



Seeking to bring the
life-giving Hope of Jesus Christ
to our community in Hot Springs, AR

Celebration of Worship
Sunday, December 21, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Gathering Song
The First Noel

The first noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay —
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Noel, noel! Noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel!

They all looked up and saw a star
shining in the east, beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.
Noel, noel! Noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel!

Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
Who has made heaven and earth of naught,
and with His blood mankind has bought.

Noel, noel! Noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel!

Welcome to Visitors / Announcements *(back of bulletin)*

Call to Worship

Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty!

Just and true are your ways, King of ages.

Who will not fear you, O Lord, and bring glory to your name?

For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship you!

From Revelation 15:3-4

The Prayer of Invocation

What Child Is This? #213

What child is this, who laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:

Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you:

Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come peasant, king, to own him;

The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.

Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby; Joy, joy for Christ is born,
the babe, the son of Mary.

"What Child is This?," Words: William Dix, Music: English Melody, Public Domain

Lighting of the Advent Candle

From the prophet Micah:

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of

Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel,

whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

From the Prophet Isaiah

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign.

Congregation: **Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and shall call his name Immanuel.**

Corporate Confession of Sin

Lord Jesus, like Judas, we have betrayed you;

Lord, have mercy on us. Like Peter, we have denied you;

Christ, have mercy on us. And, like the other disciples, we have forsaken you;

Lord, have mercy on us.

Yet you remain faithful to us unto death, even death on a cross.

We plead for your forgiveness and mercy. And we ask that you strengthen

us so that we do not turn aside but follow you to the very end --

for the final victory belongs to you.

Amen.

Private Confession of Sin

The Assurance of Pardon

The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

He will not always accuse, nor will He harbor His anger forever;

He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

so great is His love to those who fear Him;

As far as the east is from the west,

so far has He removed our transgressions from us.

-from Psalm 103

The Peace

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Joy to the World #195

Joy to the World, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare Him room,

And Heaven and nature sing,

And Heaven and nature sing,

And Heaven, and Heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ;

While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

"Joy to the World!" Words: Isaac Watts, Music: George Frederick Handel, Public Domain

Scripture Reading

John 17:6-19

The Sermon from God's Word

Rev. Scott Davis

Tithes and Offerings

Our offering is an act of worship where we respond to the goodness and mercy of God with our gratitude and reliance on Him for all things. If you are our guest today, please feel no obligation to give.

Hymn of Response

Go, Tell it on the Mountain #224

*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.*

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.*

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.

*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.*

Down in a lowly stable the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.*

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

We invite all baptized Christians who profess faith in Jesus Christ for their salvation and are members of congregations that proclaim the Gospel to join us in taking the Lord's Supper. The outer ring is grape juice. The inner rings are wine.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you! **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts! **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Most righteous God, we remember in this supper the perfect sacrifice offered once on the cross by our Lord Jesus Christ for the sin of the whole world. In the joy of his resurrection and in the expectation of his coming again, we offer ourselves to you as holy and living sacrifices. Together we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Words of Institution 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 ESV

The Lord Jesus, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."
For as often as you eat the bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Doxology #731

(Tune: "Old Hundredth" from the Genevan Psalter)

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.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

A Note to Visitors

If you are spiritually weary and in search of rest, if you are mourning and you long for comfort, if you are struggling and you desire victory, if you recognize that you are a sinner and need a savior, God welcomes you here in the name of Christ. To the stranger in need of fellowship, to those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, and to whoever will come, Hope Church Hot Springs opens wide its doors and welcomes all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

<u>Session</u>	<u>Diaconate</u>
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Children at Hope Presbyterian Church

To parents of young children may we suggest:

God gave children the vibrant energy that sometimes causes them to wiggle and make noise. They belong right here with God’s people where you have so faithfully brought them. Stick with it!

Feel free to sit toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what’s going on. They tire of seeing the backs of others’ heads.

Quietly explain the parts of the service and the actions of the pastor and elders.

Sing the songs and participate in the prayers and the responses. Children learn how to worship by watching you.

If you have to leave the service with your child, please feel free to do so. But, please come back. As Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me.”

To the members of our church:

Children are a gift, not a distraction. The sound of children in the church is the sound of Jesus keeping his promises; it is the sound of his church that lives on and never dies. Please welcome children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

Announcements

Theology on Tap, our weekly bible study will be this Tuesday evening at 6:30. We'll be meeting at the Courtyard by Marriott lobby. The hotel is located at 200 Marriott Ct, just off Central Avenue. Make plans to join us!

Tonight we'll be serving the evening meal at Samaritan Ministries at 5:45. Let us know if you're able to help!

Make plans to attend our Christmas Eve "Lessons and Carols" service this year! The one-hour service begins at 5pm. There will be cocoa, punch and cookies afterwards.

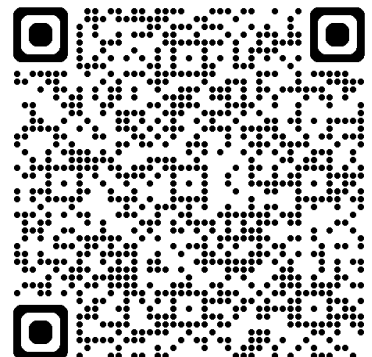
Our elders are launching small groups that meet in one another's homes for bible study, food and fellowship. To that end, we're wanting to get a sense of who is interested in joining a small group and/or who is willing to occasionally host in their home. Please see the signup sheet on the counter to let us know!

Our Hope Presbyterian Christmas Dinner is scheduled for the evening of December 12th. Mark your calendars. We'll push out more details in the coming weeks.

In an effort to make giving easier, we've partnered with Tithely to allow you to give to Hope Church through our website or through the Tithely app. Download Tithely from the App Store to get started. Or, visit: www.HopeChurchPCA.org/give In the app we're listed as: "Hope Church PCA" Also, you can use this QR Code to go directly there:



If you're interested in joining Hope Presbyterian Church, download our New to Hope book here.



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www.HopeChurchPca.org



COME CELEBRATE THE
BIRTH OF THE
SAVIOR

WITH US AT
HOPE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

ON CHRISTMAS EVE!

THIS TRADITIONAL "LESSONS AND
CAROLS" SERVICE BEGINS AT 5PM AND
WILL INCLUDE FAVORITE CHRISTMAS
HYMNS AND A MESSAGE OF
"GOOD TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY"

