

WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

February 22, 2026



The First Sunday of Lent

The Season of Lent

The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ are at the heart of the Christian gospel, and Good Friday and Easter are two of the most significant celebrations of the Christian year. Lent is a season of preparation and repentance during which we anticipate Good Friday and Easter. Just as we carefully prepare for big events in our personal lives, such as a wedding or commencement, Lent invites us to make our hearts ready for remembering Jesus' passion and celebrating Jesus' resurrection.

The practice of a forty-day preparation period began in the Christian church during the third and fourth centuries. The number forty carries biblical significance based on the forty years Israel spent in the wilderness and Jesus' forty-day fast in the wilderness. The forty days of Lent begin on Ash Wednesday and continue through holy week, not counting Sundays (which are reserved for celebratory worship). In practice, many congregations choose to focus Sunday worship on the themes of repentance and renewal.

As a period of preparation, Lent has historically included the instruction of persons for baptism and profession of faith on Easter Sunday; the calling back of those who have become estranged from the church; and efforts by all Christians to deepen their piety, devotion, and readiness to mark the death and resurrection of their Savior. As such, the primary focus of the season is to explore and deepen a "baptismal spirituality" that centers on our union with Christ rather than to function only as an extended meditation on Christ's suffering and death.

- from *The Worship Sourcebook*

Reflection

Memento. Remember. Ancient is this warning of the church-- so ancient the modern Christian is embarrassed to find her church ignorant, contrary to the freedoms of this age. Ancient, likewise, is the season of Lent, when the Christian is encouraged to think of her death and the sin that caused it-- to examine herself, to know herself so deeply and well that knowledge becomes confession. But ancient, too, is the consolation this exercise provides, ancient precisely because it is eternal. It is this: when we remember the death we deserve to die, we will be moved to remember the death the Lord did in fact die-- because his took the place of ours.

:: Walter Wangerin, Jr.

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.

Oh How Good to Be Together

Oh how good to be together in this weary world we trod;
What a gift, what a treasure, kindred in the house of God.

On this day the Lord has fashioned come rejoice with all your might;
Raise a banner of salvation, He has led us through the night.

*Oh the joy, oh the sweetness,
To be gathered in the name of the Lord!
Evermore, He will keep us
From the valley to the golden shore.*

When it looked like evil conquered, when we felt the darkest hour,
In despair we sought the Father and He has proved His mighty power.

Tell the theme of His provision, how He met our every need;
He has been our firm foundation and He will ever, always be!

Paul Ranheim, Kirk Sauers (2020)

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

Psalms 136:1, 23-26

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: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

All: for his steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: It is he who remembered us in our low estate,

All: for his steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: and rescued us from our foes,

All: for his steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: he who gives food to all flesh,

All: for his steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: Give thanks to the God of heaven,

All: for his steadfast love endures forever.

Song of Praise

Psalm 136

Give thanks for He is good,
Give thanks to the Lord of lords;
To him who brought us freedom
And has struck down our enemies.

*Oh His love endures forever,
Oh His love endures forever.
To Him who does great wonders,
Oh His love endures forever!*

To Him, who made the skies,
To Him, who spread the mud.
Oh to Him who lit up the night
And made the sun to rule over the day...

Oh Og, he blowed him down,
Sihon, he blowed him down.
He divided the Red Sea asunder
With His mighty, mighty arm!

He saw us when we were low,
He freed us from all our foes.
He gives food to every creature
And his love endures forever.

Griffin Kale (2025)

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.

Almighty God:

We confess to You

our tendency to honor You with our lips

while our hearts are far from You.

We are content to appear righteous

instead of truly being righteous.

Forgive our sin and our self-love.

Awaken us to Your glory.

Send Your Spirit to renew and change our hearts.

Please bring us to the end of ourselves,

and help us return to You,

that we might live in joy and freedom

as Your beloved sons and daughters,

through Jesus our Lord...

*** time for silent confession ***

Words of Forgiveness

***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.*

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Revelation 1:6

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 & Membership

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.

Shamira, Woodlea, and Goldie Crutchfield

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly hosts,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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).



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.

Come Ye Sinners

Come ye sinners, poor and wretched, weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity joined with power.

Come ye needy, come and welcome, God's free bounty glorify.
True belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh.

Come ye weary, heavy laden, bruised and broken by the fall.
If you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all.

