



LIVING HOPE CHURCH
ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN

WORSHIP GUIDE
November 23, 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 Ben Fielding, Brian Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram, Jenn Johnson..
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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

Goodness of God

*I love You, Lord for Your mercy never fails me
All my days, I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God*

*Chorus: And all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God*

*I love Your voice. You have led me through the fire
In the darkest night You are close like no other
I've known You as a Father, I've known You as a Friend
And I have lived in the goodness of God
Chorus*

*Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now, I give You everything
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
repeat*

*Chorus: 'Cause all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God
Yes, I will sing of the goodness of God*

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: Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

Congregation: It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes! It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion!

All: For there the Lord has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

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**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1. Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with Thee
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest
Sun moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love

*Chorus: Great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness Lord unto me*

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside
Chorus

*Chorus: Great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me*

Words and music by Thomas
Obediah Chisholm, William
Marion Runyan.
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*CONFESSION OF FAITH

Acts 2:42-47

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

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.

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."

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*SONG OF THANKSGIVING

For The Beauty Of The Earth

1. For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies

*Chorus: Lord of all to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise*

2. For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night
Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light
Chorus

3. For the joy of human love, brother sister parent child
Friends on earth and friends above for all gentle thoughts and mild
Chorus

4. For Thy church that evermore lifteth holy hands above
Offering up on every shore, her pure sacrifice of love
Chorus

5. For Thyself best gift divine to the world so freely given
For that great great love of Thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven
Chorus

+WORSHIP OF GOD THROUGH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

He Is Good

He is good, He is good
His love endures forever
Give thanks to the Lord
For He is good
He is good, He is good
His love endures forever
Give thanks for He is good
repeat

For His unfailing love
And His wonderful deeds
Give thanks
Give thanks to the Lord

He is good, He is good
His love endures forever
Give thanks to the Lord for He is good
He is good, He is good
His love endures forever
Give thanks for He is good

For His unfailing love
And His wonderful deeds
Give thanks
Give thanks to the Lord

He is good, He is good
His love endures forever
Give thanks to the Lord for He is good
He is good, He is good
His love endures forever
Give thanks for He is good
Give thanks for He is good

+Children Kindergarten and younger are dismissed for Worship Care.

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 Frank Hernandez, Jeff Nelson.
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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 2:1-4

1 So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy,
2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Unity Through Humility

Rev. Mark A. Forbes

*SONG OF RESPONSE

Take My Life And Let It Be

1. Take my life and let it be
Consecrated Lord to Thee
Take my moments and my days
Let them flow in ceaseless praise
2. Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee
3. Take my voice and let me sing
Always only for my King
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee
4. Take my silver and my gold
Not a mite would I withhold
Take my intellect and use
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose
5. Take my will and make it Thine
It shall be no longer mine
Take my heart it is Thine own
It shall be Thy royal throne
6. Take my love my Lord I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store
Take myself and I will be
Ever only all for Thee

Words and music by Frances
Ridley Havergal, Henri
Abraham Cesar Malan.

*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.

MONDAY, 11/24 - Hanging of the greens at 9:00 a.m. Contact Betsy if you would like to help.

TODAY - Thanksgiving Service and Dinner - please invite friends and family to join us!

- Service at 5 p.m. - Childcare available for Kindergarten and younger starting at 4:45.
- 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.

WEDNESDAY, 11/26

- 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.

SUNDAY, 11/30 - Worship at 9:30 a.m. (First Sunday in Advent)

READING PLAN FOR 11/23 - 11/30: Jonah 2 - 4; Micah 1 - 5; Luke 7 - 14

MISSIONS WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS:

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS: 12/8 - Beth Wingate; 12/13 - Artie Cooper and Tyler Dixon;
12/14 - Nora Sullivan; 12/15 - Carol Eizenhofer; 12/20 - Mark Forbes

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
704-685-1335
mforbes@lhcbelmont.org

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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