



How does a weary world rejoice?

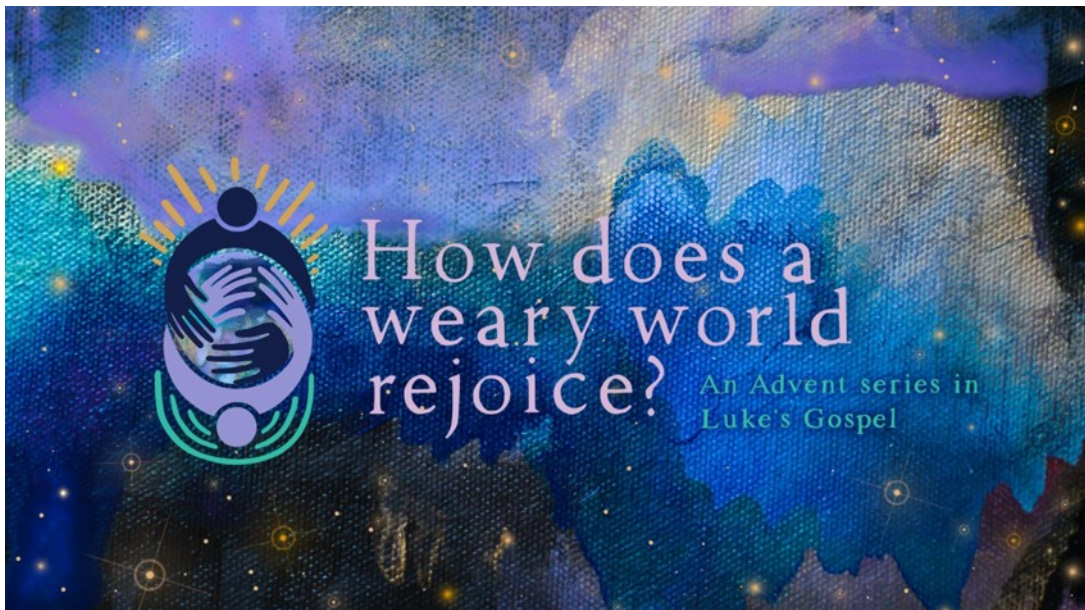
We allow ourselves to be amazed

As we enter our third week Advent we do so in awe! This week we wonder how allowing ourselves to be amazed, to stand in awe of God's beautiful world and all within it might very well serve to help us rejoice even in the midst of our weariness. This week's poem explores this theme:

The Third Sunday of Advent | How does a weary world rejoice?
We allow ourselves to be amazed

All the Way to Joy

We could play hard and fast,
not let anything touch us at all,
keep composure,
have all the answers.
Or we could crack ourselves open
and let everything in.
We could feel everything,
every touch, every marvel.
We could stand gaping
at the beauty of the world,
mouths wide open (because sometimes
a mouth wide open is the very best gratitude).
We could laugh so loudly
that the whole restaurant looks,
and err on the side of goofy
whenever possible.
We could put our defenses down.
We could grow soft.
We could choose awe.
We could take her by the arm.
We could let her lead us all the way to joy.



Welcome to Advent and Christmas 2023! This year we are asking, “How Does A Weary World Rejoice?” as we delve into the story of Luke’s Gospel. Throughout our exploration, we will hold space for our weariness and our joy. We will seek a “thrill of hope” in our hurting world. We will welcome joy—even and especially if, like the prophet Isaiah, we cry out for comfort (Isaiah 40:1).

In this weary world, may we find many ways to rejoice!

