

## WORSHIP GUIDE // DECEMBER 30, 2018

## CALLED BY GOD

### GATHERING SONG

Jesus Came, the Heaven's Adoring Godfrey Thring (1864), Michael Van Patter (2012)

Jesus came, the heav'ns adoring, came with peace from realms on high; Jesus came for man's redemption, lowly came on earth to die.

Jesus comes again in mercy, when our hearts are bowed with care; Jesus comes again in answer to an earnest, heartfelt prayer; Alleluia! Alleluia! Comes to save us from despair.

Jesus comes in joy and sorrow, shares alike our hopes and fears; Jesus comes, whate'er befalls us, glads our hearts, and dries our tears;

Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing, bringing news of sins forgiven; Jesus comes in sounds of gladness, leading souls redeemed to Heav'n; Alleluia! Alleluia! Now the gate of death is riv'n.

Jesus comes on clouds triumphant, when the heav'ns shall pass away; Jesus comes again in glory; let us then our homage pay, Alleluia! Alleluia! Till the dawn of endless day. Why do we sing? We sing as a way of engaging our voices, imaginations, words, and desires in the worship of God.

We sing together, to God and to each other, because of our calling to be a people joined together in Christ.

#### An Invitation

The Call to Worship is sometimes called the Invitation to Worship. As we shuffle through the doors on Sunday morning, we come to a Gospel-feast, invited by Jesus Christ. But not only does He offer the invitation, He also pays the cost of admission through His life, death and resurrection. And so we are honored guests, welcomed in and responding to this incredible grace.

Come, let us worship our Savior, Jesus Christ!

What's with the arrows?
Throughout the worship
guide you will notice
arrows pointing up, down,
and side-to-side. These
are a reminder that our
liturgy is a dialogue-it's
relational. God speaks,
we respond. We extend
peace to one another.
God provides sustenance
to us from his Word and
at his Table. This morning,
God invites you into this
holy "dance".

We are not alone. The Bible teaches that Jesus understands what it is to be human. Because He was fully man, He is compassionate and merciful toward us in our sin and failures. But not only can He sympathize with us, Jesus also has set us free from the power of sin by his death and resurection.

### ◆ WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP // Psalm 59:16-17

Leader: I will sing of your strength, in the morning I will sing of your love; for you are my fortress, my refuge in times of trouble.

All: You are my strength, I sing praise to you; you, God, are my fortress, my God on whom I can rely.

### **® SONG OF PRAISE**

Immortal Invisible Walter Chalmers Smith, Welsh melody (1867), ch. M. Van Patter

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, In light inaccessible hid from our eyes, Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might; Thy justice like mountains high soaring above Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

You are holy, You are mighty, You are evermore the same, You are faithful, never-failing, all the glory to Your name!

To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small; In all life Thou livest, the true life of all; We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree, And wither and perish, but naught changeth Thee.



# **CLEANSED BY GOD**

### **⊕ CONFESSION OF SIN**

Father, our hearts, minds, and hands still need your cleansing and renewal.

This week has only further proven how much we need your grace, your mercy, your love, and your forgiveness.

So we come to you on the basis of who you are and not who we are. We are thankful for what your Son has done for us through His life, death, and resurrection. His work on our behalf is a solid rock that does not change; and on it alone that we stand.

Because of Him, forgive us of our many sins.

Forgive us of our proud, stony hearts—
hearts that do not love You and do not love others,
Hearts that are fearful, insecure, and shrunken.
Forgive us and cleanse us for Jesus' sake.
Forgive us and restore us to you, we pray...

\*\* time for silent confession \*\*

### WORDS OF FORGIVENESS // Psalm 28:6-9

Blessed be the LORD!

For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.

The LORD is my strength and my shield;

in him my heart trusts, and I am helped;

my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.

The LORD is the strength of his people;

he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

Oh, save your people and bless your heritage!

Be their shepherd and carry them forever.

### ⊕ PASSING OF THE PEACE

Why is it called "Words of Forgiveness?" There's a reason we don't call this element "The Forgiveness of Sins." As Protestants, we truly believe that there is only one mediator between God and humankind-Jesus Christ (1 Tim 2:5). Therefore, no pastor or priest can offer God's pardon...this is the work of Christ alone, given freely by and directly from Him! Therefore, we are assured that as we confess our sins and put our faith in Jesus Christ, He indeed does pardon us. Our pastors and leaders in worship merely offer this good news as it is proclaimed in Scripture (see 1 John 1:9).

