

# WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

February 4, 2024



**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, 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.*

### Nothing But the Blood

What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

*Oh precious is the flow that makes me white as snow,  
No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

For my pardon this I see— nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
For my cleansing, this my plea— nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Nothing can for sin atone: nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
Naught of good that I have done: nothing but the blood of Jesus.

This is all my hope and peace— nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
This is all my righteousness— nothing but the blood of Jesus.

*Robert Lowry (1876)*

## 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 77:11-15 & 95:1

*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 is both the Creator and the Invitor, and we respond to His grace!*

Leader: I will remember the deeds of the Lord;  
yes, I will remember Your wonders of old.

**All: I will ponder all Your work,  
and meditate on Your mighty deeds.**

Leader: Your ways, God, are holy.  
What god is as great as our God?

**All: You are the God who performs miracles;  
You display your power among the peoples.  
With your mighty arm You redeemed Your people,  
the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.**

Leader: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;

**All: let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.**

## Song of Praise & Adoration

### 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.*

Holy, wise, and loving Father,  
 we humble ourselves before You now,<sup>1</sup>  
 confessing that we are by nature sinful and unclean.<sup>2</sup>  
 Not only is all creation groaning under the effects of sin,<sup>3</sup>  
 but like ink dropped into clean water,  
 our own hearts and lives are evidence of  
 the total corruption that sin has ushered into the world.<sup>4</sup>  
 We have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions.  
 We acknowledge that no one is righteous,<sup>5</sup>  
 that even our best acts are as filthy rags in your sight.<sup>6</sup>  
 and that our only hope in life and death  
 is to belong to God through the work of Jesus.<sup>7</sup>

It is in His strong name that we humbly ask You to  
 have mercy on us and forgive us.<sup>8</sup>  
 Renew us and lead us by your Holy Spirit<sup>9</sup>  
 so that we may delight in Your will<sup>10</sup>  
 and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name...<sup>11</sup>

*\*\* time for silent confession \*\**

Scripture References:

<sup>1</sup> James 4:10, <sup>2</sup> Ephesians 2:3, <sup>3</sup> Romans 8:22, <sup>4</sup> Mark 7:20-23, <sup>5</sup> Romans 3:11, Psalm 53:1-3,  
<sup>6</sup> Isaiah 64:6, <sup>7</sup> Romans 14:7-9, <sup>8</sup> Proverbs 18:10, Psalm 86:1, <sup>9</sup> Romans 8:14, Galatians 5:18,  
<sup>10</sup> Psalm 40:8, <sup>11</sup> John 15:8.

## Words of Forgiveness

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.

I John 4:9-11

## Passing of the Peace

*What is 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."*

## 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.*

### Behold

The empty filled, the wounded healed, the broken back together.  
The poor are blessed, the weary rest, we will dance forever.  
The blinded see, the chained are free, the doubtful now believer.  
The outcast known, the orphan home, You are my Redeemer.

*Behold, behold, behold what love can do!  
Behold, behold, He's making all things new!*

The lost return, the voiceless heard, the mourner now rejoicing.  
The mountains shake, the world awake, creation all composing.  
The sad untrue, the earth renewed, the song has found its singer.  
The darkness light, the dead alive, You are my Redeemer.

*Behold, behold, behold what love can do!  
Behold, behold, He's making all things new!*

We've been struck down, we're not destroyed,  
We've sown in tears, we'll reap in joy.  
We've been struck down, we're not destroyed,  
We've sown in tears, we'll reap in joy.  
My eyes are open!

*Taylor Leonhardt (2020)*

## 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](http://hopechapelgreensboro.org/give), or give through Venmo to @HopeChapel (note: contributions made through Venmo are not receipted for tax purposes).



### All You Do Is Good

You are full of compassion and abounding in love,  
You create things from nothing, call what's not though it was.  
You are light with no shadow, with no shifting or change.  
You turn weeping to dancing and despair into thanks.

