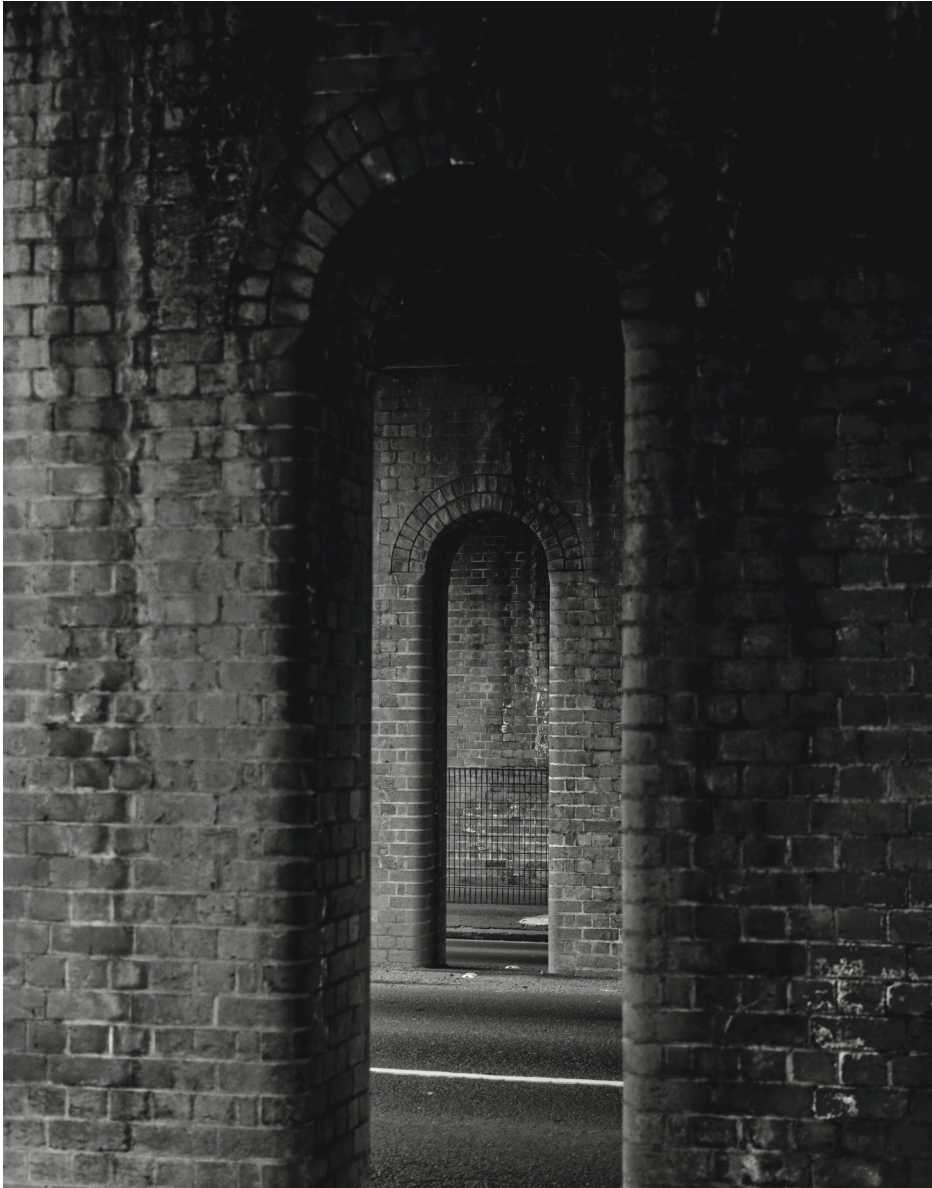


WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

November 3, 2024



Ordinary Time

Preparation

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory;
to all who sin and need forgiveness;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
to whoever will come – this church opens wide her doors
and welcomes you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

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.

I Will Sing

With my mouth, I will tell of Your faithfulness,
I'll declare, Lord, Your covenant with my life.

*I will sing of the Lord's great love forever,
I will sing of the Lord's great love.
I will sing of the Lord's great love forever,
I will sing, oh I will sing.*

Lord You are the glory of all our strength,
Your presence along the way for all our days.

Oh Lord, God Almighty, who is like You?
Oh Lord, God Almighty, none beside You.
Oh Lord, God Almighty, all the earth and sky belong to You.

Leslie Jordan and Sandra McCracken (2019)

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

Psalm 95:1-7

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 Inviter, and we respond to His grace!

Leader: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;
let us shout aloud to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come before Him with thanksgiving
and extol Him with music and song!

**All: For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods.
In His hand are the depths of the earth,
and the mountain peaks belong to Him.
the sea is His, for he made it, and His hands formed the dry land.**

Leader: Come, let us bow down in worship,
let us kneel before the Lord our maker;

**All: for He is our God and we are the people of His pasture,
the flock under His care.**

Our Great God

Eternal God, unchanging, mysterious, and unknown,
Your boundless love, unfailing in grace and mercy shown.
Bright seraphim in endless flight around Your glorious throne;
They raise their voices day and night in praise to You alone.

