

WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

March 8, 2026



The Third 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

Lent ... should never be morose—an annual ordeal during which we begrudgingly forgo a handful of pleasures. Instead, it ought to be approached as an opportunity. After all, it is meant to be the church’s springtime, when out of the darkness of sin’s winter, a repentant, empowered people emerges.

*Bread and Wine:
Readings for Lent and Easter*

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.

God of Wonders

Lord of all creation, of water earth and sky.
The heavens are your tabernacle.
Glory to the Lord on high.

*God of wonders beyond our galaxy, You are holy, holy.
The universe declares your majesty, You are holy, holy.
Lord of heaven and earth! Lord of heaven and earth!*

Early in the morning, I will celebrate the light.
When I stumble in the darkness,
I will call your name by night.

Hallelujah, to the Lord of heaven and earth! (x3)

Marc Byrd, Steve Hindalong (2000)

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 105:1-3

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: Oh 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!**

Leader: Glory in his holy name;

All: let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

Song of Praise

Steadfast

I will build my house, whether storm or drought,
On the rock that does not move.
I will set my hope in your love, O Lord
And your faithfulness will prove You are steadfast, steadfast.

By the word you spoke, all the starry host
Are called out by name each night.
In your watchful care I will rest secure
As you lead us with your light. You are steadfast, steadfast.

I will not trust in the strength of kings
On your promise I will stand.
I will shout for joy, I will raise my voice,
"Hallelujah to the Lamb!" You are steadfast, steadfast.

In the moment of emptiness, all was fulfilled.
In the hour of darkness, Your light was revealed.
In the presence of death, Your life was affirmed.
In the absence of holiness, You are still God.

Sandra McCracken, Leslie Jordan, Josh Silverberg (2016)

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.

Our Father in heaven, we come to You now, as our King.
We can only come to You
because You welcome the needy and the afflicted.
And that is who we are.

Father, our central need is for Your reign,
yet, we run from it.
We are afraid of being weak,
because we don't trust You to carry us.
We try to look out for our own well-being,
because we don't think You're capable of doing that.

Many are the times in this past week
when we have wrestled control of our lives away from You.
In those times, we have turned our hearts
away from Your heart and our feet away from Your commandments.

So, receive us now as Your children.
Receive us, not because we're good
or because we vow to do better;
but receive us because You rejected Your Son in our place.
We pray in His name...

*** time for silent confession ***

Words of Forgiveness

Ephesians 2:4-5

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.

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.

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.

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.

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).*



You Are Here (Psalm 46)

Our refuge and our strength,
 You are right here when we're afraid;
 So we won't fear when the earth gives way,
 When the storm is raging and our trust is fading.

We're reminded that there's a place
 Where Your spirit floods the space.
 And it's in us, in our very hearts,
 You are here in our midst so we will not forget...

*To be still and know that You are God,
 You are in control of all the earth!
 What do we have to fear, cause You are here?
 Oh my soul, just be still and know.*

At Your word the wars will cease,
To the chaos You will bring peace.
So in the chaos in my mind right now,
God, be my fortress and I will not forget...

*To be still and know that You are God,
You are in control of all the earth!
What do we have to fear, cause You are here?
Oh my soul, just be still and know.*

I can rest here in Your safe arms,
You will help me when morning dawns;
Why would I worry, when You're my God?
You will be with me in death and life.

Molly Scarborough (2025)

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 2:11-22 (ESV)

p. 957 IN CHURCH BIBLE

Bold and willful, they do not tremble as they blaspheme the glorious ones,¹¹ whereas angels, though greater in might and power, do not pronounce a blasphemous judgment against them before the Lord.¹² But these, like irrational animals, creatures of instinct, born to be caught and destroyed, blaspheming about matters of which they are ignorant, will also be destroyed in their destruction,¹³ suffering wrong as the wage for their wrongdoing. They count it pleasure to revel in the daytime. They are blots and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions, while they feast with you.¹⁴ They have eyes full of adultery, insatiable for sin. They entice unsteady souls. They have hearts trained in greed. Accursed children!¹⁵ Forsaking the right way, they have gone astray. They have followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved gain from wrongdoing,¹⁶ but was rebuked for his own transgression; a speechless donkey spoke with human voice and restrained the prophet's madness.

¹⁷ These are waterless springs and mists driven by a storm. For them the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved.¹⁸ For, speaking loud boasts of folly, they entice by sensual passions of the flesh those who are barely escaping from those who live in error.¹⁹ They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved.²⁰ For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first.²¹ For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them.²² What the true proverb says has happened to them: "The dog returns to its own vomit, and the sow, after washing herself, returns to wallow in the mire."

Sermon

“Barriers to Growth: False Teaching, part II”

Harrison Holbrook is serves as pastor of assimilation & discipleship. 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.

Be Still

In the city of the most high,
Filled with gladness and a river strong
There's a people, we are not moved
God is with us as morning dawns

*Oh come, behold the work of the Lord
With a word he'll bring an end to every war
The Lord of Hosts is with us,
The God of Jacob is our fortress, be still.*

We will not fear though the earth breaks
When the mountains fall into the sea
In our trouble, God is present
Our refuge and our strength

He says to us, be still,
And know that I am God:
The nations will exalt my name forever
They will exalt my name forever, be still

Kendra Adachi (2025)

Sending Song

Faithful One

Faithful One, we lift our praise
toward Your light we turn our gaze.
The weight of sin is bearing down,
we need Your grace to save us now.

*Faithful One, Faithful One,
You never fail, You never fail, You never fail to raise the sun,
Faithful One, Faithful One,
You never fail, You never fail, not my will, but Yours be done.*

God of Grace I long to live
 by the peace You freely give.
 When lesser things seduce my eyes,
 Lord, break my heart and make me wise.

Ancient love has brought to bear
 kinship with the royal heir.
 You broke the bread, You poured the wine,
 now I am Yours and You are mine.

Randall Goodgame (2014)

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:	\$20,874	Gifts can be placed in the offering
Required to date:	\$187,613	plate on Sundays or mailed to:
(Jan. 1 - March 1)		Hope Chapel
Given to date:	\$161,371	908 N. Josephine Boyd St
Over/[Under]	[\$26,242]	Greensboro, NC 27408

Building Fund: \$205,477 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
Password: HopeWIFI

