

HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

March 26th, 2023

“For no matter how many promises God has made, they are ‘Yes’ in Christ. And so through him the ‘Amen’ is spoken by us to the glory of God.”

2 Corinthians 1:20

“By April 1970 I had grown sick to death of the church viewed as ‘religious cushion’ and me as chief cushioner. I had been a pastor for more than a decade and instructor at Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia for four years. I had given it all my best shot. But as a change agent I had bombed out. I was awash with cynicism about the prospects of the Christian church and went around with continual sorrow in my heart over the state of the churches around me. In a mood of dark despair I resigned both from the seminary faculty and from my pastorate . . . I began an intensive study of the promises of God in Scripture. I spent long hours tracing out great themes of grace predicted in Isaiah, Ezekiel, Jeremiah, Joel, Habakkuk, and Zechariah. Sometimes, like a man dying of thirst, I drank in the Gospel of John and the enormous promises presented in it . . . As the weeks passed, my mind also began to be captured by the vastness of God’s promises. I was awed by what the risen Lord had promised to me in my weakness, utterly silenced in my soul like an astronomer unexpectedly seeing a whole new galaxy when he was only searching for a single planet! . . . The promises are the handles we grab in our weakness in order to secure His Presence.”

Jack Miller, *Outgrowing the Ingrown Church*

“There is more in God’s promises to comfort than in this world to perplex.”

Thomas Watson

CALL TO WORSHIP

“Remember your word to your servant,
in which you have made me hope.
This is my comfort in my affliction,
that your promise gives me life.
Your statutes have been my songs
in the house of my sojourning.”

Psalms 119:49–50, 54

Come Christians Join to Sing

Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

CALL TO CONFESSION

Confession of Sin

Heavenly Father, we confess before your divine majesty that we are poor sinners, prone to evil and ever falling short of goodness. We have transgressed your commandments, and are worthy of your anger. We repent, O Lord, and are sorry that we have so displeased you. Have mercy upon us, O most gracious God and Father. Forgive us all our sins through your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and grant us now the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Increase these in us each day, that we may bring forth the fruits of righteousness and a pure life that are pleasing to you, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of God's Pardoning Grace

"Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity
and passing over transgression
for the remnant of his inheritance?
He does not retain his anger forever,
because he delights in steadfast love.
He will again have compassion on us;
he will tread our iniquities underfoot.
You will cast all our sins
into the depths of the sea."

Micah 7:18-19

Come, Ye Sinners

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

** Children ages 3 - Kindergarten are dismissed for Worship Class. (8:30am)*

Welcome and Prayers of the People

Offering & Doxology

Life Together

David Speakman

PREACHING OF THE WORD

"Promises Made, Promises Kept"

David Speakman

²⁹ At midnight the Lord struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of the livestock. ³⁰ And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he and all his servants and all the Egyptians. And there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was not a house where someone was not dead. ³¹ Then he summoned Moses and Aaron by night and said, "Up, go out from among my people, both you and the people of Israel; and go, serve the Lord, as you have said. ³² Take your flocks and your herds, as you have said, and be gone, and bless me also!"

³³ The Egyptians were urgent with the people to send them out of the land in haste. For they said, "We shall all be dead." ³⁴ So the people took their dough before it was leavened, their kneading bowls being bound up in their cloaks on their shoulders. ³⁵ The people of Israel had also done as Moses told them, for they had asked the Egyptians for silver and gold jewelry and for clothing. ³⁶ And the Lord had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they let them have what they asked. Thus they plundered the Egyptians.

³⁷ And the people of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides women and children. ³⁸ A mixed multitude also went up with them, and very much livestock, both flocks and herds. ³⁹

And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough that they had brought out of Egypt, for it was not leavened, because they were thrust out of Egypt and could not wait, nor had they prepared any provisions for themselves.

