

WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

September 24, 2023



Ordinary Time

Preparation

*Almighty God, we pray for your blessing
on the church in this place.*

*Here may the faithful find salvation,
and the careless be awakened.*

*Here may the doubting find faith,
and the anxious be encouraged.*

*Here may the tempted find help,
and the sorrowful find comfort.*

*Here may the weary find rest,
and the strong be renewed.*

*Here may the aged find consolation
and the young be inspired;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

Gathering Song

*We sing as a way of engaging our voices, bodies, 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.*

This Is My Father's World

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.

Maltbie Babcock (1901) traditional English 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

Psalm 145: 9-12, 21

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: The LORD is good to all;

he has compassion on all he has made.

All: All your works praise you, LORD; your faithful people extol you.

Leader: They tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might,

**All: so that all people may know of your mighty acts
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.**

Leader: My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD.

All: Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever.

We Sing Holy

God of ages, faithful to a thousand generations,

A thousand more will echo out Your praises, Your praises.

We bow in reverence and fall before the matchless son of heaven,

And join the angel's song within Your presence, in your presence we sing...

*Holy! You're holy! You stand alone and there is none who's
Worthy, so worthy to receive all honor and all
Glory, all glory! Forever seated high upon Your throne,
It belongs to You alone, so we sing holy! We sing holy!*

Behold the glory, we wonder in Your radiance and beauty,

Breathing in the air of grace and mercy, Your grace and mercy, we sing...

Be Lifted high, lifted high, Oh King of majesty,

Be glorified, glorified, throughout eternity!

Be Lifted high, lifted high, Oh King of majesty,

Be glorified, glorified, throughout eternity!

Chris Clayton Jonathan Turner (2021)

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.

God of Wisdom and Grace:

We confess to you

Our tendency to say that we know you
but fail to obey your commands.¹

We love the idea of shalom,
but we often fail to put it into practice.

We are often wise in our own sight.²

Forgive our sin and self-righteousness.

Teach us wisdom in the inmost place.

Cleanse us with hyssop, and we will be clean;
wash us, and we will be whiter than snow.³

Renew us by your grace,

that we might be cultivators of shalom in the world.

In the name of our merciful Savior Jesus,

in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom...⁴

*** time for silent confession ***

References: ¹ I John 2:4; ² Romans 12:16; ³ Psalm 51:6-7; ⁴ Colossians 2:3

Words of Forgiveness

Romans 5:7-8

For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

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."

Deacon Ordination & Installation

Rob Scifres and Daniel Strayer

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.

Arise, My Soul, Arise

Arise, my soul, arise, shake off your guilty fears;
The bleeding sacrifice, on my behalf appears;
Before the throne my Surety stands, before the throne my Surety stands,
My name is written on His hands.

*Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise
Arise, my soul, arise.
Shake off your guilty fears and rise!*

He ever lives above, for me to intercede;
His all redeeming love, His precious blood, to plead;
His blood atoned for every race, His blood atoned for every race,
And sprinkles now the throne of grace.

My God is reconciled; His pardoning voice I hear;
He owns me for His child; I can no longer fear.
With confidence I now draw nigh, with confidence I now draw nigh,
And "Father, Abba, Father," cry.

Charles Wesley (1742), Kevin Twit (1996)

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).



All Things Rise

God, how beautiful Your Holy Word
That formed the worlds in such goodness.
O, the shame that we would spurn it all,
To turn and fall into darkness.

God, we'll sing how through Your Son You turned
This loss and hurt into glory.
How, when scorned in death You raised Him up,
His gain's become the whole world's story.

*Let all things rise and bless Your name!
All things made right and new again.
O Lord our God, Your goodness
Is free and boundless, is reaching endless through it all.*

And on this road with every step we take,
Your faithfulness is our portion.
You've prepared a city bright and fair,
Whose gates forever stay open.

Son of God, in You we've taken up
The way of love's occupation.
O, the joy to share in Your reward,
The stunning turn of new creation.

Sam Yoder (2015)

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.

Proverbs 7:4-10

⁴ Say to wisdom, "You are my sister,"
And call understanding your intimate friend,
⁵ So that they may keep you from an adulteress,
From the foreigner who flatters with her words.

⁶ For at the window of my house
I looked out through my lattice,
⁷ And I saw among the naive,
And discerned among the youths
A young man lacking sense,
⁸ Passing through the street near her corner;
And he walks along the way to her house,
⁹ In the twilight, in the evening,
In the middle of the night and the darkness.
¹⁰ And behold, a woman comes to meet him,
Dressed as a prostitute and cunning of heart.

Proverbs 14:15

The naive believes everything,
But the sensible person considers his steps.

Proverbs 22:3

A prudent person sees evil and hides himself,
But the naive proceed, and pay the penalty.

Sermon

“Wisdom for the Simple”

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 “Proverbs: Learning Skill in Salom Cultivtion”. 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.**

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.

Until He Comes Again

By this we remember in faith, as we gather with bread and wine,
we remember until He comes again.

By this we remember in hope, as we gather with bread and wine,
we remember until He comes again.

*When He comes again like a thief in the night,
When He comes again all the wrongs will be right;
Oh the earth lifted up as heaven comes down,
We remember until He comes again.*

By this we remember in love, as we gather with bread and wine,
we remember until He comes again.

*Ricky Vasquez, Ike Ndolo, Sandra McCracken,
Mitch Wong & Matt Maher (2022)*

Sending Song

In Feast or Fallow

When the fields are dry, and the winter is long,
Blessed are the meek, the hungry, the poor.
When my soul is downcast, and my voice has no song,
For mercy, for comfort, I wait on the Lord.

*In the harvest feast or the fallow ground,
My certain hope is in Jesus found.
My lot, my cup, my portion sure;
Whatever comes, we shall endure.*

On a cross of wood, His blood was outpoured.
 He Rose from the ground, like a bird to the sky,
 Bringing peace to our violence, and crushing death's door;
 Our Maker incarnate, our God who provides.

When the earth beneath me crumbles and quakes,
 Not a sparrow falls, nor a hair from my head
 Without His hand to guide me, my shield and my strength.
 In joy or in sorrow, in life or in death.

Sandra McCracken (2005)

Community Life

Blessing & Sending

Minister: May the living God, who alone can renew,
 draw near to you, strengthen you, and give you hope,
 and the blessing of God almighty,
 Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
 be among you, and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Financial Update

Given Last Week:	\$18,189	Gifts can be placed in the offering
Required to date:	\$540,755	plate on Sundays or mailed to:
(Jan. 1 - Sep. 17)		Hope Chapel
Given to date:	\$526,026	908 N. Josephine Boyd St
Over/[Under]	[\$14,728]	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