Lord, we are weak and frail, helpless in the storm.
Surround us with Your angels, hold us in Your arms.
Our cold and ruthless enemy, His pleasure is our harm.
Rise up, O Lord, and he will flee before our sovereign God.

Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!

Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!

Let every creature in the sea and every flying bird,
Let every mountain, every field, and valley of the earth
Let all the moons and all the stars in all the universe
Sing praises to the living God, Who rules them by His Word.

Fernando Ortega and Mac Powell (2002)

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:

We confess that we have sinned against You
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved You with our whole heart and mind and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In Your mercy, forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,

So that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
for the glory of your holy name.

Through Christ, our Lord...

*** time for silent confession ***

Song of Lament

*Learning the language: One Sunday each month (typically the first Sunday) we sing a song of lament together. These songs are often paraphrased from one of the roughly fifty lament Psalms in the Bible. The key characteristic of Biblical lament is that it is a prayer of complaint **to the Lord**. They are honest, gritty, despairing, angry, questioning, lonely, and so much more— but they are all within the context of relationship and conversation with God.*

Our Song in the Night Michael Van Patter (2014)

(Music included on following page)

Words of Forgiveness

Colossians 1:13-14

We are not alone. The Bible teaches that Jesus understands what it is to be human. Because He was fully man, He is compassionate and merciful toward us in our sin and failures. But not only can He sympathize with us, Jesus (being fully God) also has set us free from the power of sin by his death and resurrection.

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Our Song in the Night



1. In the dark - ness _____ can you hear us? _____
 2. We are bro - ken, _____ are we for - sa - ken? _____
 3. Your road, it led me _____ down to the Red sea, _____



when the night _____ comes are we a - lone? _____
 Has your love _____ gone down with the sun? _____
 the wa - ters trem - bled, You made a way. _____



have you for - go - ten _____ all of your chil - dren; _____
 And your mer - cy _____ through all _____ his - tory, _____
 You raised Your arm _____ and _____ let them to dry _____ land,



when we re - mem - ber you we groan. _____
 is it a - ban - doned and un - done? _____
 Lord will you hear _____ us when we say _____



But our hearts _____ can - not _____ be si - lent. _____
 But our hearts _____ can - not _____ be si - lent. _____
 that our hearts _____ can - not _____ be si - lent? _____



O God _____ be our song _____ in the night _____ when the light



_____ is gone God be our hope _____ be our strength _____ be our shel-



- ter - ing place, our song in the night. _____

Passing of the Peace

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

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

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)

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 our powerful and merciful God for 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

Ezra 7 (ESV)

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.

¹ Now after this, in the reign of Artaxerxes king of Persia, Ezra the son of Seraiah, son of Azariah, son of Hilkiah, ² son of Shallum, son of Zadok, son of Ahitub, ³ son of Amariah, son of Azariah, son of Meraioth, ⁴ son of Zerariah, son of Uzzi, son of Bukki, ⁵ son of Abishua, son of Phinehas, son of Eleazar, son of Aaron the chief priest— ⁶ this Ezra went up from Babylonia. He was a scribe skilled in the Law of Moses that the Lord, the God of Israel, had given, and the king granted him all that he asked, for the hand of the Lord his God was on him.

⁷ And there went up also to Jerusalem, in the seventh year of Artaxerxes the king, some of the people of Israel, and some of the priests and Levites, the singers and gatekeepers, and the temple servants. ⁸ And Ezra came to Jerusalem in the fifth month, which was in the seventh year of the king. ⁹ For on the first day of the first month he began to go up from Babylonia, and on the first day of the fifth month he came to Jerusalem, for the good hand of his God was on him. ¹⁰ For Ezra had set his heart to study the Law of the Lord, and to do it and to teach his statutes and rules in Israel.

¹¹ This is a copy of the letter that King Artaxerxes gave to Ezra the priest, the scribe, a man learned in matters of the commandments of the Lord and his statutes for Israel: ¹² “Artaxerxes, king of kings, to Ezra the priest, the scribe of the Law of the God of heaven. Peace. And now ¹³ I make a decree that anyone of the people of Israel or their priests or Levites in my kingdom, who freely offers to go to Jerusalem, may go with you. ¹⁴ For you are sent by the king and his seven counselors to make inquiries about Judah and Jerusalem according to the Law of your God, which is in your hand, ¹⁵ and also to carry the silver and gold that the king and his counselors have freely offered to the God of Israel, whose dwelling is in Jerusalem, ¹⁶ with all the silver and gold that you shall find in the whole province of Babylonia, and with the freewill offerings of the people and the priests, vowed willingly for the house of their God that is in Jerusalem. ¹⁷ With this money, then, you shall with all diligence buy bulls, rams, and lambs, with their grain offerings and their drink offerings, and you shall offer them on the altar of the house of your God that is in Jerusalem. ¹⁸ Whatever seems good to you and your brothers to do with the rest of the silver and gold, you may do, according to the will of your God. ¹⁹ The vessels that have been given you for the service of the house of your God, you shall deliver before the God of Jerusalem. ²⁰ And whatever else is required for the house of your God, which it falls to you to provide, you may provide it out of the king’s treasury.

