

**ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

9:30 a.m. December 3, 2017

WELCOME AND TIME OF GREETING

PRELUDE Philip King, Organist

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: Jesus says: I am coming soon.
People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!
 Leader: Heaven and earth will pass away,
People: but the word of God endures forever.
 Leader: Let us worship God.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: **Hope**

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 40 (Selected Verses)

RESPONSE HYMN 92 **“While We Are Waiting, Come”** (Verse 1)

ADVENT PRAYER

*HYMN 82 **“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”**

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

**God our Maker, we confess that we are not ready to meet you.
 We study the trends of our times and ignore the signs of your reign.
 We trust in things that pass away and forget your eternal promise.
 Forgive us, God of grace. Strengthen us, by your hand, so that we
 may be ready for that day when you come to reign in glory;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Every valley is lifted up; every mountain, made low.
 Now the glory of the Lord is revealed, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.
 In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S TIME

JOYS AND CONCERNS

INTERLUDE

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD’S PRAYER

ANTHEM **“Born to Be the Bread”** Ruth Schram
 Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 80:1-7 Page 728

GIVING THANKS WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS Elder Bob Randolph

OFFERTORY

RESPONSE HYMN 113 **“Angels We Have Heard on High”** (Verse 1)

SUNDAY AT HOPE

CHILDREN’S CHURCH is a time for children ages 4 through 6 to gather and share the scripture which the adults will be sharing in worship. Children will leave after the “Time for Children” for Children’s Church or for the Nursery (up to 4 years of age).

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL after worship at 10:40 a.m. in the Sunset Room.

JOIN US TODAY AT 3 P.M.!



WINTER HAVEN COMMUNITY SINGERS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

FIRST PUBLIC PERFORMANCE!

Tuesday, December 5 — 7 p.m. — Hope Church Sanctuary
 Philip King, Director



LADIES’ CHRISTMAS TEA
Saturday, December 9
12 Noon to 2 p.m. — Fellowship Hall

Today is the last day to buy tickets.
 Cost: \$10 per person; Girls under 5—Free!

Ladies: Please remember to bring your "bite-sized treats" for our dessert table on Thursday, December 7 or Friday, December 8, between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP DINNER

Wednesday, December 13 — 6 p.m. — Fellowship Hall

Menu: Caesar salad, chicken cordon bleu, rice pilaf, asparagus with hollandaise, dinner rolls, butter, coffee and iced tea, Christmas dessert.

Program: Join us for our *“Annual Christmas Carol Sing-a-long”*
 Cost: \$10 (Adults), Kids 12 and under — Free! But everyone needs a ticket!
 Tickets available **today** and **December 10.**

“The Oft Told Story”

Friday, December 15 and Saturday, December 16 — 7 p.m.
Hope Church Sanctuary

A funny, musical story about the birth of Jesus
 Told through the eyes and voices of the animals in the stable.

Rudolph needs your help during this Christmas Season!



The Christian Education Committee is sponsoring the **Rudolph Round-Up Toy Drive** for children in the foster care system. A large box is available in the Narthex for your toys and gifts. There are green brochures on the Narthex tables that suggests ideas for our toy drive. Please help us celebrate this season by giving to children here in our community. Toys and gifts are due by **next Sunday, December 10.** Your support is genuinely appreciated.

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY CLASS will meet again on **Monday, December 18** at 6:30 p.m. and **Thursday, December 21** at 10:30 a.m. This class is led by Reverend Carriker. Please sign up on the pew pad or call the church office if you are planning to attend.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

(All women are invited to join any or all Circles)

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS meets **Monday, December 4** — 6 p.m. at the home of Zell Sheplee, 113 Pino Poco, Winter Haven, for their Christmas Party hosted by Joyce Snively and Zell. Please bring an appetizer to share. Questions? Please call Zell (863) 324-6448.

MORNING GLORIES CIRCLE meets **Tuesday, December 5** — 9:30 a.m. at the Brunch Barn, 1708 6th Street SE, Winter Haven, for a Christmas Breakfast. Please RSVP Lynne Maxwell (863) 291-3819.

CIRCLE OF HOPE meets **Wednesday, December 6** — 1:30 p.m. at the home of Betty Akers, 4043 Birkdale Drive, Lake Wales. Our mission is in support of the Presbyterian Women Thank Offering.

WILLOWS OF HOPE (Singles and Widows) meet **Wednesday, December 20** at 12:30 p.m. at Arabella’s Restaurant for their Christmas luncheon. Please RSVP: Bev Westover (863) 324-7823 by December 15. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS ORDER FORM



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS will be available to beautify our Sanctuary during the Christmas season. The cost is \$10 each. If you would like to order a poinsettia either ***In Memory Of, In Honor Of, In Gratitude For, or any Special Occasion***, please return the completed order form with your check (*made payable to Hope Presbyterian Church*) to the Church Office or place it in the offering plate before **Monday, December 11.** A complete listing of donors and the persons being memorialized or honored will be printed in the Sunday bulletin **December 17.** Poinsettias will be taken to members and friends of the congregation at Health and Rehabilitation facilities or at home.

