you are here to celebrate this sacred season and to be part of our story of faith and fellowship.

We also invite you to explore how you can engage with our community and participate in the many ways God is at work among us:

Worship With Us: Experience the beauty of the season in worship, where we proclaim the Good News of Christ's birth and the hope it brings to the world.

To+Gether Youth Ministry: Join our monthly youth gatherings, creating space for young people to connect, grow, and share in fun and faith-filled activities.

Discover New Ministries: Learn about our outreach programs, care for creation initiatives, and opportunities to serve those in need.

Celebrate in Fellowship: Be part of parish events, shared meals, and other gatherings that strengthen our bonds as a church family.

This Christmas season, we celebrate not only the birth of Jesus but the life of our church and the hope we carry forward together. If you would like to learn more about the Hope Always campaign, our ministries, or how to be part of the Hope Church family, please speak with a greeter, visit our website, or contact the church office.

May the joy of Christ's birth and the peace of this holy season fill your hearts and homes today and always.

Hope Always,
Bradley+

To be added to our mailing list, please fill out a pew card, place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher. You may also fill this out online by using the QR code.



Scan here for The Big Way of Love children's resources for following Jesus:



Hope Always 175th
Anniversary Campaign



1st Sunday of Christmas

Morning Prayer

The symbol ☩ indicates when to stand if able.

The symbol ✠ indicates where to make the sign of the cross.

Prelude

Welcome + Good News & Announcements

THE GATHERING

Introduction to Worship:

Leader Beloved, we gather now in the presence of Almighty God and all the host of heaven, to offer our worship, praise, and thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord. We come, as one, to lay down our burdens and confess our sins, to pray for the world and for ourselves, that we may come to know more deeply the vastness of God's love and bear the fruit of His grace in our lives. Let us also lift up the needs of all people, that the world may know peace and wholeness. And now, let us quiet our hearts within us, and remember God's presence with us, as we prepare to worship in Spirit and in Truth.

Opening Sentence:

Leader Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (*Ephesians 1:2*)

Prayer of Preparation:

Leader Loving God, we come to you in humility, seeking your presence.

People **We come with our joys and our sorrows, our hopes and our fears.**

Leader You know the secrets of our hearts, and you understand our deepest needs.

People **Cleanse our thoughts and renew our spirits by your Holy Spirit.**

Leader As we gather in your name, make us aware of your presence among us.

People **Help us to lay aside all that distracts and burdens us,**

Leader that we may worship you in spirit and in truth.

People **Guide us in our prayers and in our praises,**

Leader that we may draw closer to you and be transformed by your love.

People **Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hymn

#109 - "The First Nowell"

1 The first No - well the an - gel did say
 2 They look - ed up and saw a star

1 was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
 2 shin - ing in the east be - yond them far,

1 in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,
 2 and to the earth it gave great light,

1 on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
 2 and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.

Refrain
 No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Psalter *A Song of Praise*

Psalm 147:13-21

Lector: We will read the Psalm responsively.

- 13 Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; *
 praise your God, O Zion;
- 14 For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
 he has blessed your children within you.
- 15 He has established peace on your borders; *
 he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
- 16 He sends out his command to the earth, *
 and his word runs very swiftly.

- 17 He gives snow like wool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
- 18 He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?
- 19 He sends forth his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
- 20 He declares his word to Jacob, *
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.
- 21 He has not done so to any other nation; *
to them he has not revealed his judgments. Hallelujah!

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Lector A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

A good I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 32

The Song of New Creation

Refrain:: All **I will make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.**

- 1 'I am the Lord, your Holy One, ♦
the Creator of Israel, your King.'
- 2 Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, ♦
a path in the mighty waters,
- 3 'Remember not the former things, ♦
nor consider the things of old.
- 4 'Behold, I am doing a new thing; ♦
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
- 5 'I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert, ♦
to give drink to my chosen people,
- 6 'The people whom I formed for myself, ♦
that they might declare my praise.'

All **Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.**

All **I will make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.**

New Testament Reading

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Lector A Reading from Galatians.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

✠The Gospel

John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Affirmation of Faith

Leader Let us declare our faith in God.

People **We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.
We believe in one God; Father,
Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

The offering will be taken at this time.

The Offertory

Please take this time to make an offering to Hope Church:

- 1. Online: <https://hopeepiscopal.breezechms.com/give/online> or scan the QR code in the margin of your bulletin*
- 2. Text: “[AMOUNT]” to (717) 999-5991 to make a donation to the General Fund. If it is your first time using text giving, a link will be sent by return text to complete the donation.*
- 3. Offering plate: cash or a check payable to “Hope Episcopal Church”. You may designate any ministry in the ‘memo’ line.*

Thank you very much for your contribution to advance the mission of Hope Episcopal Church! Your generosity is greatly appreciated!



Hymn

#99 - "Go Tell It On The Mountain"

Refrain

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and

ev - ery - where; go tell it on the moun - tain, that

Je - sus Christ is born!

- 1 While shep - herds kept their
- 2 The shep - herds feared and
- 3 Down in a low - ly

watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by the night, be -
trem - bled when lo! a - bove the earth rang
man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born, and

hold, through - out the hea - vens there shone a ho - ly light.
out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sa - vior's birth.
God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

The Doxology & Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

The congregation stands while the ushers bring the offering forward.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host; praise, Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Leader All things come of thee of God.

