

HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

November 28th, 2021

Indoor Worship Service

“Many years ago a Hindu friend of mine, a very learned man, said to me something I have never forgotten: ‘I can’t understand why you missionaries present the Bible to us in India as a book of religion. It is not a book of religion - and anyway we have plenty of books of religion in India. We don’t need any more! I find in your Bible a unique interpretation of universal history, the history of the whole of creation and the history of the human race. And therefore, a unique interpretation of the human person as a responsible actor in history. That is unique. There is nothing else in the whole religious literature of the world to put alongside it.’”

Lesslie Newbigin, *A Walk Through the Bible*, 4.

“The Bible isn’t a book of rules, or a book of heroes. The Bible is most of all a Story. It’s an adventure story about a young Hero who comes from a far country to win back his lost treasure. It’s a love story about a brave Prince who leaves his palace, his throne - everything - to rescue the one he loves. It’s like the most wonderful of fairy tales that has come true in real life! You see, the best thing about this Story is - it’s true. There are lots of stories in the Bible, but all the stories are telling one Big Story. The Story of how God loves his children and comes to rescue them. It takes the whole Bible to tell this Story. And at the center of the Story, there is a baby. Every Story in the Bible whispers his name. He is like the missing piece in a puzzle - the piece that makes all the other pieces fit together, and suddenly you can see a beautiful picture. And this is no ordinary baby. This is the Child upon whom everything would depend. This is the Child who would one day - but wait. Our Story starts where all good stories start. Right at the very beginning . . .”

Sally Lloyd-Jones, *The Jesus Storybook Bible*

CALL TO WORSHIP

“O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.”

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord. We light this candle in hope, the hope of our coming Savior, Jesus.

Congregation: *Prepare the way of the Lord.*

Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear Desire of ev’ry nation, joy of ev’ry longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see thee, Dayspring from on high, appear;
Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse, of thy birth we long to hear!
O’er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth;
“Go to him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth.”

Come to earth to taste our sadness, he whose glories knew no end;
By his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;
This the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

by Rowland Hugh Prichard and Charles Wesley © Public Domain

God With Us

Oh You've come to bring peace to be Love / To be nearer to us
You've come to bring life to be Light / To shine brighter in us
Oh Emmanuel God with us

*Our Deliverer You are Savior / In Your presence we find our strength
Over ev'rything our Redemption / God with us / You are God with us*

Oh You've come to be Hope to this world / For Your honor and name
And You've come to take sin to bear shame / And to conquer the grave / Oh Emmanuel God with us

You are here / You are holy / We are standing in Your glory (REPEAT)

by Leslie Jordan © 2012 Open Hands Music and Integrity's Praise! Music

CALL TO CONFESSION

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. But with you there is forgiveness. In your mercy, restore to us the joy of our salvation so that we may love you and magnify your holy name. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

“Sing, Daughter Zion;
shout aloud, Israel!
Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, Daughter Jerusalem!
The Lord has taken away your punishment,
he has turned back your enemy.
The Lord, the King of Israel, is with you;
never again will you fear any harm.
The Lord your God is with you,
the Mighty Warrior who saves.
He will take great delight in you;
in his love he will no longer rebuke you,
but will rejoice over you with singing.”

Zephaniah 3:14-15, 17

Jesus Cast a Look On Me

Jesus cast a look on me / Give me sweet simplicity
Make me poor and keep me low / Seeking only Thee to know

All that feeds my busy pride / Cast it evermore aside
Bid my will to Thine submit / Lay me humbly at Thy feet

Make me like a little child / Of my strength and wisdom spoiled
Seeing only in Thy light / Walking only in Thy might

Leaning on Thy loving breast / Where a weary soul can rest
Feeling well the peace of God / Flowing from His precious blood

In this posture let me live / And hosannas daily give
In this temper let me die / And hosannas ever cry!

by John Berridge, Matthew Perryman Jones © MPJ Music

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

Delane Clark

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

PREACHING OF THE WORD

“The Greatest Story Ever Told”

David Speakman

¹ Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, ² just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, ³ it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴ that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.

Luke 1:1-4

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

All: *Thanks be to God*

THE LORD’S SUPPER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: *And also with you.*

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: *We lift them up to the Lord.*

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation: *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

Leader: Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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.

