



LIVING HOPE CHURCH
ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN

WORSHIP GUIDE
January 18, 2026

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 Russell Kelso Carter. Public Domain.

All music used by permission. CCLI License # 21600909.

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

Standing On The Promises

1. Standing on the promises of Christ my King
Through eternal ages let His praises ring
Glory in the highest I will shout and sing
Standing on the promises of God

*Chorus: Standing standing
Standing on the promises of God my Savior
Standing standing
I'm standing on the promises of God*

2. Standing on the promises that cannot fail
When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail
By the living Word of God I shall prevail
Standing on the promises of God
Chorus

3. Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord
Bound to Him eternally by love's strong cord
Overcoming daily with the Spirit's Sword
Standing on the promises of God
Chorus

4. Standing on the promises I cannot fall
List'ning ev'ry moment to the Spirit's call
Resting in my Savior as my All in All
Standing on the promises of God
Chorus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand as you are able.

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 27:4-6 & Psalm 104:33-34

Elder: One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.

Congregation: And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

Elder: And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

All: I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the Lord

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**

How Firm A Foundation

1. How firm a foundation ye saints of the Lord
Is laid for your faith in His excellent word
What more can He say than to you He hath said
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled
2. Fear not I am with thee O be not dismayed
For I am thy God I will still give thee aid
I'll strengthen thee help thee
And cause thee to stand
Upheld by My righteous omnipotent hand
3. When through the deep waters He calls thee to go
The rivers of grief shall not thee overflow
For He will be with thee in trouble to bless
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress
4. When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie
My grace all-sufficient shall be thy supply
The flames shall not hurt thee I only design
Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine
5. The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose
I will not I will not desert to its foes
That soul though all hell should endeavor to shake
I'll never no never no never forsake

Authors unknown.
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.

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."

Music and Words: Keith Getty,
Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend.
© 2009 Getty Music
Publishing; Thankyou Music
Ltd.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Following the Passing of the Peace, please sign and pass the attendance registers.

***SONG OF THANKSGIVING**

By Faith

1. By faith we see the hand of God
In the light of creation's grand design
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness
Who walk by faith and not by sight

2. By faith our fathers roamed the earth
With the pow'r of His promise in their hearts
Of a holy city built by God's own hand
A place where peace and justice reign

Chorus:

*We will stand as children of the promise
We will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward
Till the race is finished and the work is done
We'll walk by faith and not by sight*

3. By faith the prophets saw a day
When the longed-for Messiah would appear
With the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death
And rise triumphant from the grave

4. By faith the church was called to go
In the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost
To deliver captives and to preach good news
In ev'ry corner of the earth

Chorus

5. By faith the mountain shall be moved
And the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail
For we know in Christ all things are possible
For all who call upon His name

Chorus

+WORSHIP OF GOD THROUGH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Christ Is Mine Forevermore

1. Mine are days that God has numbered
I was made to walk with Him
Yet I look for worldly treasure and forsake the King of kings

Chorus 1: But mine is hope in my Redeemer
Though I fall His love is sure
For Christ has paid for every failing, I am His forevermore

2. Mine are tears in times of sorrow
Darkness not yet understood
Through the valley I must travel where I see no earthly good

Chorus 2: But mine is peace that flows from heaven
And the strength in times of need
I know my pain will not be wasted
Christ completes His work in me

3. Mine are days here as a stranger
Pilgrim on a narrow way
One with Christ I will encounter, harm and hatred for His name

Chorus 3: But mine is armor for this battle
Strong enough to last the war
And He has said He will deliver
Safely to the golden shore

Chorus 4: And mine are keys to Zion city
Where beside the King I walk
For there my heart has found its treasure
Christ is mine forevermore

Bridge: Come rejoice now O my soul
For His love is my reward
Fear is gone and hope is sure, Christ is mine forevermore

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 Jonny
Robinson, Rich Thompson.
© 2016 CityAlight Music

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

Hebrews 11:13-16

13 These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. 14 For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. 15 If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Strangers In A Strange Land

Rev. Ambrose Winfree

SERMON OUTLINE

The Big Idea: The Life of Faith is a life of a sojourner

Points:

1. Who we are
2. Where we come from
3. What we seek

***SONG OF RESPONSE**

When We All Get To Heaven

1. Sing the wondrous love of Jesus
Sing His mercy and His grace
In the mansions bright and blessed
He'll prepare for us a place

*Chorus: When we all get to heaven
What a day of rejoicing that will be
When we all see Jesus
We'll sing and shout the victory*

2. While we walk the pilgrim pathway
Clouds will overspread the sky
But when trav'ling days are over
Not a shadow not a sigh
Chorus

3. Let us then be true and faithful
Trusting serving ev'ry day
Just one glimpse of Him in glory
Will the toils of life repay
Chorus

4. Onward to the prize before us
Soon His beauty we'll behold
Soon the pearly gates will open
We shall tread the streets of gold
Chorus

Words and music by Eliza
Edmunds Stites Hewitt, Emily
Divine Wilson.
Public Domain.

*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.

JANUARY FOOD DRIVE: You're invited to bring pop-top canned goods, peanut butter, and breakfast bars to fill our Blessing Box. All food will be stored in the Fellowship Hall closet.

WEDNESDAY, 1/21

- 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.

SATURDAY, 1/24 - Inquirers Breakfast at 9:00 in the Fellowship Hall for anyone wanting to know more about the ARP denomination, LHC and membership. RSVP to Betsy (704-718-0026).

SUNDAY, 1/25 - Worship at 9:30 a.m.- we are excited to welcome New Members from CCRE this Sunday. Join us for a special time of fellowship after the service in the Fellowship Hall.

READING PLAN FOR JANUARY:

Matthew 1 - 10:20; Acts 1 - 15:21 Psalms 1 - 23; Genesis 1 - 50

MISSIONS WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS: Crisis Pregnancy Center

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS: 1 /3 - Jennifer Fallin; 1 /6 - Sabrina Cooper; 1/7 - Kimberly Padgett
1 /8 - Carley Daniels; 1/10 - Danielle Summerville; 1/11 Chris Hartman
1/15 - Trey Jenkins, Laura Peche, 1/30 - Dawn Carr

SAVE THE DATES:

- 1/28 - Ladies Book Club (6:00 - 8:00 p.m.) - Dinner and Discussion of *The Watchmaker's Daughter* at the home of Jennifer Ford.
- 1/31 - Men's Fellowship Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) in the Fellowship Hall
- 2/4 - Missions Month Kick Off welcoming 8 Korean Homestay Students
 - Painting with Shannon North at 4 (Kids and Youth invited to participate)
 - Dinner for everyone at 5:30
 - Program for everyone at 6:15 (Childcare for kindergarten and younger)
- 2/11 - Wednesday Night Fellowship begins (5:30 - 7:30 - concluding 3/25)
- 2/12 - Ladies Thursday Morning Bible Study begins (9:45 - 11:00 a.m. - concluding 3/26)
- 2/28 - Annual Missions Conference (5 - 7:30 p.m.)
- 4/24 - An Evening With Rosaria Butterfield



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
WWW.LHCBELMONT.ORG