



Hope Chapel

A GOSPEL COMMUNITY FOR THE FLOURISHING OF THE CITY

WORSHIP GUIDE // MARCH 21, 2021

CALLED BY GOD

Ⓣ WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP // Psalm 145:1-2

Leader: Every day I will praise You
and extol Your name for ever and ever.

**All: Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;
His greatness no one can fathom.
One generation commends Your works to another;
they tell of Your mighty acts.**

Ⓢ SONG OF PRAISE

Come Thou Fount *John Wyeth (1813), Robert Robinson (1758)*

Come Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace.
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above,
Praise His name-- I'm fixed upon it-- name of God's redeeming love.

Hither to Thy love has blessed me, Thou hast brought me to this place,
And I know Thy hand will bring me, safely home by Thy good grace.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wondering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.

O to grace, how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be.
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wondering heart to Thee.
Prone to wonder, Lord I feel it, prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

Why a "call to worship"?
Worship is something we offer to God every day of our lives in everything that we do. If we are worshipping as we come in the church doors, why do we have a Call to Worship? Implied in the phrase is the word "corporate." When we hear the Call to (corporate) Worship, we are called by God as one community to worship Him together.

What is unique about Sunday is not that we worship on that day and not others; it is that we worship together.

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.



*Why do we confess sin?
Worship both draws us to
God and reveals where
we are distant from him.
Throughout Scripture,
when people see or
experience God they are
faced with the reality of
their own brokenness
and shame. Likewise, we
confess our sin, as a com-
munity and individually.*

*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).*

*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."*



CLEANSED BY GOD

⤴ CONFSSION OF SIN

Gracious and forgiving God, hear our confession.
We acknowledge that we are sinners and we confess ours sins:
those known to us that burden our hearts,
and those unknown to us but seen by You.

We know that before You nothing remains hidden,
and in you everything is revealed.

Gracious and forgiving God, hear our request:
Free us from the slavery of sin;
liberate us from the bondage of guilt;
work in us that which is pleasing in Your sight;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*** time for silent confession ***

⤵ WORDS OF FORGIVENESS // Romans 8:1-2

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law
of sin and death.

⤴ GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERING

↔ PASSING OF THE PEACE

CELEBRATING GOD

⤴ SONGS OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

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.

All Things Rise *Sam Yoder (2015)*

God, how beautiful Your Holy Word
That formed the worlds in such goodness.
O, the shame that we would spurn it all,
To turn and fall into darkness.

God, we'll sing how through Your Son You turned
This loss and hurt into glory.
How, when scorned in death You raised Him up,
His gain's become the whole world's story.

*Let all things rise and bless Your name!
All things made right and new again.
O Lord our God, Your goodness
Is free and boundless, is reaching endless through it all.*

And on this road with every step we take,
Your faithfulness is our portion.
You've prepared a city bright and fair,
Whose gates forever stay open.

Son of God, in You we've taken up
The way of love's occupation.
O, the joy to share in Your reward,
The stunning turn of new creation.

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).

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



CHANGED BY GOD

⤴ PRAYER OF RENEWAL

⤵ SCRIPTURE READING // Ruth 1:1-21

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.

¹ In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. ² The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. ³ But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴ These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years, ⁵ and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

⁶ Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the Lord had visited his people and given them food. ⁷ So she set out from the place where she was with her two daughters-in-law, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah. ⁸ But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each of you to her mother's house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. ⁹ The Lord grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!" Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. ¹⁰ And they said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." ¹¹ But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? ¹² Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons, ¹³ would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the Lord has gone out against me." ¹⁴ Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

¹⁵ And she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." ¹⁶ But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. ¹⁷ Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the Lord do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you." ¹⁸ And



when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

¹⁹ So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem. And when they came to Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them. And the women said, "Is this Naomi?" ²⁰ She said to them, "Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me. ²¹ I went away full, and the Lord has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi, when the Lord has testified against me and the Almighty has brought calamity upon me?"

Sermon- Todd Jones
Series: Recovery and Reconnecting
Title: Act of Recovery: Lament

Todd is Hope Chapel's founding/lead pastor.

This sermon is part of a series in the book of Ruth where we are exploring what is meant to recover and reconnect with one another after the shared trauma of the past year.

For past sermons, please visit our website.

⤴ PRAYER OF LAMENT

God, this past year has been difficult.

We have had to face hard realities,

Heartbreaking losses,

Fear and anxiety,

Uncertainty and sadness,

Injustices that must be made right.

We need time to heal

Time to mourn,

Time to rest,

Time to renew.

We know that we must do the work of lament,

Both personally and collectively.

We know that we must do the work of truth-telling,

Both in listening and in speaking.

