



LIVING HOPE CHURCH
ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN

WORSHIP GUIDE
November 16, 2025

Welcome

Welcome to Living Hope Church! We are so glad that you are here and long to show you the love and hospitality of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Our Vision

Gathering of God's People

We are a gathering of God's people located in Belmont, NC. Each Lord's Day, God meets us as we gather for worship. We encounter Him in worship through the ordinary means of grace - prayer, the Word of God, and the sacraments. These means of grace are appointed by God for His people. They point us to Christ, sustain us and nourish us in our union with Him as a part of His Body.

Growing in God's Word

We are committed to knowing God. God has revealed Himself to us in the person of Jesus Christ. We believe all of scripture points us to Him. Therefore, we are faithfully committed to the authority of His Word. We believe the Bible teaches us all things necessary to be known, believed, and observed for salvation. Growing in God's Word happens in community through preaching, small groups, Bible studies, Sunday School, Wednesday Night Fellowship, and special events.

Going on God's Mission

We are a mission-minded congregation with a heart to obey The Great Commission, making disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ. Through community outreach and evangelism, supporting the planting of local churches and global missions, we are committed to faithful participation in the spread of the Gospel of Jesus Christ until He returns.

Children

Worshiping together with their family is a wonderful way for children to learn to love Jesus. We value the children's participation and invite them to worship with us during the entire service. Children's Bulletins and crayons are available each Sunday to go along with our service. If kids need to leave the sanctuary, parents are welcome to stay with them in the children's room or parlor. We have Worship Care for children aged Kindergarten and younger which begins at the offertory. Parents are asked to walk them to the classroom located behind the sanctuary. The children will be cared for and taught by background checked volunteers. Please pick them up immediately following the service unless we are having Sunday School.

Gathering Music will begin a few minutes before the service.

HOW WE WORSHIP:

Throughout church history, the style of worship has been expressed in different ways. Each church or tradition has its own style. We believe that the worship of God is far more than style and not about our preferences. Worship begins with a heart to worship God through faith in Jesus Christ. The elements of worship are determined by God and revealed in His Word. When we meet God in worship there is a dialogue between God and his people: God speaks, and we respond. He promises to meet with us as we worship him in the way he has ordained.

Words and music by Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves.
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worship.together.com songs;
Wondrously Made Songs

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TIME OF PREPARATION

Personal Prayer of Preparation: Almighty God, you pour out the spirit of grace and supplication on all who desire it. Deliver us from cold hearts and wandering thoughts, that with steady minds and burning zeal we may worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*GATHERING MUSIC

How Great Is Our God

*1. The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice
He wraps Himself in light and darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice and trembles at His voice*

Chorus:

*How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God
And all will see how great, how great is our God*

*2. And age to age He stands and time is in His hands
Beginning and the End, beginning and the End
The Godhead three in one, Father Spirit Son
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb
Chorus*

Bridge:

*Name above all names, worthy of all praise
My heart will sing how great is our God
Repeat
Chorus*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOSPEL WELCOME

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 a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
and to whoever will come—
this church opens wide her doors
and offers her welcome
in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 123:1; Psalm 63:2-4

Pastor: Lift up your eyes to the one who is enthroned in the heavens!

Congregation: I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory. Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

All: So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION/ADORATION

AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (Matthew 6:9-13)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

God initiates worship by speaking first to call his people into his holy presence. The Call to Worship compels us to turn from the world and focus our hearts and minds on worshipping God. Today, God graciously invites you to worship Him through faith in Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OF

INVOCATION/

ADORATION::

God has called us to worship, so we now respond by humbly praying for His Spirit to help us worship Him in spirit and in truth. We pray with confidence that he will meet us as He has promised through His Word, prayer, and the sacraments.

SINGING:

God delights in hearing his people sing. As we sing our faith, we give praise to God and he transforms our hearts so that we are more like His Son.

"Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to man that he should proclaim the Word of God through Music."

