

WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

March 12, 2023



the Third Sunday of Lent

Preparation

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory;
to all who sin and need forgiveness;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
to whoever will come – this church opens wide her doors
and welcomes you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

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.

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

*Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!*

He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free,
To take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He comes in succor speedy to those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong.

To give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in His sight.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth,
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in His path to birth.

The tide of time shall never His covenant remove.
His Name shall stand forever, that Name to us is Love.

James Montgomery (1821), Sandra McCracken (2012)

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

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!

Leader: I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart;
I will recount all of your wonderful deeds.

**All: I will be glad and exult in you;
I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.**

Psalm 9:1-2

Song of Praise

I Will Sing

With my mouth, I will tell of Your faithfulness,
I'll declare, Lord, Your covenant with my life.

*I will sing of the Lord's great love forever,
I will sing of the Lord's great love.
I will sing of the Lord's great love forever,
I will sing, oh I will sing.*

Lord You are the glory of all our strength,
Your presence along the way for all our days.

Oh Lord, God Almighty, who is like You?
Oh Lord, God Almighty, none beside You.
Oh Lord, God Almighty, all the earth and sky belong to You.

Leslie Jordan and Sandra McCracken (2019)

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.

Father, because Jesus paid the penalty for our sins,
we can now freely confess them.
You no longer hold them against us.
They no longer condemn us.
You have set us free from our guilt and shame.

Thank you for liberating us to confess.
Thank you for freeing us from the need
to pretend when we approach you.

So we freely come to you now
confessing our selfishness, pride, arrogance and despair.

*** pause to silently name the ways we have fallen short this week***

Song of Lament

How Long, O Lord

How long, O Lord, shall I complain like one that seeks his God in vain?
Canst thou thy face forever hide, and I still pray and be denied?
But I have trusted in thy grace, and shall again behold thy face...

Shall I forever be forgot, as one whom thou regardest not?
Still shall my soul thy absence mourn, and still despair of thy return?

How long shall my poor troubled breast Be with these anxious thoughts op-
pressed? And Satan, my malicious foe, Rejoice to see me sunk so low?

Whate'er my fears or foes suggest, thou art my hope, my joy, my rest;
My heart shall feel thy love, and raise my cheerful voice to songs of praise.

Isaac Watts (1719), Karl Digerness (2008)

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 also has set us free from the power of sin by his death and resurrection.*

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:1-2

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."*

Giving of Tithes & Offering

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.*

You Alone Can Rescue

Who, oh Lord, could save themselves,
Their own soul could heal?
Our shame was deeper than the sea,
Your grace is deeper still.

*You alone can rescue, You alone can save,
You alone can lift us from the grave.*

*You came down to find us, led us out of death,
To You alone belongs the highest praise.*

You, oh Lord, have made a way,
The great divide You heal.
For when our hearts were far away,
Your love went further still, Yes, your love goes further still.

We lift up our eyes, lift up our eyes,
You're the Giver of Life.

Matt Redman, Jonas Myrin (2010)

Scripture Reading

selections from Acts 10 and 11

^{10:1} At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of what was known as the Italian Cohort, ² a devout man who feared God with all his household, gave alms generously to the people, and prayed continually to God. ³ About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God come in and say to him, "Cornelius." ⁴ And he stared at him in terror and said, "What is it, Lord?" And he said to him, "Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God. ⁵ And now send men to Joppa and bring one Simon who is called Peter. ⁶ He is lodging with one Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea." ⁷ When the angel who spoke to him had departed, he called two of his servants and a devout soldier from among those who attended him, ⁸ and having related everything to them, he sent them to Joppa.

⁹ The next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. ¹⁰ And he became hungry and wanted something to eat, but while they were preparing it, he fell into a trance ¹¹ and saw the heavens opened and something like a great sheet descending, being let down by its four corners upon the earth. ¹² In it were all kinds of animals and reptiles and birds of the air. ¹³ And there came a voice to him: "Rise, Peter; kill and eat." ¹⁴ But Peter said, "By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean." ¹⁵ And the voice came to him again a second time, "What God has made clean, do not call common." ¹⁶ This happened three times, and the thing was taken up at once to heaven.

¹⁷ Now while Peter was inwardly perplexed as to what the vision that he had seen might mean, behold, the men who were sent by Cornelius, having made inquiry for Simon's house, stood at the gate ¹⁸ and called out to ask whether Simon who was called Peter was lodging there. ¹⁹ And while Peter was pondering the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are looking for you. ²⁰ Rise and go down and accompany them without hesitation, for I have sent them." ²¹ And Peter went down to the men and said, "I am the one you are looking for. What is the reason for your coming?" ²² And they said, "Cornelius, a centurion, an upright and God-fearing man, who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish nation, was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say." ²³ So he invited them in to be his guests.

²⁵ When Peter entered, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped him. ²⁶ But Peter lifted him up, saying, "Stand up; I too am a man." ²⁷ And as he talked with him, he went in and found many persons gathered. ²⁸ And he said to them, "You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a Jew to associate with or to visit anyone of another nation, but God has shown me that I should not call any person common or unclean. ²⁹ So when I was sent for, I came without objection.

³⁴ So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), ³⁷ you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed.

⁴⁴ While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. ⁴⁵ And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. ⁴⁶ For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, ⁴⁷ "Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸ And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

^{11:1} Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God.

^{11:18} When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life."

Sermon

“Jews, Gentiles, and the Lord of All”

Harrison Holbrook is Hope Chapel’s associate pastor of assimilation & discipleship. This sermon is part of a series called “Witness: The Movement Continues”, where we are studying the book of Acts and its call to cultivate shalom. 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: 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 our God.

All: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise,
joining our voices with Your people on earth
and all the company of heaven,
who forever sing to the glory of Your Name.**

Minister: Together we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

All: **Dying, You destroyed our death;
rising, You restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Minister: Christ, our Passover, is sacrificed for us.

All: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

*** institution of the elements ***

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Minister: Merciful God, pour out Your Holy Spirit
on these gifts of bread and wine, that in eating and drinking
we may be made one with Christ and one another.

All: Amen.

Minister: Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, now and forever.
As our Savior taught us, so we pray,

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.

Your Name

As morning dawns and evening fades,
 You inspire songs of praise
 That rise from earth to touch Your heart,
 And glorify Your Name.

*Your Name is a strong and mighty tower,
 Your Name is a shelter like no other,
 Your Name let the nations sing it louder,
 'Cause nothing has the power to save but Your Name.*

Jesus in Your Name we pray,
 Come and fill our hearts today.
 Lord give us strength to live for You,
 And glorify Your Name.

Paul Baloche, Glen Packiam (2006)

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

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.

All: Amen.

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Financial Update

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|--------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|
| Given Last Week: | \$19,849 | Gifts can be placed in the offering |
| Required to date: | \$131,535 | plate on Sundays or mailed to: |
| (Jan. 1 - March 5) | | Hope Chapel |
| Given to date: | \$106,161 | 908 N. Josephine Boyd St |
| Over/[Under] | [\$25,373] | 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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Want to connect with others?
hopechapelgreensboro.org/community

Visiting with us?
hopechapelgreensboro.org/i'm-new