We know that if we allow it,

Suffering and trauma can cause us to grow;

What is lament?

The author Dan Allender says lament "is to cry out to God with our doubts, our incriminations of him and others, to bring a complaint against Him" and goes on to say that lament is "the context for surrender... it is inconceivable to surrender to God unless there is a prior, declared war against him... sanctification is a lifetime process of surrendering as more and more intense conflicts with God and others expose and dissolve our urgent preoccupation with the self. Lament is the battle cry against God that paradoxically voices a heart of desire and ironic faith in his goodness."



This lament litany was written by Fran Pratt and used with permission (<http://www.franpratt.com/>)

So, even as we are tired and grieved,
In need of silence and solace,
But also in need of community and care,

We give thanks:

For all truth that has come to light this year,
For all progress made toward justice,
For any ways we have expanded or matured,
For the strengthening of our love.

We acknowledge that our society must do better;
And also, that we are exhausted from doing our best.

So we look with hope to the new year,
Asking for strength, wisdom, courage, energy,
And divine assistance

As we continue the work of bringing Heaven to Earth. Amen.

SONG FOR REFLECTION

Can't Help Myself Words & Music: Sandra McCracken (2010)

I confess the things I am afraid of:
thorns and danger just around the bend.
I pray for tongues of fire and bands of angels
to come and circle 'round me like a fence.

*I lift my eyes to the hills; where comes my help?
I lift my hands, empty hands,
I can't help myself, I can't help myself,
No, I can't help myself.*

My enemies surround me like an army;
within, without, the battle's raging on.
I pray the Spirit will be strong and mighty
for courage through the night until the dawn.



⬇️ 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.

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

Minister: You are holy, O God of majesty,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.
He took upon himself the weight of our
sin and carried the burden of our guilt.
He shared our life in every way,
and though tempted, was sinless to the end.
Baptized as Your own, He went willingly to his death
and by Your power was raised to new life.

**All: In his dying and rising,
You gave birth to Your church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant
by water and the Spirit.**

Minister: Sanctify this bread and wine, and use these elements
to communicate to us the mercy of your Son,
that we might be enabled to submit our lives to You.

**All: Grant that this sacrament would empower us
to die to ourselves, and live for Your glory,
now and forever, amen.**

*** institution of elements ***

Minister: God did not spare his own Son,
but gave Him up for us all,
and will also give us all things with him.

**All: Therefore we praise You, God,
with our hearts and our voices,
now and forevermore. Amen.**

*What Is Communion?
What we do during
communion isn't merely a
symbolic act or a remem-
brance—it's more than that.
1 Corinthians 10:16-17
teaches us that we are
actually communing with
Christ Himself as we par-
take of the elements. We
mysteriously "participate
in the body and blood" of
Jesus. As we take commu-
nion, 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 wor-
ship guide).*

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

*PLEASE NOTE:
All bread is gluten-free.*

SENT BY GOD

⤴ SENDING SONG

Give Reviving (Albert Midlane, b. 1825, Chelsey Scott and Aaron Sands, 2007)

Father, for Thy promised blessing, still we plead before Thy throne.
For the times of sweet refreshing, which can come from Thee alone.
Blessed earnest, Thou hast given, but in these we would not rest;
Blessings still with Thee are hidden, pour them forth and make us blessed!

Prayer ascendeth to Thee ever; answer, Father! Answer prayer!
Bless, oh bless, each weak endeavor, blood-bought pardon to declare
Wake Thy slumbering children, wake them, bid them to Thy harvest go
Blessings, oh our Father, make, round their steps let blessings flow!

Let no people be forgotten, let Thy showers on all descend,
That in one loud blessed anthem, millions may in triumph blend!
Give reviving, give refreshing, give the looked-for Jubilee.
To Thyself may crowds be pressing, bringing glory unto Thee!

↔ COMMUNITY LIFE

⤵ BLESSING & SENDING

Minister: May our Faithful God, who has promised never
to leave or forsake you,
fill you with all joy and peace in Christ,
so that you may overflow with hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

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

All: Thanks be to God!

FINANCIAL UPDATE

OPERATING BUDGET

Given Last Week: \$7,668
Required to Date \$116,996
(Jan. 1 - March 14)
Given to Date \$95,788
Over/[Under] [\$21,208]

ROOTED FOR RENEWAL 2021

Goal: \$900,000
Pledged: \$461,611
Given to date: \$376,357

Gifts can be placed in the offering
plate on Sundays or mailed to:

Hope Chapel
908 N. Josephine Boyd St
Greensboro, NC 27408

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

*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 bless-
ing. 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 to-
gether in worship of our
one great God.*