Over the next few weeks you are invited to engage with this theme in a variety of ways both on your own and in community:

1. Join us on **Sunday mornings** at 9:30 as we acknowledge our weariness, find joy in connection, allow ourselves to be amazed, sing stories of hope, make room, root ourselves in ritual, and trust our belovedness.
2. Join us on **Wednesday evenings** Nov. 29-Dec. 20 as we nourish ourselves in body and spirit! We gather for a meal at 5:15 and Hold-en Evening Prayer worship at 6PM. The December 20th service will serve as our Longest Night Healing Service.
3. Engage in our Mission Ministry Team’s **Advent mission project** (more info in following pages)
4. Make sure to pick up your age-appropriate **Advent Calendar** (one for children and one for adults/older youth)
5. Use the **Advent Devotional Booklet**. Paper copies are available at church OR find **AN ONLINE ACCESSIBLE DEVOTIONAL BY CLICKING HERE**
6. Use the “How Does A Weary World Rejoice?” **Playlist on Spotify**
7. Make sure to “like” our main page on **Facebook** and join the private **HOPE Lutheran Group** to engage in daily online discussion about our theme!



Enhance your Advent journey
with these resources:



Listen:

[The Advent We Actually Have Playlist](#)
[A Weary World Rejoice Playlist](#)

Read:

Inciting Joy by Ross Gay
This Here Flesh by Cole Arthur Riley

This Week at HOPE December 13, 2023



Hope's 2023 Advent Mission Project works in conjunction with our Advent theme, “How Does A Weary World Rejoice?” Beginning, Sunday, November 26th we have 3 ways to explore this theme through mission and service:

- ✝ *We Rejoice in Thanksgiving:* All are invited to write and address thank-you Christmas cards to a person, group, business or organization of your choice. We will provide blank cards for people to fill out and send themselves or we will send them!

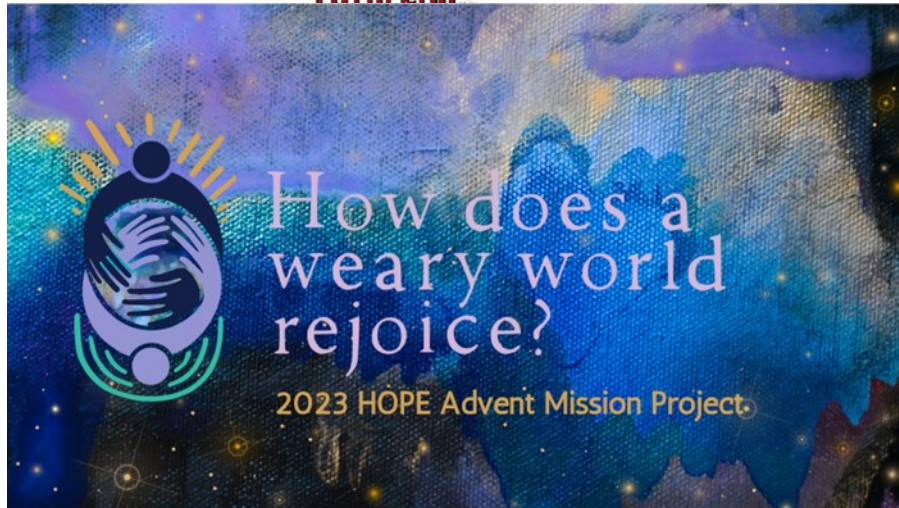
- ✝ We will be helping those who are weary and experiencing homelessness “*Lay Down Their Sweet Heads*” by collecting new pillows and pillowcases for Grace Place. Everyone who leaves there is sent with their new pillow.

- ✝ We will offer *A Thrill of Hope* by collecting particular items to assemble Personal Care Kits in partnership with Lutheran World Relief. You/your family can assemble an entire kit OR bring needed items for HOPE’s Mission Ministry to assemble at the end of December.
 - ⇒ To put together an entire kit [CLICK HERE](#)
 - ⇒ To donate particular items, check out the [NEEDED ITEMS LIST FOR HOPE](#) and sign up!
 - ⇒ Items needed:
 - ◇ light-weight bath-size towel (between 20x40 and 52x27), dark color recommended
 - ◇ bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz.,any brand, in original wrapping
 - ◇ adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging*
 - ◇ sturdy comb, remove packaging
 - ◇ metal nail clippers (attached file optional),remove packaging

Thanks,

HOPE Mission Ministry Team

This Week at HOPE December 13, 2023



A WEARY WORLD REJOICES!!

