



LIVING HOPE CHURCH
ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN

WORSHIP GUIDE
Easter Sunday
April 5, 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.

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

**Christ Arose*

1. Low in the grave He lay
Jesus my Saviour
Waiting the coming day
Jesus my Lord

Chorus

*Up from the grave He arose
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes
He arose a victor from the dark domain
And He lives forever with His saints to reign
He arose He arose
Hallelujah Christ arose*

2. Vainly they watch His bed
Jesus my Saviour
Vainly they seal the dead
Jesus my Lord
Chorus

3. Death cannot keep his prey
Jesus my Saviour
He tore the bars away
Jesus my Lord
Chorus

Highland Cathedral

Bagpipes

*Please stand as you are able.

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

Revelation 5:5, 9-10, 12-13

Pastor: Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.

Congregation: Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.

Pastor: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!

Congregation: And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying,

All: To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!

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**

Christ The Lord Is Risen Today (He Is Not Dead)

1. Christ the Lord is risen today alleluia
Sons of men and angels say alleluia
Raise your joys and triumphs high alleluia
Sing ye heavens and earth reply alleluia

2. Lives again our glorious King alleluia
Where oh death is now thy sting alleluia
Dying once He all doth save alleluia
Where thy victory oh grave alleluia

Chorus:

He is not dead He is alive

We have this hope in Jesus Christ

3. Love's redeeming work is done alleluia
Fought the fight the battle won alleluia
Death in vain forbids Him rise alleluia
Christ has opened paradise alleluia

Chorus

4. Soar we now where Christ has led alleluia
Following our exalted Head alleluia
Made like Him like Him we rise alleluia
Ours the cross the grave the skies alleluia

Chorus

repeat

Words and music by Charles Wesley, Kurtis Parks, Samuel Arnold. © 2014 Integrity's Praise! Music; 3 Leaves; Simple Hymns Publishing.

*CONFESSION OF FAITH - Heidelberg Catechism 45, 57, 58

45 Q. How does Christ's resurrection benefit us?

A. First, by his resurrection he has overcome death, so that he could make us share in the righteousness which he had obtained for us by his death. Second, by his power we too are raised up to a new life. Third, Christ's resurrection is to us a sure pledge of our glorious resurrection.

57. Q. What comfort does the resurrection of the body offer you?

A. Not only shall my soul after this life immediately be taken up to Christ, my Head, but also this my flesh, raised by the power of Christ, shall be reunited with my soul and made like Christ's glorious body.

58. Q. What comfort do you receive from the article about the life everlasting?

A. Since I now already feel in my heart the beginning of eternal joy, I shall after this life possess perfect blessedness, such as no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man conceived a blessedness in which to praise God forever.

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 Edward Perronet, John Rippon, Oliver Holden. Public Domain.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Crown Him With Many Crowns

1. Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Verse 2

Crown him the Son of God, before the worlds began,
and ye who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of Man.
Who ev'ry grief hath known that wrings the human breast,
and takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.

Verse 3

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Verse 4

Crown him the Lord of heav'n, enthroned in worlds above;
crown him, the King to whom is giv'n the wondrous name of Love.
Crown him with many crowns, as thrones before him fall;
crown him, ye kings, with many crowns, for he is King of all.

Please sign and pass the attendance registers.

+WORSHIP OF GOD THROUGH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

In Christ Alone

1. 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

2. 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

3. 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

4. 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

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 Keith Getty, Stuart Townend.
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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

John 11:17-27

17 Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. 18 Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, 19 and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. 20 So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. 21 Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. 22 But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." 23 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." 24 Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." 25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" 27 She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Rev. Mark A. Forbes

*SONG OF RESPONSE

Christus Victor

1. O Most High King of the ages
Great I AM God of wonders
By the blood You have redeemed us
Led us through mighty waters
Our strength our song our sure salvation

*Chorus 1: Now to the Lamb upon the throne
Be blessing honor glory power
For the battle You have won
Hallelujah Amen*

2. O Most High dwelling among us
Son of man sent for sinners
By Your blood You have redeemed us
Spotless Lamb mighty Savior
Who lived who died who rose victorious

*Chorus 2: Now to the Lamb upon the throne
Be blessing honor glory power
For the battle You have won, Hallelujah
With every tribe and every tongue
We join the anthem of the angels
In the triumph of the Son. Hallelujah Amen*

3. O Most High King of the nations
Robed in praise crowned with splendor
On that day who will not tremble
When You stand Christ the Victor
Who was and is and is forever
Chorus 2

Bridge: Amen amen amen, Amen amen amen, Amen amen amen

Chorus 2
Sing the victory of the Lamb
Hallelujah Amen

*BENEDICTION

*CHURCH'S DOXOLOGY (Psalm 72)

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.

Amazing Grace

Bagpipes

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

WEDNESDAY, 4/8

- 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.

READING PLAN FOR APRIL:

Mark 1 - 9:32, 1 Corinthians 1 - 16, Psalm 72 -94, Joshua 1- 24, Judges 1 - 21, Ruth 1 - 4

MISSIONS WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS: The Nursing Program at Christian Hospital Sahiwal, Pakistan

APRIL BIRTHDAYS:

4/1- Alex Garcia; 4/18 - Trey Cherry, Betsy Forbes, Miller Valentj; 4/20 - Allie Cherry;
4/22 - Ken Darms, Sylvia Wellons; 4/27 - Kim Taylor

FRIDAY, APRIL 24 - Spiritual Enrichment Night with Rosaria Butterfield

Children's Program beginning at 6:30 for kids 2nd grade and younger with reservation.

Contact Betsy if you'd like to help with the Reception Dinner (704-718-0026)

- 5:30 - Reception Dinner
- 6:30 - The Gospel Comes With A House Key
- 7:30 - Q & A Discussion

Scan to RSVP:





LIVING HOPE CHURCH
ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN

LEADERSHIP

Pastor

Mark Forbes
704-685-1335
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Session

Matt Adams
Vinnie Cherry
Artie Cooper
Tim Daniels
Jon Ford
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. Bill Sevy 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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