

WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

May 25, 2025



The Sixth Sunday of Eastertide

What is liturgy?

Every worship service has a liturgy; it's simply the way and order in which a community worships. "The Greek word "leitourgia" means a public work, the work of the people. And that's what liturgy is—the action of God's gathered people, but only in response to his prior action of sending Jesus Christ for our salvation.

The liturgy itself is a retelling of the Gospel story. It begins with God's call upon us, his meeting with us, speaking among us, and ministering to us. We remember and confess our sinfulness, and celebrate God's forgiveness and complete acceptance of us. We are fed from the Scriptures and Sacraments and are sent out to love and serve the Lord in the world.

Liturgy reminds us that worship is not only individual, but an action of a community. Proper liturgy deliberately evokes our corporate response, gives voice to our common celebration and lament, and engages us together in dialogue with our Creator and Savior. Mark Earey writes that liturgy "goes beyond the personal encounter with God (without denying it) to the corporate drama of being the people of God."

Liturgy is the church at prayer, serving as a priestly people, interceding on behalf of the whole church and world, and being sent out together on God's mission. In all of this, liturgy draws us into the enacted story of salvation.

adapted from City Church Philadelphia

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.*

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

from Matthew 11 and Psalm 105

The Call to Worship and the Benediction are important traditions in the history of Christian worship. As the start and close of the service, they make an important point to us about worship: God gets the first and last word.

We understand the Call to Worship as God's call to us. If we are ever to have a relationship with God, it is God who must first initiate to us. God alone can invite us and draw us in.

Likewise, in the Benediction, it is only by God's blessing (which is what a "benediction" is) and power are we able to go out into the world, to surrender our lives in daily worship, and to live out God's mission.

Leader: Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest.

All: **Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,
for I am gentle and humble in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls.
For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.**

Leader: So give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
Make known his deeds among the peoples!

All: **Sing to him, sing praises to him; Tell of all his wondrous works!**

Songs of Praise

Merciful and Mighty. The classic hymn, “Holy, holy holy,” uses the phrase “merciful and mighty” to describe God. Theologians use the contrasting terms “transcendence” (superior, outside of human’s grasp) and “immanence” (being perceivable, knowable) to name this paradox. What we receive in the Call to Worship is both a warm and weighty invitation to engage our hearts, minds, and bodies in worship of the Living God who created all things and holds all things together (Col. 1:17).

This Is Amazing Grace

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness?
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger?
The King of Glory, the King above all kings.
Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder?
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder?
The King of Glory, the King above all kings.

*This is amazing grace, this is unfailing love,
That You would take my place, that You would bear my cross.
You laid down Your life that I would be set free.
Oh, Jesus, I sing for all that You’ve done for me!*

Who brings our chaos back into order?
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter?
The King of Glory, the King of Glory.
Who rules the nations with truth and justice?
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance?
The King of Glory, the King above all kings.

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave!

Josh Farro, Jeremy Riddle, Phil Wickham (2012)

Sing To Jesus

Come and see, look on this mystery;
The Lord of the universe, nailed to a tree.
Christ our God, spilling His Holy blood,
Bowing in anguish, His sacred head.

*Sing to Jesus, Lord of our shame,
 Lord of our sinful hearts, He is our great redeemer!
 Sing to Jesus, honor His name,
 Sing of His faithfulness, pouring His life out unto death.*

Come you weary and He will give you rest,
 Come you who mourn, lay on His breast.
 Christ who died, risen in Paradise,
 Giver of mercy, Giver of life.

Fernando Ortega, Rich Nibbe (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.

Father in heaven,
 all too often we trust in our own power
 and do not depend upon yours.
 We do not think you are wise enough,
 good enough, or strong enough to act.
 So we depend upon many other things:
 our strength, our wisdom,
 our charm, our resilience, our goodness.

Because we do not trust in you, we are filled
 with anxiety, pride or even a quiet desperation.
 Our hands cannot hold us up.

We come to you now, abandoning our self-trust.
 Because of what Christ has done,
 we ask you to receive us, embrace us and hold us.
 We pray this in Christ's name...

*** time for silent confession of sin ***

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).

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:14-16

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!

Song of Praise & Thanksgiving

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

Behold

The empty filled, the wounded healed, the broken back together.
The poor are blessed, the weary rest, we will dance forever.
The blinded see, the chained are free, the doubtful now believer.
The outcast known, the orphan home, You are my Redeemer.

