

The Connection

Messages of Hope



HOPE
CHURCH | RALEIGH
WORSHIP. GROW. SERVE.

A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 762

December 20, 2023

“Prince of Peace”

Isaiah wrote his prediction about the coming of Jesus over 700 years before He was born. In Isaiah 9:6, the prophet revealed four significant titles for the coming Savior. “Wonderful Counselor,” “Mighty God,” “Everlasting Father,” and “Prince of Peace.”

I want to focus this message on the “Prince of Peace.” No single title is enough to describe who Jesus is and what he does for us. Jesus offers us internal peace. The Hebrew Testament concept of peace implies wholeness. Who doesn't want that? When you observe Jesus in the gospels, He is the embodiment of peace despite the fact that He lived in a time of violence, oppression, racism and poverty.

Isaiah gave many prophecies about the Messiah bringing peace to the world. Isaiah tells us that not only will the Messiah save Israel, but people from among all nations would be drawn to his kingdom. Many people will desire to live according to God's righteousness, to receive God's judgments, and to live at peace with one another (Isaiah 2:1-5).

As Christians we constantly strive for this peace that can only come by having Jesus reign and rule over our lives. However, many times there always seems to be an area that we keep locked away from Him, whether it is our finances, activities, relationships, or hidden sin. Until we allow Jesus to rule every aspect of our lives, our peace will be incomplete. We cannot experience the benefits of knowing the Prince of Peace if we do not submit to His authority and power. We cannot have true peace without giving up control of our lives to the Prince. In fact, fear, anxiety, and doubting the promises of God can't coexist with the peace of God.

Without the Prince of Peace ruling our hearts and minds, we will have no peace. There can be no peace in our homes unless daily we place our families under the authority of the Prince of Peace. There can be no peace in any friendship unless the Prince of Peace presides

over that relationship. There can be no peace in a society that is ashamed of the name of Jesus. There can be no peace anywhere in the world where the Prince of Peace is not ruling supreme.

I ask you today to surrender leadership of your entire life to the Prince of Peace. In doing so, you stand to accomplish greater things for God than you can ever dream of. Jesus wants to use you in a mighty and great way to use you as a force and power for His glory.

Will you let Him in today? Will you say yes Prince Jesus I am sorry that I locked you out of this area of my life? Come and take over all of me!

Blessings,

Ryan Hutchins – Elder – HOPE Church Raleigh

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, December 20

Wednesday Night Devotion & Prayer
@ 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 21

Worship Team Rehearsal @ 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 24

4th Sunday of Advent

Worship Team Rehearsal @ 8:30 a.m.
Worship @ 9:30 a.m.
Fellowship Time @ 10:50 a.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service

@ 5:00 p.m.

Monday, December 25

Merry Christmas

Helping Hands Ministries

Fellowship - December 24
Church is Providing

ProPresenter - December 24
Emma Duffell

Soundboard - December 24
Ben Pierce

Live Streaming - December 24
Diane Williams

Communion - December
Elizabeth Floyd

Greeter - December 24
Joan Rollinson

Nursery Volunteer - December 24
Volunteer Needed

Scripture Text and Sermon
This Sunday

9:30 a.m. Worship

4th Sunday of Advent

Luke 1:26 - 38; Luke 2:13 - 14
"The Angel's Message"

Daily Devotions

For This Coming Week

Dec. 24	Daniel	12
Dec. 25	Hosea	1
Dec. 26	Hosea	2
Dec. 27	Hosea	3
Dec. 28	Hosea	4
Dec. 29	Hosea	5
Dec. 30	Hosea	6



Outreach Ministries

"Food of the Month"

for the Raleigh Dream Center
Food Pantry

Pop Top Soups

We have a collection bin in the foyer

HOPE Meal Ministry

Take a meal from the freezer if
needed for you or someone else.

The Computer Lab

Saturday, January 13
@ 9:00 a.m.

TLC Devotion

4th Wednesday each Month
@ 11:00 a.m.

Spiritual Growth Ministries

Women of HOPE

Saturday, January 13
@ 1:00 p.m.

NO Wednesday Night Supper until January

There will be no Wed. Night Supper until
January. We will have a Devotional and
Prayer Time beginning 11/29 through
12/20. Wed. Night Supper, Study, and
Prayer resumes 1/3/24

There will not be Sunday school on the following Sundays:

December 24 (Christmas Eve)
December 31 (New Years Eve)
January 7 (Covered Dish Meal)

Quote of the Week

"Peace is not to be purchased
by the sacrifice of truth."

John Calvin

Prayer Requests:

Revill & Mary Lane Mallory, Jamie
Baldwin, Donna Williams, Diane Williams,
Carol & Colin (Kathy Herriman's Sister &
Brother-in-law), Loretta (Sandi
Underwood's daughter), Joan Summers,
Shelley, Diane Mack's Sister-in-law,
Jordan & Cinnamon (son and daughter of
Lynn Joyner's family members), Tommy
and Billy Lanphere (Lynn Joyner's
brothers), Gene & Becky Hale, Dave &
Dot Geil, Carlyle and Cynthia Franklin
(Sandra Pierce's dad and stepmom),
Brian Adam's dad, our Military, our
Missionaries, our Nation, and the world.
If you have those you would like added to
our prayer concerns, please email me
those names.

Wednesday Night, Devotion & Prayer

December 20

@ 7:00 p.m.

In person or via Zoom



Upcoming Dates

Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 24
@ 5:00 p.m.

Invite a Friend

16th Anniversary Service

Sunday, January 7th
Covered Dish Meal
After Worship

HOPE Church Raleigh
An Evangelical Presbyterian Church

4911 Green Rd

Raleigh, NC 27616

919-508-6827

Worship Time: 9:30 AM

www.HopeChurchRaleigh.org

www.facebook.com/HOPEChurchRaleigh

Twitter: @HopeChRaleigh

YouTube.com (type "HOPE Church Raleigh"
in the search box)