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;
All the fitness He requireth is to feel your need of Him:

I will rise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in His arms;
In the arms of my dear Savior, oh, there are ten thousand charms.

Joseph Hart (1759), tune is ARISE, anonymous (1835)

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 Peter 1:16-21 (ESV)

p.957 IN CHURCH BIBLE

¹⁶ For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son,[a] with whom I am well pleased,” ¹⁸ we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹ And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, ²⁰ knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. ²¹ For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Sermon

“Growth: The Foundation”

Erik Rome is Hope Chapel’s pastor of community & mission. This sermon is part of a series on the New Testament book of 2 Peter. 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: Faithful God,

it is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise.

**All: You are the maker of heaven and earth,
the giver of every good gift, the gardener of all creation.
From dust you formed us, and by your breath you gave us life.
You planted us in your love and called us to walk in your ways.
When we turned from you, you did not abandon us.**

Minister: You made covenant with your people,
walked with them through wilderness and wandering,
and taught them how to live by your Word.
Again and again you have been patient with us—
pruning what leads to death, and tending what leads to life.

**All: In the fullness of time,
you sent your Son Jesus Christ, born of Mary,
baptized in the waters of repentance, driven into the wilderness,
and faithful even to the cross.
In him you have shown us the way of mercy,
the path of obedience, and the promise of new life.**

Minister: And so, with all who have gone before us,
with all who seek your truth,
and with all creation that sings your praise,
we lift our voices and join the song of heaven:

**Sung: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory!
Hosanna in the highest! hosannah in the highest!
And blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

Prayer of Approach

Minister: Almighty and gracious Father,
we come to this holy Table not in our own strength,
but trusting in your covenant promises fulfilled in Christ.
Cleanse us by your Spirit,
nourish us with the body and blood of your Son,
and strengthen our faith as we receive these gifts.
Feed us with Christ, the Bread of Life,
that we may live for your glory.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words of Institution

The Fraction

Minister: Together, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

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: Thank you, God, for you have met us with your love
and nourished us at your table.

Pour out your Spirit upon us, O God,
that this meal may strengthen us for the journey,
that this grace may take root in our lives,
and that we may bear fruit for your kingdom.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God,
now and forever, 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.

Kingfisher

When I get where I'm going I will lend a steady hand,
 Build a little cabin, dig a river through the land.
 Does a pilgrim tremble when he finally finds a home,
 When the rock bestows the water and binds the broken bone?
 I go out walking in the forest to a place I've seen,
 A fountain flowing like a highway running through my dreams.

When I get where I'm going, there's a woman in the dust,
 We have wrinkles on our bodies proving love's been good to us.
 She is standing proudly, squinting in the summer sun;
 Satisfied, surveying all her hands have done.
 We go out walking in the water where the silver swims,
 Cicadas singing like somebody washed away their sins.
 I see a kingfisher ascending to his rightful throne,
 The meek inheriting a city they can call their own.

When I get where I'm going, guns are hammered into plows;
 Promises we made to war, turn into broken vows.
 Faithful is the Spirit, our troubles to employ;
 The bread of our affliction returning to us joy.
 Like horses foaming with the sweat of captives breaking free,
 Like mother's milk into the belly of a broken reed;
 I go out walking on the mountain where the thunder rolls,
 I smell the rain of heaven coming to the earth below.

Andy Squyers (2021)

Sending Song**This Is My Father's World**

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
 All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
 This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
 Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise,
 The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.
 This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;
 In the rustling grass I hear Him pass; He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world. O let me ne'er forget
 That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
 This is my Father's world, why should my heart be sad?
 The Lord is King, let the heavens ring. God reigns, let the earth be glad.

Maltbie Babcock (1901) traditional English melody

Community Life

Blessing & Sending

Minister: Go now, knowing that all our God and Father asks of us,
 He provides through the power of His Spirit
 and through the work of His Son.

All: Amen.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Financial Update

Given Last Week:	\$18,671	Gifts can be placed in the offering
Required to date:	\$145,921	plate on Sundays or mailed to:
(Jan. 1 - Feb. 15)		Hope Chapel
Given to date:	\$121,123	908 N. Josephine Boyd St
Over/[Under]	[\$24,797]	Greensboro, NC 27408

Building Fund: \$201,721 of \$320k goal

We have a goal of paying off our mortgage by March 2026.
 To make a donation toward this effort, please use this link
 and specify, "building fund."



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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