*You are good and all you do is good.  
You are good and all you do is good.  
You are good and all you do is good, all you do is good,  
All you do is good.*

You release every captive, cut the shackles from slaves,  
Those who hate you, you ransom, Give you blood for their shame.  
With the bent stem, you're tender, shield the smoldering flame,  
You bring home the unwanted, call the lost back by name.

You lift up, you, you revive, you, you restore, you, you increase, you,  
You anoint, you, you fill up, you, you spill out, you, you release, you,  
You make grow, you, you bring forth, you, you call out, you, you set free  
It's who you are, It's who you were, It's who you will always be.

Your life is eternal, not in measure but kind,  
Running over with healing, inexhaustible might.  
You in us, and we in you, the delight in your face.  
Resting here we enjoy you, and our joy is your praise.

*Nathan Partain (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 our powerful and merciful God for 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

Romans 3:1-8

*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.*

<sup>1</sup> Then what advantage has the Jew? Or what is the value of circumcision? <sup>2</sup> Much in every way. To begin with, the Jews were entrusted with the oracles of God. <sup>3</sup> What if some were unfaithful? Does their faithlessness nullify the faithfulness of God? <sup>4</sup> By no means! Let God be true though every one were a liar, as it is written,

"That you may be justified in your words,  
and prevail when you are judged."

<sup>5</sup> But if our unrighteousness serves to show the righteousness of God, what shall we say? That God is unrighteous to inflict wrath on us? (I speak in a human way.) <sup>6</sup> By no means! For then how could God judge the world? <sup>7</sup> But if through my lie God's truth abounds to his glory, why am I still being condemned as a sinner? <sup>8</sup> And why not do evil that good may come?—as some people slanderously charge us with saying. Their condemnation is just.

## Sermon

### "Unquestioned Righteousness"

*JD Meeder is the director of the Greensboro Fellows program. This sermon is part of a series on the New Testament book of Romans, where we are exploring the doctrine of justification, or how we are made right with God. 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.**

### **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 than 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.

### There Is a Mountain

There is a mountain only the lame can climb,  
 There is a table only the hungry find;  
 Only the beggar will have the currency, when need is all you need.

There is a victory only the conquered gain,  
 There is a glory that you get when give up your name.  
 Oh the peace when you finally yield the fight, in surrender rise.

*Come with open hands in need,  
 come hearts broken, bended knee,  
 A gift can only be received, received.*

So come to the mountain, He carries the cripple to the feast.  
 Come to the table, undeserved He has saved you a seat.  
 Come and eat and drink without money and without a cost,  
 He has paid it on the cross.

The king bends low to wash our feet, to lift our heads, set captives free,  
 To lead us home to that wedding feast; we taste it now, at last we'll eat  
 Of that richest food, oh that well-aged wine.  
 The shroud will lift, our tears he'll dry,  
 Come hungry souls, be satisfied both now and forever.

*Caroline Cobb (2014)*

## Sending Song

### Faithful One

Faithful One, we lift our praise  
 Toward your light we turn our gaze.  
 The weight of sin is bearing down,  
 We need your grace to save us now.

*Faithful One, Faithful One, You never fail, You never fail,  
 You never fail to raise the sun, Faithful One.  
 Faithful One, Faithful One, You never fail, You never fail,  
 Not my will, but Yours be done.*

God of Grace I long to live  
 By the peace you freely give.  
 When lesser things seduce my eyes,  
 Lord, break my heart and make me wise.

Ancient love has brought to bear  
 Kinship with the royal heir.  
 You broke the bread, you poured the wine,  
 Now I am yours and you are mine.

Randall Goodgame (2014)

## 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 the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Financial Update

Given Last Week:	\$17,378	Gifts can be placed in the offering
Required to date:	\$64,268	plate on Sundays or mailed to:
(Jan. 1 - Jan. 28)		Hope Chapel
Given to date:	\$55,372	908 N. Josephine Boyd St
Over/[Under]	[\$8,895]	Greensboro, NC 27408

Online giving is available on our website: [www.hopechapelgreensboro.org/give](http://www.hopechapelgreensboro.org/give)  
 We also accept donations via Venmo: @HopeChapel.

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