



LIVING HOPE CHURCH
ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN

WORSHIP GUIDE
May 3, 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.

Words and music by Bryan Fowler, Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Matt Papa. © 2023 Getty Music Hymns and Songs; Getty Music Publishing; Love Your Enemies Publishing; Messenger Hymns; Be Essential Songs; bryanfowlersongs.

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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

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*

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 Deut. 31:12, 32:1 & 3; Psalm 22:22

Pastor: Assemble the people, men, women, and little ones, and the sojourner within your towns, that you may hear and learn to fear the Lord your God.

Congregation: Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak, and let the earth hear the words of my mouth.

Pastor: Proclaim the name of the Lord; ascribe greatness to our God!

All: I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.

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

The Lord's Prayer (It's Yours)

1. Father let your kingdom come
Father let your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven
Right here in my heart
repeat

Chorus: Give us this day our daily bread
Forgive us, forgive us
As we forgive the ones
Who sinned against us forgive them
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from the evil one
Let your kingdom come

Repeat Verse 1 twice
Chorus

Bridge: It's yours it's yours, All yours all yours
The kingdom the power, the glory are yours

It's yours it's yours, all yours all yours
Forever and ever, the kingdom is yours
Repeat

Repeat Verse 1 twice
On Earth as in Heaven
Right here in my heart

Words and music by Bryan Fowler, Jacob Sooter, Matt Maher. © Be Essential Songs; bryanfowersongs; Caroco Songs; Just When Publishing; So Essential Tunes

CONFESSION OF SIN

O Father, we are gathered before you, the Maker of Heaven and Earth, whose chosen dwelling place is with the broken and contrite, to confess that we have sinned in thought and word and deed; we have not loved you with all our heart and soul, we have not loved you with all our mind and strength; we have not even loved our neighbor as ourselves. Purge us from selfishness, the fear of man, and the love of praise. In your mercy, deepen our sorrow for the wrong we have done and for the good we have left undone, so that we may hate our sin with a holy hatred. But, please Father, do not leave us in sorrow. With you, O Lord, there is forgiveness. In your mercy, restore the joy of our salvation; so that we may love you with a holy love. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

“For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”
1 Corinthians 5:21

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 Bethany Barnard, Bryan Fowler, Shane Barnard. © 2023 More Songs From Wellhouse; Songs From Wellhouse; Waiting Room Music; Be Essential Songs; bryanfowersongs

+WORSHIP OF GOD THROUGH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

All Sufficient Merit

1. All sufficient merit shining like the sun
A fortune I inherit by no work I have done
My righteousness I forfeit at my Savior's cross
Where all sufficient merit did what I could not

2. In love He condescended eternal now in time
A life without a blemish the Maker made to die
The law could never save us our lawlessness had won
Until the pure and spotless Lamb had finally come

*Chorus: It is done it is finished
No more debt I owe
Paid in full all sufficient
Merit now my own*

3. I lay down my garments any empty boast
Good works now all corrupted by the sinful host
I'm dressed in my Lord Jesus
A crimson robe made white
No more fear of judgment His righteousness is mine
Chorus

4. All sufficient merit firm in life and death
The joy of my salvation shall be my final breath
When I stand accepted before the throne of God
I'll gaze upon my Jesus and thank Him for the cross
Yes I'll thank Him for the cross
Chorus

+Children Kindergarten and younger are dismissed for Worship Care.

*SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 3:8-11

1 Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you. 2 Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh. 3 For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh— 4 though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: 5 circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; 6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. 7 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— 10 that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

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 a Baby Breakfast honoring Arielle and Howard Wellons during Coffee and Connections in the Fellowship Hall after worship.

WEDNESDAY, 5/6

- 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, 5/10

- Worship at 9:30

READING PLAN FOR MAY:

Mark 9:33-16, 2 Corinthians 1-13 , Psalm 95 - , 1 Samuel 1-31, 2 Samuel 1-24

MISSIONS WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS: Community of Belmont

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS: 5 /6 - Vinnie Cherry; 5/7 - Beth Hughes; 5 /8 - Bill Hayes;
5/12 - Susan Jordan; 5/17 - Sarah Koehler; 5/24 - Rick Hodges; 5/25 - Tim Daniels
5/27 - Sofia Garcia

SAVE THE DATES:

- 5/17 - Graduation Sunday
 - Everyone is invited to a Covered Dish Luncheon after worship to celebrate our high school senior, Lily Sullivan
 - Lisa Marzano will be taking Directory Pictures after worship - please make plans to stop by.
- 5/27 - Ladies Book Club
 - Dinner & Discussion of *Theo Of Golden* (6-8 p.m.) at the home of Jennifer Ford



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

Need prayer?

- We have elders available to pray with you after the service in the parlor. Exit the right door and turn right. Elders Vinnie Cherry and Jon Ford are 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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