WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

September 21, 2025



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

Reflection

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

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son! Hail in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!

He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free, To take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He comes in succor speedy to those who suffer wrong, To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong.

To give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light, Whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in His sight.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth, Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in His path to birth.

The tide of time shall never His covenant remove. His Name shall stand forever, that Name to us is Love.

James Montgomery (1821), Sandra McCracken (2012)

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 8:1-4

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: LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory in the heavens.

All: When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?

Leader: You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor.

All: LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Song of Praise

We sing as a way of engaging our voices, bodies, 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.

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.

Lord, You command us to follow You, but we do not obey.
You call us to worship You, but we do not listen.
You invite us to repent, but we do not turn to You.

Though You have forgiven us,
we do not forgive our enemies.
Though You have loved us,
we fail to love our neighbors as ourselves.

We acknowledge our sin
and confess our weakness.
Though we are faithless,
You are always faithful!
Please forgive us for Jesus' sake,
and change us by your Holy Spirit...

** 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).

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Lamentations 3:22-23

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.

Never See the End

Where can we run, where can we hide, that You will not find us? Deepest of depths, highest of heights, Your love, it chases us. No matter where we've been, no matter what we've done, We can't escape Your love.

We will never see the end, We will never see the end of Your goodness.

Though we pass through the fire,
Or we pass through the flood, You will be with us.
Though we walk through the valley,
The darkest of night Your love will be our light.
And when we are in plenty or we are in want,
You will always be enough.

In our darkest hours, on our hardest days, We do not have to be afraid.
For You will never leave, You will not forsake, The promises that You have made.

Jess Ray (2019)

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).



Christ Our Hope In Life and Death

What is our hope in life and death? Christ alone, Christ alone.
What is our only confidence? That our souls to Him belong.
Who holds our days within His hand?
What comes, apart from His command?
And what will keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand.

O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal; O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess Christ our hope in life and death.

What truth can calm the troubled soul? God is good, God is good.

Where is His grace and goodness known? In our great Redeemer's blood.

Who holds our faith when fears arise? Who stands above the stormy trial?

Who sends the waves that bring us nigh unto the shore, the rock of Christ?

Unto the grave, what shall we sing? "Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives!" And what reward will heaven bring? Everlasting life with Him. There we will rise to meet the Lord, then sin and death will be destroyed, And we will feast in endless joy, when Christ is ours forevermore.

Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Jordan Kauflin, Matt Merker, Matt Papa (2020)

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.

Jonah 1:1-3 (ESV)

P.726 IN CHURCH BIBLE

¹ Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, ² "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me." ³ But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord.

Sermon

God's Heart for His Mission: Introduction

Harrison Holbrook is Hope Chapel's pastor of assimilation & discipleship. This sermon is part of a series on the book of Jonah, where we learn God's mission and heart for the world, and how we are to join that mission. 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 also with you.

Minister: As we come to the table, let us pray together:

All: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty,

Creator of heaven and earth,
because in the mystery of the Word made flesh,
You have caused a new light to shine in our hearts,

to give the knowledge of Your glory in the face of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Therefore we praise You, joining our voices with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, singing...

Hosanna In the Highest

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might.

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory!

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna in the highest,

and blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Greg LaFollette (2018)

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: Lord Jesus, Your perfect life, death, and resurrection are the source of all blessing in this life and the life to come.

All: As I eat this bread and drink this cup, renew me in the joy and glory of knowing and serving You. I come to this table on the

basis of Your merit only and not my own.

As You have completely and fully offered Yourself for me, I now completely and fully offer myself to You as a living sacrifice. Amen.

Minister: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us. Alleluia.

All: Alleluia!

Minister: These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Minister: Take these in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on

Him in your hearts by faith, and drink, remembering that Christ's

blood has been shed for you!

Preparation for the Table

The Feast

Prayer after Communion

Minister: Let us pray.

All: O Jesus Christ, Savior of the world,

We thank You that in this holy meal, You renew Your promises within us,

empower us by Your Spirit to witness and to serve,

and send us out as Your disciples. Amen.

Sung together:

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Thomas Ken (1674), Louis Bourgeois (1551)

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.

Sweet Comfort

Whatever my God ordains is right, His holy will abides; I will be still whatever he does And follow where he guides.

> Sweet comfort, sweet comfort, Yet shall fill my heart. Sweet comfort, sweet comfort, Sorrow shall depart.

Whatever my God ordains is right, He makes my feet to stand; Though sorrow, need, or death be mine, He holds me in his hand.

This bitter cup, I take it, My fainting heart restored. So here I stand, unshaken; I trust upon the Lord.

He is my God though dark my road, He holds me, I shall not fall; Whatever my God ordains as right, To him I leave it all.

> Sandra McCracken, Latifah Phillips (2015) adapted from a text by Samuel Rodigast (1675)

Sending Song

His Mercy Is More

What love could remember no wrongs we have done? Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum; Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore, Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam? What Father so tender is calling us home? He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor; Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more! Stronger than darkness, new every morn'; Our sins they are many, His mercy is more! What riches of kindness He lavished on us! His blood was the payment His life was the cost. We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford; Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

Matt Papa, Matt Boswell (2016)

Community Life

Blessing & Sending

Ephesians 3:20-21

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 to him who is able to do far more abundantly

than all that we ask or think,

according to the power at work within us,

to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus

throughout all generations, forever and ever.

All: Amen.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Financial Update

Given Last Week: \$11,615 Gifts can be placed in the offering Required to date: \$678,332 plate on Sundays or mailed to:

(Jan. 1 - Sept. 14) Hope Chapel

Given to date: \$706,332 908 N. Josephine Boyd St Over/[Under] \$28,196 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/im-new



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