

John

The Word Made Flesh



Welcome to Hope!

We are delighted to welcome one and all to our church today! We gather from all walks of life, and we are an assembly of many different ages, life experiences, and backgrounds. Yet every one of us has the same inner need. We are God's creatures, and our spirits need to be in unity with our Lord. Today we focus on the Word of God from St. John's Gospel, and we rejoice at the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ. As the Lord's people, we rejoice to be here together with you on this day. Welcome to Hope!

INFORMATION

WORSHIP CHECK-IN. Please take a moment to check in online on the homepage of Hope's website (www.hopelutheranwf.org). A special welcome to guests and visitors today!

OFFERINGS & TITHES. All are invited to make an offering today, as a worshipful expression of thanksgiving to God, and in support of the ministries of Hope Lutheran Church. You may place your gift in the offering plate next to the sanctuary exit doors as you leave. May God bless our offerings and tithes, and bless the ministry which these gifts enable!

SERVICE INFORMATION

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Devin Murphy

Associate Pastor

John: The Word Made Flesh

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 28, 2024 ~ 11:00AM Service

PRELUDE

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & TIME OF GREETING

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

ORDER OF CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: Who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination)

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray you of your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being. Amen..

P: Upon this confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HYMN

"You Servants of God" (LBW252)



- 1 You ser - vants of God, your mas - ter pro - claim, and pub - lish a -
- 2 Our God rules on high, al - might - y to save; and still he is
- 3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -
- 4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all glo - ry and



broad his won - der - ful name; the name, all - vic - to - rious, of
nigh, his pres - ence we have. The great con - gre - ga - tion his
loud and hon - or the Son. The prais - es of Je - sus the
pow'r and wis - dom and might, all hon - or and bless - ing, with



Je - sus ex - tol; his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all!
tri - umph shall sing, as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!
an - gels pro - claim, fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.
an - gels a - bove, and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fin - ite love!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior.

C: **Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

✠ The Service of Holy Baptism ✠

Sarah Catherine Mielke

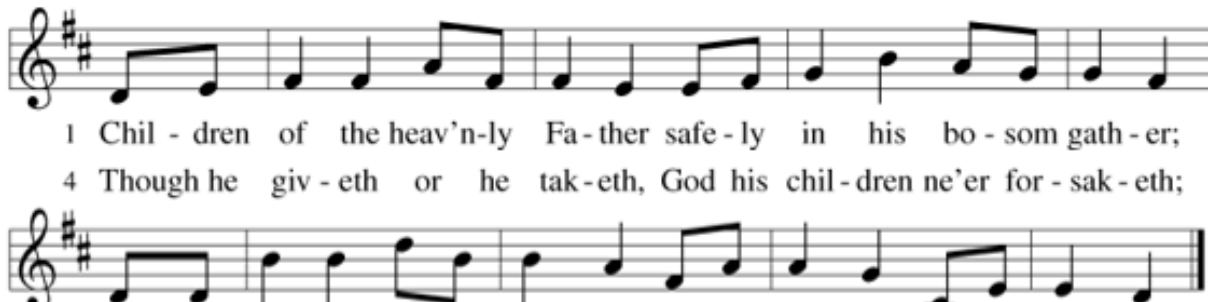
Birthdate: 9/27/2023

Parents: Benjamin & Catherine Mielke

Godparents: Walton & Lorene Walker

BAPTISM HYMN

"Children of the Heavenly Father"



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa-ther safe-ly in his bo - som gath - er;
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak-eth, God his chil-dren ne'er for - sak - eth;
nest-ling bird or star in heav - en such a ref - uge ne'er was giv - en.
his the lov - ing pur-pose sole - ly to pre-serve them pure and ho - ly.

✠ The Service of the Word ✠

Congregation is seated

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

"The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— ¹⁶ just as you desired of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.' ¹⁷ And the Lord said to me, 'They are right in what they have spoken. ¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. ¹⁹ And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. ²⁰ But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.'"

