

WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

May 15, 2022



the FIFTH SUNDAY of EASTER

PREPARATION

*O God,
by your power may we, with all the saints,
comprehend the breadth and length and height and depth
of the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge,
so that we may be filled with your fullness. Amen.*

—based on Ephesians 3:18-19

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.

Immortal Invisible

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, unchanging, 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.

Walter Chalmers Smith, Welsh melody (1867), ch. M. Van Patter

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 the Lord, my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

All: Praise the Lord, my soul,
and forget not all his benefits—

Leader: who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,

All: who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,
who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Psalm 103:1-5

To God All Praise and Glory

Sing praise to God, who reigns above, the God of all creation.
The God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.
He fills my soul with sweet relief and make my faithless murmur cease.

To God all praise and glory (x4)

The Lord is never far away, but through all grief distressing;
An ever-present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing.
And in my Father's tender care His love eclipses my despair.

When life is hard and days are long, I'll sing aloud His praises.
That all may hear the grateful song my joyful spirit raises.
My heart revived, my soul restored, my heart rejoices in the Lord.

Let all who claim Christ's holy name give God all praise and glory.
Let all who lean on the Spirit's strength declare the wondrous story!
Cast every idol from its throne, for Christ is Lord and Christ alone.

*Johann Jakob Schutz (1675), trans. Frances Elizabeth
Cox (1864), Music & Add. lyrics Brian Eichelberger (2017)*

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, our hearts, minds, and hands
still need Your cleansing and renewal.

This week has only further proven how much
we need Your grace, Your mercy, Your love, and Your forgiveness.

So we come to You on the basis of who You are and not who we are.

We are thankful for what Your Son has done for us
through His life, death, and resurrection.

His work on our behalf is a solid rock that does not change;
and on it alone that we stand.

Because of Him, forgive us of our many sins.

Forgive us of our proud, stony hearts—
hearts that do not love You and do not love others,
Hearts that are fearful, insecure, and shrunken.

Forgive us and cleanse us for Jesus’ sake.

Forgive us and restore us to You, we pray.

*** 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).

He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Titus 3:5-7

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."

BAPTISM

Remember your own baptism. As we participate in today's baptism with our vows and affirmation, allow it to be a time of recommitment to the Lord.

If you were baptized as an infant, think about how your baptism was a picture of your utter helplessness before God—how He found you, loved you, and clothed you with righteousness, even before you were able to choose and respond to Him.

If you were baptized as an older child or adult, think about how your baptism was a conscious public profession before people that you would follow Christ. Allow God's covenant to be renewed in your life today.

Shepherd, Gideon, and Chandler Sink sons of Haven and Jon Sink

Barocha

The Lord bless you and keep you,
the Lord make His face shine upon you
And give you peace, and give you peace,
And give you peace forever.

The Lord be gracious to You.
The Lord turn His face towards you,
And give you peace, and give you peace,
And give you peace forever.

Michael Card (1998)

Heal Us, Emmanuel

*Heal us, Emmanuel, here we are! We long to feel Thy touch.
Deep wounded souls, to Thee we fly, O Savior, hear our cry.*

Our faith is feeble, we confess— we faintly trust Thy word;
But will You pity us the less? Be that far from You Lord!

Remember him who once applied with trembling for relief;
“Lord, I believe,” with tears he cried; “O help my unbelief!”

She, too, who touched You in the press and healing virtue stole,
Was answered, “Daughter, go in peace;
Thy faith has made thee whole.”

Like her, with hopes and fears we come to touch You if we may;
O send us not despairing home; send none unhealed away.

William Cowper (1779), Kevin Twitt, Lucas Morton (2010)

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 6:4 - 7:5

He

^{6:4} You are beautiful as Tirzah, my love,
lovely as Jerusalem,
awesome as an army with banners.

⁵ Turn away your eyes from me,
for they overwhelm me—

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

⁶ Your teeth are like a flock of ewes
that have come up from the washing;
all of them bear twins;
not one among them has lost its young.

⁷ Your cheeks are like halves of a pomegranate
behind your veil.

⁸ There are sixty queens and eighty concubines,
and virgins without number.

⁹ My dove, my perfect one, is the only one,
the only one of her mother,
pure to her who bore her.

The young women saw her and called her blessed;
the queens and concubines also,
and they praised her.

¹⁰ “Who is this who looks down like the dawn,
beautiful as the moon, bright as the sun,
awesome as an army with banners?”

She

¹¹ I went down to the nut orchard
to look at the blossoms of the valley,
to see whether the vines had budded,
whether the pomegranates were in bloom.

¹² Before I was aware, my desire set me
among the chariots of my kinsman, a prince.

Others

¹³ Return, return, O Shulammitte,
return, return, that we may look
upon you.

He

Why should you look upon
the Shulammitte,
as upon a dance before two armies?

^{7:1} How beautiful are your feet in sandals,
O noble daughter!

Your rounded thighs are like jewels,
the work of a master hand.

² Your navel is a rounded bowl
that never lacks mixed wine.

Your belly is a heap of wheat,
encircled with lilies.

³ Your two breasts are like two fawns,
twins of a gazelle.

⁴ Your neck is like an ivory tower.
Your eyes are pools in Heshbon,
by the gate of Bath-rabbim.

Your nose is like a tower of Lebanon,
which looks toward Damascus.

⁵ Your head crowns you like Carmel,
and your flowing locks are like purple;
a king is held captive in the tresses.

SERMON

“TRUE LOVE”

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

Thy Boundless Grace

Lord, we adore thy boundless grace,
The heights and depths unknown,
Of pardon, life, and joy, and peace,
in thy beloved Son.

*Come, all ye pining, hungry poor, the Saviour's bounty taste;
Behold a never-failing store for every willing guest.*

O wondrous gifts of love divine,
Dear Source of every good;
Jesus, in thee what glories shine!
How rich thy flowing blood!

Here shall your numerous wants receive
A free, a full supply;
He has unmeasured bliss to give,
and joys that never die.

Anne Steele (1760), Brian T. Murphy (2010)

SENDING SONG

Kingdom Comes Again

In the dawn of your creation, all made good and all was well.
Beauty past imagination, in Your presence, made to dwell.
But our gaze was misdirected and we turned our hearts from You;
Justice joined with loving-kindness so all things could be made new.

Scattered out through many places over history and time;
Gathered by the Name of Jesus to embody kingdom come.
For His children, in their groaning, Jesus shed His precious blood;
Making peace through resurrection so the many could be one.

*Hallelujah! You are worthy!
Dead and raised – now in Your glory!
You have welcomed us as family,
scattered us to tell your story.*

Laying down our vain ambition, taking up the kingdom come,
 We will join in God's great mission to restore creation's song.
 As we know God's grace and justice we reach out where love can mend,
 Lifting up the name of Jesus 'til His kingdom comes again.

Michael Van Patter (2020)

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:	\$8,850	Gifts can be placed in the offering
Required to Date	\$222,300	plate on Sundays or mailed to:
(Jan. 1 - May 8)		Hope Chapel
Given to Date	\$211,806	908 N. Josephine Boyd St
Over/[Under]	[\$10,494]	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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