

HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

February 14th, 2021

Indoor Worship Service

“The picture of Jesus as the coming Judge is the central feature of another absolutely vital and non-negotiable Christian belief: that there will indeed be a judgment in which the creator God will set the world right once and for all. The word judgment carries negative overtones for a good many people in our liberal and postliberal world. We need to remind ourselves that throughout the Bible, not least in the Psalms, God’s coming judgment is a good thing, something to be celebrated, longed for, yearned over. It causes people to shout for joy and the trees of the field to clap their hands. In a world of systematic injustice, bullying, violence, arrogance, and oppression, the thought that there might come a day when the wicked are firmly put in their place and the poor and weak are given their due is the best news there can be. Faced with a world in rebellion, a world full of exploitation and wickedness, a good God must be a God of judgment.”

NT Wright, *Surprised By Hope*, 137.

“If God were not angry at injustice and deception and did not make a final end to violence- that God would not be worthy of worship... If I don’t believe that there is a God who will eventually put all things right, I will take up the sword and will be sucked into the endless vortex of retaliation. Only if I am sure that there’s a God who will right all wrongs and settle all accounts perfectly do I have the power to refrain.”

Miroslav Volf, *Exclusion and Embrace*

“Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.”

1 Peter 2: 21-23

GATHERING IN GOD’S PRESENCE

Call to Worship

As for me, I will always have hope;
I will praise you more and more.

My mouth will tell of your righteous deeds,
of your saving acts all day long—
though I know not how to relate them all.

I will come and proclaim your mighty acts, Sovereign Lord;
I will proclaim your righteous deeds, yours alone.

Psalm 71:14-16

The Solid Rock

My hope is built on nothing less/ Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame/ But wholly lean on Jesus' name

On Christ, the solid Rock I stand / All other ground is sinking sand / All other ground is sinking sand

When darkness seems to hide His face / I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale/ My anchor holds within the veil

His oath, His covenant, His blood/ Support me in the whelming flood
When all around my soul gives way/ He then is all my hope and stay

When He shall come with trumpet sound/ Oh may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone/ Faultless to stand before the throne

by Edward Mote and William Batchelder Bradbury © Public Domain

Laden With Guilt and Full of Fears

Laden with guilt and full of fears / I fly to Thee my Lord
And not a glimpse of hope appears / But in Thy written Word
The volumes of my Father's grace / Does all my griefs assuage
Here I behold my Savior's face in every page

This is the field where hidden lies / The pearl of price unknown
That merchant is divinely wise / Who makes the pearl his own
Here consecrated water flows / To quench my thirst of sin
Here the fair tree of knowledge grows / No danger dwells within

This is the judge that ends the strife / Where wit and reason fail
My guide to everlasting life / Through all this gloomy vale
Oh may Thy counsels mighty God / My roving feet command
Nor I forsake the happy road / That leads to Thy right hand

by Isaac Watts and Sandra McCracken © 2001 Same Old Dress Music

Call to Confession

Davis Mooney

Confession of Sin

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. Risen Christ, lift our eyes to you, seated from your finished work, our only mediator and advocate, that we may know the certainty of our salvation. Sanctify us to walk in your will, and to await with full assurance your glorious return.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

¹¹ Every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹² But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. ¹⁴ For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

Hebrews 10:11-14

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God / When I in awesome wonder / Consider all the worlds / Thy hands have made
I see the stars / I hear the rolling thunder / Thy pow'r thru'out / The universe displayed

*Then sings my soul / My Savior God to Thee / How great Thou art / How great Thou art
Then sings my soul / My Savior God to Thee / How great Thou art / How great Thou art*

And when I think / That God His Son not sparing / Sent Him to die / I scarce can take it in
That on the cross / My burden gladly bearing / He bled and died / To take away my sin

When Christ shall come / With shout of acclamation / And take me home / What joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow / In humble adoration / And there proclaim / My God how great Thou art

by Stuart Wesley Keene Hine © 1949 and 1953 Manna Music, Inc., Stuart Hine Trust

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

Welcome and Prayers of the People

Dudley Bell

Offering

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow / Praise him all creatures here below

Praise him above ye heavenly hosts / Praise father, son, and holy ghost

Life Together

David Speakman

ATTENDING TO GOD'S WORD

“Good News About Judgment”

David Speakman

¹⁰ And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹ and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Acts 1:10-11

³⁶ “But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. ³⁷ For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. ⁴² Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

Matthew 24:36-44

¹⁶ For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

¹¹ Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. ¹³ And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. ¹⁴ Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. ¹⁵ And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Revelation 20:11-15

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

All: *Thanks be to God*

The Lord's Supper

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into Hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Lord's Supper Instructions

- We invite those seated furthest away from the pulpit to come to the table first. An usher will tell you when to come.
- Households may approach together. We ask that each household practice physical distancing when awaiting their turn.
- Communicants will cup their hands, ready to receive the bread.
- Another server will make a cup available for each communicant to pick up. Wine is the darker liquid and grape juice is the lighter liquid.
- Young children who have made a profession of faith may partake in the Lord's Supper when they have met with and been approved by the Session.