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. ² If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. ³ But if anyone loves God, he is known by God. ⁴ Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.” ⁵ For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”— ⁶ yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. ⁷ However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸ Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹ But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰ For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? ¹¹ And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. ¹² Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³ Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

Congregation stands

ALLELUIA VERSE

“Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks” (TCH359)

Refrain

Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, give thanks to the ris-en Lord;

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give praise to his name.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 8:12-20

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” ¹³ So the Pharisees said to him, “You are bearing witness about yourself; your testimony is not true.” ¹⁴ Jesus answered, “Even if I do bear witness about myself, my testimony is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. ¹⁵ You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. ¹⁶ Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is true, for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me. ¹⁷ In your Law it is written that the testimony of two people is true. ¹⁸ I am the one who bears witness about myself, and the Father who sent me bears witness about me.” ¹⁹ They said to him therefore, “Where is your Father?” Jesus answered, “You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also.” ²⁰ These words he spoke in the treasury, as he taught in the temple; but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation**

**He came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

** "universal" (original wording of the Creed; portraying God's perspective that the whole of God's people on earth are truly one In Christ)*

Congregation is seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children may come to the front.

*Children ages 3 – Grade 2 may leave for Children's Church immediately following
the Children's Message by Pastor Devin Murphy.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

"O Savior, Precious Savior" (LBW514)



1 O Sav - ior, pre - cious Sav - ior, whom yet un - seen we love;
2 O bring - er of sal - va - tion, who won - drous - ly hast wrought,
3 In thee all full - ness dwell - eth, all grace and pow'r di - vine;
4 Oh, grant the con - sum - ma - tion of this our song a - bove,



O name of might and fa - vor, all oth - er names a - bove:
thy - self the rev - e - la - tion of love be - yond our thought:
the glo - ry that ex - cel - leth, O Son of God, is thine.
in end - less ad - o - ra - tion and ev - er - last - ing love;



we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
We wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
then shall we praise and bless thee where per - fect prais - es ring,



we praise thee and con - fess thee, our ho - ly Lord and King.
we praise thee and con - fess thee, our gra - cious Lord and King.
we praise thee and con - fess thee, our glo - rious Lord and King.
and ev - er - more con - fess thee, our Sav - ior and our King!

"JOHN" SERMON SERIES

"The Light of Life"
Pastor Devin Murphy

Congregation stands

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words.

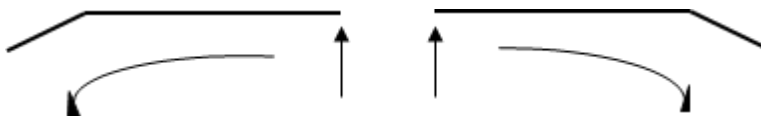
P: Lord, in your mercy...

C: Hear our prayer.

❖ The Service of Holy Communion ❖

Communion Participation: As Lutheran Christians, we believe Christ's body and blood are truly present with the bread and wine, offering forgiveness of sins to all who believe in Jesus Christ. We ask those who commune to share this unity of faith in Christ and understanding of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Since the Scripture teaches that we are to examine ourselves before eating of the bread and drinking of the cup (1 Corinthians 11:28), if you are not certain of the meaning of Holy Communion or have not been baptized or instructed in the Christian faith, please speak with the Pastor before communing.

Communion Distribution Process: Please form two lines in the main center aisle, proceeding to the altar. After you have received communion, you may return to your pew via the side aisles.



White grape juice is provided in the center of the trays. Individual cups may be placed in the baskets provided by the acolyte. Gluten-free bread is available upon request.

Communion and Children: First communion is ordinarily offered at Hope to youth after instruction classes in the 5th grade. Children and youth who have not been confirmed may come to the altar to receive a blessing. Children and non-confirmed youth should fold their arms over their chest to acknowledge they are receiving the blessing.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

