

WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

May 1, 2022



the THIRD 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.

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)

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

All Glory

We enter Your gates with thanksgiving
 And with thanksgiving, we enter Your gates.
 We pour out Your praise in Your presence
 And in Your presence, we pour out Your praise.
 And the song we sing, we sing forevermore...

*All glory to the Father, all glory to the Son,
 All glory to the Spirit, the Spirit of our God!
 As it was in the beginning and will be in the end;
 All glory to Your everlasting name!*

This is the sound of the forgiven
 A song of freedom, O Jesus, on and on Your name resounds.
 We lift up a shout for You are risen,
 And now we are risen, come on and pour His praises out...

And the song we sing, we sing forevermore!
 And the song we sing, we sing for You alone!
 Come on and pour His praises out,
 Come on and sing His praises now!

CONFESSION OF SIN

Confession of sin happens within the context of relationship, both with God and each other. We confess together, in community, before a gracious God who has given us himself. Confession both acknowledges our need for mercy and celebrates its abundance in Christ.

Sin is a word that means, at its core, “an obsession or worship of oneself.” Martin Luther famously described sin as “curving in on oneself,” which causes a relational breach not only with the people we harm, but also with God by not giving God the place he deserves in our lives, as our loving Creator and Savior.

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,

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.

Nothing But the Blood

What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
 What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

*Oh precious is the flow that makes me white as snow,
 No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

For my pardon this I see— nothing but the blood of Jesus.
 For my cleansing, this my plea— nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Nothing can for sin atone: nothing but the blood of Jesus.
 Naught of good that I have done: nothing but the blood of Jesus.

This is all my hope and peace— nothing but the blood of Jesus.
 This is all my righteousness— nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Robert Lowry (1876)

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).



Awake My Soul

The image of God invisible, the firstborn of all life.
Before and within, He holds it all in;
One name, one faith, one Christ.

No one is good enough to save himself;
Awake my soul tonight to boast nothing else!

I trust no other source or name, nowhere else can I hide
This grace gives me fear, and this grace draws me near;
And all that it asks it provides.

No seam in this garment, all my rags to hide,
No less than your love for Jesus is mine.

When I stand on the edges of Jordan
With the saints and the angels beside;
When my body is healed and the glory revealed,
Then still I can boast only Christ!

Sandra McCracken (2002)

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 3:6 - 4:4

She

⁶ What is that coming up from the wilderness
like columns of smoke,
perfumed with myrrh and frankincense,
with all the fragrant powders of a merchant?

⁷ Behold, it is the litter of Solomon!

Around it are sixty mighty men,
some of the mighty men of Israel,

⁸ all of them wearing swords
and expert in war,

each with his sword at his thigh,
against terror by night.

⁹ King Solomon made himself a carriage
from the wood of Lebanon.

¹⁰ He made its posts of silver,
its back of gold, its seat of purple;
its interior was inlaid with love
by the daughters of Jerusalem.

¹¹ Go out, O daughters of Zion,
and look upon King Solomon,
with the crown with which
his mother crowned him
on the day of his wedding,
on the day of the gladness of his heart.

He

^{4:1} Behold, you are beautiful, my love,
behold, you are beautiful!

Your eyes are doves
behind your veil.

Your hair is like a flock of goats
leaping down the slopes of Gilead.

² Your teeth are like a flock of shorn ewes
that have come up from the washing,
all of which bear twins,
and not one among them has lost its young.

³ Your lips are like a scarlet thread,
and your mouth is lovely.
Your cheeks are like halves of a pomegranate
behind your veil.

⁴ Your neck is like the tower of David,
built in rows of stone;
on it hang a thousand shields,
all of them shields of warriors.

SERMON

“FRIENDSHIP & ROMANCE”

Andy Koesters serves as Pastor to Churches and Families with Families Alive (familiesalive.org). He and his family worship with us at Hope Chapel.

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.

In the Secret of His Presence

In the secret of His presence how my soul delights to hide
 Oh, how precious are the lessons which I learn at Jesus' side
 Earthly cares forever vex me, while thy trials lay me low;
 But when Satan comes to tempt me, to that secret place I go,
 To the secret place I go.

When my soul is faint and thirsty, 'neath the shadow of Your wings
 There is cool and pleasant shelter, and a fresh and crystal spring;
 And my Savior rests beside me, as we hold communion sweet:
 If I tried, I could not utter what He says when thus we meet,
 What He says when thus we meet.

Only this I know: I tell Him all my doubts, my griefs and fears;
 Oh, how patiently He listens and my sorrowed soul He cheers:
 Do you think He ne'er reproves me? What a false Friend He would be,
 If He never, never told me of the sin which He must see,
 Of the sin which He must see.

Would you like to know the sweetness of the secret of the Lord?
 Go and hide beneath His shadow: this shall then be your reward;
 And whene'er you leave the silence of that happy meeting place,
 You will surely bear the image of the Master in your face,
 Of the Master in your face.

Ellen Goreh (1883), Christopher Minor (2004)

SENDING SONG

Faithful One

Faithful One, we lift our praise
 Toward your light we turn our gaze.
 The weight of sin is bearing down,
 We need your grace to save us now.

*Faithful One, Faithful One, You never fail, You never fail,
 You never fail to raise the sun, Faithful One.
 Faithful One, Faithful One, You never fail, You never fail,
 Not my will, but Yours be done.*

God of Grace I long to live
 By the peace you freely give.
 When lesser things seduce my eyes,
 Lord, break my heart and make me wise.

Ancient love has brought to bear
 Kinship with the royal heir.
 You broke the bread, you poured the wine,
 Now I am yours and you are mine.

Randall Goodgame (2014)

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: | \$22,216 | Gifts can be placed in the offering |
| Required to Date | \$198,900 | plate on Sundays or mailed to: |
| (Jan. 1 - March 27) | | Hope Chapel |
| Given to Date | \$187,339 | 908 N. Josephine Boyd St |
| Over/[Under] | [\$11,561] | 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

