



**LIVING HOPE CHURCH**  
ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN

WORSHIP GUIDE  
March 8, 2026

## Welcome

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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

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### 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

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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.

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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

#### *His Mercy Is More*

*Chorus:*

*Praise the Lord His mercy is more  
Stronger than darkness new every morn  
Our sins they are many His mercy is more*

1. What love could remember no wrongs we have done  
Omniscient all knowing He counts not their sum  
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore  
Our sins they are many His mercy is more  
*Chorus*

2. What patience would wait as we constantly roam  
What Father so tender is calling us home  
He welcomes the weakest the vilest the poor  
Our sins they are many His mercy is more  
*Chorus*

3. What riches of kindness He lavished on us  
His blood was the payment His life was the cost  
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford  
Our sins they are many His mercy is more  
*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 31:23, 116:1-2

Pastor: Love the Lord, all you his saints!

Congregation: I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.

All: Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

## 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

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\*SONG OF PRAISE

*All My Boast Is In Jesus*

1.. What wonder of wonders what love is this  
That Christ would die for me  
His goodness His merit His righteousness  
This sinner's only plea  
O foolish pride be crucified, the work is finished

*Chorus 1: All my boast is in Jesus, All my hope is His love  
And I will glory forever in what the cross has done*

2. Now fully forgiven my life is filled  
With graces undeserved  
For mercy that flowed down that sacred hill  
Let praises now return  
Rise up my soul and bless the Lord, Who else is worthy  
*Chorus 1*

Bridge: O praise the One forever blessed  
Him alone my heart adores  
And I will boast in nothing less than the love of Christ my Lord  
repeat

3. I boast not in riches in strength or might  
But in the grace of God  
I glory in weakness to live is Christ  
In plenty or in want  
That I may know that all may see, His pow'r within me  
*Chorus 1*

*Chorus 2: Now I stand in His freedom, ransomed clean in His sight  
And I cannot be ashamed for my boast is Jesus Christ  
My boast is Jesus Christ, forever my boast is Jesus Christ*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

O Lord, we openly admit that you know us thoroughly. Our deepest secrets are open before you. You know our thoughts before they are conceived in our minds. We cannot hide from you. Therefore, we ask that you discover unto us our sins so that we may humble ourselves again in your presence and seek your forgiveness and grace. We admit we have tolerated sinful thoughts about power, lust, greed, jealousy, malice and other things that grieve your heart. We have committed sins of omission and commission. But we seek your mercy and cleansing from our sins by the blood of Christ. And we thank you for your Spirit who enables us to walk in holiness and obedience. Give us the grace to please you this day and forever. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## RECEIVING OF A NEW MEMBERS

Lyndsi and Mark Valenti, Owen, Miller, and Christian

## CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Our sin isn't just about breaking rules. It is "missing the mark" of the perfect righteousness required by God's Law. God uses His Word to convict us of sin and calls us to confess our sins and turn to Him. Throughout Scripture, when people experience God, they face the reality of their own brokenness, guilt and shame. Therefore, we pray, confessing our sins both corporately and personally, enabling us to rest assured we are both forgiven by faith in Jesus and dearly loved by God.

### 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.*

## 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 Frances  
Ridley Havergal, Henri  
Abraham Cesar Malan.  
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## +WORSHIP OF GOD THROUGH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### *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

## \*SCRIPTURE READING

*Philippians 2:16-18*

16 holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. 17 Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. 18 Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

## SERMON

Rev. Mark A. Forbes

### 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."

# THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

## Invitation and Words of Institution

"For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, 'This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

## Distribution of the Elements

### Guidelines for Reception of the Lord's Supper:

The Lord's Supper, also referred to as Communion, is the meal Jesus instituted Himself for the remembering of his sacrificial death, the sealing of its benefits to true believers for spiritual nourishment and growth, and as a bond of communion with Christ and fellow believers. This is a family meal for those who belong to Christ in the visible Church, are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and seek to live faithfully for Jesus Christ. You are invited to the Table!

If you have not yet embraced Jesus by faith or are not prepared to take this meal, we are glad you are here and ask you to let the elements pass and spend time seeking the Lord in prayer.

**\*SONG OF RESPONSE**

*Send Us Out*

We have sat at your feet  
We have learned from your Word  
We have eaten from your table, Lord  
Repeat

Establish the work of our hands  
Inspire the work of our minds  
Anoint the work of our hearts  
Send us out, send us out

We have sat at your feet  
We have learned from your Word  
We have eaten from your table, Lord

Establish the work of our hands  
Inspire the work of our minds  
Anoint the work of our hearts  
Send us out, send us out  
Repeat

In the name of the Father  
For the glory of the Son  
By the power of the Spirit  
Send us out, send us out  
Repeat

Send us out, send us out, send us out, send us out

## \*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, 3/9 - Ladies Retreat Prayer and Planning Meeting (10:00 a.m.) at Glenna Sevy's.

TUESDAY, 3/10 - LHC Missions Committee Meeting (6:30 p.m.) at LHC

WEDNESDAY, 3/11

- 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)
  - Menu: Chicken and Rice Casserole, Green Beans, Salad, Fruit, Desserts  
If you can cook a large can of green beans for Wednesday, please let Betsy know.  
(Green beans and bouillon can be picked up in the kitchen after worship.)

THURSDAY, 2/19 - Ladies Bible Study at Glenna Sevy's (9:45 - 11:00 a.m.)

SUNDAY, 3/15 - Worship at 9:30 a.m.

READING PLAN FOR MARCH:

Matthew 21:23 - 28:20, Romans 1 - 16, Psalm 48 - 71, Numbers 1 - 36, Deuteronomy 1 - 34

MISSIONS WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS: River City Reformed Church (ARP Church Plant in Little Rock, Arkansas that will organize on 3/15.)

MARCH BIRTHDAYS: 3/7 - Andrew Summerville; 3/9 - Ambrose Winfree; 3/16 - Conner Adams; 3/19 - Chris Carr; 3/20 - Bill Sevy; 3/21 - Viki LaChapelle; 3/22 - Adam Summerville; 3/31 - Wilson Forbes

SAVE THE DATES:

- 3/21 - Men's Ministry Fellowship Breakfast (7:30 a.m.) in the Fellowship Hall
- 3/26 - Outreach Baby Shower - It's a girl! (12:15- 1:15) in the Fellowship Hall
- 3/28- Ladies In-Town Day Retreat (9-3) with Suzanne Allers; location TBD
- 2/28 - Annual Missions Conference (5 - 7:30 p.m.)
- 4/2 - Maundy Thursday Service (6:30 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  
Jon Ford  
Bill Sevy

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Need prayer?

- We have elders available to pray with you after the service in the parlor. Exit the right door and turn right. Elder Jon Ford is serving this month.
- 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

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