

WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

July 16, 2023



Ordinary Time

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.

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)

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: Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
 make known his deeds among the peoples!
 Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!

**All: Glory in his holy name;
 let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!**

1 Chronicles 16:8-9

Oh! Great Is Our God!

Oh! Great is our God! So we should worship greatly!
 No song is too loud, no orchestra too stately
 To hail the majesty of our King!
 So lift your voices loud as we sing.

Oh! Great is our God! So let our songs be endless!
 So awesome His ways, how could we comprehend them?
 So we will make it known to our kids
 And we will sing about the gracious gifts you give.

*We will sing Your praise and pour forth your fame,
 We will bless your name!
 Let every one give thanks, because our God is great!*

Oh! Great is our God! And we cannot contain it!
 We sing from our souls, affected by His greatness.
 His mercy covers all that He's made,
 Showing His glory and His grace.

Brian Eichelberger (2009)

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.

Creator God:

We confess our tendency to chase after idols.

We may not bow down

before images of gold, silver, and wood;

yet our heart's inclination is fundamentally the same.

We replace Creator with creation

and look for life, meaning, and joy in temporary things.

Forgive us, redeem us,

and cause us to worship only You,

through Jesus Christ our Lord....

*** 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).

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

They feast on the abundance of your house,

and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.

Psalm 36:7-9

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.

This Is Amazing Grace

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness?
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger?
The King of Glory, the King above all kings.
Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder?
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder?
The King of Glory, the King above all kings.

*This is amazing grace, this is unfailing love,
That You would take my place, that You would bear my cross.
You laid down Your life that I would be set free.
Oh, Jesus, I sing for all that You've done for me!*

Who brings our chaos back into order?
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter?
The King of Glory, the King of Glory.
Who rules the nations with truth and justice?
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance?
The King of Glory, the King above all kings.

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave!

Josh Farro, Jeremy Riddle, Phil Wickham (2012)

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).



Before the Throne of God Above

Before the throne of God above I have a strong, a perfect plea,
 A great High Priest whose name is Love, who ever lives and pleads for me.
 My name is graven on His hands, my name is written on His heart;
 I know that while in heaven He stands
 no tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,
 Upward I look and see Him there, who made an end to all my sin.
 Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;
 For God, the Just, is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me,

Behold Him there the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless Righteousness,
 The great unchangeable I Am, the King of glory and of grace.
 One with Himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased with His blood;
 My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior and my God!

Charitie Lees Bancroft (1863), Vikki Cook (1997)

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 28:16-31

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.

¹⁶ When we entered Rome, Paul was allowed to stay by himself, with the soldier who was guarding him.

¹⁷ After three days Paul called together those who were the leading men of the Jews, and when they came together, he began saying to them, "Brothers, though I had done nothing against our people or the customs of our fathers, yet I was handed over to the Romans as a prisoner from Jerusalem. ¹⁸ And when they had examined me, they were willing to release me because there were no grounds for putting me to death. ¹⁹ But when the Jews objected, I was forced to appeal to Caesar, not that I had any accusation against my nation. ²⁰ For this reason, therefore, I requested to see you and to speak with you, since I am wearing this chain for the sake of the hope of Israel." ²¹ They said to him, "We have neither received letters from Judea concerning you, nor has any of the brothers come here and reported or spoken anything bad about you. ²² But we desire to hear from you what your views are; for regarding this sect, it is known to us that it is spoken against everywhere."

²³ When they had set a day for Paul, people came to him at his lodging in large numbers; and he was explaining to them by solemnly testifying about the kingdom of God and trying to persuade them concerning Jesus, from both the Law of Moses and from the Prophets, from morning until evening. ²⁴ Some were being persuaded by the things said by Paul, but others would not believe. ²⁵ And when they disagreed with one another, they began leaving after Paul said one parting statement: "The Holy Spirit rightly spoke through Isaiah the prophet to your fathers, ²⁶ saying,

'Go to this people and say,
"You will keep on hearing, and will not understand;
And you will keep on seeing, and will not perceive;
²⁷ For the hearts of this people have become insensitive,
And with their ears they hardly hear,
And they have closed their eyes;
Otherwise they might see with their eyes,
And hear with their ears,
And understand with their heart and return,
And I would heal them.'"

²⁸ Therefore, let it be known to you that this salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles; they will also listen."

³⁰ Now Paul stayed two full years in his own rented lodging and welcomed all who came to him, ³¹ preaching the kingdom of God and teaching things about the Lord Jesus Christ with all openness, unhindered.

Sermon

“Witness at Caesar’s Door”

Jim Osborne is a practicing physician and founding member/elder of Hope Chapel. Since 2008, he has been a regular part of the teaching team at Hope. 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

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth:
 And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
 Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the Virgin Mary.
 Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended into hell.
 On the third day he rose again from the dead.
 He ascended into heaven, and is seated
 at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty.
 He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of the faith:
All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
Minister: Christ, our Passover, is sacrificed for us.
All: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

*** institution of the elements ***

Minister: Brothers and sisters, since the Lord has fed us at his Table,
let us praise God's holy name with heartfelt thanksgiving!
**All: Bless the Lord, O my soul;
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!**

Minister: Bless the Lord, O my soul,
All: and forget not all God's benefits,
Minister: who forgives all your iniquity,
All: who heals all your diseases.
Minister: Who 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.**

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.

The Feast

With wondering eyes, Lord we admire the feast prepared by grace;
Come, Lord, and set our souls on fire, and fill each heart with peace.
These emblems of thy precious love, by faith may we receive!
And with a solemn pleasure prove, we in thy name believe.

*We eat this bread, we drink this wine,
come give yourself to us.*

*We know you're here, that's why we've come,
to feast on thee with love.*

No goodness of our own we bring; we're sinners vile and base;
Christ is our all; of Christ we sing, and long to see his face.
O may we each, with heart and tongue sing, "Worthy is the Lamb";
To him alone the praise belongs, and we'll adore his name.

William Gadsby (verses), 1838, Karl Digerness (2004)

Sending Song

All Must Be Well

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.

Mary Bowly Peters (1847), Matthew Smith (2007)

Community Life

Blessing & Sending

Minister: May the peace of God,
 which transcends all understanding,
 guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

All: Amen.

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Financial Update

Given Last Week:	\$12,217	Gifts can be placed in the offering
Required to date:	\$394,605	plate on Sundays or mailed to:
(Jan. 1 - July 9)		Hope Chapel
Given to date:	\$372,314	908 N. Josephine Boyd St
Over/[Under]	[\$22,290]	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