People **And of thine own have we given thee.**

The Prayers of the People For the Care of Creation and the World

The people kneel or stand as able. The Leader and People pray responsively

Leader Let us pray for the Church, the world, and all people, giving thanks for the gift of Christ among us.

Loving God, we gather in the peace of this season, rejoicing in the light of your Son, born to bring hope and salvation to the world. Open our hearts to your presence, and receive our prayers as we place our trust in your abundant mercy.

Leader We pray for your holy Church, that it may be a beacon of hope and joy in a weary world. Strengthen the leaders of your Church with wisdom and compassion, that they may guide us in truth and love. Inspire us, your people, to share the Good News of Christ's birth through acts of grace, service, and kindness.

People **Lord, hear us.**

Leader Lord, graciously hear us.

Leader We pray for the nations of the world and all who hold authority. Grant them courage and wisdom to lead with justice and peace. Where there is division, bring reconciliation; where there is fear, bring hope; and where there is suffering, bring healing. May the light of Christ shine in every corner of the earth.

People **Lord, hear us.**

Leader Lord, graciously hear us.

Leader We pray for those in need: the hungry, the lonely, the sick, and those who mourn. May the joy of this season bring them comfort, and may we, as Christ's hands and feet in the world, extend love and care to all who are struggling.

(Silence may be kept for individual petitions.)

People **Lord, hear us.**

Leader Lord, graciously hear us.

Leader We give thanks for the many ministries of Hope Church and for all who labor in love to further your mission. Bless the work of Grief Share, Outreach, Youth Ministry, Music, Property, Yarn Ministry, and Creation Care. Strengthen our partnerships with neighboring churches and our convocation, and guide our Vestry with wisdom and vision as they lead us forward in faith.

People **Lord, hear us.**

Leader Lord, graciously hear us.

Leader As we celebrate our 175th year of ministry, we lift up the Hope Always campaign. Grant us generous hearts to support this sacred work with all our strength, that Hope Church may continue to be a place of welcome, love, and faithfulness for generations to come. May this campaign inspire us to be co-creators with you in building a future filled with hope.

People **Lord, hear us.**

Leader Lord, graciously hear us.

Celebrant God of love, as we rejoice in the birth of Christ, we pray for the grace to live as people of his light. Let our lives reflect his glory, and may the joy of this season renew our faith, unite us in love, and strengthen our hope.

People **Amen.**

✠The Lord's Prayer

The people kneel or stand.

Officiant As our Savior taught us, so we pray...

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.	Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu nombre; venga tu reino; hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.	Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día. Perdona nuestras ofensas, como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.	No nos dejes caer en la tentación y líbranos del mal.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.	Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder y la gloria, ahora y por siempre. Amén.

Blessing and Dismissal

Leader May the Lord bless and keep us.

People **Amen.**

Leader Go in peace, with hearts full of hope, to love and serve the Lord.

People **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Closing Hymn

#79 - "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

May be found on the next page

Postlude

Worship Servers December 29, 2024

Ushers - Jim Burchik, Steve Norton

Lectors - LeAnne Burchik, Stephanie Seaman, Lynette Brown

Prayers of the People - Lydia Engle

Acolytes - Liam Peach, Ethan Weckerly

Verses 1, 2, 3, 5

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
 *4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,
 5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
 3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
 4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;
 5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
 2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
 3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,
 5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
 3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.
 5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!



A Jubilee Parish

A parish of The Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania
The Most Reverend Sean Rowe, Presiding Bishop, Episcopal Church
in the United States of America
The Right Rev. Audrey Cady Scanlan, Bishop of Central Pennsylvania

Worship at Hope Church

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist and live-streamed on YouTube.

Our Clergy and Staff

The Rev'd Bradley L. Mattson, Rector	bmattson@hopeepiscopal.org
The Rev'd Nancy Leshner, Deacon	nlesher@hopeepiscopal.org
Katie Brown, Parish Administrator	office@hopeepiscopal.org
Gail Edgell, Principal Organist	music@hopeepiscopal.org
Terry Heisey, Adjunct Organist	
Doug Beach, Adjunct Organist	
Jo Steffy, Sr. Warden	srwarden@hopeepiscopal.org
Jeremy Brown, Jr. Warden	jrwarden@hopeepiscopal.org
Gwen Norton, Sexton	
Bob Sims, Verger	
J.D. Hynick, Jr. Verger	

Our Vestry & Parish Officers

Jo Steffy, Sr. Warden; Jeremy Brown, Jr. Warden; Gail Edgell, Secretary; Gwen Norton, Treasurer;
Tom Brown, Steve Palmer, Steve Norton, Brandon Peach
Lucy Longo, *Assistant Treasurer*; Jo Steffy, *Delegate to Convention*

Supporting Volunteer Staff

Lynette Brown, *Altar Guild*; Nancy Wesley, *Card Ministry*; Bob Sims, *Cemetery*; Janelle Weckerly, *Special Events*;
Lucy Longo, *Finance Committee*; Kathleen Peach, *Outreach Committee*; Jeremy Brown, *Property Committee*
tbd, *Creation Care Committee*; Gail Edgell, *Garden of Hope*, Stephanie Seaman, *Livestream Coordinator*

Visit Us Online and In Person

www.hopeepiscopal.org office@hopeepiscopal.org

Facebook | YouTube

In case of a pastoral emergency, contact Rev. Bradley Lodge Mattson

Mobile: 215-869-4781 Email: bmattson@hopeepiscopal.org

2425 Mountain Road Manheim, PA 17545 717-665-6311