*Behold, behold, behold what love can do!
Behold, behold, He's making all things new!*

The lost return, the voiceless heard, the mourner now rejoicing.
The mountains shake, the world awake, creation all composing.
The sad untrue, the earth renewed, the song has found its singer.
The darkness light, the dead alive, You are my Redeemer.

*Behold, behold, behold what love can do!
Behold, behold, He's making all things new!*

We've been struck down, we're not destroyed,
We've sown in tears, we'll reap in joy.
We've been struck down, we're not destroyed,
We've sown in tears, we'll reap in joy.
My eyes are open!

Taylor Leonhardt (2020)

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. (cont. on next page)

***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).*



Rock of Ages

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee.
 Let the water and the blood, from Thy wounded side which flowed,
 Be of sin the double cure; save from wrath and make me pure.

Not the labor of my hands can fulfill Thy law's demands;
 Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
 all for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to the cross I cling.
 Naked, come to Thee for dress; helpless, look to Thee for grace.
 Foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyes shall close in death,
 When I soar to worlds unknown, see Thee on Thy judgment throne,
 Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee.

Augustus Toplady (1776), Thomas Hastings (1830)

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

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.

2 Timothy 4:1-8 (ESV)

p.936 IN CHURCH BIBLE

¹ I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: ² preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. ⁵ As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

Sermon

The Church Leaders' Orders: Preach the Word

Chris Horne is Campus Minister with Reformed University Fellowship at Wake Forest University. This sermon is part of a series on the book of 2 Timothy where we are exploring God's call and direction for church leaders. For past sermons, please visit our website.

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

The Great Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

All: We lift them up to the Lord!

Minister: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Minister: It is right and good and a joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks unto You,
O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.
Therefore, we join our voices with Your people
on earth and all the company of heaven,
who forever sing to the glory of Your name.

Words of Institution

Prayer of Approach

Minister: Therefore, together, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Minister: Gracious God, pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these Your gifts of bread and wine,
that the bread we break and the cup we bless
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
that we may be one with all who share this feast.

**All: As this bread is Christ's body for us,
send us out to be the body of Christ in the world,
for by Him, with Him, and in Him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honor and glory is Yours,
Almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

Minister: Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed,
once for all upon the Cross.

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Preparation for the Table

The Feast

Prayer after Communion

Minister: Let us pray.

**All: Heavenly Father, we thank You for feeding us
with the spiritual food of the most precious
Body and Blood of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the body of Your Son,
and heirs of Your eternal Kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out to do the work
You have given us to do, to love and serve You
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to You, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for 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 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.

There Is Only One Name

Who is near to the broken-hearted?
 Who is here with us in our sorrow?
 Knows our grief and bore our suffering?
 Who comes running when we call out?
 Who shows mercy when we fall down?
 Lifts us up in our weakness?

*There is only one name, there is only one name,
 Who is worthy of all praise.*

Who will not hold our sins against us?
Who has wounds pouring out forgiveness?
Who alone has power to save?
Who at last will bring death to its end?
Who will no longer let the dark win?
Who will raise us from the grave?

Jesus, Jesus,
Name above all other names!
Worthy of our endless praise!

Abby Siler, Jessica Langdon, Matt Armstrong (2023)

Sending Song

On Jordan's Stormy Banks

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand and cast a wishful eye
To Canaan's fair and happy land, where my possessions lie.

All o'er those wide extended plains, shines one eternal day;
There God the Son forever reigns and scatters night away.

*I am bound (I am bound), I am bound (I am bound),
I am bound for promised land.*

No chilling winds nor poisonous breath can reach that healthful shore;
Sickness, sorrow, pain and death, are felt and feared no more.

When shall I reach that happy place and be forever blessed?
When shall I see my Father's face and in His bosom rest?

Samuel Stennett (1787), Christopher Miner (1997)

Community Life

Blessing & Sending

Romans 15:13

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 God of hope fill you
with all joy and peace as you trust in him,
so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Financial Update

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| Given Last Week: | \$14,936 | Gifts can be placed in the offering |
| Required to date: | \$366,560 | plate on Sundays or mailed to: |
| (Jan. 1 - May 18) | | Hope Chapel |
| Given to date: | \$410,743 | 908 N. Josephine Boyd St |
| Over/[Under] | \$44,183 | 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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hopechapelgreensboro.org/community

Visiting with us?
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