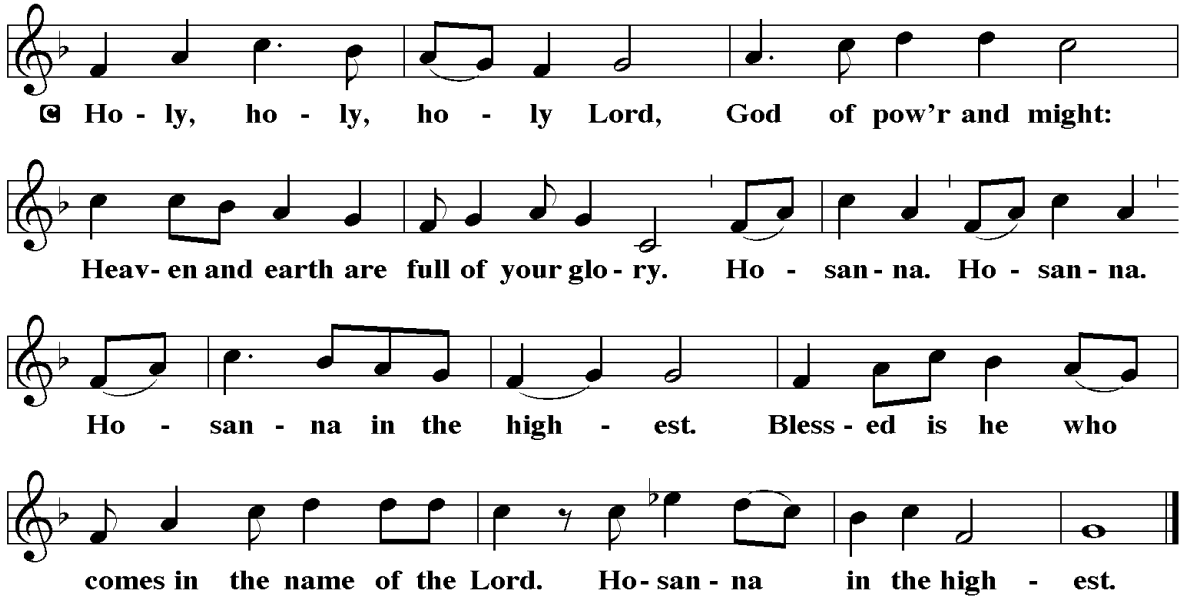
P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is indeed right that we should offer thanks and praise to you, Lord God, eternal Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

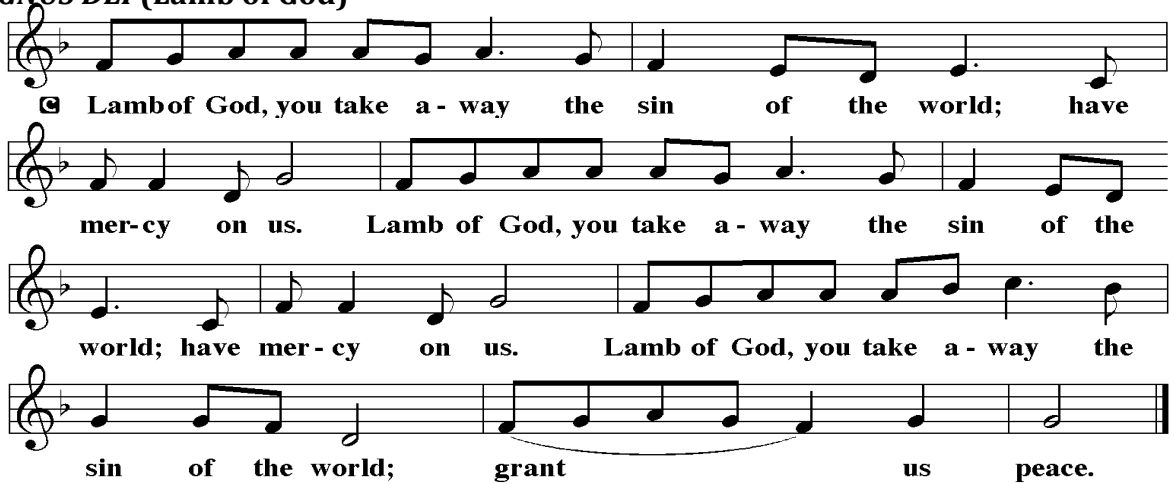
SHARING OF PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The ministers and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord.

AGNUS DEI (Lamb of God)



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

Congregation is seated

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION SONGS "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness" (LBW223)



- 1 Soul, a - dorn your-self with glad-ness, leave the gloom-y haunts of sad-ness,
- 2 Has - ten as a bride to meet him, ea - ger - ly and glad - ly greet him.
- 3 Now in faith I hum-bly pon - der o - ver this sur-pass-ing won-der
- 4 Je - sus, source of last-ing plea-sure, tru - est friend, and dear-est trea-sure,



come in - to the day-light's splen-dor, there with joy your prais-es ren - der.
 There he stands al-read - y knock-ing; quick - ly, now, your gate un-lock - ing,
 that the bread of life is bound-less though the souls it feeds are count-less;
 peace be-yond all un - der - stand-ing, joy in - to all life ex-pand-ing:



Bless the one whose grace un-bound-ed this a - maz - ing ban-quet found-ed;
 o - pen wide the fast-closed por - tal, say - ing to the Lord im-mor - tal:
 with the choic-est wine of heav-en Christ's own blood to us is giv - en.
 hum-bly now, I bow be - fore you, love in - car - nate, I a - dore you;



he, though heav'n-ly, high, and ho - ly, deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
 "Come, and leave your loved one nev - er; dwell with-in my heart for - ev - er."
 Oh, most glo-rious con - so-la - tion, pledge and seal of my sal - va-tion.
 wor - thi - ly let me re-ceive you, and, so fa-vored, nev - er leave you.