Hope's Advent Project in conjunction with the above theme will be rejoicing in Thanksgiving starting Sunday November 26 with writing and addressing thank-you cards to a person, group, business or organization of your choice. We will provide blank cards for people to fill out and send themselves or we will send them.

November 26 and all Sundays in December we will be caring for a "weary" world by collecting new pillows and pillowcases for Grace Place. Everyone who leaves there is sent with their new pillow.

We will also be collecting particular items to assemble Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. You can assemble your own kit or bring items required for the Mission Team to assemble at the end of December.

Items needed:

- ⇒ light-weight bath-size towel (between 20x40 and 52x27), dark color recommended
- ⇒ bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz, any brand, in original wrapping
- ⇒ adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging*
- ⇒ sturdy comb, remove packaging metal nail clippers (attached file optional) remove packaging

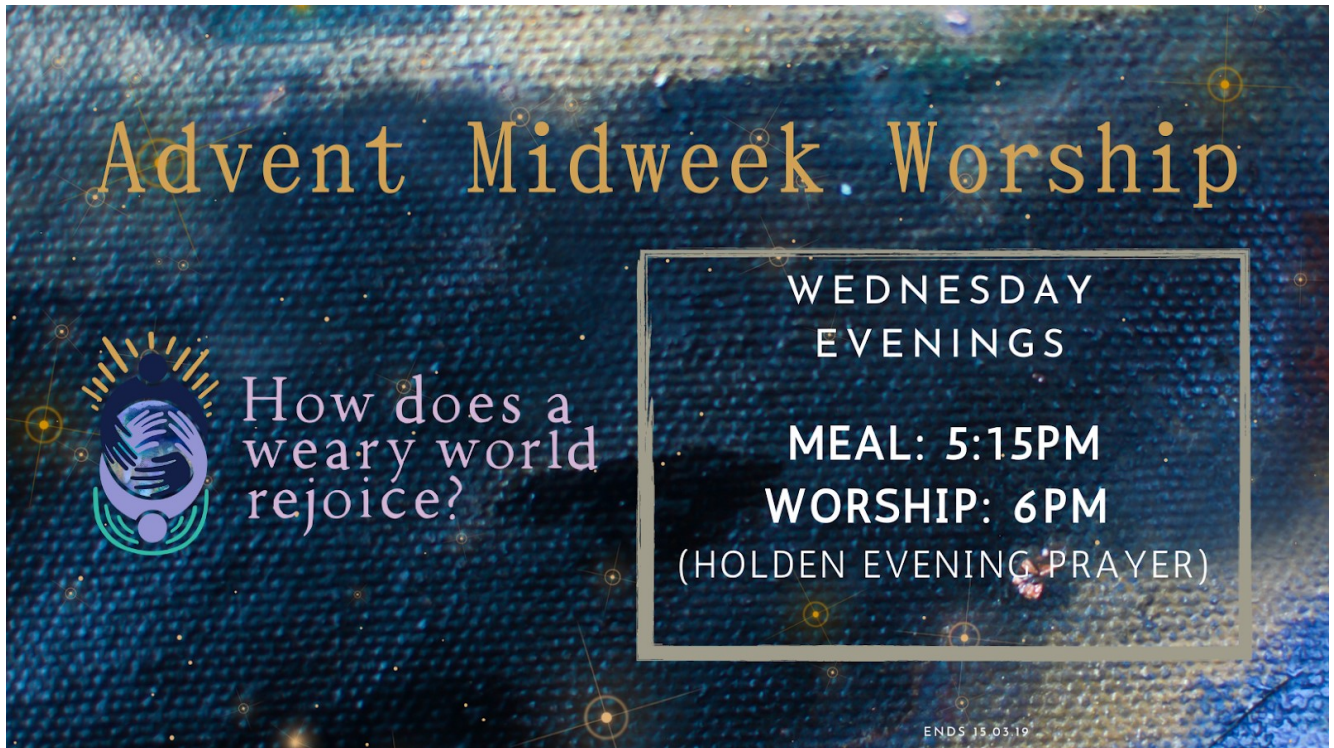
If you are interested in assembling your own kit(s), go to [LWR.org/kits](https://www.lwr.org/kits) for instructions for Personal Care Kits

