

WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

May 22, 2022



the SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER

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.

All My Ways Are Known to You

In days of peace and days of rest, in times of loss and loneliness;
Though rich or poor, Your word is true that all my ways are known to You.

No trial has come beyond Your hand, no step I walk beyond Your plan.
The path is dark outside my view, still all my ways are known to You.

*And oh what peace that I have found, wherever I may be!
For all my ways are known to You. Hallelujah, they are known to You!*

I do not fear the final night for death will be the door to life.
You take my hand and lead me through, for all my ways are known to You.

Open up my eyes so I may see that You have made these ways for me.
Open up my eyes so I may see that You, my God, will walk with me.

Dustin Smith, Jonny Robinson Michael Farren Rich Thompson (2016)

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

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 Invitor, and we respond to His grace!

Leader: To you, Lord, we call; you are our Rock,
do not turn a deaf ear to us.

For if you remain silent, we will be like those who go down to the pit.

All: **Hear our cry for mercy as we call to you for help,
as we lift up our hands toward your Most Holy Place.**

Leader: Praise be to the Lord, for he has heard our cry for mercy.

The Lord is our strength and our shield;

our heart trust in him, and he helps us.

our hearts leaps for joy, and with our songs we praise him.

All: **The Lord is the strength of his people,
a fortress of salvation for his anointed ones.
Save your people and bless your inheritance;
be our shepherd and carry us forever.**

Psalm 28:1-2, 6-9

Greater Than We Can Imagine

Every day we'll bless You and praise Your name

And on Your glorious splendor we will dwell.

On Your wondrous works, Lord, we'll meditate

And of Your awesome power we will tell.

We'll speak of Your salvation and Your abundant goodness...

Because You are greater than we can imagine!

You are too beautiful for us to fathom!

Oh, You are great, and greatly to be praised!

Every generation shall sing Your worth

And magnify Your mercy and Your grace.

We'll sing about the Savior who came to earth

To bear the sins of those He came to save.

You fill our hearts with wonder, we'll worship You forever...

George Romanacce, Eric Grover (2009)

CONFESSION OF SIN

Confession of sin happens within the context of relationship, both with God and each other. We confess together, in community, before a gracious God who has given us himself. Confession both acknowledges our need for mercy and celebrates its abundance in Christ.

Sin is a word that means, at its core, “an obsession or worship of oneself.” Martin Luther famously described sin as “curving in on oneself,” which causes a relational breach not only with the people we harm, but also with God by not giving God the place he deserves in our lives, as our loving Creator and Savior.

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...

*** 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).

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.

Hebrews 4:14-16

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."

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.
You are steadfast, steadfast.

Sandra McCracken, Leslie Jordan, Josh Silverberg (2016)

Thou Lovely Source of True Delight

Thou lovely source of true delight, whom I unseen adore,
Unveil Thy beauties to my sight that I might love Thee more,
That I might love Thee more.

Thy glory o'er creation shines, but in Thy sacred Word
I read in fairer, brighter lines my bleeding, dying Lord,
Oh my bleeding, dying Lord.

'Tis here, when'er my comforts droop and sin and sorrow rise,
Thy love with cheering beams of hope my fainting heart supplies,
My fainting heart supplies.

But ah! Too soon the pleasing scene is clouded o'er with pain,
My gloomy fears rise dark between and I again complain,
Oh and I again complain.

Jesus, my Lord, my life, my light, oh come with blissful ray!
Break radiant through the shades of night and chase my fears away,
Come and chase my fears away.

Then shall my soul with rapture trace the wonders of Thy love,
But the full glories of Thy face are only known above,
They are only known above.

Anne Steele (c. 1760), Kevin Twit (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 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".

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.

SONG OF SONGS 6:4 - 7:5

He

^{7:6} How beautiful and pleasant you are,
O loved one, with all your delights!

⁷ Your stature is like a palm tree,
and your breasts are like its clusters.

⁸ I say I will climb the palm tree
and lay hold of its fruit.

Oh may your breasts be like clusters of the vine,
and the scent of your breath like apples,

⁹ and your mouth like the best wine.

She

It goes down smoothly for my beloved,
gliding over lips and teeth.

¹⁰ I am my beloved's,
and his desire is for me.

¹¹ Come, my beloved,
let us go out into the fields
and lodge in the villages;

¹² let us go out early to the vineyards
and see whether the vines have budded,

whether the grape blossoms have opened
and the pomegranates are in bloom.
There I will give you my love.

¹³ The mandrakes give forth fragrance,
and beside our doors are all choice fruits,
new as well as old,
which I have laid up for you, O my be-
loved.

^{8:1} Oh that you were like a brother to me
who nursed at my mother's breasts!
If I found you outside, I would kiss you,
and none would despise me.

² I would lead you and bring you
into the house of my mother—
she who used to teach me.

I would give you spiced wine to drink,
the juice of my pomegranate.

³ His left hand is under my head,
and his right hand embraces me!

⁴ I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem,
that you not stir up or awaken love
until it pleases.

SERMON

"THE BEST SONG"

Harrison Holbrook is Hope Chapel's associate pastor of assimilation & discipleship. This sermon is part of a series in the book of Song of Songs called "The Greatest Song". For past sermons, please visit our website.

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

Minister: Is the Father with us? **All: He is.**

Minister: Is the Christ among us? **All: He is.**

Minister: Is the Spirit here? **All: He is.**

Minister: This is our God: **All: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

Minister: We are His people: **All: We are redeemed by His grace.**

Minister: Let us proclaim the mystery of Faith

All: Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

Minister: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us. Hallelujah!

All: Hallelujah!

**** institution of elements ****

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Minister: Let us pray together:

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
 Your kingdom come, your will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
 For yours is the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory, forever and ever. 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 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.

Grace Upon Grace

In every station new trials and troubles
 Call for more grace than I can afford.
 Where can I go but to my dear Savior,
 And mercy that pours from boundless stores?

*Grace upon grace, every sin repaired,
 Every void restored, you will find him there.
 In every turning He will prepare you with grace upon grace.*

He made a way for the fallen to rise
 Perfect in glory and sacrifice.
 In sweet communion my need He supplies
 He saves and keeps and guards my life.

To thee I run now with great expectation
 To honor you with trust like a child.
 My hopes and desires seek a new destination
 And all that You ask Your grace will provide.

Sandra McCracken (2005)

SENDING SONG

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song.
 This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
 firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
 What heights of love! What depths of peace!
 When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
 My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe.
 This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.
 'Till on that cross, as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied.
 For every sin on Him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay, light of the world by darkness slain;
 Then bursting forth in glorious Day, up from the grave He rose again.
 And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost it's grip on me,
 For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me.
 From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
 No power of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand.
 'Till He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Keith Getty, Stuart Townend (2001)

COMMUNITY LIFE

BLESSING & SENDING

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 may our Lord Jesus Christ himself,
 and God our Father,
 who loved us and gave us eternal comfort
 and good hope through grace,
 comfort your hearts and establish them
 in every good work and word.

All: **Amen.**

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

2 Thessalonians 2:16

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Given Last Week:	\$16,269	Gifts can be placed in the offering
Required to Date	\$234,000	plate on Sundays or mailed to:
(Jan. 1 - May 15)		Hope Chapel
Given to Date	\$228,075	908 N. Josephine Boyd St
Over/[Under]	[\$5,925]	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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