

## WORSHIP GUIDE // MARCH 14, 2021

#### 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

#### An Invitation

The Call to Worship is sometimes called the Invitation to Worship. As we shuffle through the doors on Sunday morning, we come to a Gospel-feast, invited by Jesus Christ. But not only does He offer the invitation, He also pays the cost of admission through His life, death and resurrection. And so we are honored guests, welcomed in and responding to this incredible grace.

Come, let us worship our Savior, Jesus Christ!

#### Why do we sing? 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.

What's with the arrows?
Throughout the worship guide you will notice arrows pointing up, down, and side-to-side. These are a reminder that our liturgy is a dialogue-it's relational. God speaks, we respond. We extend peace to one another. God provides sustenance to us from his Word and at his Table. This morning, God invites you into this holy "dance".

## CALLED BY GOD

This Is My Father's World Maltbie Babcock (1901) traditional English melody

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.

#### ◆ WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP // Psalm 105:1-3

Leader: O Give thanks to the Lord!

Call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples!

All: Sing to him, sing praises to him, tell all of his wonderful works!

Glory in his holy name!

### ® SONG OF PRAISE

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven Henry Lyte (1834), Michael Van Patter (2010)

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to His feet Thy tribute bring; Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven; who, like me, His praise should sing? O Praise Him, O praise Him! Praise the Everlasting King!

Praise Him for His grace and favor to our fathers in distress; Praise Him, still the same for ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless; O Praise Him, O praise Him! Glorious in His faithfulness.

Father-like, He tends and spares us; well our feeble frame He knows; In His hands He gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.

O Praise Him, O praise Him! Widely as His mercy goes.



## **CLEANSED BY GOD**

#### ⊕ CONFESSION OF SIN

Merciful God:

We confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved You with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, for the glory of Your holy name.

Through Christ, our Lord.

\*\* time for silent confession \*\*

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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.

### **® GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERING**

### **⊕ PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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.

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 "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."



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).

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

# **CELEBRATING GOD**

### **® SONGS OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING**

God Delights In You George Romanacce, Eric Grover (2009)

Calling every daughter, calling every son, All who've been adopted through a sacrifice of love; There's no need for you to fear, your debts have all been cleared.

Calling all the downcast who feel like they're alone, Anyone who's longing for a family of their own, God's prepared a place for you, He's calling you to...

Come and sing, come and dance! The Father's singing over you. Come rejoice and be glad, For God delights in you, in you.

Calling all who've wandered, gone off on their own, Anyone who wonders if they're welcome back at home. The God of grace makes all things new, He's calling you to...

You chose us to be objects of Your love In spite of all we have done. You gave Your beloved Son to die for us To make us daughters and sons.

We Are Not Overcome Isaac Wardell & Robert Heiskell (2011)

Flesh will fail and bones will break; theives will steal, the earth will shake, Night will fall, the light will fade; The Lord will give and take away:

Because of His great Love, we are not overcome!

Put no trust in the earth, in the sod you stand upon. Flowers fade into dust; the Lord will make a place for us.

Have no fear for your life, turn your cheek! Turn your cheek! Bear the yoke of love and death; the Lord will give all life and breath.



## CHANGED BY GOD

### ① PRAYER OF RENEWAL

### **◆ SCRIPTURE READING** // Ruth 1:1-21

<sup>1</sup> In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. <sup>2</sup> The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. <sup>3</sup> But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. 4 These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years, <sup>5</sup> and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

<sup>6</sup> Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the Lord had visited his people and given them food. <sup>7</sup> So she set out from the place where she was with her two daughters-in-law, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah. 8 But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each of you to her mother's house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. <sup>9</sup> The Lord grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!" Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. 10 And they said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." 11 But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? <sup>12</sup> Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons, 13 would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the Lord has gone out against me." <sup>14</sup> Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

<sup>15</sup> And she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." 16 But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. <sup>17</sup> Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the Lord do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you." 18 And (3 b)

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 worldmindful to ask a powerful and merciful 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".

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.



Todd is Hope Chapel's founding/lead pastor.

This sermon is part of a series in the book of Ruth where we are exploring what is means to recover and reconnect with one another after the shared trauma of the past year.

For past sermons, please visit our website.

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.

when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

<sup>19</sup> So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem. And when they came to Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them. And the women said, "Is this Naomi?" <sup>20</sup> She said to them, "Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me. <sup>21</sup> I went away full, and the Lord has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi, when the Lord has testified against me and the Almighty has brought calamity upon me?"

Sermon- Todd Jones

Series: Recovery and Reconnecting Title: Recovery: Identifying Our Wounds

#### **⊕** COMMUNION

Minister: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

All: We lift them up to the Lord!

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

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

Minister: You are holy, O God of majesty,

and blessed is Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

He took upon himself the weight of our sin and carried the burden of our guilt.

He shared our life in every way,

and though tempted, was sinless to the end.

Baptized as Your own, He went willingly to his death

and by Your power was raised to new life.

All: In his dying and rising,

You gave birth to Your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant

by water and the Spirit.



Minister: Sanctify this bread and wine, and use these elements

to communicate to us the mercy of your Son,

that we might be enabled to submit our lives to You.

All: Grant that this sacrament would empower us to die to ourselves, and live for Your glory,

now and forever, amen.

\*\* instituation of elements \*\*

Minister: God did not spare his own Son,

but gave Him up for us all,

and will also give us all things with him.

All: Therefore we praise You, God, with our hearts and our voices.

now and forevermore. 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.

#### Prayer of belief

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

# SENT BY GOD

#### ® SENDING SONG

All Must Be Well Mary Bowly Peters (1847), Matthew Smith (2007)

Through the love of God our Savior, all will be well.

Free and changeless is His favor, all is well.

Precious is the blood that healed us.

Perfect is the grace that sealed us,

Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us, all must be well.

Though we pass through tribulation, all will be well.

Ours is such a full salvation, all is well.

Happy still in God confiding, fruitful if in Christ abiding,

Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding, all must be well.

We expect a bright tomorrow; all will be well.

Faith can sing through days of sorrow, all is well.

On our Father's love relying, Jesus every need supplying,

Yes in living or in dying, all must be well.

## **⊕** COMMUNITY LIFE

### BLESSING & SENDING

Minister: May our Faithful God, who has promised never

to leave or forsake you,

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

Hope Chapel

All:

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

Thanks be to God! All:

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

#### OPPERATING BUDGET **ROOTED FOR RENEWAL 2021**

Given Last Week: \$10.532 Goal: \$900.000 Gifts can be placed in the offering Required to Date Pledged: \$106,360 \$461,611 plate on Sundays or mailed to:

(Jan. 1 - March 7) Given to date: \$376,357

Given to Date \$88,120 908 N. Josephine Boyd St Over/[Under] [\$18,240] Greensboro, NC 27408

> Online giving is available on our website: www.hopechapelgreensboro.org/give We also accept donations via Venmo: @HopeChapel.

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.