

WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

May 12, 2024



The Seventh Sunday of Easter

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

Why a "call to worship"? Worship is something we offer to God every day of our lives in everything that we do. If we are worshipping as we come in the church doors, why do we have a Call to Worship? Implied in the phrase is the word "corporate." When we hear the Call to (corporate) Worship, we are called by God as one community to worship Him together.

What is unique about Sunday is not that we worship on that day and not others; it is that we worship together.

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into His presence with singing!

All: Know that the Lord, He is God!

It is He who made us, and we are His;

we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.

Leader: Enter His gates with thanksgiving,

and His courts with praise!

Give thanks to Him; bless His name!

All: For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever,

and His faithfulness to all generations.

Psalm 100

Songs of Praise

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.

All Glory

We enter Your gates with thanksgiving

And with thanksgiving, we enter Your gates.

We pour out Your praise in Your presence

And in Your presence, we pour out Your praise.

And the song we sing, we sing forevermore...

*All glory to the Father, all glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, the Spirit of our God!
As it was in the beginning and will be in the end;
All glory to Your everlasting name!*

This is the sound of the forgiven
A song of freedom, O Jesus, on and on Your name resounds.
We lift up a shout for You are risen,
And now we are risen, come on and pour His praises out...

And the song we sing, we sing forevermore!
And the song we sing, we sing for You alone!
Come on and pour His praises out,
Come on and sing His praises now!

Jonas Myrin, Matt Redman (2017)

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.

Our Father in Heaven:
We confess that we are prodigals.
We have run away from you
In pursuit of pleasures that do not satisfy.
We have spurned your love
And wasted your gifts,
Only to find ourselves alone, empty, and unfulfilled.

Please bring us to the end of ourselves,
And help us return to you,
That we might live in joy and freedom
As your beloved sons and daughters, Through Jesus our Lord...

*** pause 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.

The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Psalm 103:8-12

Passing of the Peace

Why is the Greeting put after our Words of Forgiveness? The book of 2 Corinthians reminds us that part of God's goal in reconciling Himself to us was that we might likewise be reconciled with one another. But for healing and wholeness to take place in our relationships (which is what the Greeting enacts as we acknowledge one another in the peace of our Lord), we must first know the healing of our relationship with God through Christ. God's pardon of us sets us free to love and forgive one another without reservation or qualification!

Communicant Member Vows

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.

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

Jesus, priceless treasure, source of purest pleasure, friend most sure and true:
 Long my heart was burning,
 Fainting much and yearning, thirsting, Lord, for You.
 Yours I am, O spotless Lamb,
 So will I let nothing hide You, seek no joy beside You!

Let Your arms enfold me: take me in and hold me – keep me ever near.
 Though the earth be shaking,
 Every heart is quaking, Jesus calms my fear.
 Fire may flash and thunder crash;
 But, though sin and death assail me, Jesus will not fail me.

In our times of sadness, then the Lord of gladness, Jesus, enters in;
 Though the clouds will gather,
 Those who love the Savior can have peace within.
 Though we bear much sorrow here,
 Still in You lies purest pleasure, Jesus, priceless treasure!

Gone, all worldly treasure! Jesus is my pleasure, Jesus is my choice.
 Gone, all empty glory! Jesus is my story; O, my soul, rejoice!
 Pain or loss or shame or cross
 Shall not from my Savior move me, since He chose to love me.

*Johann Franck (1653), trans by Catherine Winkworth (1863)
 music & add. lyrics by Michael Van Patter (2018)*

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).



A Thousand Hallelujahs

Who else would rocks cry out to worship?
Whose glory taught the stars to shine?
Perhaps creation longs to have the words to sing,
But this joy is mine...

*With a thousand hallelujahs we magnify Your name;
You alone deserve the glory, the honor and the praise!
Lord Jesus, this song is forever Yours:
A thousand hallelujahs and a thousand more!*

Who else would die for our redemption?
Whose resurrection means I'll rise?
There isn't time enough to sing of all You've done,
But I have eternity to try...

Praise to the Lord, to the lamb, to the King of Heaven!
Praise for He rose, now He reigns, we will sing forever.

Brooke Ligertwood, Scott Ligertwood, Phil Wickham (2022)

Scripture Reading

Romans 9:1-29

¹ I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit—² that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵ To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

⁶ But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel,⁷ and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.”⁸ This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring.⁹ For this is what the promise said: “About this time next year I will return, and Sarah shall have a son.”¹⁰ And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac,¹¹ though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God’s purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls—¹² she was told, “The older will serve the younger.”¹³ As it is written, “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”

¹⁴ What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God’s part? By no means!¹⁵ For he says to Moses, “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.”¹⁶ So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy.¹⁷ For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, “For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.”¹⁸ So then he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills.

¹⁹ You will say to me then, “Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?”²⁰

But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, “Why have you made me like this?”²¹ Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use?²² What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction,²³ in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory—²⁴ even us whom he has called, not from the Jews only but also from the Gentiles?²⁵ As indeed he says in Hosea,

“Those who were not my people I will call ‘my people,’

and her who was not beloved I will call ‘beloved.’”

²⁶ “And in the very place where it was said to them, ‘You are not my people,’

there they will be called ‘sons of the living God.’”

²⁷ And Isaiah cries out concerning Israel: “Though the number of the sons of Israel be as the sand of the sea, only a remnant of them will be saved,²⁸ for the Lord will carry out his sentence upon the earth fully and without delay.”²⁹ And as Isaiah predicted,

“If the Lord of hosts had not left us offspring,

we would have been like Sodom
and become like Gomorrah.”

Sermon

Harrison Holbrook is Hope Chapel's pastor of assimilation & discipleship. This sermon is part of a series on the New Testament book of Romans. In this section (chapters 9-11) we are exploring how we integrate the doctrines of justification and sanctification into our lives in the world. 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.
 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 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.

O Love that Will Not Let Me Go

Oh, love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in Thee.
I give You back this life I owe and in Your ocean depths, its flow
May richer, fuller be.

Oh, light that follows all my way, I yield my flickering torch to Thee,
And my heart restores its borrowed ray and in Your sunshine's blaze, its day
May brighter, fairer be.

*Rejoice, my heart; rejoice, my soul!
My Savior God has come to thee.
Rejoice, my heart, you've been made whole
By a love that will not let me go.*

Oh, joy that seeks me through the pain, I cannot close my heart to Thee.
I trace the rainbow through the rain and feel the promise is not vain,
That mourn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from Thee.
I lay in dust life's glory dead and from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

George Matheson (1882) Robbie Seay, Taylor Johnson (2010)

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)

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 our Faithful God,
 who has promised never to leave or forsake you,
 fill you with all joy and peace in Christ,
 so that you may overflow with hope
 by the power of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Financial Update

Given Last Week:	\$27,648	Gifts can be placed in the offering
Required to date: (Jan. 1 - May 5)	\$289,206	plate on Sundays or mailed to: Hope Chapel
Given to date:	\$297,669	908 N. Josephine Boyd St
Over/[Under]	\$8,463	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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