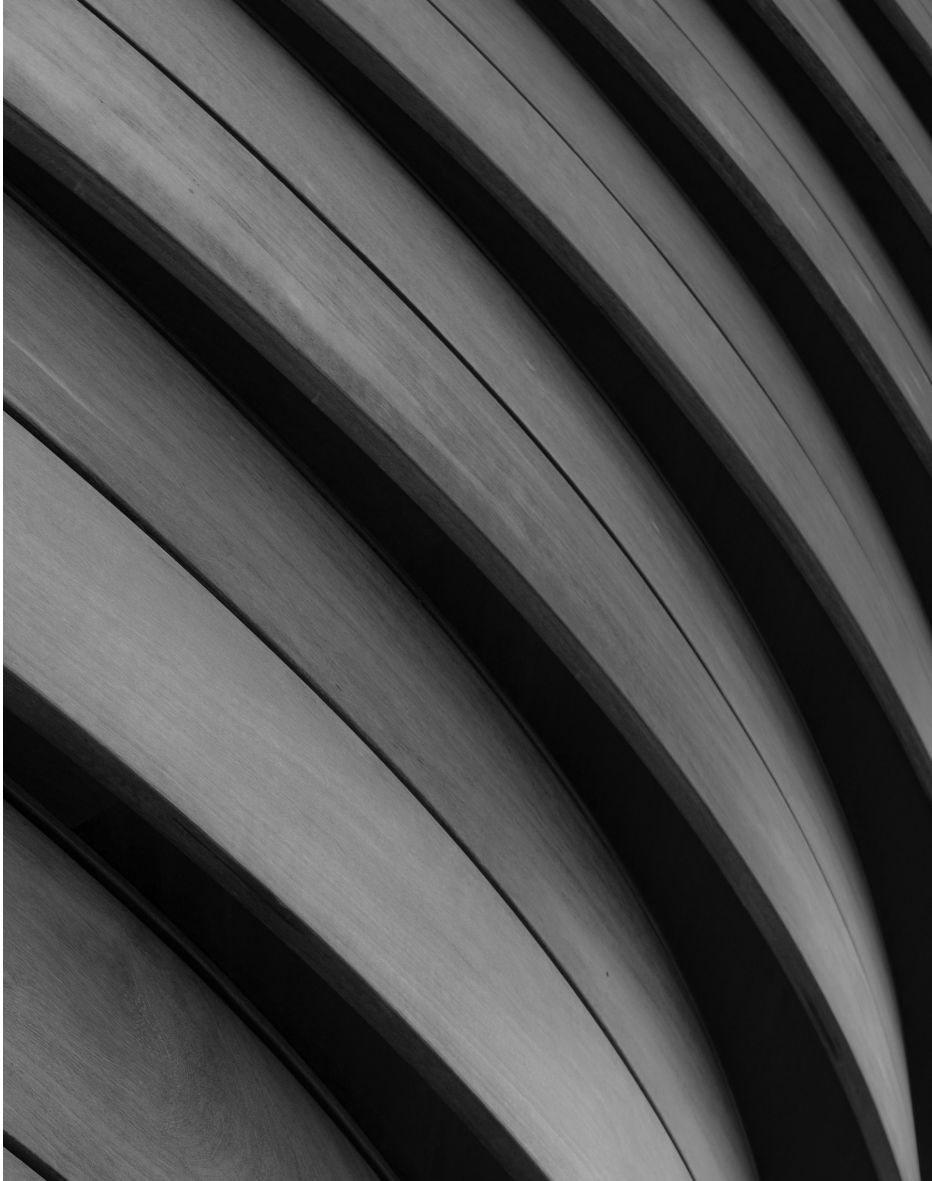


WORSHIP GUIDE

Hope Chapel Greensboro

May 19, 2024



Pentecost Sunday

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.

Breathe On Me, Breath of God

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with Thy life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is ever pure,
until my will is one with thine, to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, so that I shall never die,
but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.

Edwin Hatch (1878), Michael Van Patter (2011)

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: The love of God has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us;

All: we dwell in him and he in us.

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name;

All: make known his deeds among the peoples.

Leader: Sing to him, sing praises to him,

All: and speak of all his marvelous works.

Leader: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty,

All: who was and is and is to come!

based on Psalm 105:1-2; Romans 5:5; Revelation 4:8

Song of Praise

To God All Praise and Glory

Sing praise to God, who reigns above, the God of all creation.

