

WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

May 23, 2021



PENTECOST SUNDAY

PREPARATION

Today is Pentecost Sunday in the church calendar. Pentecost symbolizes a new beginning. It celebrates the unleashing of the Holy Spirit on the world and the empowering of the church to reach the world with the gospel. In celebrating Pentecost, the church expresses its gratitude for the faithfulness of Christ in fulfilling his promise to send "another counselor" (John 14:16); celebrates the work of the Spirit in renewing all of creation; professes its confidence and security in knowing the Spirit's power is available for its mission; and grows in awareness of the immensity of its calling to reach the world with the gospel. (from "The Worship Sourcebook")

GATHERING SONG

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.

Breathe On Me, Breath of God

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with Thy life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is ever pure,
until my will is one with thine,
to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Util I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so that I shall never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.

Edwin Hatch (1878), Michael Van Patter (2011)

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Created and Called. We believe that God created humans to be in relationship with Him, and to worship Him as their Creator. But it's more than that. He is also a loving Father who is calling, or inviting His children to come near. God's is both the Creator and the Invitor, and we respond to His grace!

Leader: The love of God has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us;

All: we dwell in Him and He in us.

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord and call upon His name;
make known His deeds among the peoples.

**All: Sing to Him, sing praises to Him,
and speak of all His marvelous works.**

Leader: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,

All: who was and is and is to come!

—based on Psalm 105:1-2; Romans 5:5; Revelation 4:8

Great Are You, Lord

You give life, You are love,
You bring light to the darkness.
You give hope, You restore every heart that is broken.
Great are You, Lord!

*It's Your breath in our lungs,
So we pour out our praise, pour out our praise.
It's Your breath in our lungs,
So we pour out our praise to You only.*

All the earth will shout Your praise,
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing,
Great are You, Lord!

Leslie Jordan, David Leonard (2013)

CONFESSION OF SIN

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 community and individually.

Gracious God,

who pours out freely the gift of your Holy Spirit:

we confess before you and to each other

that we have failed to recognize this most precious gift.

We have been satisfied with ordinary things,

suspicious of unfamiliar things,

and blind to spiritual things.

Cleanse us, O God, with your purifying fire.

Burn away our presumptuous self-sufficiency,

and open us in faith to receive the renewing touch of your hand.

*** time for silent confession ***

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

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).

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.

Romans 8:1-2

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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."

GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERING

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).

SONGS OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

This Is Amazing Grace

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness?
 Whose love is mighty and so much stronger?
 The King of Glory, the King above all kings.
 Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder?
 And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder?
 The King of Glory, the King above all kings.

*This is amazing grace, this is unfailing love,
 That You would take my place,
 That You would bear my cross.
 You laid down Your life that I would be set free.
 Oh, Jesus, I sing for all that You've done for me!*

Who brings our chaos back into order?
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter?
The King of Glory, the King of Glory.
Who rules the nations with truth and justice?
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance?
The King of Glory, the King above all kings.

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave!

Josh Farro, Jeremy Riddle, Phil Wickham (2012)

Thy Mercy, My God

Thy mercy my God is the theme of my song,
The joy of my heart, and the boast of my tongue.
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,
Hath won my affection and bound my soul fast.

Without Thy sweet mercy, I could not live here.
Sin would reduce me to utter despair,
But through Thy free goodness, my spirit's revived
And He that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart.
Dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground
And weep for the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great Father of mercies, Thy goodness I own
In the covenant love of Thy crucified Son.
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine.

John Stocker (1776), Sandra McCracken (2001)

PRAYER OF RENEWAL

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".

SCRIPTURE READING

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.

HEBREWS 8:6-13

⁶ But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises. ⁷ For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion to look for a second.

⁸ For he finds fault with them when he says:

"Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord,
when I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel
and with the house of Judah,

⁹ not like the covenant that I made with their fathers
on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them
out of the land of Egypt.

For they did not continue in my covenant,
and so I showed no concern for them, declares the Lord.

¹⁰ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel
after those days, declares the Lord:

I will put my laws into their minds,
and write them on their hearts,
and I will be their God,
and they shall be my people.

¹¹ And they shall not teach, each one his neighbor
and each one his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,'
for they shall all know me,

from the least of them to the greatest.

¹² For I will be merciful toward their iniquities,
and I will remember their sins no more.”

¹³ In speaking of a new covenant, he makes the first one obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.

SERMON

Todd Jones is Hope Chapel's founding/lead pastor.

This sermon is part of a series in the book of Hebrews , focusing on the supremacy (or authority and power) of Jesus. For past sermons, please visit our website.

“THE NEW COVENANT”

COMMUNION

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: All bread is gluten-free.

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.

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. Amen.

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. Amen.

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. Amen.

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.

SENDING SONG

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

*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.

James Montgomery (1821), Sandra McCracken (2012)

COMMUNITY LIFE

BLESSING & SENDING

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.

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.**

Romans 15:13

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Given Last Week:	\$8,030	Gifts can be placed in the offering
Required to Date	\$212,720	plate on Sundays or mailed to:
(Jan. 1 - May 16)		Hope Chapel
Given to Date	\$195,358	908 N. Josephine Boyd St
Over/[Under]	[\$17,362]	Greensboro, NC 27408

Online giving is available on our website: www.hopechapelgreensboro.org/give

We also accept donations via Venmo: @HopeChapel.

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Want to connect with others?
hopechapelgreensboro.org/community

Visiting with us?
hopechapelgreensboro.org/i'm-new