"How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds" (LBW345)



1 How sweet the name of Je - sus sounds in
2 It makes the wound - ed spir - it whole and
3 Dear name! The rock on which I build, my
4 By thee my prayers ac - cep - tance gain al -



a be - liev - er's ear! It soothes our sor - rows,
calms the heart's un - rest; 'tis man - na to the
shield and hid - ing place; my nev - er - fail - ing
though with sin de - filed. The dev - il charg - es



heals our wounds, and drives a - way all fear.
hun - gry soul and to the wea - ry, rest.
trea - sury, filled with bound - less stores of grace.
me in vain, and I am owned a child.

5 O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend,
my Prophet, Priest, and King,
my Lord, my life, my way, my end,
accept the praise I bring.

6 How weak the effort of my heart,
how cold my warmest thought;
but when I see thee as thou art,
I'll praise thee as I ought.

7 Till then I would thy love proclaim
with every fleeting breath;
and may the music of thy name
refresh my soul in death!

WORDS OF BLESSING

Congregation stands

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Gracious Lord God, for nourishing our spirits through this sacred meal we offer you thanks and praise.

C: Now keep us deeply rooted in Christ, growing in our faith, and connected to his life-giving grace. Amen.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

"On What Has Now Been Sown" (LBW261)



1 On what has now been sown your bless - ing Lord, be - stow; the
2 To you our wants are known, from you are all our pow'rs; ac -
3 Oh, grant that each of us, now met be - fore you here, may



pow'r is yours a - lone to make it sprout and grow. O Lord, in
cept what is your own and par - don what is ours. Our prais - es,
meet to - geth - er thus when you and yours ap - pear, and fol - low



grace the har - vest raise, and yours a - lone shall be the praise!
Lord, and prayers re - ceive and to your word a bless - ing give.
you to heav'n, our home. E'en so, A - men! Lord Je - sus, come!

DISMISSAL

P: The worship is ended.

C: **The service now begins.**

P: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Holy Communion Setting One and Hymns from Lutheran Book of Worship, © 1978. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license 2570-L. Selected hymns from Lutheran Book of Worship, © 1978 by Augsburg Fortress, Used by permission. Onelicense.net#A701721.

✠ News & Events ✠

CONGREGATIONAL STUDY. Through February 7th, the congregation is invited to explore the first 12 chapters of John's Gospel. Our sermons, Sunday morning Bible studies, WNA evening studies, and home studies will walk verse-by-verse to help us see how the Logos descended from heaven, became a human being named Jesus, and brought us true knowledge of his Father in heaven. Hear the last testimony of the last of the Apostles as he shares what we need to strengthen our faith in Christ. Home study materials will be available at www.hopelutheranwf.org/adulted each week. Don't miss this opportunity to dive into John's powerful Gospel of Jesus.

SUNDAY SCHOOL (9:45-10:45AM)

- **KIDS:** See signs in the Narthex and Children's Center Foyer.
- **MIDDLE SCHOOL:** John in Room 102
- **HIGH SCHOOL:** John in Room 101
- **ADULT:** John: the Word Made Flesh in room 301

SCAMS. Every so often, members of Hope receive emails that claim to be from one of Hope's pastors, asking for emergency financial help for people in need. Please be aware that the pastors will never send these emails, as the church has emergency funds available. These emails are always the work of scammers and are most definitely not legitimate.

TRI-AREA MINISTRY is the largest food pantry in the Wake Forest, Youngsville, and Rolesville area, serving 1200+ families monthly. Donations of cereal are especially requested at this time. Bring your donated items to Hope, and drop them in the collection bins in the Gallery area (near the red doors). Items needed are food, personal hygiene products, and paper products.