Adore

You stepped down from heaven / Humbly You came

God of all creation / Here with us

In a starlit manger Emmanuel

Light of the world here to save

Adore / Come let us adore / O come let us adore Him

The Lord / Worship Christ the Lord / Let all that is within us adore

Wise men bring their treasures / Shepherds bow low

Angel voices sing / Of peace on earth

What have I to offer to heaven's King

I will bring my life my love my all

Angels sing praises ring / To the newborn King

Peace on earth here with us / Joy awakening

At Your feet we fall

by Martin Chalk and Graham Kendrick © 2015 © Common Hymnal Publishing, sixsteps Musi, Vamos Publishing, and worshiptogether.com songs

BENEDICTION

²⁴ The Lord bless you and keep you;

²⁵ the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

²⁶ the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

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

Worship Service Changes: Beginning Sunday, December 5th, we will offer **two indoor services** at Hope. The early service (9:00am) will be a mask-required service. The later service (11:00am) will be a mask-optional service.

Childcare During Indoor Worship Services: Please **reserve** your nursery spot for indoor childcare for infants-36 months. This is the best way to secure your nursery slot. As the church transitions to new schedules, availability will be adjusted according to weekly average attendance numbers and staffing availability. **We may not be able to accommodate those who do not pre-register.** Please be patient with us as we go through this transition process and determine the best way to serve our youngest members. A link to register can be found at hopechurchws.org/worship.

Prayer Requests: text **hopeprayers** to 94000 if you would like to send us your prayer requests.

Advent Kits for Children: Simple Advent kits will be available for families of toddlers and elementary children at church November 21st through December 5th. For questions or to arrange an alternate pickup, please reach out to Sarah Beam at children@hopechurchws.org.

Advent Poetry Group: Using D. S. Martin's poetry anthology "Adam, Eve, & the Riders of the Apocalypse," we will take an imaginative look at the people and themes of Advent in order to enrich our faith and lean into this season. The book will be provided, and no prior poetry knowledge is required! Join on Zoom: Tuesdays at 7:30pm beginning November 30th. Email Michael Kuehn at mkuehn@hopechurchws.org to sign up or for more information.

An Unexpected Glory: A Night of Advent Worship - Friday, December 3rd, 7:00pm at Hope Church

Christ's coming into the world is far more glorious than we tend to apprehend, answering with the incarnation all manner of intertwined expectations and promises from the Old Testament. Join the Catechesia Institute for an evening of Advent song, prayer, and biblical exploration that journeys through God's story toward the manger and enriches our worship as we hope in and wait upon the Lord. This event is free and open to the community. Register at: catechesia.com/events

Men's Chili Cookoff, December 4th, 12:00-2:00pm: All are welcome to connect with other men of Hope and bring friends and co-workers. You can either enter your chili into the competition or just come and eat! We'll gather outdoors at the home of Jason Short, 3720 Derbyshire Rd.

Mother's Nursing Room: The indoor nursing room is available. For the safety of everyone, but especially these precious new babies, please use wise judgment concerning social distancing.

Prayer Opportunities: Prayer is available during both worship services. During the indoor service, there will be two locations at the back of the worship center. During the outdoor service, Elders will be available just outside of the worship center to the left of the worship band and women will be available in Ethan and Davis' office.

MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

Michael and Naomi Woo have been serving through Overseas Missionary Fellowship, working to prepare and send missionaries to the least reached in South Asia. This was made a little more complicated by not being able to meet in person, but they are grateful to be able to report their first successful virtual Candidate Course! They are continuing to pray for more countries to open up for them to send the missionaries to since many countries in Southeast Asia remain closed or with strict restrictions for those wanting to enter. Their kids have continued to thrive in school for which they are grateful for - their oldest has been enjoying college at Colorado Christian.

Prayer Requests: Join Michael and Naomi in praying for God to bring along the right people to go through their program. Pray also for those who have already been sent out to reach those in unreached areas. There are certain countries that have remained closed due to Covid, pray that these countries would reopen so that OMF can continue to send missionaries to evangelize and plant churches. Join Michael, Naomi and the missionaries they are working with as some have to consider a new location after years of training and preparation, because the countries have remained closed.

Contact Information: mcswoo@icloud.com

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Moving Help Needed: Gretchen Ehrlich will be moving from Mocksville into Winston-Salem on Saturday December 11th. If you can help load/unload a truck, please let her know at 336-414-3322 or gretchene1969@gmail.com.