

Good News of Great Joy

"Let the earth rejoice..."
Psalm 96:11

Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 24

5:30 pm Family Worship Service

Christmas carols will be sung and the Christmas story will be told as we worship the Christ child together.

11:00 pm Candlelight Communion

Scripture lessons, carols, and music will fill our worship in a celebration of the birth of Christ. We greet Christmas morning sharing communion together, celebrating Jesus' birth.

Christmas Sunday

Sunday, December 27

11:00 am Christmas Worship Service

A worship service of carols, scripture, poetry, Christmas celebration & reflection.

There will be no Early Worship, Church School, Adult Education, or CIW.

Epiphany Sunday

Sunday, January 3

11:00 am Epiphany Worship Service

Jill Russell, preaching

The 4th and 5th graders will participate in the service.

11:15 am Children in Worship

12:15 pm Epiphany Celebration

There will be no Early Worship, Church School, or Adult Education.

Opportunities to Give

Tree of Light

Become more involved in the lives of the community by selecting a tag off the tree in the Gathering Area beginning Nov. 29. Each tag will indicate a specific request. Purchase, wrap, and return the gift to Hope Church by Dec. 13.

Gift of Hope

On Sunday, December 6, products from the Gift of Hope women's program of the Haiti Foundation Against Poverty will be available. Sales of these products provide income for the women to care for themselves and their children. Samples of the products can be viewed on the HFAP website, haitipoverty.org.

Christmas Offering

Hope Church will support La Pouponnière, an orphanage located in Dakar, Senegal, that Germaine Pellebon-Smith supports. The Center, in the heart of Senegal's capitol city, has served the needs of some of the most vulnerable infants and children in the country—as well as children seeking refuge from war and other conflicts in neighboring countries—since 1955. Hope Church will also support Children in Vietnam with HIV/AIDS, through the Warm Hold Association, of which Dan Fisher is a part. Currently, they work with 98 children in Ho Chi Minh City and more impoverished areas of Tay Ninh province near the Cambodia border and Tra Vinh province in the Mekong Delta region.

White Gift Offering

On Epiphany Sunday, Jan. 3, bring a personal care product for a child or woman, wrapped in white tissue paper. These gifts will be brought forward during the offering, and later given to the Center for Women in Transition, a local agency assisting women and families caught in abusive relationships and empowering a hopeful future for them.

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Holland, MI 49423
Permit No. 607

 HOPE CHURCH
77 WEST 11TH ST.
HOLLAND, MI 49423

Advent 2015

"Again I Will Say:
Rejoice!"

*Rejoice in the Lord
always*



(616) 392-7947
HopeChurchRCA.org



"I will fulfill the promise"
Jeremiah 33:14

First Sunday of Advent November 29

- 8:30 am Early Worship
- 9:40 am Adult Education
- 11:00 am Worship
Gordon Wiersma, preaching; *Communion*
- 4:15 pm Jubilate Choir Rehearsal
- 5:00 pm Advent Activities
 - **Children: Crafts**
Preschool* through 5th grade will make crafts for the Advent and Christmas season. *Young children should be accompanied by an adult or an older sibling.
 - **Youth: Cookie Baking**
Fish Club and High Hopes will make cookies to deliver while Christmas caroling on December 20.
- 5:30 pm **Advent Evensong Service**
Advent Evensong is a candlelight service of evening prayers incorporating song, prayer, and scripture. We begin the season of Advent mindful of the longing in our hearts for the healing of the world and for those we love.
- 6:00 pm **Soup Supper & Lighting of Advent Candles**
A simple meal will be provided after the Advent crafts and activities.

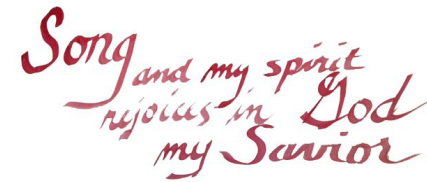


"The dawn from on high"
Luke 1:78

Second Sunday of Advent December 6

- 8:30 am Early Worship
- 9:40 am St. Nicholas Breakfast
This will be a time to remember the traditions of St. Nicholas and share breakfast in the Commons. Following those traditions, we will make a gift to share.
- 11:00 am Worship
Jill Russell, preaching
- 12:15 pm Jubilate Choir Rehearsal

Intergenerational Advent Class: Youth & Adults - Sunday, Dec. 13, 9:40am
Advent Arts: Together the youth and adults of Hope will explore the arts as part of our Advent preparation. Art work portraying the stories surrounding the birth, childhood and ministry of Jesus will be viewed and explored as the visual arts draw us deeper into the message of the incarnation for the church across the centuries. Participants will also respond to the art with the opportunity to write poetry, with various poetic forms used to spark our creativity. All middle school through high school youth and adults are welcomed and encouraged to attend.



"My spirit rejoices"
Luke 1:47

Third Sunday of Advent December 13

- 8:30 am Early Worship
- 9:40 am Intergenerational Advent Class: Youth & Adults
See description in box to the left.
- 11:00 am Worship
Gordon Wiersma, preaching
- 4:00 pm Jubilate Choir Rehearsal
- 4:15 pm Nativity Rehearsal
Rehearsal for speaking parts only
- 4:15 pm **Advent Organ Recital**
Hope Church Organist, Rhonda Edgington, will again play an Advent organ recital, this year with music of the 20th and 21st centuries from France and America.
- 4:45 pm **Pageant Participants Arrival**
Children are asked to come costumed as a character in the story - a shepherd, sheep, angel, or magi. If you are in need of a costume, they will be available in the youth room. **Please pick up your costume Sunday morning.**
- 5:00 pm **Nativity Pageant**
The pageant is a wonderful event for the whole church community to gather and celebrate the music and meaning of this season as the children act out the events of the Gospel story. A light snack will end the evening in the Commons.

Children's ornaments will be available in the gathering area.



"Rejoice in the Lord always"
Philippians 4:4

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 20

- 8:30 am Early Worship
- 9:40 am **There will be no Adult Education or Church School**
- 11:00 am Worship
Jill Russell, preaching
- 12:15 pm **Pizza Sunday**
- 12:45 pm Jubilate Choir Rehearsal
- 1:00 pm **Congregational Caroling**
Share the spirit of celebration and joy with those who find it difficult to join us. Poinsettias, gift bags, and cards will be shared as we carol. You don't have to have a great voice, just a smile to share. We will carol both to our own members and in the Hope Church neighborhood. Families and persons of all ages are encouraged to participate - many voices are needed!

Original Advent artwork by Kari Miller Fenwood