⁴⁰ The time that the people of Israel lived in Egypt was 430 years. ⁴¹ At the end of 430 years, on that very day, all the hosts of the Lord went out from the land of Egypt. ⁴² It was a night of watching by the Lord, to bring them out of the land of Egypt; so this same night is a night of watching kept to the Lord by all the people of Israel throughout their generations.

⁴³ And the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, “This is the statute of the Passover: no foreigner shall eat of it, ⁴⁴ but every slave that is bought for money may eat of it after you have circumcised him. ⁴⁵ No foreigner or hired worker may eat of it. ⁴⁶ It shall be eaten in one house; you shall not take any of the flesh outside the house, and you shall not break any of its bones. ⁴⁷ All the congregation of Israel shall keep it. ⁴⁸ If a stranger shall sojourn with you and would keep the Passover to the Lord, let all his males be circumcised. Then he may come near and keep it; he shall be as a native of the land. But no uncircumcised person shall eat of it. ⁴⁹ There shall be one law for the native and for the stranger who sojourns among you.”

⁵⁰ All the people of Israel did just as the Lord commanded Moses and Aaron. ⁵¹ And on that very day the Lord brought the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their hosts.

Exodus 12:29-51

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.*

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

BENEDICTION

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 5:23

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.

Prayer Requests: Fill out the online prayer card at <https://bit.ly/3BkKMis>.

LIFE TOGETHER

Holy Week Schedule

- **Palm Sunday: April 2nd**
 - Worship services at 8:30 and 11:00am; children will sing at both services
 - No Sunday School
 - Church-wide Brunch and Children's Egg Hunt at 10:00am
- **Maundy Thursday: April 6th**
 - Worship service at Redeemer PCA at 7:00pm, with childcare for ages 0-4
 - More information can be found at redeemerws.org
- **Good Friday: April 7th**
 - Worship service at Hope Church at 7:00pm
- **Easter Sunday: April 9th**
 - Worship services at 8:30 and 11:00am
 - No Sunday School

Easter Lilies: Help us decorate the worship hall with lilies for Easter Sunday in honor or remembrance of a loved one. The cost is \$15 per plant. Please submit your orders [online](#) or by emailing [Holly Smith](mailto:Holly.Smith). If you choose to pay by cash or check, please write "Easter Lilies" in the memo line or on a sealed envelope and place it in the offering bag on Sunday mornings. Orders and payment are due by Palm Sunday, April 2nd. [>>Order Here](#)

Palm Sunday:

1. **Children Singing:** Children are invited to help lead us in worship on Palm Sunday. Please meet Ms. Lisa in the hallway of the education building before both worship services. The children's procession will occur at the beginning of the services.

- 2. Pavilion Blessing and Celebration:** At 10am Pastor David will lead the congregation in a blessing of our new pavilion. Join us in the pavilion immediately following the first service.
- 3. Egg Hunt:** The children's egg hunt will begin after the blessing in the pavilion, on the big lawn and hill closer to Peace Haven Dr. Parents, please plan for your children to participate in the egg hunt before joining the line for brunch. Meet Ms. Lisa on the cement slab for instructions, and don't forget your basket.
- 4. Brunch:** Our annual Palm Sunday Brunch will be between the worship services on April 2nd. Please plan to join us!

Maundy Thursday: It is our tradition to partner with our sister church, Redeemer PCA, for Holy Week worship services. Redeemer will be hosting a Maundy Thursday service at 7:00pm on April 6th. Childcare for ages 0-4 will be available.

Good Friday: Our Good Friday service will be held at Hope on April 7th at 7:00pm. Childcare will not be provided. We invite the whole family to join us for this service.

Easter Cross: We would love your help filling our Easter cross for Easter Sunday! Drop off flower cuttings from your yard or garden on Saturday, April 8th.

- We need volunteers to help decorate the cross on Easter Sunday. If you would like to help, please contact [Ginny Evans](#) in the church office. No special skills required!

