



LIVING HOPE CHURCH
ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN

WORSHIP GUIDE
September 6, 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 StuaKeith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Matt Boswell, Matt Papa. © Getty Music Hymns and Songs; Getty Music Publishing; Love Your Enemies Publishing; Messenger Hymns

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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

Isaiah 49:13, Psalm 30:11-12

Pastor: Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing!

Congregation: For the Lord has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted.

All: You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness, that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION/ADORATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (Matthew 6:9-13)

Today we will sing The Lord's Prayer.

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

***SONG OF PRAISE**

Goodness Of God

1. I love You, Lord for Your mercy never fails me
All my days, I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

*Chorus: And all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God*

I love Your voice, You have led me through the fire
In the darkest night, You are close like no other
I've known You as a Father, I've known You as a Friend
And I have lived in the goodness of God

Chorus

Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
Repeat

And all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

'Cause all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God
Yes, I will sing of the goodness of God
I will sing of the goodness of God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You are the source of every good and perfect gift. We praise Your name for the greatest and most perfect gift: Your son, our Lord Jesus Christ. But in lifting Him up, we humble ourselves before You. We confess to You, not only our sins of omission in failing to do what we know is right, but also our sins of commission in doing what You forbid. O Lord, we are weak and feeble, slow to confess our sins and prone to wander from the path of righteousness. Do not deal with us as our sins deserve but wash us clean in the blood of the Lamb and empower us by Your Spirit to live to honor and serve our Savior King. We praise You that He was born like us that we might become like Him. In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Psalm 103:11-12

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

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 Lenny
LeBlanc, Paul Baloche
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Music; Leadworship Songs;
LenSongs Publishing

⁺WORSHIP OF GOD THROUGH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Above All/There Is None Like You

*Chorus 1: Crucified laid behind the stone
You lived to die rejected and alone
Like a rose trampled on the ground
You took the fall and thought of me
Above all*

1. Above all powers above all kings
Above all nature and all created things
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man
You were here before the world began

2. Above all kingdoms above all thrones
Above all wonders the world has ever known
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth
There's no way to measure
What You're worth
Chorus

*Like a rose trampled on the ground
You took the fall and thought of me
Above all*

*Chorus 2: There is none like You
No one else can touch
My heart like You do
I could search
For all eternity long and find
There is none like You
Repeat*

*I could search
For all eternity long and find
There is none like You*

Verse: Your mercy flows like a river wide
And healing comes from Your hands
Suffering children are safe in Your arms
There is none like You
Chorus 2

*SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 20:14

Please open your Bibles to read Exodus 20:1-14 in unison.

14 "You shall not commit adultery."

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

Join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship for Coffee and Connections.

WEDNESDAY, 9/9

- 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.
- Choir Rehearsal (6:15 - 7:30 p.m.) at LHC

SUNDAY, 9/13 - Worship at 9:30 a.m

- September Sunday School after worship - Join us for our Fall Ministry Fair
 - You'll have the opportunity to sign up for inreach, outreach, Bible Studies, etc. Kids will have SS also.

SEPTEMBER 13-19 - ARP Season of Prayer and Fasting. Scan code for guide:



BIBLE READING PLAN FOR SEPTEMBER:

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

SEPTEMBER MISSIONS PRAYER FOCUS: Camp Joy

SEPTEMBER MISSIONS COLLECTIONS: 50x60 plush blankets for Least of These Carolinas

SMALL GROUPS - Beginning and continuing this fall, meeting twice a month..

Contact the leaders to sign up.

- Coopers (*Gentle and Lowly*) - Sunday evenings
- Forbes (*The Gospel-Centered Parent*) - Sunday after worship
- Sevys (*The Sermon on the Mount*) - this group is currently full
- Winfrees (*Romans*) - Sunday evenings

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS: 9/9 - Brent Sneed and Mark Valenti; 9/13 - Whitney Buehler;
9/16 - Matt Adams; 9/18 - Drew Summerville; 9/19 - Tammy Cherry; 9/20 - Jennifer Ford
9/24 - Erin Coomer; 9/25 - Melinda Shows; 9/26 - Natalie Sneed

SAVE THE DATES:

- 9/13, 9/20, 9/27 - Fall Sunday School
- 9/17 - Ladies Gathering at the Garden (5:30 - 7:00 p.m.)
 - Join us as we explore Daniel Stowe Conservancy on Free Admission Night.
- 9/26 - Men's Ministry Breakfast (7:30 - 9:00 a.m.)
- 9/30 - Wednesday Night Fellowship begins (Dinner at 5:30; Classes begin at 6:15)
- 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!



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 Tim Daniels and Jon Ford are serving this month.
- You may also scan the QR code to submit a prayer request.



HEIDELBERG CATECHISM
QUESTION AND ANSWER #103

Q. What is God's will for you in the fourth commandment?

A. First, that the gospel ministry and education for it be maintained, and that, especially on the festive day of rest, I diligently attend the assembly of God's people to learn what God's Word teaches, to participate in the sacraments, to pray to God publicly, and to bring Christian offerings for the poor. Second, that every day of my life I rest from my evil ways, let the Lord work in me through his Spirit, and so begin in this life the eternal Sabbath.

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