



# Hope Chapel

A GOSPEL COMMUNITY FOR THE FLOURISHING OF THE CITY

## WORSHIP GUIDE THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### CALLED BY GOD

#### ⤴ GATHERING SONG

**Everlasting God** *Brenton Brown, Ken Riley (2005)*

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord,  
We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord.  
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord,  
We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord.  
Our God You reign forever,  
Our hope, our strong Deliverer.

*You are the everlasting God, the everlasting God,  
You do not faint, You won't grow weary.  
You're the defender of the weak, You comfort those in need,  
You lift us up on wings like eagles.*

#### ⤵ WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP // Psalm 63

Leader: O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;  
my soul thirsts for you;  
my flesh faints for you,  
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

**All: So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,  
beholding your power and glory.**

Leader: Because your steadfast love is better than life,  
my lips will praise you.

**All: So I will bless you as long as I live;  
in your name I will lift up my hands.**

*Why do we sing?  
We sing as a way of  
engaging our voices,  
imaginings, 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 In-  
vitation 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, wel-  
comed in and responding  
to this incredible grace.*

*Come, let us worship our  
Savior, Jesus Christ!*

## LITANY FOR ADVENT WEEK 2: BEAUTY

God, it's easy for us to get bogged down

**In our to-do lists,**

The problems we must solve,

**The needs we must meet,**

The expectations we put upon ourselves,

**The crises we must manage --**

And forget that beneath everything

**There is the hum of beauty.**

Beneath dust and decay,

**There is a sheen of value.**

Beneath disease and distress,

**There is a sparkle of wisdom.**

Beneath the appearance of death,

**There is the glimmer of rebirth.**

Beneath the cloak of sorrow and affliction,

**There is the endless beauty of the glory from God (1).**

Awaken us, oh God, to the beauty beneath,

**The beauty that confronts us**

With your presence and power,

**Your plan and purpose.**

We know that by the tender mercy of our God,

**The dawn from on high will break upon us,**

And the beauty of God will overwhelm our senses.

**May we be alert, and looking for it. Amen.**

*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".*

### ⤴ SONG OF RESPONSE

**O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

*Latin text (c. 12th century), 15th cent. French processional adapted by Thomas Helmore (1854)*

O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer

Our spirits by Thine advent here,

Disperse the gloomy clouds of night

and death's dark shadows put to flight.

*Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel*

*Has come to thee, oh Israel!*



**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.

## CLEANSED BY GOD

### ⤴ CONFESSION OF SIN

God of grace and truth,  
in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness.  
We confess that we have not welcomed the light,  
or trusted good news to be good.  
We have closed our eyes to your glory in our midst,  
expecting little, and hoping for less.

Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light  
And walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior...

**Jesus came and  
Jesus comes.**

*This hymn reminds us of one of the central ideas of Advent: we remember the birth of Jesus as "God with us" AND we celebrate that He continues to be with us and will one day come again.*

*In this text, verse 1 looks back, verses 2-4 focus on Jesus' presence in our lives right now, and verse 5 points forward to when He "comes again in glory".*

**We are not alone.**

*The Bible teaches that Jesus understands what it is to be human (and Advent is a beautiful reminder of that). 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 resurrection.*

**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 human-kind—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).*

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



*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](http://hopechapelgreensboro.org/give), or give through **Venmo** to @HopeChapel. (note: contributions made through Venmo are not receipted for tax purposes)*



## Ⓣ WORDS OF FORGIVENESS // Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

## Ⓢ PASSING OF THE PEACE

# CELEBRATING GOD

## Ⓣ SONGS OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

**Hail to the Lord's Anointed** *James Montgomery (1821), Sandra McCracken (2012)*

*Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son!  
Hail in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!*

He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free,  
To take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He comes in succor speedy to those who suffer wrong,  
To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong.

To give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in His sight.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth,  
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in His path to birth.

The tide of time shall never His covenant remove.  
His Name shall stand forever, that Name to us is Love.

## Ⓣ GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERING

**God with Us** *Jason Ingram, Leslie Jordan (2012)*

You've come to bring peace, to be love, to be nearer to us.  
You've come to breathe life, to be light, to shine brighter in us.  
Oh Emmanuel, God with us.

*Our Deliverer, You are Savior,  
In Your presence we find our strength.  
Over everything, our redemption;  
God with us, You are God with us.*

You've come to be hope to this world, for Your honor and name.  
You've come to take sin, to bear shame and to conquer the grave.  
Oh Emmanuel, God with us.

# CHANGED BY GOD

## Ⓢ PRAYER OF RENEWAL

## Ⓣ SCRIPTURE READING // Colossians 3:18 - 4:6

<sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup> but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

**Sermon-** Todd Jones  
Series: The Hidden Characters of Advent  
Title: Joseph

*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.*

*Todd is Hope Chapel's founding/lead pastor. For past sermons, please visit our website.*

*This sermon is part of our Advent series. 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 to the Lord.**

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

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

Minister: And now we give you thanks because Christ was born a child into a line of broken and sinful people, a royal house lying in ruins. In righteousness he will judge the world, as the one who gives us himself—his body and his blood—for our righteousness and peace and for the rebuilding of his kingdom.

**All: And so we gladly thank you,  
joining our voices with your people on earth  
and all the company of heaven,  
who forever sing to the glory of your Name.**

Minister: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Minister: Christ, our Passover, has been 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: 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.**

Advent Hymn *Charles Wesley (1740), Christy Nockles (2016)*

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,

Christ the Everlasting Light;

Son of Righteousness arise

And triumph o'er these shades of night.



Come, Thou long awaited one,  
In the fullness of Your Love  
And loose this heart bound up by shame  
And I will never be the same.

*So here I wait in hope of You,  
Oh my soul's longing through and through.  
Day-spring from on high be near  
And Day-star in my heart appear.*

Dark and cheerless is the morn  
Until Your love in me is born,  
And joyless is the evening sun  
Until Emmanuel has come.

## 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

### Christ Be All Around Me

*David Leonard, Jack Mooring, Leeland Mooring, Leslie Jordan (2015)*

As I rise, strength of God go before, lift me up.  
As I wake, eyes of God look upon, be my sight.

As I wait, heart of God satisfy and sustain.  
As I hear, voice of God lead me on, be my guide.

*Above and below me, before and behind me,  
In every eye that sees me, Christ be all around me.*

As I go, Hand of God, my defense, by my side.  
And as I rest, breath of God fall upon, bring me peace.

Your life, Your death, Your blood was shed  
For every moment, every moment.

### *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.*

## ↔ COMMUNITY LIFE

### ⤵ BLESSING & SENDING // 2 Thessalonians 3:16

Minister: Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace  
at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

Given Last Week:	\$16,474	Gifts can be placed in the offering
Required to Date (Jan. 1 - Dec 2)	\$339,072	plate on Sundays or mailed to:
Given to Date	\$406,278	Hope Chapel
Over/[Under]	\$67,206	1825 Spring Garden St Greensboro, NC 27403

Online giving is available on our website: [www.hopechapelgreensboro.org/give](http://www.hopechapelgreensboro.org/give)  
We also accept donations via Venmo: @HopeChapel.