²¹ “And I, Artaxerxes the king, make a decree to all the treasurers in the province Beyond the River: Whatever Ezra the

priest, the scribe of the Law of the God of heaven, requires of you, let it be done with all diligence, ²² up to 100 talents of silver, 100 cors of wheat, 100 baths of wine, 100 baths of oil, and salt without prescribing how much. ²³ Whatever is decreed by the God of heaven, let it be done in full for the house of the God of heaven, lest his wrath be against the realm of the king and his sons. ²⁴ We also notify you that it shall not be lawful to impose tribute, custom, or toll on anyone of the priests, the Levites, the singers, the doorkeepers, the temple servants, or other servants of this house of God.

²⁵ “And you, Ezra, according to the wisdom of your God that is in your hand, appoint magistrates and judges who may judge all the people in the province Beyond the River, all such as know the laws of your God. And those who do not know them, you shall teach. ²⁶ Whoever will not obey the law of your God and the law of the king, let judgment be strictly executed on him, whether for death or for banishment or for confiscation of his goods or for imprisonment.”

²⁷ Blessed be the Lord, the God of our fathers, who put such a thing as this into the heart of the king, to beautify the house of the Lord that is in Jerusalem, ²⁸ and who extended to me his steadfast love before the king and his counselors, and before all the king’s mighty officers. I took courage, for the hand of the Lord my God was on me, and I gathered leading men from Israel to go up with me.

Sermon

Andy Koesters serves as Pastor to Churches and Families with Families Alive (familiesalive.org). He and his family worship at Hope Chapel. This sermon is part of a series on the Old Testament book of Ezra, where we are exploring the core, or essence, of what it means to be followers of God. For past sermons, please visit our website. Next week's sermon text is Ezra 8.

Notes:

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

Confession of Faith: Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended to hell.
 On the third day he rose again from the dead.
 He ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
 He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

Minister: It is right and good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, O Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and singing...

Hosanna In the Highest

Greg LaFollette (2018)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might.

Hea-ven and earth are full of Your glo - ry! Ho-sa-na-in the

high - est! Ho-sa-na-in the high - est! Ho-sa-na-in the

high - est! And bles-sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ____

Words of Institution

Prayer of Approach

Minister: Sanctify this bread and wine,
and use these elements to communicate to us
the mercy of your Son,
that we might be enabled to submit our lives to you.

**All: Grant that this sacrament would empower us
to die to ourselves, and live for your glory,
now and forever, amen.**

Minister: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Minister: Christ, our Passover, is sacrificed for us.

All: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Preparation for the Table

The Feast

Prayer after Communion

Minister: Brothers and sisters,
since the Lord has fed us at his Table,
let us praise God's holy name with heartfelt thanksgiving!
Bless the Lord, O my soul;

All: and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!

Minister: Bless the Lord, O my soul,

All: and forget not all God's benefits,

Minister: who forgives all your iniquity,

All: who heals all your diseases.

Minister: Who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all,
and will also give us all things with him.

**All: Therefore we praise you, God,
with our hearts and our voices, now and forevermore. 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 than 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.

All Things Are Ready

"All things are ready," come, come to the supper spread;
Come, rich and poor, come old and young, come, and be richly fed.

"All things are ready," come, the invitation's given,
Through Him Who now in glory sits
At God's right hand in heaven, all things are ready.

*The door is open wide for Christ, the Son, has died.
Oh feast upon the love of God!
O come where you belong, sing resurrection songs,
All things are ready, all things are ready, come!*

"All things are ready," come, all barriers are removed
And God, in Christ, His precious love to fallen man has proved.

"All things are ready," come, tomorrow may not be;
O sinner, come, the Savior waits
This hour to welcome thee, all things are ready.

Albert Midlane (1860), Matthew Smith, Sandra McCracken (2013)

Sending Song

All Glory Be To Christ

Should nothing of our efforts stand, no legacy survive,
Unless the Lord does raise the house, in vain its builders strive.
To you who boast tomorrow's gain, tell me what is your life?
A mist that vanishes at dawn – all glory be to Christ!

*All glory be to Christ our King, all glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign will ever sing, all glory be to Christ!*

His will be done, His kingdom come on earth as is above;
Who is Himself our daily bread, praise Him the Lord of love.
Let living water satisfy the thirsty without price,
We'll take a cup of kindness yet, all glory be to Christ.

When on the day the great I AM, the faithful and the true,
The Lamb who was for sinners slain is making all things new.
Behold our God shall live with us and be our steadfast light;
And we shall ere his people be, all glory be to Christ!

Dustin Kensrue (2012), Scottish folk melody

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 love of the Lord Jesus draw you to Himself,
 the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you to bear fruit,
 the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts;
 and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
 be among you, and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Financial Update

Given Last Week:	\$25,746	Gifts can be placed in the offering
Required to date:	\$690,881	plate on Sundays or mailed to:
(Jan. 1 - Oct. 27)		Hope Chapel
Given to date:	\$711,558	908 N. Josephine Boyd St
Over/[Under]	\$20,677	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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