

HOPE

Lutheran Church

Pastor Christie Beckmann

www.HopeOnBlueRock.org

December 3, 2023
Inspiring Worship

4695 Blue Rock Rd.

Cincinnati, OH 45247

(513.923.3370)

*Conversations
with the
Angels*



*Hanging
of the Greens*

★ ★ *Welcome to Worship* ★ ★
 HOPE LUTHERAN
 CHURCH

In-Person and Livestreamed
 December 3, 2023, 10:00 am



Conversations with the Angels

CALL to CELEBRATION

GATHER in the LOBBY Pastor Christie Beckmann

Pastor: We come together in the name of the + Father, Son and Holy Spirit, with hearts full of hope and anticipation.

People: Rejoice! The time has come to celebrate the coming of the Light that shines on a cold dark world.

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

People: And also with you!

Pastor: When we look at the world around us, we see the darkness of war, captivity, greed, and broken relationships.

People: We long for Christ to come again and bring light to our world.

Pastor: The Word of the Gospel is that Jesus Christ lives among us, bringing truth and light as a present reality.

People: We worship as those who have a glimpse of that reality, and we long for its fullness. We are those who labor to make Christ's light more visible on earth. Let us praise God, that the light of Christ shines on in the darkness, which has never overcome it.

To God be the glory in Jesus Christ and in the church forever and ever.

Amen.

Pastor: People of God, we stand at the doorway to the Christian year on this first Sunday of Advent. Let us prepare our sanctuary, and our hearts and minds as portals for Christ to enter.

People: Come, Lord Jesus! Come, Lord Jesus!

SPECIAL MUSIC & PROCESSIONAL

Dale Renner, Choir, & Congregation

People Look East (ELW 248)

This Week at Hope!
December 4-10, 2023

Monday	Praise Band	6:00 pm	
Thursday	Bible Study		1:00 pm
	Spiritual Life Meeting		2:30 pm
	WHOO Christmas Dinner		6:00 pm

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NEXT SUNDAY at HOPE

Inspiring Worship 10:00 am
 Nursery Care Available Today

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READINGS for NEXT SUNDAY

1st Reading	Isaiah	40:1-11
2nd Reading	2 Peter	3:8-15a
3rd Reading	Mark	1:1-8

Meetings and Visits with Pastor Christie



Pastor would love to meet with you or visit you! To schedule an appointment, call or text her at 317-828-5949.

Office hours are posted on the calendar page on our website hopeonbluerock.org and are updated daily.

God's Office Hours 24-7



BIBLE STUDY
This Week
Thursday - 1:00 pm



Meijer gives SON Ministries the opportunity in their Simply Give Program to get store credit for food for our pantry. This program is running from now through-December 31, 2023 at the Meijer Stonecreek store only. If you would like to help in December, go to Meijer Stonecreek on Colerain Ave. Get a Simply Give card near the checkout and donate at the register, there are 3 ways to help us:

- 1) Now thru December 31 – donate \$10 at Meijer Stonecreek, and SON gets \$20 credit.
- 2) **DECEMBER 16, SATURDAY DOUBLE DAY** at Meijer Stonecreek, donate \$10 and SON gets \$30 credit.
- 3) If you or your church sends monetary donations to SON Ministries by **December 10** earmarked for the Simply Give Program, SON will make the donation on **December 16** to get a triple credit for your donation.

THIS KIND OF DONATION IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

This program helps us greatly in buying food for our Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday food boxes. We served 279 families with 435 food boxes for Thanksgiving on November 18. On December 9, we will distribute Christmas food boxes. SON Ministries made 1125 food boxes for the holidays this year!



CAROL'S TREE RETURNS

At this time of the year as in the past, we have been collecting children's hats and gloves for the children who receive food from the SON Ministries Food Pantry in memory of it's former director Carol Watson.



The tree is up in the Narthex ready to display your donations.



NATE'S TOY BOX DONATION BIN IS HERE!



Please consider donating to this worthy ministry to support children in Colerain Township at Christmastime. All items should be new and unwrapped, and requested donations include toys, family board games or card games, books, puzzles, and \$15 restaurant gift cards. Donation bin will be available at Hope through Dec. 6.

