

WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

February 18, 2024



The First Sunday of Lent

Preparation

Lent ... should never be morose—an annual ordeal during which we begrudgingly forgo a handful of pleasures. Instead, it ought to be approached as an opportunity. After all, it is meant to be the church's springtime, when out of the darkness of sin's winter, a repentant, empowered people emerges.

- Bread and Wine: Readings for Lent and Easter

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.

Almighty God

Almighty God, to You all hearts are open,
 Search and know our thoughts and anxious fears.
 Wash us in the fountain of Your mercy,
 Come with Your light, we cannot hide from You.

Almighty God, to You all hearts are open,
 With gratitude we raise our song to You.
 Come and fill the praises of Your people,
 In grace and truth, You make us new again.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Almighty God, to You all hearts are open,
 We long for more than what this world provides.
 No shallow spring will ever satisfy us,
 But Your river deep floods over everything.

To You all hearts are open, Almighty God...

Leslie Jordan, David Leonard, Sandra McCracken (2014)

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 40:5, 16

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: You have multiplied, O Lord my God,
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;
none can compare with you!

**All: I will proclaim and tell of them,
yet they are more than can be told.**

Leader: May all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you;

**All: may those who love your salvation
say continually, "Great is the Lord!"**

Song of Praise & Adoration

Great Things

Come let us worship our King, come let us bow at His feet;
He has done great things.
See what our Savior has done, see how His love overcomes;
He has done great things, He has done great things.

*Oh, hero of Heaven, You conquer the grave,
You free every captive and break every chain,
Oh God, You have done great things!
We dance in Your freedom, awake and alive;
Oh Jesus, our Savior, Your name lifted high.
Oh God, You have done great things!*

You've been faithful through every storm
You'll be faithful forevermore, You have done great things.
And I know You will do it again for Your promise is "Yes and Amen",
You will do great things, God, You do great things!

Hallelujah God, above it all, Hallelujah God, unshakable,
Hallelujah, You have done great things!

Jonas Myrin, Phil Wickham (2018)

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,¹
 confessing that we are by nature sinful and unclean.²
 Not only is all creation groaning under the effects of sin,³
 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.⁴
 We have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions.
 We acknowledge that no one is righteous,⁵
 that even our best acts are as filthy rags in your sight.⁶
 and that our only hope in life and death
 is to belong to God through the work of Jesus.⁷

It is in His strong name that we humbly ask You to
 have mercy on us and forgive us.⁸
 Renew us and lead us by your Holy Spirit⁹
 so that we may delight in Your will¹⁰
 and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name...¹¹

*** time for silent confession ***

Scripture References:

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

Words of Forgiveness

Romans 8:38-39

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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.

Never See the End

Where can we run, where can we hide,
That You will not find us?
Deepest of depths, highest of heights,
Your love, it chases us.
No matter where we've been, no matter what we've done,
We can't escape Your love.

*We will never see the end,
We will never see the end of Your goodness.*

Though we pass through the fire,
Or we pass through the flood, You will be with us.
Though we walk through the valley,
The darkest of night Your love will be our light.
And when we are in plenty or we are in want,
You will always be enough.

In our darkest hours, on our hardest days,
We do not have to be afraid.
For You will never leave, You will not forsake,
The promises that You have made.

Jess Ray (2019)

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).



'Tis So Sweet to Trust In Jesus

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,
and to take Him at His Word;
Just to rest upon His promise,
and to know, "Thus says the Lord!"

*Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust Him more!*

O how sweet to trust in Jesus,
just to trust His cleansing blood;
And in simple faith to plunge me
'neath the healing, cleansing flood!

Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus,
just from sin and self to cease;
Just from Jesus simply taking
life and rest, and joy and peace.

Louisa Stead (1882), William Kirkpatrick (b. 1838)

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 3:21-31

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.

²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law. ²⁹ Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, ³⁰ since God is one—who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. ³¹ Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.

Sermon

“The Way In”

Harrison Holbrook is Hope Chapel’s pastor of assimilation & discipleship. 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.

All: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Minister: You are holy, O God of majesty,

and blessed is Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

He took upon Himself the weight of our sin

and carried the burden of our guilt.

He shared our life in every way,

and though tempted, was sinless to the end.

Baptized as Your own, He went willingly to His death

and by Your power was raised to new life.

**All: In his dying and rising, You gave birth to Your church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.**

Minister: Sanctify this bread and wine, and use these elements
to communicate to us the mercy of your Son,
that we might be enabled to submit our lives to You.

**All: Grant that this sacrament would empower us to die
to ourselves, and live for Your glory, now and forever, amen.**

**** institution of elements ****

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Minister: God 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 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.

All You'll Ever Need

The blood of Jesus, it is like the widow's oil:
It's enough to pay the price to set you free.
It can fill up every jar and every heart that ever beat,
When it's all you have it's all you'll ever need.
When it's all you have it's all you'll ever need.

The blood of Jesus, it is like the leper's river,
Running humble with a power you cannot see.
Seven times go under, let the water wash you clean,
Only go down to the Jordan and believe.
Only go down in the Jordan and believe.

*And I need it, I need it
The closer that I grow
The more I come to know how much I need it*

The blood of Jesus it is like Elijah's fire,
Falling on the alter of your faith.
All the wisdom of the world could never conjure up a spark,
But no power of Hell could ever quench this flame.
No power of Hell could ever touch this flame.

Andy Gullahorn, Andrew Peterson, Ben Shive (2008)

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

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: May God the Father, who does not despise the broken spirit,
 give you a contrite heart.
 May Christ, who bore our sins in his body on the tree,
 heal you by his wounds.
 May the Holy Spirit, who leads us into all truth,
 speak to you words of pardon and peace.

All: Amen.

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Financial Update

Given Last Week:	\$5,932	Gifts can be placed in the offering
Required to date:	\$96,402	plate on Sundays or mailed to:
(Jan. 1 - Feb. 11)		Hope Chapel
Given to date:	\$83,454	908 N. Josephine Boyd St
Over/[Under]	[\$12,947]	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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hopechapelgreensboro.org/i'm-new