Thanks, Mission Team

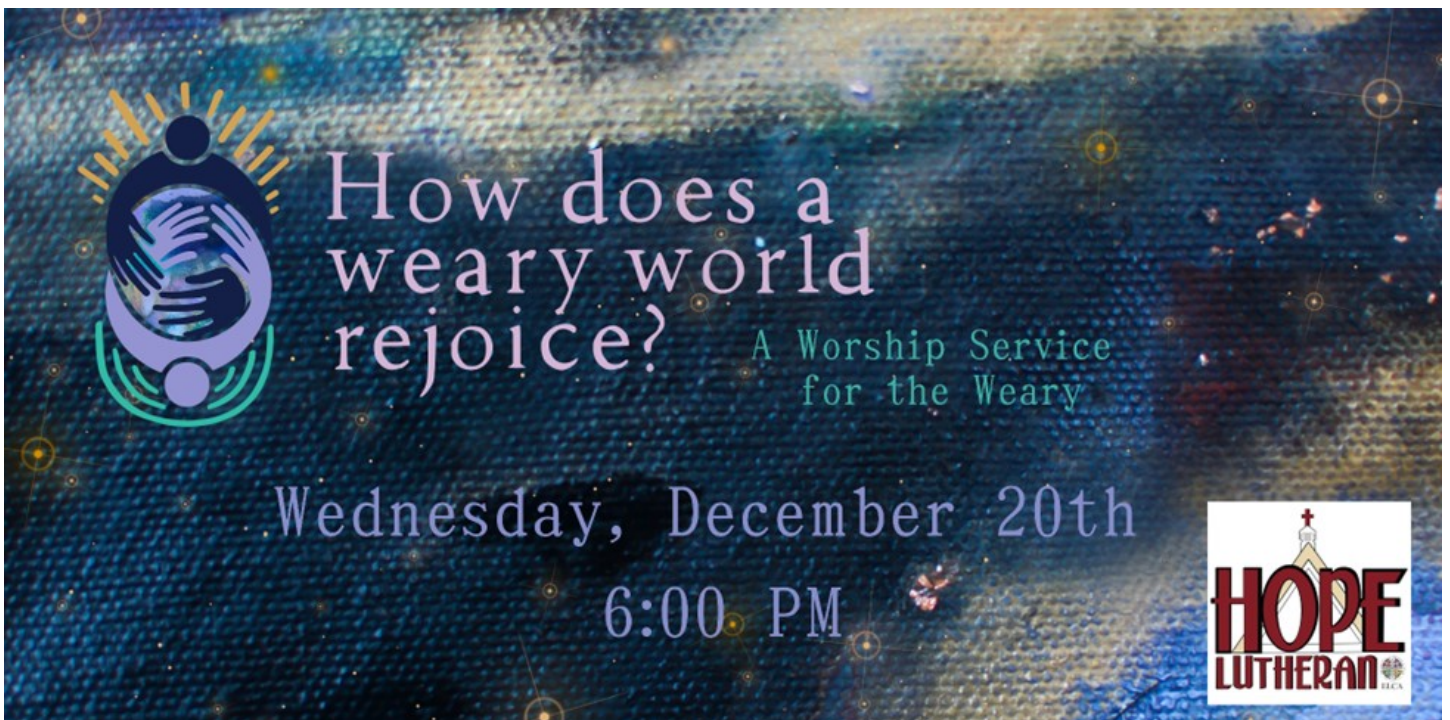
Angela Bohnert will set up a Google doc for LWR items.

Thanks,
Jan

This Week at HOPE December 13, 2023



Thank you to our generous meal hosts!
Last week: Diane Clark, Karen & Jeff Rodewald
Tonight: Sam & Sue Schuettpeiz



This Week at HOPE December 13, 2023



Grace Place Meal

HOPE is serving a meal at Grace Place on Tuesday, December 26, the day after Christmas.

Grace Place is a shelter in New Richmond for homeless families from Pierce and St. Croix counties, run by the Salvation Army, and we send them meals five times a year.

