

God With Us in Life

"to you is born a Savior"
Luke 2:11



Christmas Eve

Saturday, 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 Day

Sunday, December 25

- 11:00 am Christmas Worship Service**
A worship service of carols, scripture, poetry, Christmas celebration & reflection.
No Early Worship, Church School, Adult Education, or CIW.

First Sunday after Christmas

Sunday, January 1

- 11:00 am Worship**
No Early Worship, Church School, or Adult Education.

Opportunities to Give

Tree of Light

Share the joy of the season with families in our community by selecting a gift tag off the tree in Commons II beginning Nov. 27. Each tag will indicate a specific request. Purchase, wrap, and return the gift to Hope Church by Dec. 11.

Christmas Offering

Hope Church is partnering with Rode Molla and her husband Endrias Assen in support of their ongoing ministry. In 2014, Rode answered a call from God to begin a ministry of holistic care for children and families in Ethiopia. Her quest led them to Western Seminary, and while studying there, they found a home at Hope Church. Currently, Rode is in Denver, CO at Illif School of Theology working on a PhD. Rode wants to equip the church in Ethiopia to address educational, medical and social challenges for children, and her doctoral work will equip her to carry through with this focus long term. This Christmas offering is a way for Hope Church to partner with Rode and Endrias (who is a Lutheran pastor) in shaping the impact of the church in Ethiopia now and for generations to come, and it is our plan to continue an ongoing relationship of prayerful support with them. Watch for more information and please join in this offering of support for their ministry.

White Gift Offering

On Epiphany Sunday, Jan. 8, 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.



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

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Permit No. 607

Advent 2016

Emmanuel God With Us



HOPE CHURCH

(616) 392-7947
HopeChurchRCA.org

God With Us in
Tension

"the night is far gone,
the day is near" Romans 13:12



First Sunday of Advent
November 27

- 8:30 am Early Worship
- 9:40 am Adult Education
- 11:00 am Worship, Communion
- 4:15 pm Jubilate Choir Rehearsal
- 4:30 pm Youth: Cookie Baking
Fish Club and High Hopes will make cookies to deliver while Christmas caroling on December 18.
- 5:00 pm 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.
- 5:30 pm Advent Evensong Service
Advent Evensong is a candlelight service of evening prayers incorporating song, prayer, and scripture.
- 6:00 pm Soup Supper & Lighting of Advent Candles
A simple meal will be provided after the Advent crafts and activities.

Bus Ministry: On Nov. 27, there will be a second bus pick up at 5:05 pm at Appledorn, 5:10 pm at Freedom Village, and 5:15 pm at Warm Friend. On Dec. 4, there will be a second bus pick up at 3:45 pm at Appledorn, 3:50 pm at Freedom Village, and 3:55 pm at Warm Friend.

God With Us in
Harmony

"to live in harmony"
Romans 15:5



Second Sunday of Advent
December 4

- 8:30 am Early Worship
- 10:00 am St. Nicholas Breakfast
This will be a time to remember the traditions of St. Nicholas and share breakfast in the Commons. There will be a special gift for each child and a gift to share with others!
- 11:00 am Worship
- 4:00 pm Jubilate Choir Rehearsal
- 4:15 pm Advent Organ Recital
Rhonda Edgington's concert will include both solo organ works, and a Buxtehude Cantata for two violins, three voices, and organ.
- 4:30 pm Nativity Rehearsal
Rehearsal for speaking parts only
- 4:30 pm Instrumentalist Rehearsal
- 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 community to celebrate the music and meaning of this season as the children act out the events of the Gospel story.

God With Us in
Surprise

"the desert shall blossom"
Isaiah 35:1



Third Sunday of Advent
December 11

- 8:30 am Early Worship
- 9:40 am Adult Education
- 11:00 am Worship
- 12:15 pm Jubilate Choir Rehearsal

Children's ornaments will be available in Commons II starting this Sunday.

Adult Education: Advent Series
Nov. 27, Dec. 11, Dec. 18 - 9:40am
 In Isaiah 9:6, we hear four royal titles- Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. *Names for the Messiah*, by Walter Brueggemann, ponders each royal designation and how the people understood it then, how Jesus did or did not fulfill the title, and how Christians interpret Jesus as representative of that title. Here is a listing of the weekly Advent study emphases and facilitators:
Nov. 27: Wonderful Counselor - Beverly Zell
Dec. 11: Mighty God - Cindi Veldheer DeYoung
Dec. 18: Everlasting Father & Prince of Peace - Beverly Zell

God With Us in
Faithfulness

"the obedience of faith"
Romans 1:5



Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 18

- 8:30 am Early Worship
- 9:40 am Adult Education
- 11:00 am Worship
- 12:15 pm Pizza Sunday
- 12:30 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. Families and persons of all ages are encouraged to participate - many voices are needed!