

WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

March 15, 2026



The Fourth 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*

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.*

You Have Made Me Glad

I'll give thanks to You, Lord,
And sing praise to Your name, O Most High.
I'll declare Your love in the morning
And Your faithfulness by night;
For You, O Lord, have made me glad,
I will sing for joy at the works of Your hand
And rejoice at what You have done.

*O Lord, how great are Your works!
O Lord, how great are Your works!
O Lord, how great are Your works!
You have made me glad.*

I will trust in You, Lord,
For I know that You're on my side.
I can rest, I won't be defeated,
Lord, You are the strength of my life.
For You, O Lord, have made me glad,
I will sing for joy at the works of Your hand
And rejoice at what You have done,
And rejoice in what You have done.

Charity Gayle (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

Psalm 33:1-5, 20-22

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: Shout for joy in the Lord, O you righteous!

Praise befits the upright.

Give thanks to the Lord with the lyre;

make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!

Sing to him a new song;

play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

**All: For the word of the Lord is upright,
and all his work is done in faithfulness.**

**He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.**

Leader: Our soul waits for the Lord;
he is our help and our shield.

**All: For our heart is glad in him,
because we trust in his holy name.
Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,
even as we hope in you.**

Song of Praise

Psalm 150 (Praise the Lord)

You made the starry hosts, You traced the mountain peaks,
You paint the evening sky with wonders.
The earth, it is Your throne, from desert to the sea,
All nature testifies Your splendor.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Sing His greatness, all creation!
Praise the Lord, raise your voice,
You heights and all you depths from furthest east to west,
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!*

You reached into the dust, in love, Your Spirit breathed,
You formed us in Your very likeness.
To know Your wondrous works, to tell Your mighty deeds,
To join the everlasting chorus.

Let symphonies resound, let drums and choirs ring out,
All heaven hear the sound of worship.
Let every nation bring its honors to the King,
A roar of harmonies eternal.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Sing His greatness, all creation!
Praise the Lord, raise your voice,
You heights and all you depths from furthest east to west,
You distant burning stars, all creatures near and far,
From sky to sea to shore, sing out forevermore,
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!*

Keith & Kristyn Getty, Matt Boswell, and Matt Papa (2021)

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.

God of Grace,

You placed my sin in my substitute,
 You placed His righteousness in my soul.
 You gave me the bridegroom's robe,
 You placed on me the jewels of His holiness.

But in my Christian walk I am still in rags,
 my best prayers are stained with sin;
 even my tears are filled with impurity;
 my confessions often mask my true sin.

I need to repent of my repentance;

I need my tears to be washed;

I have no robe to cover my sins,
 no righteousness of my own;

I am always standing clothed in filthy garments
 and by grace am always receiving change of raiment,
 for You are a God who justifies the ungodly....

*** time for silent confession ***

Words of Forgiveness

Psalms 66:16-20

***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.*

Come and hear, all you who fear God,
 and I will tell what he has done for my soul.

I cried to him with my mouth,
 and high praise was on my tongue.

If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,
 the Lord would not have listened.

But truly God has listened;
 he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

Blessed be God,
 because he has not rejected my prayer
 or removed his steadfast love from me!

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.”

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.

A Thousand Hallelujahs

Who else would rocks cry out to worship?
Whose glory taught the stars to shine?
Perhaps creation longs to have the words to sing,
But this joy is mine...

*With a thousand hallelujahs we magnify Your name;
You alone deserve the glory, the honor and the praise!
Lord Jesus, this song is forever Yours:
A thousand hallelujahs and a thousand more!*

Who else would die for our redemption?
Whose resurrection means I’ll rise?
There isn’t time enough to sing of all You’ve done,
But I have eternity to try...

*With a thousand hallelujahs we magnify Your name;
You alone deserve the glory, the honor and the praise!
Lord Jesus, this song is forever Yours:
A thousand hallelujahs and a thousand more!*

Praise to the Lord, to the Lamb, to the King of Heaven!
Praise for He rose, now He reigns, we will sing forever.

Brooke Ligertwood, Scott Ligertwood, Phil Wickham (2022)

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).



When I Think About the Lord

When I think about the Lord,
How He saved me, how He raised me,
How He filled me with the Holy Ghost,
How He healed me to the uttermost.
When I think about the Lord,
How He picked me up, turned me around,
How He set my feet on solid ground...

*It makes me wanna shout,
"Hallelujah! Thank you Jesus!
Lord, You are worthy of all the glory,
All the honor, all the praise!"*

James Huey (1998)

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 3:1-13 (ESV)

p.957 IN CHURCH BIBLE

This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, beloved. In both of them I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder,² that you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles,³ knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires.⁴ They will say, “Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation.”⁵ For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God,⁶ and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished.⁷ But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

⁸ But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.⁹ The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

¹¹ Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness,¹² waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn!¹³ But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Sermon

“Growth While Waiting”

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 by water, 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.

Sending Song

Thank You Jesus for the Blood

I was a wretch, I remember who I was;
 I was lost, I was blind, I was running out of time.
 Sin separated, the breach was far too wide,
 But from the far side of the chasm You held me in Your sight.

So You made a way across the great divide,
 Left behind heaven's throne to build it here inside.
 And there, at the cross You paid the debt I owed;
 Broke my chains, freed my soul, for the first time I had hope.

*Thank You, Jesus, for the blood applied.
 Thank You, Jesus, it has washed me white.
 Thank You, Jesus, You have saved my life;
 Brought me from the darkness into glorious light!*

You took my place, laid inside my tomb of sin;
 You were buried for three days, but then You walked right out again.
 And now death has no sting and life has no end,
 For I have been transformed by the blood of the Lamb!

There is nothing stronger than the wonder-working power
 Of the blood, the blood!
 That calls us sons and daughters, we are ransomed by our Father
 Through the blood, the blood!

Glory to His name, glory to His name!
 There to my heart was the blood applied;
 Glory to His name!

Charity Gayle, Ryan Kennedy, Steven Musso, David Gentiles, Bryan McCleery (2021)

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:	\$15,324	Gifts can be placed in the offering
Required to date:	\$208,459	plate on Sundays or mailed to:
(Jan. 1 - March 8)		Hope Chapel
Given to date:	\$176,695	908 N. Josephine Boyd St
Over/[Under]	[\$31,763]	Greensboro, NC 27408

Building Fund: \$213,089 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



WiFi Network: Hope Chapel Guest
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