EXTENDED CARE PRESCHOOL TEACHER. Hope Lutheran Preschool is a Christ-centered preschool looking for an enthusiastic, energetic Extended Care Teacher who loves working with children ages 2-3 years old. Experience working with children is required. Hours for this position are Monday through Friday, 11:30AM to 5:15PM. The position is available now. Please send your resume or inquire to Regina Fisher, Preschool Director, at rfisher@hopelutheranwf.org.

THE 3 B'S (Bible, Beer, and Bourbon) Men's Small Group will be meeting 1/26 at 7PM at 1617 Heritage Links Drive, Wake Forest. This small group is a place where men 21 and over can gather for devotions, discussions, and drinks. If you can make it, please text (818)642-7570 to let us know.

KID'S MINISTRY: MADE WITH LOVE. Come to Hope's annual *Made with Love* cooking event, on 2/3 from 2-4PM. Cost is \$15 per family. It is important to make time for family

always, but in February, we want to share the love and encourage families to come enjoy some homemade love. At this event, families will spend time together preparing a meal to bake at home. Register on the Kid's Ministry page on the Hope website. Questions? bagner@hopelutheranwf.org.

SUPER BOWL CHILI SALE. February 10-11 before and after services; \$8 per quart. The Men of Hope are back again with their famous Chili Sale. The group will be selling three types of chili: a mild beef, vegetable chili, and white chicken. The Men of Hope prepare and cook the chili Saturday morning using the freshest ingredients, yielding a hearty and healthy meal. Please plan to buy a couple of quarts and have something great for your Super Bowl viewing (or freeze for a later meal). All proceeds go towards the Men of Hope's funding for new chairs and tables for the youth center.

PINE STRAW SALE BEGIN. Are your landscape beds in need of a freshening up? Hope youth attending the summer mission trip are selling bales of fresh, premium pine straw for \$6/bale, with free delivery for orders of more than 20 bales. You can order at the table after services February 4 and 11 or online on Hope's website. Bales will be delivered or available for pick-up Saturday March 2. Questions? wspottiswood@hopelutheranwf.org.

WOMEN'S BUNCO NIGHT. Come drop by for some bunco fun on February 2, 2024 from 7:00-9:00PM in room 301-302 at Hope. Bring a snack to share as we enjoy a wonderful evening of fun and fellowship. Questions? Barb Newcomer at barb.fleagle.newcomer@gmail.com or Bonnie Smith bonn0701@gmail.com.

Volunteers



We are thrilled to announce that Hope will once again be hosting the Tim Tebow Foundation Night to Shine on Friday, February 9. If you've never experienced it, it's a magical night of celebration for our special needs community.

Volunteers will be needed to help with a myriad of fun tasks, such as:

Host/Hostess: Buddy with a guest (most needed)

Food Crew (7-8 Graders)

Special Projects (ahead of time)

Set Up/Decorate: February 8

Set Up/Decorate: February 9 (daytime)

Clean Up Crew (after the event)

Please sign up before February 1 at hopelutheranwf.org/NTS.

Please note a background check is required to be a volunteer for Night to Shine.

Contact Paula Reeves at nighttoshine@hopelutheranwf.org for more information.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE

January 10 – February 7
www.hopelutheranwf.org/wna

WNA is Hope's
midweek
ministry
opportunity for
all ages to
gather for dinner,
Bible study,
fellowship, and
fun!

Dinner

5:30 – 6:15 PM

The cost is \$6 for adults & youth, \$3 for children ages 5–10, and kids 5 and under are free. There is a \$22 family maximum.

This week's meal is:
Fried Chicken,
Mashed Potatoes
with Gravy, Salad,
and Dessert

Adult Ed.

6:30–7:30 PM Room 301

JOHN: THE WORD MADE FLESH.

Come join us as we continue a congregational study on the Gospel of John that will extend through the Epiphany season in January. Our WNA studies will pick up our verse-by-verse coverage of John that coordinates with our sermons, Sunday morning Bible studies, and home studies. Listen in as we explore the beautiful vistas of John's Gospel and learn more about Jesus, the Word made flesh.

Kids & Youth

6:30–7:30 PM

- 3 –5 years – Nursery
- K1 Crew– Preschool Room 1
- Level 23– Children's Center
- Club 45– Club 45 Room
- Middle School – Youth Center

Music

- 5:00pm Children's Choir
- 5:45pm Children's Handbells
- 6:15pm Adult Handbells
- 7:30pm Senior Choir Practice