The "passing of the peace": As recipients of God's grace, we gladly receive peace from Him. In response to His grace, we also extend that grace to one another with a handshake or a hug. Traditionally, Christians have greeted one another during this time in the service with the phrase, "May the peace of Christ be with you" and receive back the greeting "And also with you."

Responding to grace: After being reminded of God's lavish grace and love toward us, we respond by celebrating with singing.



What's the offering all about? The offering is a way for Christians to support the mission and ministry of the church. Christians offer a sacrificial portion of their resources-time, talents, possessions-as an act of faith and gratitude in response to God's grace. While many at Hope Chapel make their regular contributions through online giving and automated bill pay, offerings are a part of our worship service as an opportunity for the regular, proportionate and generous giving of the resources God has given us.

If you are a guest, please feel no obligation to give. Giving is for the members and regular attenders who desire to give to God and His church so that we can be a blessing to Him and our community in even greater ways.

#### Ways to give:

You may drop a check or cash in the offering plate, give online at hopechapelgreensboro.org/give, or give through Venmo to @HopeChapel. (note: contributions made through Venmo are not receipted for tax purposes)

# **CELEBRATING GOD**

### **® SONGS OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING**

The Lion and the Lamb Brenton Brown, Brian Johnson, Leeland Mooring (2015)

He's coming on the clouds, kings and kingdoms will bow down; And every chain will break, as broken hearts declare His praise. Who can stop the Lord Almighty?

Our God is the Lion, the Lion of Judah,
He's roaring with power and fighting our battles,
And every knee will bow before Him.
Our God is the Lamb, the Lamb that was slain
For the sin of the world, His blood breaks the chains,
And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb.
Oh every knee will bow before Him.

So open up the gates, make way before the King of kings! The God who comes to save is here to set the captives free, Who can stop the Lord Almighty?

### **® GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERING**

### Song of Moses

Graham Kendrick, Joseph Pat Barrett, Ben Smith, Aaron Keyes, Chris Moerman (2010)

Oh the Lord our strength and song, highest praise to him belong; Christ the Lord our conquering king, Your name we raise, Your triumphs sing.

Oh praise the Lord, our mighty warrior, Praise the Lord, the glorious one . By his hand we stand in victory, By his name we've overcome.

Though the storms of hell pursue, in darkest we worship you. You divide the raging seas, in death to life you safely lead.

All the saints and angels bow, hosts of heaven crying out "Glory, glory to the king, You reign for all eternity!"



# CHANGED BY GOD

### ① PRAYER OF RENEWAL

### **◆ SCRIPTURE READING** // 2 Corinthians 7:5-13

<sup>5</sup> For even when we came into Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but we were afflicted at every turn–fighting without and fear within. <sup>6</sup> But God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus, <sup>7</sup> and not only by his coming but also by the comfort with which he was comforted by you, as he told us of your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me, so that I rejoiced still more. <sup>8</sup> For even if I made you grieve with my letter, I do not regret it–though I did regret it, for I see that that letter grieved you, though only for a while. <sup>9</sup> As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting. For you felt a godly grief, so that you suffered no loss through us.

<sup>10</sup> For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death. <sup>11</sup> For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you, but also what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment! At every point you have proved yourselves innocent in the matter. <sup>12</sup> So although I wrote to you, it was not for the sake of the one who did the wrong, nor for the sake of the one who suffered the wrong, but in order that your earnestness for us might be revealed to you in the sight of God. <sup>13</sup> Therefore we are comforted.

And besides our own comfort, we rejoiced still more at the joy of Titus, because his spirit has been refreshed by you all.

**Sermon-** Daniel Northrup
Title: Repentance

Church, City, World
Corporate prayer is an essential part of the worship and work of God's people. We pray for specific needs- naming and sometimes lamenting the brokenness in the world-mindful to ask a powerful and merciful help for the Church, the city, the world, and for one another.