~ Martin Luther

*SONG OF PRAISE

Holy, Holy, Holy

1. Holy holy holy, Lord God Almighty
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee
Holy holy holy, merciful and mighty
God in three persons, blessed Trinity
2. Holy holy holy, all the saints adore Thee
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea
Cherubim and seraphim, falling down before Thee
Which wert and art and evermore shalt be
3. Holy holy holy though the darkness hide Thee
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see
Only Thou art holy, there is none beside Thee
Perfect in power in love and purity
4. Holy holy holy, Lord God Almighty
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea
Holy holy holy, merciful and mighty
God in three persons, blessed Trinity

Words and music by John
Bacchus Dykes, Reginald
Heber. Public Domain.

*CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by
the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the
third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the
body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

CONFESSION OF FAITH:

Through faith in Jesus
Christ, God's Truth sets
us free from the lies of
the world, the flesh,
and the devil. We affirm
our faith each Lord's
Day as we worship God
to remind and
strengthen us in our
faith. This also unites
our hearts with one
another in the core
beliefs of who God is
and what He has done,
is doing and will do.

**catholic means universal*

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER:

*As an expression of
faith and unity, we join
together in corporate
prayer. Prayer is a
means of grace by
which God works His
grace into our hearts.
We lift up specific
needs to our powerful
and merciful God,
asking for His help for
one another, the
Church, our city, our
nation, and our world.*

PASSING OF THE
PEACE:

As recipients of God's
grace, we have
received peace from
Him. In response, we
invite you to share that
peace with one another
with a greeting,
handshake or a hug,
being especially
mindful of those you
have not yet met.
Christians have long
greeted one another
with the phrase, "May
the peace of Christ be
with you" and receive
back the greeting "And
also with you."

Words and music by Jennie
Lee Riddle, Josh Miller, Josiah
Warneking, Shane Barnard.
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Wellhouse; Jennie Lee Riddle
Music; Tent Peg Music

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Psalm 46 (Lord Of Hosts)

1. Come behold the works of God
The nations at His feet
He breaks the bow and bends the spear
And tells the wars to cease
O Mighty One of Israel You are on our side
We walk by faith in God who burns the chariots with fire

Chorus

Lord of hosts You're with us with us in the fire
With us as a Shelter, with us in the storm
You will lead us through the fiercest battle
Oh where else would we go but with the Lord of hosts

2. O God of Jacob fierce and great
You lift Your voice to speak
The earth it bows and all the mountains move into the sea
O Lord You know the hearts of men
And still You let them live
O God who makes the mountains melt
Come wrestle us and win
O God who makes the mountains melt
Come wrestle us and win

Chorus

Though oceans roar You are the Lord of all
The One who calms the wind and waves
And makes my heart be still
Though the earth gives way
The mountains move into the sea
The nations rage
I know my God is in control
repeat
Chorus

+WORSHIP OF GOD THROUGH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Be Thou My Vision

1. Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me save that Thou art
Thou my best thought by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light
2. Be Thou my wisdom, be Thou my true Word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me Lord
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one
3. Be Thou my shield and my sword for the fight
Be Thou my dignity, be Thou my might
Thou my soul's shelter and Thou my high tow'r
Raise Thou me heav'nward, O pow'r of my pow'r
4. High King of heaven when vict'ry is won
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all

THE OFFERING:

The offering is part of our worship of God as we give back to Him what He has so graciously given us. As David said in 1 Chronicles, "But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand." (29:14)

Online Giving Link:



Words and music by Eleanor Henrietta Hull, Mary Elizabeth Byrne. Public Domain.

SCRIPTURE:

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."
2 Timothy 3:16-17

PRAYER OF

ILLUMINATION:

The prayer of illumination asks the Holy Spirit to "turn on the light" in our hearts so that we understand and are transformed by God's Word as it is read and preached.

THE SERMON:

The preaching of the sermon is a means of grace and kindness from the Lord.
As it says in the Westminster Shorter Catechism Answer 89, "The Spirit of God maketh the reading, but especially the preaching, of the Word, an effectual means of convincing and converting sinners, and of building them up in holiness and comfort, through faith, unto salvation."

*SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 1:27-30

27 Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, 28 and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. 29 For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, 30 engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Suffering: A Gift of God's Grace

Rev. Mark A. Forbes

*SONG OF RESPONSE

Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

1. . What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy my righteousness and freedom
My steadfast love my deep and boundless peace

To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to his
Oh how strange and divine I can sing all is mine
Yet not I but through Christ in me

2. The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side the Saviour he will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need his power is displayed

To this I hold my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley he will lead
Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome
Yet not I but through Christ in me

3. No fate I dread I know I am forgiven
The future sure the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And he was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released I can sing I am free
Yet not I but through Christ in me

4. With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For he has said that he will bring me home
And day by day I know he will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne

To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to him
When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me

*BENEDICTION

*CHURCH'S DOXOLOGY

Now, blessed be Jehovah, God, the God of Israel
Who only doeth wondrous works, in glory that exel
Who only doeth wondrous works, in glory that exel

And blessed be His glorious name through all eternity
The whole earth let His glory fill. Amen, so let it be;
The whole earth let His glory fill. Amen, so let it be.

SOLI DEO GLORIA

BENEDICTION:

The benediction is not a prayer; it is a pronouncement of blessing from God. You have worshiped and now you will go out into your week to labor. Go in peace and with the blessing of God's covenant promises upon you. You belong to Him and you will be his forever. No matter the difficulties and trials that may come, remember you are loved by God and He is always with you.

"The Church's Doxology" - Words - Psalm 72; Music by Holden, public domain.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Everyone is invited to join us for Coffee and Connections in the Fellowship Hall after worship. We have coffee, tea, breakfast snacks and a “Kid’s Corner” with activities for our young ones.

WEDNESDAY, 11/19

- LHC Dawn Prayer via Zoom - Join us from 6:30 - 7:00 a.m. as Mark leads us in scripture and prayer time for one another and LHC. Contact Mark for the Zoom link.
- Wednesday Night Fellowship - Dinner at 5:30; Classes at 6:15 until 7:30
 - Menu: Baked Ziti, Salad, Fruit, Bread, and desserts

SUNDAY, 11/23

- Worship at 9:30 a.m.
- Thanksgiving Service and Dinner - please invite friends and family to join us!
 - Service at 5 p.m. - Childcare available for Kindergarten and younger
 - Dinner at 6 p.m. - Jon Ford will be smoking turkey breasts for us and you’re invited to bring a side dish or dessert.

READING PLAN FOR 11/16 - 11/23: Amos 5 - 9; Obadiah 1; Jonah 1 - 2; Luke 1 - 7

MISSIONS WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS:

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS: TODAY - Glenna Sevy

SAVE THE DATES:

- 12/3 - Ladies Favorite Things Christmas Party (6- 8 p.m.) at Pauline Styers’
- 12/6 - LHC Christmas Party (5-7 p.m.) at Trey and Jena Jenkins’
- 12/7 - Family Christmas Celebration after worship - Come and celebrate the birth of Jesus with crafts, lunch, and a special mission project.
- 12/21
 - Congregational Meeting after worship
 - College Student Lunch after coffee and connections - all college students and their families along with their “adopted families” are invited.
- 12/24 - Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols (5 p.m.)

LHC has been invited to participate in a short term mission trip with two other churches to Living Hope Germany! We’ve been allotted 5-6 spots and would have the opportunity to work with Rebekah Carson, Josh and Vonia T., and Jeff and Suzanne Allers. Please be in prayer for this opportunity and let Mark know if you’re interested in participating.



LIVING HOPE CHURCH
ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN

LEADERSHIP

Pastor

Mark Forbes
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Session

Matt Adams
Vinnie Cherry
Artie Cooper
Tim Daniels
Bill Sevy

Need prayer?

- We have elders available to pray with you after the service in the parlor. Exit the right door and turn right.
- You may also scan the QR code to submit a prayer request.



THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU;
THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE TO SHINE UPON YOU
AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU;
THE LORD LIFT UP HIS COUNTENANCE UPON YOU
AND GIVE YOU PEACE.

NUMBERS 6:24-26

LIVING HOPE CHURCH OF BELMONT
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