The God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.

He fills my soul with sweet relief and make my faithless murmur cease.

To God all praise and glory! (x4)

The Lord is never far away, but through all grief distressing;
An ever-present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing.
And in my Father's tender care His love eclipses my despair.

When life is hard and days are long, I'll sing aloud His praises.
That all may hear the grateful song my joyful spirit raises.
My heart revived, my soul restored, my heart rejoices in the Lord.

Let all who claim Christ's holy name give God all praise and glory.
Let all who lean on the Spirit's strength declare the wondrous story!
Cast every idol from its throne, for Christ is Lord and Christ alone.

Johann Jakob Schutz (1675), trans. Frances Elizabeth Cox (1864), Music & Add. lyrics Brian Eichelberger (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.

Father of mercies:

We confess that we have sinned against You.

By Your Holy Spirit,

Come and work repentance in our hearts.

Help us to see You as You are:

with outstretched arms,
a loving heart,
and power to save.

Help us to see Jesus, the friend of sinners,
and to follow Him more faithfully.

As we have received Him,

so strengthen us to walk in Him,
depend on Him, commune with Him,
and be conformed to Him.

Give us an experience of Your grace

that makes us bold,

so that we might joyfully live for the good of others ...

*** pause 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).

¹ Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God... ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Romans 5:1-2, 5

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!

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.

Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

*This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior, all the day long!*

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Perfect submission, all is at rest
I in my Savior am happy and blessed,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

Fanny Crosby, Phoebe Knapp (1873)

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).*



The Lord Is My Joy

The Lord is my joy...

When all that I have is lost, the Lord is my joy.

The Lord is my strength...

When I am too weak to go on, the Lord is my strength.

*My all in all is He, my healing king,
My master tends to me, for Him my soul shall sing.*

The Lord is my rock...

When all I have faith in fails, the Lord is my rock.

The Lord is my delight...

Above all the joys of life, the Lord is my delight.

*My all in all is He, my breath, my song,
In Him I have everything, to Him my soul belong.*

I wait, and wait upon you, to come to me in rescue;

Give strength, my heart is failing. Yet still, my lips will praise You.

You who gave Your only Son, I dare not doubt Your steadfast love.

Come, I beg you take my life, if I am Yours, then all is right.

*My all in all is He, my closest friend,
I put all my trust in Him, on Him my soul depends.*

Nathan Partain (2008)

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 9:30 - 10:4

^{9:30} What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith; ³¹ but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law. ³² Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, ³³ as it is written,

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

^{10:1} Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. ² For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. ³ For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. ⁴ For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

Sermon

“The Stumbling Stone”

Andy Koesters serves as Pastor to Churches and Families with Families Alive (familiesalive.org). He and his family worship at Hope Chapel.

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

(The Apostle's Creed)

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Minister: Let us pray together:

**All: Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:
may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed,
that all the world may know his power to change and save.
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

Christ, My Treasure

Poor and needy, I've spent my supply,
all on that which does not satisfy.
Empty-handed, welcomed still by Christ:
"Buy wine freely without cost or price."

*Oh, Your priceless love, Your matchless grace makes my heart sing.
Oh, mercy rich and free, poured abundantly makes my heart sing.*

Christ my treasure, my prosperity.
Christ my riches in wealth or poverty.
Christ my ransom, His life spent for mine.
Christ the Savior: Glorious! Divine!

Bottomless reserve, my inheritance preserved,
Ever undeserved, makes my heart sing.
Oh, our hope secured, all we've lost restored,
Christ our great reward!

Bobby Krier, Justin Ruddy (2012)

Sending Song

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song.
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love! What depths of peace!
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.
'Till on that cross, as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied.
For every sin on Him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, light of the world by darkness slain;
 Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again.
 And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
 For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me.
 From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
 No power of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand.
 'Till He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Keith Getty, Stuart Townend (2001)

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 the love of the Lord Jesus draw you to Himself,
 the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you to bear fruit,
 the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts;
 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:	\$14,152	Gifts can be placed in the offering
Required to date:	\$305,273	plate on Sundays or mailed to:
(Jan. 1 - May 12)		Hope Chapel
Given to date:	\$311,822	908 N. Josephine Boyd St
Over/[Under]	\$6,549	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/community

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hopechapelgreensboro.org/i'm-new

