

HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

September 17th, 2023

“Fundamentally, the gospel is news. It’s good news—*the* good news about what our triune God has accomplished for His people: the Father’s sending His Son, the incarnate Jesus Christ, to live perfectly, fulfill the law, and die sacrificially, satisfying God’s wrath against us that we might not face hell, thereby atoning for our sins; and raising Him from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit. It is the victorious announcement that God saves sinners . . . The gospel is good news, not good advice or good instructions, just as J. Gresham Machen wrote: “What I need first of all is not exhortation, but a gospel, not directions for saving myself but knowledge of how God has saved me. Have you any good news? That is the question that I ask of you.”

Burke Parsons

“*But He gives more grace* (James 4:6). This is one of the most encouraging verses in Scripture. It tells us that whatever we forfeit when we put self in the place of God, we cannot forfeit our salvation: ‘He gives more grace.’ No matter what we do to Him, God is still not beaten. Our salvation depends not upon ourselves and is not in an ultimate sense threatened by our self-centredness, because He gives more grace. Even when we break the heart of God, His response is this, to give more grace . . . That is, even if we were to turn to God and say, ‘The supply I have had so far is not enough to carry me through in this process of cleaning up my life until it is pleasing to you’, God would reply, ‘Well, you may have more.’ His resources are never at an end. His patience is never exhausted. His initiative never stops. ‘He gives more grace.’”

Alec Motyer

PRELUDE

Hail to the Lord’s Anointed

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

People: sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise!

Leader: Say to God, “How awesome are your deeds!

So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you.

People: All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name.”

Leader: Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard,

People: who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip.

Leader: For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

People: we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance.

From Psalm 66:1-12

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, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Jesus Shall Reign

Rising Sun

CALL TO CONFESSION

Confession of Sin

God of everlasting love, we confess that we have been unfaithful to our covenant with you and with one another.

We have worshiped other gods: money, power, greed, and convenience.

We have served our own self-interest instead of serving only you and your people.

We have not loved our neighbor as you have commanded, nor have we rightly loved ourselves. Forgive us, gracious God, and bring us back into the fullness of our covenant with you and one another. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of God's Pardoning Grace

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

John 3:16-17

Living Hope

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

****Children ages 3-4th Grade are dismissed for Kids Worship. (8:30 am)***

****Children attending music practice dismissed. (11:00 am)***

Welcome and Prayers of the People

Offering & Doxology

O Fount of Love

Life Together

David Speakman

PREACHING OF THE WORD

"The Gospel of God: There is a Church in Rome!"

David Speakman

¹ Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ² which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³ concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴ and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵ through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶ including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷ To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 1: 1-7

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.*

Grace Alone

The Solid Rock

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.

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

LIFE TOGETHER

Men's Meetups: If you're looking for a lower-commitment way to connect with other guys at Hope, join us for one or more meetups this fall. Our next meetup will be lunch on September 26th, 12-1:30pm (come and go any time), at Yamas on 4th Street.

"Been There. Done That. Let's Chat." Parenting Sunday School Class: Come hear a panel of seasoned Hope parents share their experience and stories as well as answer questions about parenting.

- **When:** October 15th 10:00-10:45 am
- **Where:** High School Sunday School Room

Playground Pizza Party: Come join us September 29th 5:30-7:30pm at Hope's playground for a Playground Pizza party. Bring the tikes with their bikes and scooters. We'll provide pizza and have a safe place for the kids to ride around. [>>Register Here](#). If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Applegate at: children@hopechurchws.org

Youth Group Dinner Sign Up: We are looking for volunteers to help provide meals for Youth Group on Sunday nights. You are welcome to partner with other people, and the meals can be home-cooked, catered, or store-bought. Please contact Emi Holman at youth@hopechurchws.org if you'd like more information. [>>Register Here](#)

Ministry Match Survey: If you haven't had a chance to take the survey, please follow the link. Through a quick survey, you'll instantly receive the top 10 volunteer roles at Hope that are the best fit for you, along with job descriptions and contact information for each role. If you'd like us to get back to you within a few weeks, please click the "Contact Me" button at the top of your results page. [>>Take the Survey Here](#)

Discovering Hope: This is our course on what it means to follow Jesus and participate as a member of a local church, and it is the next step for those who wish to become a member of Hope Church. Our next class offering will be: September 15-16, a weekend version where we will cover everything in a Friday evening (7:30-9pm) and Saturday morning (9-11:30am). [>>Register Here](#)

Kids Connection:

- **September Verse:** Just as I have loved you, love one another John 13:34 [>>Sing it link!](#)

- **Hope Kids Worship** for ages 3-4th grade is during the first service this week.
- Christmas Music practice will take place for all children ages 3 and up, during both services after the passing of the peace on the 17th.
- If you have a middle schooler that would like to sing a more challenging part with the elementary kids, they are welcome to join us for either practice time on the 17th.

Men's Cohorts- Beginning the Week of September 18: These small groups of men meet weekly to talk about life and discuss a Bible passage. This fall we will be studying the Gospel of Mark. Various days and times are available to fit your schedule. [Sign up here](#) or on our app if you're interested!

Women's Bible Studies: We have multiple Bible Studies that we would love for you to be a part of! [>>More info](#)

Women's Retreat: We would love for all Hope Women and friends to join us for our 2023 Women's Retreat. It will be held at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory, NC November 3-5 with guest speaker, Wendy Alsup. We have double and single rooms available as well as financial assistance. The deadline to sign up is October 1st. [>>Register Here](#)

Staff Openings: We are seeking to fill a [Director of Administration \(full-time\)](#) position. To enquire further, please email personnel@hopechurchws.org.

Help for the Foster Family: We can support the Fosters and their triplets by bringing meals, laundering baby clothes, and running errands! [>>Sign Up Here](#)

FINANCIAL STANDING AS OF September 11th, 2023				
	Actual	Budget	Difference	
Tithes & Offerings	\$704,647	\$624,170	\$ 80,477	12.89%
Expenses	\$711,167	\$739,781	\$ (28,614)	-3.87%
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (6,520)	\$ (115,611)	\$ 109,091	
Annual Ministry Budget: \$1,069,040				