

NEW HEMPSTEAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Rev. Angela Maddalone
Pastor

Lois Anderson
Music Director

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Responsively)**

Family of faith, I don't know the last time someone told you that you are good, just as you are. I don't know the last time you heard that you are loved and created in the image of God. I don't know the last time you trusted those words and truly believed that you are a blessing. However, in case it has been a while, hear these words from Isaiah:

God says,

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.”

We are forgiven. We are loved. Let it leave you awestruck.

Thanks be to God! May we believe it. Amen.

Please be seated

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Loving God, How often do you speak to us, and how often do we miss it? How often do you whisper blessings over us that we refuse to hear? Open our hearts. Create space in us to not only hear these words, but to believe the good news tucked between them. We are hungry for your wisdom, so speak to us now. With hope and curiosity, we listen. With hope and curiosity, we dare to begin again. Amen.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33: 14-16 (pg. 683)

Lay Leader

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“Creation Will Be At Peace”

Anna Laura Page

A MOMENT WITH THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Rev. Angela Maddalone

SECOND READING

Luke 21: 25-36 (Pgs. 915-916)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“The Days Are Surely Coming”

Rev. Angela Maddalone

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (In Unison)**

We believe in a blessing God who calls us Beloved.

We believe that this blessing showed up in the life of Mary, and was also bestowed upon the hemorrhaging woman, the poor in spirit, the children, the crowds, the Jews, the Gentiles, the faithful and the doubting. So in faith, we trust that God's blessing, like ripples on the water, forever reaches toward us. And with wild hope, we believe that because of this blessing, we are covered in love. We are more than enough. Thanks be to God! Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Minister: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

***HYMN**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Hymn”

#88

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

God continues to increase love in our hearts for our neighbors within our congregation, community, and world. Through our various gifts, we are able to strengthen our connections and grow with our God. Let present our gifts to our Creator.

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

PRAYER CARDS

OFFERTORY

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

French carol

***DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (In Unison)**

Joyous God, this day and always, we celebrate the gifts of our hands and hearts. We share our talents and time, knowing our energy builds the world with love. We share our treasures, knowing that all gifts we entrust to your Church will build your Realm. With joy, we devote our Firstfruits to loving you and your children. Amen.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Come to this Table. Come catch a glimpse of what could be.
Come end your waiting, for love is hovering close. God is all around us.
So come. This good news is for you. All are welcome here.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you,

And also with you.

We lift up our hearts,

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God of new beginnings, as we come to this Table, pour out the Holy Spirit in this room. Allow this meal to feel like a new beginning. Allow us to experience welcome here. Allow for all to be fed here. Allow for all to sense your presence here and may these experiences jumpstart our faith, hope, and love in new ways. With hope we gather. With hope we begin again as we sing your praise with all the heavens:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Loving God, we come to this Table today longing for a new beginning.

In a world that so often feels like it's ending, we crave the hope of a new beginning. We long to heal from the brokenness of our hurting world and start again, rooted in your good news. So week by week, bit by bit, we return to your Word. Week by week, bit by bit, we return to each other.

Week by week, and bit by bit, we repeat the truths that we so often need to hear, trusting that by your grace, it is never too late to start again. Together we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

So in this spirit of beginnings, we come to your Table. Once more we ask that you would meet us here. Pour out your Spirit on this ordinary meal, that in this bread and cup we may glimpse a new day. May the sight of everyone being welcomed at this Table remind us that all are loved by you. May the evidence that there is food for all remind us that no one is meant to go hungry. May the fact that our own sin, shame, and doubt do not keep us from this Table remind us that you welcome and love us as we are. And may all of these Communion truths serve as building blocks for a new day, for a new beginning. With hope in our hearts, we pray. With hope in our hearts, we gather. With hope in our hearts, we begin again. Meet us here. Allow this joyful feast to be the start of something new.

With joy and hope, we weave our voices together to pray the words your son taught us to pray, saying...

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE COMMUNION

Members of the congregation are invited to receive and eat the bread individually, then to hold the cup, so that we may all drink together. All are welcome to this table, regardless of church membership or affiliation.

THE BREAD IS SERVED:

The Bread of Heaven.

THE CUP IS SERVED:

The Cup of Salvation.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (In Unison)

Nourishing God, thank you for the gift of this fresh start. Thank you for planting hope deep in our bones. Thank you for meeting us in ordinary bread and juice to remind us that it's never too late to build your kingdom here. We are grateful. We are so grateful. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Soon and Very Soon”

#384

*** CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

As we leave this place, may we have the wisdom to lean on one other. May we have the courage to hold onto hope, the compassion to do the good that is ours to do, and the confidence to trust that God sees us as a blessing.

For in a world full of dead ends,

Advent invites us to begin again. In the name of Christ, our new beginning,

We will go in peace.

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

“Amen”

Danish

POSTLUDE

“The Italian Pipers”

Gounod

The worship is over the service begins

Our Worship Theme this Advent is “Words for the Beginning”, by A Sanctified Art.
Prayers by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed, A Sanctified Art LLC sanctifiedart.org.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME VISITORS

We welcome all visitors. We are glad you were able to be with us today and look forward to seeing you again.

MAILING LIST

If you would like to be on our mailing or phone list please send your request with your name, address, e-mail and/or phone number to either office@nhpchurch.org or newhempsteadpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com and we will add you to our lists.

Lay Leader: Terry Lucas

Children's Story Time/Sunday School meets during the Sermon time in the Colonial room. Please feel free to join us!

There is a Bible study with Ed Garcia on Wednesdays at 10am. All are welcome!

Our Sunday Bible study meets after worship. All are welcome!!



Hanging of the Greens- please plan to stay after church today, to help decorate the Sanctuary for Advent. Many hands will make quick work of this fun holiday tradition. A light lunch of soups and small sandwiches will fortify you during coffee hour.

It is time to order poinsettias! Please use the order form included in the bulletin.



As you know, we have a Little Free Library in front of Murchison Hall. If anyone has any books you would like to be rid of you can donate some to our library. Either put them in the library yourself or pass them on to Kristen Rabeler and she will make sure to cycle them in. Of course if you would like to take a book from the library to read feel free to do so.

Can't make it to church? Join us via Livestream on YouTube! Use the link below or just search for “New Hempstead Presbyterian Church” All are advised that the front of the church from the lectern to the piano are visible on our livestream. To avoid being seen on the livestream, the pews and the driveway-side

aisle are not visible.

<https://www.youtube.com/@nhpchurch>To give online, click on www.nhpchurch.org

Or scan the QR code:

