

LIVING HOPE CHURCH

ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN

WORSHIP GUIDE

November 22, 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

We Gather Together

1. We gather together
To ask the Lord's blessing
He chastens and hastens
His will to make known
The wicked oppressing
Now cease from distressing
Sing praises to His name
He forgets not His own

2. Beside us to guide us
Our God with us joining
Ordaining maintaining
His kingdom divine
So from the beginning
The fight we were winning
Thou Lord was at our side
All glory be Thine

3. We all do extol Thee
Thou Leader triumphant
And pray that Thou still
Our Defender wilt be
Let Thy congregation
Escape tribulation
Thy name be ever praised
O Lord make us free

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand as you are able.

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.

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 118:1, 26-29

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

Congregation: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! We bless you from the house of the Lord.

Pastor: The Lord is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us. Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!

Congregation: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you.

All: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

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 worshiping 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

Let All Things Now Living

1. Let all things now living
A song of thanksgiving
To God the Creator
Triumphantly raise
Who fashioned and made us
Protected and stayed us
Who guideth us on
To the end of our days
His banners are o'er us
His light goes before us
A pillar of fire
Shining forth in the night
Till shadows have vanished
And darkness is banished
As forward we travel
From light into light

2. His law He enforces
The stars in their courses
The sun in His orbit obediently shine
The hills and the mountains
The rivers and fountains
The deeps of the ocean
Proclaim Him divine
We too should be voicing
Our love and rejoicing
With glad adoration
A song let us raise
Till all things now living
Unite in thanksgiving
To God in the highest
Hosanna and praise

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*CONFESSION OF FAITH

Westminster Confession of Faith Chapter 16, Sections 1 and 2
Good Works

1. Good works are only those works that God has commanded in his holy Word.1 Works that do not have this warrant are invented by men out of blind zeal or on a pretense of good intentions and are not truly good.

2. These good works, done in obedience to God's commandments, are the fruit and evidence of a true and living faith. Through good works believers express their thankfulness, strengthen their assurance, build up their brothers and sisters, adorn the profession of the gospel, stop the mouths of opponents, and glorify God. Believers are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, so that they bear fruit leading to holiness and have the outcome, eternal life.

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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Samuel Roy Johnson, son of Tori and Brady Johnson

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

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

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."

*SONG OF THANKSGIVING

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

2. 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

Bridge: 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

Words and music by Ben Fielding, Brian Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram, Jenn Johnson. © 2018 Capitol CMG Paragon; Fellow Ships Music; So Essential Tunes; SHOUT! Music Publishing Australia; Bethel Music Publishing

Please sign and pass the attendance registers.

+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
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
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
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
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
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
Ever only all for Thee

+Children Kindergarten and younger are dismissed for Worship Care.

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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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

Titus 3:3 - 8

3 For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led
astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing
our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating
one another. 4 But when the goodness and loving kindness
of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of
works done by us in righteousness, but according to his
own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of
the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us richly through
Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that being justified by his
grace we might become heirs according to the hope of
eternal life. 8 The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to
insist on these things, so that those who have believed in
God may be careful to devote themselves to good works.
These things are excellent and profitable for people.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Rev. Mark A. Forbes

*SONG OF RESPONSE

Come People Of The Risen King

1. Come people of the Risen King
Who delight to bring Him praise
Come all and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace
From the shifting shadows of the earth
We will lift our eyes to Him
Where steady arms of mercy reach
To gather children in

Chorus: Rejoice rejoice let ev'ry tongue rejoice
One heart one voice
O Church of Christ rejoice

2. Come those whose joy is morning sun
And those weeping through the night
Come those who tell of battles won
And those struggling in the fight
For His perfect love will never change
And His mercies never cease
But follow us through all our days
In the certain hope of peace
Chorus

3. Come young and old from ev'ry land
Men and women of the faith
Come those with full or empty hands
Find the riches of His grace
Over all the world His people sing
Shore to shore we hear them call
The truth that cries through ev'ry age
Our God is all in all
Chorus
O Church of Christ rejoice

Words and music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend. © 2007 Thankyou Music Ltd

*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

Please join us tonight at 5:00 for our Thanksgiving Service with Dinner following. Childcare is provided during the service for children who are in Kindergarten or younger.

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 and OPPORTUNITIES

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

TODAY

- Be sure to pick up an Advent Devotional and Advent Wreath pamphlet today. You're welcome to take extra copies for friends and family.
- Stewardship Sunday - You're invited to place your 2027 pledge card in the offering plate, mail to the church (PO Box 223, Belmont, NC 28012) or email our church treasurer, Matt Adams at treasurer@lhcbelmont.org or our bookkeeper, Shannon Threatt at sthreatt@lhcbelmont.org.
- Choir Rehearsal (Adult, Youth and Children) at 4:00
- Thanksgiving Service at 5:00 (Childcare provided for kids Kindergarten and younger)
- Covered Dish Dinner at 6:00 - bring a favorite side dish or dessert to share

MONDAY, 11/23 - We're decorating the church for Christmas at 2:00. Contact Betsy if you can help.

WEDNESDAY, 11/25

- 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.

THURSDAY, 11/26 - HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

SUNDAY, 11/29 - FIrst Sunday in Advent - Worship at 9:30 followed by Coffee and Connections

BIBLE READING PLAN FOR NOVEMBER:

Job 1 - 22; Ezekiel 1 - 48; Daniel 1 - 12; John 7:37 -13:38 ; 1 John; 2 John; 3 John; Jude

MORE THAN A STORY READING PLAN: *""Now My Eyes See You" page 52*

NOVEMBER MISSIONS PRAYER FOCUS: Outreach North America

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS: 12/1 - Zack Williams, 12/7 - Brady Johnson, 12/8 - Beth Wingate, 12/9 - Michael Peche, 12/13 - Artie Cooper, 12/14 - Nora Sullivan, Don Piers, 12/15 - Carol Eizenhofer, 12/18 - Deborah Lentz, 12/20 - Mark Forbes, 12/31 - Owen Valenti

SAVE THE DATES:

12/2 - Ladies Favorite Things Christmas Party (6:00 - 8:00 p.m.) at Pauline Styers' home
12/6 - Back To Bethlehem Luncheon after worship
12/9 - Outreach opportunity - help pack gifts for our ministry partner's Christmas Party (11:00 a.m.) Contact Betsy for more details
12/10 - Thursday Morning Bible Study Brunch (11:00 a.m.) at Christy Orr's
12/12 - LHC Drop in Christmas Party at Trey and Jena Jenkins' home (5:00 - 8:00 p.m.)
12/19 - Men's Ministry Breakfast (7:30 - 9:00 a.m.)
12/20 - College Student Luncheon after worship (We'd love to have some homemade desserts - if you can provide one please contact Beth Wingate or Betsy Forbes.)
12/24 - Christmas Eve Service at 5:00

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.

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