



We believe that Jesus calls us to be His faithful disciples by welcoming all people, serving others and sharing generously.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

21st Sunday after Pentecost

October 18th, 2026

4357 South New Hope Rd.

Gastonia, NC 28056

704.824.1697 www.nhpchurch.com

Find us on Facebook: New Hope Presbyterian Church

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

One: This is the day the Lord has made!

All: Let us rejoice, and be glad in it!

PRELUDE

“God Will Take Care Of You”

Martin/Martin

Please prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

WE PREPARE

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 96)

One: Sing to the Lord a new song! Everyone, even the rocks and trees, sing!

All: Let us shout out in praise!

One: God does great things for us. See God’s amazing works all around us.

All: Great is the Lord!

One: Tell of God’s wonders! Share stories of God’s glory.

ALL: Let us Worship the Lord

***HYMN**

“Leaning On The Everlasting Arms”

No. 837

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Almighty God, we confess that we have not been the faithful disciples you call us to be. We have not remembered who we are. We are distracted by glittering gold. We are mesmerized by fame and fortune. We turn a blind eye to systems that perpetuate injustice. We fail to hear the cries for mercy of those who bear unfair burdens. We close our hearts and imagine empathy to be weakness. Forgive us Lord. Remind us that we are Yours, part of Your beloved people. Give us courage to build Your community today, extending mercy and grace to a world in need. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer ... (silent confession) ... Amen

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: Friends, hear these words, and listen to this good news; the empires of this world will rise and fall, but the mercy of the Lord will never end.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, thanks be to God.

PASSING THE PEACE

One: As God offers us the peace of Christ, let us now offer the peace to one another: the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!

All: And also with you!

(Please share the peace with those around you.)

***OUR RESPONSE**

"You've Got A Friend"

(lyrics on an insert)

WE LISTEN

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Carol Clanton

ANTHEM

"I Speak Jesus"

(lyrics on an insert)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Mark 2:1-12

p. 911

SECOND SCRIPTURE

John 11:38-44

p. 979

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON "Unwrapped on the Road: The Friends Who Carry Us Home" Rev. Dean Newkirk

WE RESPOND

***HYMN**

"What A Friend We Have In Jesus"

No. 465

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

(from the Confession of 1967)

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His

suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"That's What Friends Are For"

Sager/Bacharach

***DOXOLOGY**

No. 606

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***HYMN**

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

No. 65

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

"You've Got A Friend"

Carole King

*Please rise, in body or in spirit.

THE LIFE OF NEW HOPE CHURCH

If you are visiting with us and would like more information about New Hope Presbyterian Church, or are interested in membership, please speak to the minister.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Derek Smith, Liturgist

Dean Newkirk, Music Director

