

WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

April 30, 2023



the Fourth 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.

How Great Thou Art

Oh Lord my God when I in awesome wonder
 Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made.
 I see the stars. I hear the rolling thunder.
 Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

*Then sings my soul my Savior God to Thee
 How great Thou art. How great Thou art.
 Then sings my soul my Savior God to Thee
 How great Thou art. How great Thou art.*

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing
 Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in
 That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
 He bled and died to take away my sin

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
 To take me home what joy shall fill my heart.
 And I shall bow in humble adoration
 And there proclaim my God how great Thou art.

Carl Boberg (1885), Swedish folk melody

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: Every day I will praise you
and extol your name for ever and ever.

**All: Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;
his greatness no one can fathom.
One generation commends your works to another;
they tell of your mighty acts.**

Psalm 142:1-2

Song of Praise

You Are With Me

My heart is heavy and tired in this valley.
Mountains grow higher and higher, but I can't find You.
I'll keep lifting my eyes, I know You're with me.

I hear Your voice when You cry, "Comfort! Comfort!"
Sorrow may last for a night, but in the morning
Your joy breaks in with the night, I know You're with me.

*I know You're with me and You are for me,
You've been behind me, You go before.
You walk beside me, through darkest valleys.
I know You are with me.*

You led me here where it's dry, out in the desert.
You bring these bones back to life, You put together.
You sing a song of delight, I know You're with me.

Leslie Jordan, Sandra McCracken (2020)

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.

**All: God the Father, we admit that we are too busy
with our plans and purposes,
our worries and hopes,
and our labors and pleasures.
We have filled our lives with ourselves.**

Leader: Lord, have mercy. **All: Christ, have mercy.**

**All: God the Son, we confess that we treat you
very little like Lord of our live,
much less, Lord of the Sabbath.
We do not trust you to provide, guide, or care for us.**

Leader: Lord, have mercy. **All: Christ, have mercy.**

**All: God the Spirit, we are restless and impatient
with your work in our lives.
Forgive us for running to other things
if you do not act as we expect.
Forgive us for treating you more like a neglectful servant
than the promised comforter.**

Leader: Lord, have mercy. **All: Christ, have mercy.**

*** time for silent confession ***

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.

In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

1 John 4:9-11

Passing of the Peace

Songs of Praise & Thanksgiving

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

His Mercy Is More

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum;
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What Father so tender is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor;
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

*Praise the Lord, His mercy is more!
Stronger than darkness, new every morn';
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more!*

What riches of kindness He lavished on us!
His blood was the payment His life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford;
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

Matt Papa, Matt Boswell (2016)

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).*



Yet Not I, But Through Christ In Me

Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, Michael Farren (2018)

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

Acts 16:11-35

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.

¹¹ So, setting sail from Troas, we made a direct voyage to Samothrace, and the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city some days. ¹³ And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. ¹⁴ One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay." And she prevailed upon us.

¹⁶ As we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by fortune-telling. ¹⁷ She followed Paul and us, crying out, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." ¹⁸ And this she kept doing for many days. Paul, having become greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

¹⁹ But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the rulers. ²⁰ And when they had brought them to the magistrates, they said, "These men are Jews, and they are disturbing our city. ²¹ They advocate customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to accept or practice." ²² The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. ²³ And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, ordering the jailer to keep them safely. ²⁴ Having received this order, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, ²⁶ and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were unfastened. ²⁷ When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." ²⁹ And the jailer called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ Then he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹ And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." ³² And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. ³³ And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds; and he was baptized at once, he and all his family. ³⁴ Then he brought them up into his house and set food before them. And he rejoiced along with his entire household that he had believed in God.

³⁵ But when it was day, the magistrates sent the police, saying, "Let those men go."

Sermon

"Witness Disrupts Europe"

Davis Mooney is Pastor for Students and Families at Hope Presbyterian Church in Winston Salem. 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.

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty; hold me with Thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing waters flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, be Thou still my Strength and Shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee.

Land me safe on Canaan's side,
Bid my anxious fears, bid my anxious fears goodbye!

William Williams (1745), Jeremy Casella (2002)

Sending Song

Your Labor Is Not in Vain

Your labor is not in vain,
though the ground underneath you is cursed and stained;
Your planting and reaping are never the same,
but your labor is not in vain.

Your labor is not unknown
though the rocks they cry out and the sea it may groan.
The place of your toil may not seem like a home
but your labor is not unknown.

*For I am with you, I am with you.
I am with you, I am with you
For I have called you, called you by name,
Your labor is not in vain.*

The vineyards you plant will bear fruit
 the fields will sing out and rejoice with the truth,
 for all that is old will at last be made new:
 the vineyards you plant will bear fruit.

The houses you labored to build
 will finally with laughter and joy be filled.
 The serpent that hurts and destroys shall be killed
 and all that is broken be healed.

Wendell Kimbrough, Paul Zach, Isaac Wardell (2017)

Community Life

Blessing & Sending

Minister: The Lord bless you and keep you;
 the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;
 the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.

All: Amen.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Financial Update

Given Last Week:	\$11,205	Gifts can be placed in the offering
Required to date:	\$233,840	plate on Sundays or mailed to:
(Jan. 1 - April 23)		Hope Chapel
Given to date:	\$215,011	908 N. Josephine Boyd St
Over/[Under]	[\$18,808]	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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