Hope Kids Connection:

- **March 26th 10:45-11:00am:** Ms. Lisa will be running short 15 minute music rehearsals in the music room upstairs for those that would like a little extra practice time with our Palm Sunday song. We are also rehearsing during 2nd Sunday Hope Kids Worship. [Hosanna in the Highest Link](#)
- **Easter Egg Hiders Needed - April 2nd:** If you are interested in helping hide (place) hundreds of Easter eggs on the lawn, please let Lisa Applegate know. Adults and youth are welcome to help with this task. We will be meeting on the cement square at 9:20am on April 2nd.
- **Easter Worship Class Helpers - April 9th:** If you are interested in helping with our first service Worship Class on Easter, please let Ms. Lisa know. Our time together will be extremely low key, with no prep needed. I'm looking for 1-2 adults or high school youth.

The Gathering Hour: Women of Hope, please join us on Tuesday, April 11th at 9:30am for The Gathering Hour; a monthly morning of fellowship, with the purpose of connection. Coffee and nibbles will be provided and childcare is included. Friends and neighbors are welcome!

Practical Parenting Seminar: On April 12th at 7:30pm, we will host a FREE parenting seminar led by Sheila Spaar from Redeemer PCA here in Winston-Salem. The goal of this workshop is to give parents some practical tools and resources to help them *parent*. [>>Register Here](#)

Forum on Faith and Culture: The 2023 forum will be held on April 14th at 7:00pm at the Ramkat in downtown Winston-Salem. More information will be available soon at faithandculturewsnc.org.

Men's Retreat: Join us for a Men's Retreat at Montreat Conference Center (Montreat, NC) from April 28-30. Accommodations are hotel style (single rooms available upon request). The speaker this year is Ben Jones from The Barnabas Center Triad. The weekend will include worship, small groups, free time activities, and good food and drink. Friends and co-workers are welcome to join us! Cost is \$100 and includes accommodations and meals. [>>Register Here](#)

The Edge Middle School Conference - June 24-28: The Edge is a gospel-centered middle school youth conference hosted at Covenant College on Lookout Mountain in Georgia. We only have 10 spots (8 students and 2 leaders) for Session 2 - June 24-28. The cost of the trip is \$450/person, and scholarships are available. A \$50 deposit is required to secure your spot. The deadline to sign up is April 21. Please talk to [Davis Mooney](#) or [Anna Otto](#) for more details! [>>Register Here](#)

Hope Kids Camp: We need volunteers for Hope Kids Camp the week of July 16th. There are opportunities for single days, the whole week, or any combination that works for you. Contact [Lisa Applegate](#) or [Katie Denton](#) for more information. [>>Sign Up Here](#)

MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

Michael and Naomi Woo

Being the Candidate Director for OMF International has had great challenges and rewards. We had to postpone our October course but recently finished a course in January. This time around we had 3 couples all with little kids. They are very qualified and eager to start the next process. Two families are aiming for China. One family wants to work with unreached people near Myanmar. We have had several new applicants with a majority seeking Japan. It is always amazing to journey with people during this time as they make huge life decisions fulfilling a call to overseas ministry.

Ways we can pray? Please pray for:

- The Lord of the Harvest to send more workers!
- The process of matching qualified workers to the right field.
- The June Candidate Course with a possibility of 15 new workers attending.
- Wisdom in the discerning process of moving people along the process into the mission field.
- Clarity for restructuring our process to be more efficient and purposeful.
- The Woo kids: Ian's college selection, Salem's reading level, and for all the kids to have a growing relationship with Christ.

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FINANCIAL STANDING AS OF MARCH 20th, 2023				
	Actual	Budget	Difference	
Tithes & Offerings	\$195,830	\$190,261	\$ 5,569	2.93%
Expenses	\$194,526	\$204,976	\$ (10,450)	-5.10%
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 1,304	\$ (14,715)	\$ 16,019	
Annual Ministry Budget: \$1,069,040				