ENGAGING GOD'S WORLD

We Will Dance

Sing a song of celebration / Lift up a shout of praise / For the bridegroom will come
The glorious One and oh / We will look on His face / We'll go to a much better place

Dance with all your might / Lift up your hands and clap for joy / For the time's drawing near
When He will appear / And oh we will stand by His side / A strong pure spotless bride

*We will dance on the streets that are golden / The glorious bride and the great Son of Man
From ev'ry tongue and tribe and nation / We'll join in the song of the Lamb*

(women echo)

Sing aloud for the time of rejoicing is near / The risen King our groom is soon to appear
The wedding feast to come is now near at hand / Lift up your voice proclaim the coming Lamb

We will dance on the streets that are golden (repeat)

by David Ruis © 1993 Mercy / Vineyard Publishing

Benediction

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”

Romans 15:13

ADDITIONAL PRAYERS AND MEDITATIONS

Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my needs and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the author and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

Prayer for Those Searching for the Truth

Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

LIFE TOGETHER

Childcare During the Indoor Worship Service: Two nursery rooms (previous Infant & Ones rooms) will be open for individual family use. The rooms are equipped with TV's displaying the morning worship livestream and surfaces are cleaned prior to the service. We ask that those who use the space, please sign in on the door prior to entering the space and place toys used in the "Used Toy" container upon leaving.

Ash Wednesday: Join us for our indoor Ash Wednesday worship service on February 17th at 7:00pm. In-person and livestream options are available.

Lenten Devotionals Available: Join us on a journey to Easter with *Beauty of the Cross* by Tim Chester, which is full of daily meditations on Isaiah 52-53. Pick up a free copy at the connections table this week or contact the church office.

Lent Book Study: "Word in the Wilderness" by Malcolm Guite. Lent is a season for reflection, repentance, and reorientation – three things the creative arts are uniquely gifted to help us do. The book is complimentary, the poetry is accessible, and it promises to be a well-spent journey. Meetings are led by Michael Kuehn via Zoom on Wednesdays at 7:30pm starting February 24th. Register online: hopechurchws.org/lentbookstudy.

Devotional Art Exhibition: Throughout the season of Lent, a devotional art exhibit entitled *The Stations of the Cross* will be installed outside on the church grounds. Visitors can come take a "pilgrimage" around the church

building, prayerfully walking through the events of Holy Week. The companion book may be picked up in the Worship Center or the church office starting Ash Wednesday.

Elder and Deacon Nominations: We are officially opening up a season for the Session to receive the congregation's nominations for the offices of Elder and Deacon from January 15th to February 15th. hopechurchws.org/nomination

Virtual Missions Conference (free!): Hear stories from around the world that will have you rejoicing in the Lord's work and workshops that will challenge your views on missions. Dates are February 19-20.

Register Here: <https://hopin.com/events/mtwvmc2020>

Sunday School Resumes February 21st: What kinds of questions have you been asking lately about race, class, and the kingdom of God? We'd love to help you find some answers and uncover what God says about himself, our world, and how we can learn to pursue a more beautiful community using content from Irwyn Ince's book, *The Beautiful Community* (copies available for free). Youth and adults are welcome, and both in-person and livestreaming options will be available.

Men's Cohorts: Registration is live for our spring cohorts, which kick off the first week in March. These are small groups that meet for connection and study the Bible together. Various days and times are available. Register at hopechurchws.org/men.

Spring Women's Event: *A Day to Be* - March 20th, 9:00am-3:30pm. Come join us for a day to be! Be with other women outdoors on the beautiful grounds of Nomad Farms in nearby Tobaccoville. Be with the Lord in times of reflection, listening, journaling and praying. Be with yourself and take time to receive care for your soul. Register online by March 7th: hopechurchws.org/aDaytoBe.

Church-wide Camping Trip: Save the date for a fun overnight camping experience at Stone Mountain Park, May 7-8. All are welcome—young or old, single or married, families or no kids. Registration will be available in April.

Life Groups: Life Groups are smaller communities (typically 12-15 adults) made up of members, regular attenders, and friends of Hope Church that meet anywhere from once a week to twice a month. hopechurchws.org/lifegroups

Contribution Statements: Our end-of-year giving statements were sent by mail this week. If you do not receive yours by Friday of this week, or have any problems with the one you have received, please contact the church office.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Mask Donations: Speas Elementary needs child-size disposable face masks for their students. If you'd like to help with this need, you can follow the link to an Amazon wishlist to make a purchase and have it delivered to the school. <https://a.co/8gxw1N0>

If you'd prefer to deliver child-size face masks to the school yourself, the address is: Speas Elementary School, 2000 Polo Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27106