**New Hope Lutheran Church**

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**Fourth Sunday of Advent December 24, 2017**

**The Meaning of the Advent Candles**

1st Candle (Purple)   Prophecy - Hope

 2nd Candle (Purple)  Bethlehem - Love

3rd Candle (Pink)      Shepherds - Joy

 4th Candle (Purple)    Angels - Peace

 5th Candle (White)     The Christ Candle

The Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship………… Video………….. "Winter Snow Song"

Pastor: *Let us open our Worship Service this morning in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. And all God’s children said:*

**“AMEN. PRAISE THE LORD!**” *(Psalm 106:48)*

Opening Hymn…..**#40**… (Green Hymnal and on screen) …. “ What Child is This”

.

*Pastor:* Let us take a few moments to silently talk to God from our hearts

*Pastor:* Almighty God our Maker and Redeemer

**We confess unto you that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. Therefore we come to you in the Name of our Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, trusting in Your mercy, and asking Your forgiveness.**

*Pastor:* If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9) If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. (Romans 10: 8-10)

*Congregation*: **Lord Jesus, I believe in You. Amen.**

Hymn of Praise……….**#518 Vs 1& 2** and on screen………..  “Beautiful Savior”

The Prayer of the Day

Old Testement Lesson…… (on screen)……............................................**Psalm 27:1**

New Testement Lessons….(on screen).…………...…..…………… **Galatians 3:26**

 …..… (on screen )………………….……………… **Romans 8:15-17**

The Gospel.......... (on screen)….……..…………....................... **Matthew 12:49-50**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,**

**world without end. Amen**

Children’s Sermon

Pulpit Hymn …**#69 vs 1, 3, &4** and on screen….. “I am so Glad Each Christmas Eve”

Message……………………………………………..…………………… **“Family”**

Hymn of the Day…… **#34** and on screen………...  “Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel”

The Apostles’ Creed (from Luther’s Small Catechism, Ambassador Publications, 2007)

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was Crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From where He shall come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit; the Holy Christian Church, The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body; And the Life everlasting. Amen**

The Offertory *(presentation of our offering to the Lord)*

Response: **#88** Words below …..................................“More Precious Than Silver”

**Lord, You are more precious than silver,**

**Lord, You are more costly than gold.**

**Lord, You are more beautiful than diamonds,**

**And nothing I desire compares with You.** (x 2)

### Prayers of the Church (see insert, congregation may be seated)

After each petition the Pastor will pray: *“We ask this in Jesus Name.”*

Congregational Response: “**Thank you Lord Jesus.”**

The Lord’s Prayer

Closing Hymn..**#60** and on screen……….…..….. “Hark The Herald Angels Sing”

Closing Prayer

Pastor: *Go in Peace and Serve the Lord.*

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Thank you to for reading our scripture lessons. Thanks also to all the other participants in our service today for being a blessing in our worship.

Please join us tonight for our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service that will be held at 4:00 p.m. All are welcome.

THANK YOU~ Thanks to everyone who made our 2nd annual Christmas Caroling at the nursing homes a spectacular success! We are so grateful for all of the volunteers who contributed their musical talents and worked together to bring some Holiday Cheer to those residing in the local nursing homes. Many thanks to Debi and Brian Smith for cooking the meal afterwards and also to everyone who helped Debi with setting up before hand and cleaning up afterwards. Thanks also to the CCC/Shady Knoll homes who anticipate us every year and embrace us as your own. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas!

We are so blessed to have worshiped together today. We pray God’s blessings upon our members, friends, families and visitors. Visitors are invited to take a “Welcome Packet” and sign our guest book in the narthex. Visitors are also invited to join us for fellowship and coffee following the service.

**SUN**. 9:30 am........................................................................Worship Service

4:00 pm …………………………**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

**WED.** 6:30am……………….………...……….……………Men’s Bible Study

 9:00 am………………..…..………...……………..……………..Quilting

 2:00 to 3:00 pm …………………....….……. Congregational Prayer Time

No Noah’s Park, Choir or bell choir until January 3rd.

**NEXT SUN**. 9:30 am…...................................................................Worship Service

 *Followed by coffee and fellowship*

10:45am………..…….………………….Confirmation Instruction

11:00 to noon……………..…….……….Junior Choir/Sunday School