



LIVING HOPE CHURCH
ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN

WORSHIP GUIDE
September 20, 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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*GATHERING MUSIC

Come, Christians, Join To Sing

1. Come Christians join to sing, Alleluia amen
Loud praise to Christ our King, Alleluia amen
Let all with heart and voice
Before His throne rejoice
Praise is His gracious choice, Alleluia amen
2. Come lift your hearts on high, Alleluia amen
Let praises fill the sky, Alleluia amen
He who made all things well
Formed us His praise to tell
Hear now the anthem swell, Alleluia amen
3. Sing this salvation song, Alleluia amen
Christ on the cross has won, Alleluia amen
Praise we the risen Lord
Come run through mercy's door
Loved rescued and restored, Alleluia amen
4. Lift high the Savior's name, Alleluia amen
'Til all the earth proclaims, Alleluia amen
Let now the gospel ring
Christ for the world we sing
The world to Christ we bring, Alleluia amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

*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 24:3-10

Pastor: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?

Congregation: He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully. He will receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation. Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Pastor: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!

All: Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory!

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

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.

***SONG OF PRAISE**

Victory In Jesus (Christ Won The Victory)

1. I heard an old old story
How a Savior came from glory
How He gave His life on Calvary
To save a wretch like me
I heard about His groaning
Of His precious blood's atoning
Then I repented of my sin
Christ won the victory

*Chorus: Oh victory in Jesus, my Savior forever
He sought me and bought me with His redeeming blood
He loved me 'ere I knew Him and all my love is due Him
He plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood*

2. I heard about His healing
All His miracles revealing
That He alone can save a soul
And set the captive free
I'm happy in His promise
How soon He's coming for us
And home with Him I'll sing again
Christ won the victory

Chorus

3. I'll tell the old old story
Till my Savior comes from glory
I'll tell of all the Lord has done
To set this sinner free
That all who will believe Him
By faith can still receive Him
And share in that redemption song
Christ won the victory

Chorus

*CONFESSION OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism- Q and A 112

112. Q. What is required in the ninth commandment?

A. I must not give false testimony against anyone, twist no one's words, not gossip or slander, nor condemn or join in condemning anyone rashly and unheard. Rather, I must avoid all lying and deceit as the devil's own works, under penalty of God's heavy wrath, speak and confess it honestly, and do what I can to defend and promote my neighbor's honor and reputation.

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 Melody
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Music.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*SONG OF THANKSGIVING

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

Please sign and pass the attendance registers.

+WORSHIP OF GOD THROUGH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Be Thou My Vision
Mark Wingate, piano

arr. Patrick W. Joyce

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:



+Children Kindergarten and younger are dismissed for Worship Care.

Words and music: Stuart Townend. © 1995 Thankyou Music Ltd.

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

Please open your Bibles to read Exodus 20:1-16 in unison.

Exodus 20:15

"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor."

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Rev. Mark A. Forbes

*SONG OF RESPONSE

'Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus

1. 'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus
Just to take Him at His word
Just to rest upon His promise
Just to know thus saith the Lord

*Chorus: Jesus Jesus how I trust Him
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er
Jesus Jesus precious Jesus
O for grace to trust Him more*

2. O how sweet to trust in Jesus
Just to trust His cleansing blood
Just in simple faith to plunge me
'Neath the healing cleansing flood
Chorus

3. Yes 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus
Just from sin and self to cease
Just from Jesus simply taking
Life and rest and joy and peace
Chorus

4. I'm so glad I learned to trust Him
Precious Jesus Savior Friend
And I know that Thou art with me
Will be with me to the end
Chorus

*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.

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

Join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship for Fall Sunday School. Kids and youth are invited to have some refreshments. First grade and up will go to and then go to Music Ministry followed by Sunday School. Younger kids will go to their classroom.

WEDNESDAY, 9/23

- 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.
- Prayer Walk (6:30 - 7:30 p.m.) at LHC

SUNDAY, 9/27 - Worship at 9:30 a.m; Sunday School after Worship - Jeff Lesslie, Camp Joy

BIBLE READING PLAN FOR SEPTEMBER:

Luke 20- 24; Hebrews 1 - 13; Proverbs 18 - 31; Isaiah 1 - 66

SEPTEMBER MISSIONS PRAYER FOCUS: Camp Joy

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS: 9/20 - Jennifer Ford; 9/24 - Erin Coomer 9/25 - Melinda Shows;
9/26 - Natalie Sneed

SAVE THE DATES:

- 9/26 - Men's Ministry Breakfast at LHC (7:30 - 9:00 a.m.)
- 9/29 - Come To The Table (Red Raiders Football) - Serve Dinner (5:30 - 8:30 p.m.)
 - Contact: Danielle Summerville (980-253-7565)
- 9/30 - Wednesday Night Fellowship begins (Dinner at 5:30; Classes begin at 6:15)
 - In order to prepare for meals and classes, please scan to let us know you're coming.



- 10/2 - World Witness Fellowship Dinner (6:30 - 8:30 p.m) at First ARP, Gastonia
- 10/4 - 4 years of Living Hope!
 - Join us for a covered dish lunch after worship to celebrate God's faithfulness!
- 10/9 - Work concessions at South Point Homecoming (5:30 - 9:00 p.m.)
 - Contact: Whitney Buehler (704-804-4784)



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. Elder Jon Ford is serving this month.
- You may also scan the QR code to submit a prayer request.



WESTMINSTER LARGER CATECHISM Q AND A 144

Q. 144. What are the duties required in the ninth commandment?

A. The duties required in the ninth commandment are, the preserving and promoting of truth between man and man, and the good name of our neighbor, as well as our own: appearing and standing for the truth; and from the heart, sincerely, freely, clearly, and fully, speaking the truth, and only the truth, in matters of judgment and justice, and in all other things whatsoever; a charitable esteem of our neighbors; loving, desiring, and rejoicing in their good name; sorrowing for, and covering of their infirmities; freely acknowledging of their gifts and graces, defending their innocence; a ready receiving of good report, and unwillingness to admit of an evil report, concerning them; discouraging tale-bearers, flatterers, and slanderers; love and care of our own good name, and defending it when need requireth; keeping of lawful promises; study and practising of whatsoever things are true, honest, lovely, and of good report.