The leader will end each section of the prayer by saying "Lord, in Your mercy..." and the congregation responds with "...Hear our prayer".

What do we do during the Scripture Reading? Because the Word of God is one of the chief means through which God has chosen to speak to us, it is a principle and direct way we "hear from God" in worship. The public reading of Scripture, then, is a sacred act that deserves our full attention and focus. Especially in our age, we must discipline ourselves to listen to readings for longer periods of time, for God's Word is food for our soul.

Daniel is Hope Chapel's associate pastor for youth, outreach, and assimilation.

For past sermons, please visit our website.



What Is Communion? What we do during communion isn't merely a symbolic act or a remembrance-it's more than that. 1 Corinthians 10:16-17 teaches us that we are actually communing with Christ Himself as we partake of the elements. We mysteriously "participate in the body and blood" of Jesus. As we take communion, let us remember that Christ is spiritually present in a special way for us in this sacrament. Let's enjoy the feast!

If you are not a follower of Jesus or are not prepared to share in the meal, please feel free to not participate and instead spend this time in prayer ("Prayers for Reflection" are included in this worship guide).

We hope this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with his people, the church.

PLEASE NOTE: Gluten-free bread is available in both serving lines.

### COMMUNION

Minister: The Lord be with you. All: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts! All: We lift them up to the Lord!

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

joining our voices with your people on earth

and all the company of heaven,

who forever sing to the glory of your Name.

Minister: Together we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

All: Dying, you destroyed our death; rising, you restored our life.

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Minister: Christ, our Passover, is sacrificed for us.

All: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

\*\* institution of the elements \*\*

Minister: These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

Minister: Merciful God, pour out your Holy Spirit

on these gifts of bread and wine, that in eating and drinking we may be made one with Christ and one another. **All: Amen.** 

Minister: Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, now and forever.

As our Savior taught us, so we pray,

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Flourishing (from Psalm 119) Sandra McCracken (2015)

Teach me, oh God to follow your decrees. Give me understanding, your word, I want to keep. Direct me in the path, of your commands, For there I find delight, my will is in your hands.



Turn my heart away from worthless things, Preserve my life, according to your ways. Take away disgrace, You hold me in my place-flourishing.

Fulfill your promise to the ones you love. Within your ways we walk, for your laws are good. Temptation loses pow'r, my soul's revived; In righteousness, oh God, preserve my life.

#### PRAYERS FOR REFLECTION

#### Prayer for those searching

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise.

#### Prayer of belief

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful I ever before believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and my Lord.

### Prayer for those struggling with sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and faithfully follow you in life.

### Prayer for renewal and commitment

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism, to love God and neighbor, and to a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, to pursue forgiveness, reconciliation, and peace, and to live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

Guides for prayer:
If you are not a follower of
Jesus or are not prepared
to share in the meal,
please feel free to not
participate and instead, to
spend this time in prayer.
The prayers provided here
may serve as a good place
to start.



# SENT BY GOD

### **® SENDING SONG**

Your Labor Is Not in Vain Wendell Kimbrough, Paul Zach, Isaac Wardell (2017)

Your labor is not in vain, though the ground underneath you is cursed and stained; Your planting and reaping are never the same, but your labor is not in vain.

For I am with you, I am with you.
I am with you, I am with you
For I have called you, called you by name
Your labor is not in vain.

Your labor is not unknown though the rocks they cry out and the sea it may groan. The place of your toil may not seem like a home but your labor is not unknown.

The vineyards you plant will bear fruit the fields will sing out and rejoice with the truth, for all that is old will at last be made new: the vineyards you plant will bear fruit.

The houses you labored to build will finally with laughter and joy be filled.

The serpent that hurts and destroys shall be killed and all that is broken be healed.

### ⊕ COMMUNITY LIFE

### **● BLESSING & SENDING** // Romans 15:13

Minister: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

All: Amen.

Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## What is the benediction?

Benediction is a word with Latin origin (bene = "well," and dicere = "to speak"); a benediction is a word which "speaks wellness/goodness" to us, therefore properly understood as a blessing. The benediction in worship has ancient roots, going back to the worship of God's people in the Temple. When we utilize the benediction in our worship, we connect ourselves with an ancient practice of God's people and join with them together in worship of our one great God.