

## Offering Info

You can give to the Lord & to Hope four different ways: 1) during our in-person worship service, drop your offering in the offering box in the back; 2) request pre-stamped envelopes from Brian Clements (Brian@go2hope.org / 224-381-3651); 3) mail your offering to our financial PO Box (PO Box 937, Lake Villa, IL 60046); or 4) request from Brian info about electronic giving. Thank you so much for your continued support of Hope!

## Small Groups

Life was never meant to be a “lone ranger” journey. God has made us all with a relational need to be known and to know others. We believe that the best way to go

deeper in these relationships is through our small groups. Most all of our small groups continue to meet via Zoom and/or in-person meetings. For more info, ☑ on your welcome card or contact Wayne at wayne@go2hope.org. Current small groups:

- Clements’ home group—Meets 7pm on Mondays
- Stewarts’ group on heaven—2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday evenings
- Mel’s women’s group—Meets 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays at 7pm
- Griffin’s home group—Meets Thursdays 7pm
- Young families’ home group—Meets 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays at 6:15pm
- Saturday Morning Men’s group—Meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month at 8am

## Calendar (see [www.go2hope.org](http://www.go2hope.org) for more)

- **Every Sunday Morning**—8:30am **Prayer & ministry time**; 9:15am **Connection time**; 9:30am Video replay of the Saturday evening worship service (Zoom mtg. ID#: 287 775 281 Passcode: 019752)
- **December 16<sup>th</sup>**—Youth Group at 6:30pm at Liberty Church
- **December 18<sup>th</sup>**—Saturday Morning Men’s Breakfast at 8am at Liberty Church
- **December 24<sup>th</sup>**—Special Joint Christmas Eve Celebration with Liberty Church at 5pm
- **December 25<sup>th</sup>**—We will not meet for our normal worship service
- **New Outreach Cohorts**—Once a month for one hour either in-person after our worship service or via Zoom!



Hope Community Church  
[www.go2hope.org](http://www.go2hope.org)  
PO Box 937  
Lake Villa, IL 60046  
847.265.0551

# Welcome to HOPE

December 11, 2021

## Our Servant-King

*Here is where the one who as “equal with God” has most fully revealed the truth about God: that God is love and that his love expresses itself in self-sacrifice – cruel, humiliating death on a cross— for the sake of those he loves. The divine weakness (death at the hands of his creatures, his enemies) is the divine scandal (the cross was reserved for slaves and insurrectionists). No one in Philippi, we must remind ourselves, used the cross as a symbol for their faith; there were no gold crosses embossed on Bibles or worn as pendants around the neck or lighted on the steeple of the local church. The cross was God’s – and thus their— scandal, God’s contradiction to human wisdom and power: that the one they worshiped as Lord of all... had been crucified as a state criminal at the hands of one of Caesar’s proconsuls; that the Almighty should appear in human dress, and that he should do so in this way, as a “Messiah” who died by crucifixion. Likewise, this is the scandal of Pauline ethics: that the God who did it this way “gifts” us to “suffer for his sake” as well (Phil.1:29):*

*“This is our God, the Servant-King,  
Who calls us now to follow him,  
To bring our lives as a daily offering,  
Of worship to the Servant-King.”*

Dr. Gordon Fee

## Are you new?

We’re so glad you took the time to visit us this evening! Perhaps you’re just beginning to explore spiritual things. On the other hand, maybe you have known God for many years. Either way, we invite you to join us as we travel together in life’s spiritual journey to get to know the God of the universe!

## What to expect

As we worship God, you may see people express their love for God in different ways. Some people are more expressive and like to clap their hands or even raise their arms. Others feel more comfortable worshipping quietly. But please don’t feel compelled to do anything! Feel free to participate in worship or just sit back, relax, and observe.

## No strings attached

If you are a guest with us today, please don’t put anything in the offering box except your orange welcome card. This service is our gift to you!



# Worship

# Grow. Devote. Connect. Serve.

## Worship Order

Welcome & prayer

Worship

Reminders & Announcements

**Message: Our Humble God**

*Come Let Us Adore Him: a look at Christmas outside the gospels (part 2)*

Pastor Wayne Okamoto

(pre-K through senior high are dismissed prior to the message\*)

Final song

### \*Our Children's Ministries:

Our children & youth are dismissed for their classes just prior to the message. They will be meeting downstairs in separate classrooms (nursery/preschool/ kindergarten; elementary; and middle school & high school youth).

## Welcome Cards

We'd like to encourage everyone to fill out a welcome card. If you're visiting with us this evening, please fill out a card & place it in the offering box in the back. Then pick up a free bag from our resource table!

## Helpful guidelines regarding the pandemic

**Masks:** In light of Governor Pritzker's current statewide mask mandate, we highly encourage you to wear a mask. If you need a mask, please pick one up on our welcome table in the lobby.

**Not feeling well?:** If you are not feeling well, we ask that you stay home. In addition, if you attend our worship service and later test positive for COVID-19, please contact Wayne or an elder ASAP.

## Our Mission Statement

To honor God by helping people become Christ-followers who grow, connect, devote, & serve. For more info about Hope, check out our website at [www.go2hope.org](http://www.go2hope.org).

## Next Steps

Would you like to take a next step in your spiritual journey? Consider joining a small group! It's a great place to connect with others and grow in your relationship with God. Another option is to meet someone one-on-one for what we call "discipleship" or "spiritual mentoring." It's like having a spiritual trainer to help you grow and develop spiritually. For more info, just check the box on your orange welcome card.

## Upcoming Events

### Special Joint Christmas Eve Service!

Keeping Christ in Christmas can be a difficult challenge for all of us amidst the busy holiday rush. So, on **Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 5pm**, we will hold a joint Christmas Eve celebration with Liberty Church! We'll enjoy a combined worship team and a special monologue from Jim Stewart. It will be a great time to focus on the real reason for the season! So join us!

## Christmas Day

Since Christmas Day falls on Saturday, we will not meet that evening for our normal worship service.

## Reminders

### Sunday Morning Prayer & Ministry Time

Join us for a time of sharing, prayer, & ministering to one another via Zoom! **Sunday morning 8:30-9:15am**, just prior to our Sunday Zoom connection time: Meeting ID: 287 775 281; Passcode: 019752

### Sunday Zooming!

We host a 15-minute open, unstructured Zoom time for everyone at Hope to connect with one another **each Sunday at 9:15am**. We encourage all of you to join us! In addition, for those who missed our Saturday worship service, we will replay a recording of the service beginning at 9:30am on the same Zoom channel. Zoom mtg. ID: 287 775 281; Passcode: 019752

## Our Mission

To help people become Christ followers who grow, devote, connect, and serve.

*We are so glad you joined us today!  
Let us know if we can do anything to serve you.*