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Number Ordered _____ Amount Enclosed _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

IN HONOR OF _____

IN GRATITUDE FOR _____

SPECIAL OCCASION _____

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 13: 24-37 Page 1236

SERMON "A CHANGE IS COMING" Reverend Owen Carriker

*HYMN 87 "Comfort, Comfort Now My People"

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*HYMN 97 "Watchman, Tell Us of the Night"

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Congregation stands if able
Bold print: congregational response

TO OUR VISITORS, NEWCOMERS, AND GUESTS—Welcome to Hope Church. We hope you will find words of encouragement as you worship with us this morning. **Please print your name, address, phone number, and e-mail on the Friendship Pads.**

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY is Elder Bob Randolph, Vice Moderator, Finance Committee.

A NURSERY is provided from 9:15 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. in the Christian Education Building, Room 246 for children under 4 years.

FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER, a friendly atmosphere for parents with infants and toddlers, is located next to the Library. *Children's Busy Bags are available in the Narthex.*

HEARING ENHANCEMENT DEVICES and LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are available during Worship. Please see an usher for assistance.

CHANCEL FLOWERS are presented to the glory of God by John and Lynne Maxwell in celebration of granddaughter, Haddie's second birthday on December 21.

THE 2018 FLOWER CALENDAR is available on the green stand in the Narthex. Please sign up for Chancel flowers if you would like to reserve a special Sunday. The cost for two arrangements is \$50. Please complete the yellow information form and return it with your check to the church office. Thank you!

THE SHOPPING CART for the month of **December** is for Polk State College, My Brother's Keeper—Their needs include: food for snack packs; personal hygiene products; laundry detergent pods; hotel-size shampoos, soaps and lotions; canned goods to supplement the food needs of homes where homeless students "couch surf."

THE DECEMBER BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY LIST is available in the Narthex racks.

THE BLOODMOBILE will be at Hope **next Sunday, December 10** from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. First time donors please bring a photo ID.

LIST OF PRAYER CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION IS AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX LITERATURE RACKS

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Week of December 3, 2017**

TODAY, December 3

9:30 a.m. Worship
9:45 a.m. Children's Church
10:40 a.m. Adult Sunday School
3:00 p.m. Eirinn Abu Christmas Concert, Sanctuary

Monday, December 4

5:15 a.m. Sweatin' Hope Exercise Class, CE Building
6:00 p.m. Circle of Friends, home of Zell Sheplee
7:00 p.m. Girl Scout Meeting and Potluck, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 5

5:15 a.m. Sweatin' Hope Exercise Class, CE Building
9:30 a.m. Morning Glories Circle, Christmas Breakfast at the Brunch Barn
4:30 p.m. Aerobics, Multipurpose Room 227
7:00 p.m. Winter Haven Community Singers Christmas Concert, Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 6

5:15 a.m. Sweatin' Hope Exercise Class, CE Building
11:00 a.m. Prayer Group of Hope, Parlor
1:30 p.m. Circle of Hope, home of Betty Akers
6:00 p.m. Bells of Hope, Bell Choir Room
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Thursday, December 7

5:15 a.m. Sweatin' Hope Exercise Class, CE Building
11:00 a.m. Prayer Group, Parlor
4:30 p.m. Aerobics, Multipurpose Room 227

Friday, December 8

5:15 a.m. Sweatin' Hope Exercise Class, CE Building

Saturday, December 9

**LADIES' CHRISTMAS TEA
12 Noon to 2 p.m.—Fellowship Hall**



Next Sunday, December 10, 2017— Second Sunday of Advent

Toys for Rudolph due

8:30 a.m. Bloodmobile
9:30 a.m. Worship
9:45 a.m. Children's Church
10:40 a.m. Adult Sunday School
4:30 p.m. Youth of Hope, Room 200

WEEKLY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday, November 26, 2017

9:30 a.m. Worship 203
Thursday Contemporary Worship 15
Total 218

Ushers: Alex Huynh, Captain; Mary Ax, Marilyn Bauer, Judy Calhoun, Janci Hurt

Flowers.....Alex Huynh



OUR MISSION STATEMENT TO ALL PEOPLE

**God loves us; we love God; reaching up through faith,
reaching out in love: being Christ's Beacon of Hope.**

*We reach up by building an inclusive, Christ-centered, Bible-based church;
We reach out by serving the poor, caring for the sick and uplifting the
oppressed and broken;*

*We are a Beacon of Hope by being a loving community of believers,
bringing Christ's example to life, as we are led by the Holy Spirit to use
our blessings and talents, and by empowering people to be servant leaders.*

HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2110 Cypress Gardens Boulevard, Winter Haven, Florida 33884-1556

Phone (863) 324-6382 — Fax (863) 324-1096

Website: www.hopepreswh.org — E-mail: hope@hopepreswh.org

Reverend Owen Carriker, Pastor

Reverend Fred Halde, Parish Associate

David M. Thomas, Director of Music

Philip King, Associate Director of Music

Julie Carriker, Director of Christian Education

Lois Crowe, Bookkeeper; Donna Phillips, Secretary

Holly Dills, Director of Hope Creative School