We will need to provide food for up to fifty people - we won't know how many until closer to Christmas. We need main dishes, salads or other sides, deserts, money for milk and fruit, and a driver to deliver the food on the 26th.

There is a sign-up sheet in church or you can contact Margaret Anderson at (715) 425-2792 or by email at mgande@comcast.net if you wish to contribute.



HOPE's Day Time Book Group will be meeting on
Wednesday, December 13th, at 11:30
Nancy Peters will be hosting at her home.
2633 Gulf View Drive



This Week at HOPE December 13, 2023



Lefse Day

You don't have to be Norwegian to spend a morning at HOPE making lefse. Please join us on **Saturday, December 16th 9:30**. Bring your own lefse dough, one quart ziploc type bags, griddle, turning stick etc. The tasty lefse will be sold during fellowship time on December 17th



Christmas Bake Sale

Baked goods and holiday treats are needed for HOPE's Bake Sale on **Sunday, December 17th**. Proceeds from your lefse, cookies, bars, breads, pies, cakes, snacks, candy etc. will be donated to the River Falls Backpack Program. Remember to bring your checkbook or cash so you can go home with some delicious homemade goodies.

Please price your baked goodies before the sale!



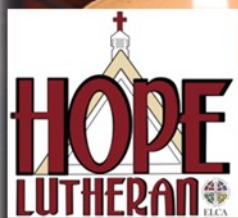
SAVE THE DATE:
2024 ANNUAL MEETING & CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY
Mark your calendars for Sunday, January 21, 2024
Stay tuned for details on a Potluck meal!

This Week at HOPE December 13, 2023



The **Northwest Synod of Wisconsin** is starting the Reconciling in Christ process. We need volunteers for the team that will guide the synod through the process to publicly guide, practice, and teach particularly for LGBTQIA+, racial identity, and neurodiversity. If you think this is important enough to spend some time on Zoom each month, and maybe one in-person meeting or two, please send your expression of interest to synodadvocate@nwswi.org. We only need eight more people, and if you represent one of these identified groups, we need you! Thank you!

HOPE Lutheran Church
Christmas Eve Services
Sunday
December 24th
9:30 AM
4:30 PM



www.hopelutheranrf.com

This Week at HOPE December 13, 2023



YOUTH NEWS



Thank you to all who donated to our

2nd Annual Turningpoint Family Christmas Gift project!

Proceeds from “Evening at HOPE,” donations from a youth-sponsored Fellowship Hour, and a generous in-kind donation allowed HOPE to give \$600 worth of gifts and a brand new set of tires for someone!

Thank you for helping our weary world rejoice in this way!

This Week at HOPE December 13, 2023



ADVENT OFFERINGS & WINTER SESSION INFO!

ALL ARE WELCOME

“Regular” WOH takes a pause during the Advent season. Students and families are strongly encouraged to attend our Midweek Advent meals & worship:

5:15-Meal

6:00- Worship

(Holden Evening Prayer)

On January 10th, our Winter Session will begin. All K-10th+* grade youth are invited to join us on Wednesday evenings from 6-7PM for fellowship, family friendly worship & service, learning, and growing in relationship to Jesus and one another! Our evenings begin with a brief family style worship, where children & adults help with leadership and a true sense of community is fostered. Youth are then divided into elementary (Faith Adventures) and middle/high (Confirmation) classes for deeper engagement with the evening’s themes.

If you have not already done so, you can register for the Winter session here:

[2023-2024 Wednesdays of HOPE Registration](#)

Teachers and Snack Hosts are needed to make each night of Wednesdays of HOPE a safe, engaging, and welcoming time for all! Please consider sharing your time and gifts to help! Sign-up at the links above or contact Pastor Annie!



Teachers and Snack Hosts
ARE NEEDED for the Winter and Spring Sessions!
Help make Wednesdays of HOPE
a safe, engaging, and welcoming time for all!

Please consider sharing your time and gifts to help!
Sign-up at the links above or
contact Pastor Annie for more information!

This Week at HOPE December 13, 2023



All are needed to participate in the leading of worship!

