

# WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

March 20, 2022



the THIRD SUNDAY of LENT

## PREPARATION

*Almighty God, we pray for your blessing  
on the church in this place.  
Here may the faithful find salvation,  
and the careless be awakened.  
Here may the doubting find faith,  
and the anxious be encouraged.  
Here may the tempted find help,  
and the sorrowful find comfort.  
Here may the weary find rest,  
and the strong be renewed.  
Here may the aged find consolation  
and the young be inspired;  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

## 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.*

### Creation Sings

In You we live, in You we move  
In You we have our being  
In every nation, all the earth  
This song of ours is rising

*Creation, all creation sings Your glory,  
Sings Your glory, God!*

Glory to the Father, glory to the Son,  
Glory to the Spirit,  
Who was and is to come.

*David Leonard, Leslie Jordan (2015)*

## 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: Praise be to the LORD forever! Amen and Amen.

All: Lord, You have been our dwelling place  
throughout all generations.  
Before the mountains were born  
or You brought forth the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting You are God.

Psalm 89:52 - 90:2

### Only a Holy God

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven?  
Who else could make every king bow down?  
Who else can whisper and darkness trembles? Only a Holy God.

What other beauty demands such praises?  
What other splendour outshines the sun?  
What other majesty rules with justice? Only a Holy God.

*Come and behold Him, the One and the Only  
Cry out, sing holy— forever a Holy God!  
Come and worship the Holy God!*

What other glory consumes like fire?  
What other power can raise the dead?  
What other name remains undefeated? Only a Holy God.

Who else could rescue me from my failing?  
Who else would offer His only Son?  
Who else invites me to call Him Father? Only a Holy God.

*Michael Farren, Jonny Robinson, Dustin Smith, Rich Thompson (2016)*

## 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.*

Merciful God:

Your word says that every good gift is from above.

You are our great Provider;

You give us everything we need.

Yet we confess that we turn these gifts into idols

That we love, serve and worship above You.

Forgive us for turning Your gifts into gods.

Help us to find our contentment and fulfillment in You alone.

By the power of Christ Jesus we pray,

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

## SONG OF LAMENT

*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."*

## Psalm 126

Our mouths they were filled, filled with laughter,  
Our tongues they were loosed, loosed with joy;  
Restore us, O Lord! Restore us, O Lord!

*Although we are weeping, Lord, help us keep sowing  
The seeds of Your Kingdom for the day You will reap them.  
Your sheaves we will carry, Lord, please do not tarry;  
All those who sow weeping will go out with songs of joy.*

The nations will say, "He has done great things!"  
The nations will sing songs of joy;  
Restore us, O Lord! Restore us, O Lord!

Isaac Wardell (2011)

## 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).*

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!  
The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.  
They feast on the abundance of your house,  
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.  
For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.

Psalm 36:7-9

## 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.*

### Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not  
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

*Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

*Thomas Chisholm, William Runyan (1923)*

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



## What a Savior

King of heaven, Holy One,  
At the cruel cross, where I belonged;  
The sins of the world weighed upon the Son,  
How great your love.

*Hallelujah, O what a Savior!*  
*His name be praised, now and forever!*

You crossed the borders of sins divide,  
Battled for us and won the fight;  
From glory to glory, from death to life,  
So great Your love!

The grave could not answer His glorious mercy  
As light broke through shadow, creation cried;  
Behold now the Savior, the name so much greater,  
He overcame death as He rose to life.

Oh Jesus redeemer, the high king of heaven,  
Exalted forever in victory!  
And one day we'll see Him in all of his glory,  
Our King is returning and all will sing.

*Anna Hamilton, Ben Cantelon, Nick Herbert, Sam Bailey (2021)*

## 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.*

### MARK 4:21-34

<sup>21</sup> And he said to them, "Is a lamp brought in to be put under a basket, or under a bed, and not on a stand? <sup>22</sup> For nothing is hidden except to be made manifest; nor is anything secret except to come to light. <sup>23</sup> If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear." <sup>24</sup> And he said to them, "Pay attention to what you hear: with the measure you use, it will be measured to you, and still more will be added to you. <sup>25</sup> For to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away."

<sup>26</sup> And he said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. <sup>27</sup> He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. <sup>28</sup> The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. <sup>29</sup> But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

<sup>30</sup> And he said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? <sup>31</sup> It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, <sup>32</sup> yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

<sup>33</sup> With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. <sup>34</sup> He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.



## SERMON

### “PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM”

*Harrison Holbrook is Hope Chapel's associate pastor of assimilation & discipleship.*

*This sermon is part of a series called “Mark in Reverse”, where we are studying the Gospel of Mark beginning at the resurrection and moving backward. For past sermons, please visit our website. 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: 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.

### Feed On Me

Bounty original, fullness above  
yielded creation, abundant in love;  
A garden, a calling to nurture and name,  
love's naked fruitfulness hidden from shame,  
But there in the fullness, an emptiness still,  
that He alone would fill.  
"All this I give you: the wind and the light,  
the soil rendered into the body's delight!  
The gift of My Image, the fruit of the tree;  
Feed on Me! Feed on Me! Feed on Me."

Deep in our hunger, we nourished a fear:  
"What we were made for is not given here."  
We ate the forbidden, and emptiness grew,  
swallowing all of the life that we knew,  
But there in the exile of toil and of pain,  
His fullness still remained.  
"All this I give you: the ram and the fire,  
and manna to answer the desert's desire,  
the fields for the gleanings, the richest fare free.  
Feed on Me! Feed on Me! Feed on Me."

Emptiness threatened to swallow the earth  
'til heaven's banquet came down in His birth.  
Now, false food forsaking, He feeds us again  
nets full and breaking and bread gathered in,  
But love's greatest table, no angel could tell:  
He feeds us with Himself.

"All this I give you: the True Bread come down,  
a table of joy for the lost ones, now found,  
The blood and the body, the deep mystery;  
Feed on Me! Feed on Me! Feed on Me."

Truly, we share now in Love's banquet song!  
Yet still we hunger and cry out "How long?"  
A pilgrimage people now making our way  
nourishing hope at this table of faith,  
But coming a banquet desire meets delight, and faith gives way to sight.  
"All this I give you: My fullness again,  
the garden restored from the curses of sin,  
The feast of a wedding, the flowering tree;  
Feed on Me! Feed on Me! Feed on Me."

*Greg Thompson, Isaac Wardell (2013)*

## SENDING SONG

### How Great Is Your Faithfulness

Now unto the king who reigns over all,  
And never changes or turns.  
Unfailing justice, unfading grace,  
Whose promises remain. Yes, Your promises remain.

*The heavens ring, the saints all sing, "Great is your faithfulness!"  
From age to age we will proclaim, "Great is your faithfulness,  
How great is your faithfulness!"*

Everything changes, but your stay the same;  
 Your word and kingdom endure.  
 We lean on the promise of all that you are,  
 And trust forevermore, we will trust forevermore.

From generation to generation, You never fail us, oh God!  
 Yesterday and today and tomorrow, until the day you return.

*Jonas Myrin, Matt Redman (2011)*

# 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 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.

2 Thessalonians 3:16

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

Given Last Week:	\$6,861	Gifts can be placed in the offering
Required to Date	\$128,700	plate on Sundays or mailed to:
(Jan. 1 - March 13)		Hope Chapel
Given to Date	\$110,837	908 N. Josephine Boyd St
Over/[Under]	[\$17,863]	Greensboro, NC 27408

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

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