WELCOME

Pastor Christie

SCRIPTURE READING

Brian Byrne

Psalm 148

LIGHTING the 1st ADVENT CANDLE

READING 2

Jen Byrne & Congregation

O Come O Come Emmanuel (ELW 257)

Kim Arany soloist; Karen Schweinfest, piano, & Jake Byrne, Guitar

EVEN SO COME, LORD JESUS

READING 3, Eva McMasters

READING 4, Xander Hermann

READING 5, Ruth Williams

Come, Lord Jesus (Even So Come)

Josh Campbell, soloist; Karen Schweinfest, Keyboard; Jake Byrne, guitar

COMFORT & WREATHS

READING 6, John Groth

READING 7, Emma Sheppard

Comfort, Comfort Now My People (ELW 256)

vs 1 Praise Band; Karen Schweinfest, keyboard

vs 2 & 3 Congregation & Dale Renner, organ

AN UNEXPECTED MESSAGE and DECORATING the TREE

READING 8, Adam Williams

READING 9, Rachel Williams

READING 10, Mike Schweinfest

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus (ELW 254)

Pastor Christie & Phil Hollingsworth, soloists; Dale Renner, accompanist

SCRIPTURE READING & PLACING OF THE PARAMENTS

Luke 1:26-38, Jake Byrne

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

Josh Campbell, soloist; Karen Schweinfest accompanist

SCRIPTURE READING & PLACING OF the NATIVITY

Luke 1:39-56, Mary Bryant

Breath of Heaven

Kim Arany, soloist; Karen Schweinfest, accompanist

OFFERING PRAYER	Pastor Christie
GREAT THANKSGIVING	Pastor Christie
GATHERING of the COMMUNION ELEMENTS	Pastor Christie
DIALOGUE	Pastor Christie
PREFACE	Pastor Christie
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY	Congregation & Dale Renner
THANKSGIVING at the TABLE	Pastor Christie
LORD'S PRAYER	Pastor Christie
INVITATION to COMMUNION	Pastor Christie
COMMUNION	Pastor Christie
COMMUNION MUSIC	Dale & Martha Renner
<i>Let All Mortal Flesh</i>	
PRAYER following COMMUNION	Pastor Christie
RECESSIONAL	Dale, Praise Band & Congregation
<i>Angels from the Realms of Glory</i> (ELW 275)	

BLESSING Pastor Christie

We have prepared our worship space and our hearts for Christ's coming! As we go forth today, may we sing God's praises with the angels, and listen for their voices everywhere we go this Advent season. And may the God of love fill us with joy and peace in believing, + so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

Amen.

DISMISSAL Pastor Christie

Go in Peace. Jesus is coming!

THANKS BE TO GOD.

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Welcome all guests & visitors!



We are glad you are here and would like to continue to connect with you! Please fill out a welcome card and place it in the offering basket or return it to an usher.



Special Thanks to our Music Director, Musicians, and Choir Members: Karen Schweinfest, Dale Renner, Martha Renner, Jake Byrne, Mike Schweinfest, Karen Schneider, Joy Ivins, Eva McMasters, Ray Davis, Phil Hollingsworth, Pastor Christie, Josh Campbell, and Kim Arany

Thanks also to Ruth Oehler, Jerry Ivins, Nan Davis, Judy Royse, Gretchen Dille, Darlene Hedin, today's readers, all who decorated the sanctuary and assisted in worship, and all who helped to make today's service so special.

Reception

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after the service for a reception.



THE HANGING OF THE GREENS

is a Western Christian ceremony in which many congregations and people adorn their churches, as well as other buildings (such as a YWCA or university), with Advent and Christmas decorations. This is done on or directly before the start of the Advent season, in preparation for Christmastide. The service involves the placement of evergreen vegetation in the parish. Items such as the evergreen wreath, in Christianity, carry the religious symbolism of everlasting life, a theological concept within that faith. As such, during the liturgy, "Biblical passages and other readings help explain the significance of the holly, the cedar, the Advent wreath, the Chrismon tree, and any other special decorations".

Hanging of the Greens, Wikipedia

