

WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

April 24, 2022



the SECOND SUNDAY of EASTER

PREPARATION

*To all who are weary and need rest;
To all who mourn and long for comfort;
To all who feel worthless and wonder if God cares;
To all who fail and desire strength;
To all who sin and need a Savior —
This church opens wide her doors with a welcome from Jesus Christ,
the ally of his enemies, the defender of the guilty,
the justifier of the inexcusable, the friend of sinners.
Welcome!*

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.

Come, People of the Risen King

Come, people of the Risen King, who delight to bring Him praise;
Come all and tune your hearts to sing to the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth we will lift our eyes to Him,
Where steady arms of mercy reach to gather children in.

*Rejoice, Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice; O Church of Christ, rejoice!*

Come, those whose joy is morning sun,
and those weeping through the night;
Come, those who tell of battles won, and those struggling in the fight.
For His perfect love will never change, and His mercies never cease,
But follow us through all our days with the certain hope of peace.

Come, young and old from every land - men and women of the faith;
Come, those with full or empty hands - find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world, His people sing - shore to shore we hear them call
The Truth that cries through every age: "Our God is all in all".

Stuart Townend, Keith & Kristen Getty (2007)

WELCOME

We're glad you are here. If you are visiting with us, please take a moment to fill out a "Connect Card", available in a seat-back near you or online using this QR code. We would love the chance to connect with you and help you know more about our community.



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: I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart;

I will recount all of your wonderful deeds.

All: I will be glad and exult in you;

I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

Psalm 9:1-2

Almighty God

Almighty God, to You all hearts are open,
Search and know our thoughts and anxious fears.
Wash us in the fountain of Your mercy,
Come with Your light, we cannot hide from You.

Almighty God, to You all hearts are open,
With gratitude we raise our song to You.
Come and fill the praises of Your people,
In grace and truth, You make us new again.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Almighty God, to You all hearts are open,
We long for more than what this world provides.
No shallow spring will ever satisfy us,
But Your river deep floods over everything.

To You all hearts are open, Almighty God...

Leslie Jordan, David Leonard, Sandra McCracken (2014)

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.

Father, we come to You now
 confessing that our deepest problem
 is that we do not believe You love us.
 We do not sit still and give in to Your advances.
 We think ourselves unworthy of Your love—
 not believing the sacrifice of Christ has made us lovely in Your sight.

Because we do not receive the love You freely offer us,
 we seek it out in other places.
 We have wandered far from home in search of love.

So we come back to You now.
 Do not just receive us, but delight in us.
 Embrace us, sing over us.
 We ask this solely on the basis of
 what Christ has done for us.

*** 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).

They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness
 and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.
 The LORD is gracious and merciful,
 slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
 The LORD is good to all,
 and his mercy is over all that he has made.

Psalm 145:7-9

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Why is the Greeting put after our Words of Forgiveness? The book of 2 Corinthians reminds us that part of God's goal in reconciling Himself to us was that we might likewise be reconciled with one another. But for healing and wholeness to take place in our relationships (which is what the Greeting enacts as we acknowledge one another in the peace of our Lord), we must first know the healing of our relationship with God through Christ. God's pardon of us sets us free to love and forgive one another without reservation or qualification!

SONGS OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

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

Hallelujah to My King

Brenton Brown, Paul Baloche (2007)

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).



Yet Not I, But Through Christ In Me

Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, Michael Farren (2018)

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.

SONG OF SONGS 1:15-2:17

He

¹⁵ Behold, you are beautiful, my love;
 behold, you are beautiful;
 your eyes are doves.

She

¹⁶ Behold, you are beautiful, my beloved, truly delightful.
 Our couch is green;
¹⁷ the beams of our house are cedar;
 our rafters are pine.

^{2:1} I am a rose of Sharon,
 a lily of the valleys.

He

² As a lily among brambles,
 so is my love among the young women.

She

³ As an apple tree among the trees of the forest,
 so is my beloved among the young men.
 With great delight I sat in his shadow,
 and his fruit was sweet to my taste.

⁴ He brought me to the banqueting house,
and his banner over me was love.

⁵ Sustain me with raisins;
refresh me with apples,
for I am sick with love.

⁶ His left hand is under my head,
and his right hand embraces me!
I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem,
by the gazelles or the does of the field,
that you not stir up or awaken love
until it pleases.

⁸ The voice of my beloved!
Behold, he comes,
leaping over the mountains,
bounding over the hills.

⁹ My beloved is like a gazelle
or a young stag.
Behold, there he stands
behind our wall,

gazing through the windows,
looking through the lattice.

¹⁰ My beloved speaks and says to me:
“Arise, my love, my beautiful one,
and come away,

¹¹ for behold, the winter is past;
the rain is over and gone.

¹² The flowers appear on the earth,
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in our land.

¹³ The fig tree ripens its figs,
and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.

Arise, my love, my beautiful one,
and come away.

¹⁴ O my dove, in the clefts of the rock,
in the crannies of the cliff,
let me see your face,

let me hear your voice,
for your voice is sweet,
and your face is lovely.

¹⁵ Catch the foxes for us,
the little foxes
that spoil the vineyards,
for our vineyards are in blossom.”

¹⁶ My beloved is mine, and I am his;
he grazes among the lilies.

¹⁷ Until the day breathes
and the shadows flee,
turn, my beloved, be like a gazelle
or a young stag on cleft mountains.

SERMON

“FRIENDSHIP & ROMANCE”

Ben Milner is senior pastor at Salem Presbyterian Church in Winston Salem.

This sermon is part of a series in the book of Song of Songs called “The Greatest Song”. For past sermons, please visit our website.

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.

COMMUNION LITANY

Minister: Is the Father with us?

All: He is.

Minister: Is the Christ among us?

All: He is.

Minister: Is the Spirit here?

All: He is.

Minister: This is our God:

All: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Minister: We are His people:

All: We are redeemed by His grace.

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. Hallelujah!

All: Hallelujah!

**** institution of elements ****

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Minister: Let us pray together:

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.

The Church's One Foundation

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
 she is his new creation by water and the Word.
 From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
 with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth;
 her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
 one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
 and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
 she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
 till, with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest,
 and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
 and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
 O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we
 like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

Samuel Stone (1866), Brian Moss (1996)

SENDING SONG

The Lord Is My Joy

The Lord is my joy...
 When all that I have is lost, the Lord is my joy.
 The Lord is my strength...
 When I am too weak to go on, the Lord is my strength.

*My all in all is He, my healing King,
 My master tends to me, for Him my soul shall sing.*

The Lord is my rock...
 When all I have faith in fails, the Lord is my rock.
 The Lord is my delight...
 Above all the joys of life, the Lord is my delight.

*My all in all is He, my breath, my song,
 In Him I have everything, to Him my soul belong.*

I wait, and wait upon you, to come to me in rescue;
 Give strength, my heart is failing. Yet still, my lips will praise You.

You who gave Your only Son, I dare not doubt Your steadfast love.
 Come, I beg you take my life, if I am Yours, then all is right.

*My all in all is He, my closest friend,
 I put all my trust in Him, on Him my soul depends.*

Nathan Partain (2008)

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: Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself,
 and God our Father,
 who loved us and gave us eternal comfort
 and good hope through grace,
 comfort your hearts and establish them
 in every good work and word.

All: Amen.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

2 Thessalonians 2:16

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Given Last Week:	\$7,567	Gifts can be placed in the offering
Required to Date	\$187,200	plate on Sundays or mailed to:
(Jan. 1 - March 20)		Hope Chapel
Given to Date	\$165,133	908 N. Josephine Boyd St
Over/[Under]	[\$22,067]	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