Ushers, Communion Prep & Assistants, Readers, Prayer Leaders, Fellowship Hosts, Special Music, Altar Flowers, & Worship Assistants all add to the beauty of our worship together!

[YOU CAN SIGN UP HERE FOR ANY UPCOMING SUNDAY!](#)

SPECIAL 2024 HELPERS NEEDED!

There are two worship volunteer roles that work on a monthly schedule. Volunteers for these roles are encouraged to sign-up for an entire month at a time:

[COMMUNION BREAD BAKER SIGN-UP](#)

[COMMUNION SET-UP/ALTAR GUILD SIGN-UP](#)

This Week at HOPE December 13, 2023



All are invited to join Pastor Annie for this weekly small group conversation and Bible study!

This is a great chance to grow in relationship with God and one another.

We meet via Zoom so all can join from wherever you are!

This Week at HOPE December 13, 2023



December Birthdays

Zoe Tokheim	2-Dec
Alexis Rehbein	3-Dec
Dale Bohnert	5-Dec
Mark Bondhus	5-Dec
Wendy Tokheim	11-Dec
James James	11-Dec
Susan Schuettpeiz	11-Dec
Luke Filarsky	15-Dec
Sara Filarsky	15-Dec
Tyson Tokheim	15-Dec
Karen Hamilton	17-Dec
Grete Rehbein	17-Dec
Jason Neuhaus	20-Dec
Bruce Schuettpeiz	22-Dec
Gary Siebold	26-Dec
Alyssa Boock	27-Dec
Elizabeth Hansen	27-Dec
Noelle James	27-Dec
Cameron Leitch	27-Dec
Ella Wolfe	29-Dec
Hazel Ladnier	30-Dec

December Baptisms

Phillip Klacan
Sawyer Filarsky
Lindsay Getschel
Kari Heinselman
Pastor Annie Ladnier
Eden Ladnier
Heathley Neuhaus
Robert Perkins-McIntosh
Piper Rodewald



December Anniversaries

	Date	Years to Celebrate
Edward & Gwen Paulson	26-Dec	58
Gregg & Kari Heinselman	27-Dec	37
Ross & Tessa VanOverbeke	31-Dec	18

This Week at HOPE December 13, 2023



Please lift up the following people in prayer

Eden Annoye (Relative of Debra James)
Mary Jean Yde (Linda Yde's mother-in-law)
John Weller (Karen Brohaugh's cousin)
Ken Jones Family (Martie Guthrie 's father)
Dave and Deb Haugen (Family of Ellen Roose)
Phyllis and Tom Haugen (Family of Ellen Roose)
John and Lisa Davis (Friends of Dale & Jan Wegleitner)
Fatma Aljarrah (Friend of Faye Perkins)
Lorraine Brask Family (Mother of Karen Kaste)
Beth Lindgren Family (Dan Malaney)
Betty Lou Oppegard and Family
Michael Jacobson (Brother of Linda Jacobson)
Barb Carmichael (Friend of Nancy Sailer)
Dennis & Sandy Schultz (Friends of Bill & Kay Montgomery)
Nancy Miller (Friend of Paula & Phil Klacan)
Family of Marc DuPaul (Nephew of Naomi Brandt)
Linda Shurden (Friend of Nancy Sailer)
Charli and Sam King (Friends of Faye Perkins)
Joyce Kendall (Mother of Cara Getschel)
Judy Branson (Relative of the Boocks)
Hannah Forward
Amanda Olson (Olive Olson's daughter)
Jerry Gibson (Diane Clark and Karen Rodewald's father)
Ella Conover (Niece of Phil & Paula Klacan)
Mary Babler (Friend the Dan Malaney)
Daryl Kleeman (brother of Darcy Boock)
Naomi Brandt and family
Carin Perkins (Faye Perkins sister)
David Boock (Relative of the Boocks)
Nicholas Simpson (Boock family friend)
Teajai Schmidt (Boock family friend)
Rev. Sarah Mayer-Flatt (Friend of Pastor Annie)
Lee Hill (friend of Naomi Brandt)
Gary Siebold
David Hendrickson