

# HOPE CHURCH



*Celebration, John August Swanson 1997*

August 10, 2025

# Reflections

"God's got my back  
Even when I fall or get attacked  
God's got my back  
Even when I'm low and full of lack  
God's got my back  
Even when my soul is full of sorrow  
I don't have to worry about tomorrow  
Why's that?  
'Cause God's got my back"

Forrest Frank

"Our gracious Lord is not playing 'catch me if you can' with us. He wants us to be sure of Him, come to Him, and draw strength from Him so that we can live fully for Him.... His appointed avenues of blessing are the means of grace. We are profoundly thankful to our Lord for providing open avenues of grace for us as we walk through this world, crowded as it is with enticing means of 'anti-grace' pressing upon us every day."

Ray Ortlund

"If faith will but lift its blossoms to catch the sunlight of God's grace, the fruit will be a life imbued with holiness."

G.C. Berkouwer

"There is a strange though consistent message throughout the Bible. We are told time and again that the way forward will feel like we're going backward.... The Christian life is one of *repenting our way forward*."

Dane Ortlund

"The further I go on in life, the more convinced I am that every Christian is a struggling Christian, dependent on help from brothers and sisters who know their needs and vulnerabilities. Lungs don't work without hearts, or legs without feet. We're simply not designed for solo flight."

Rebecca McLaughlin

# Order of Worship

## GATHERING

### ***Jesus, With Thy Church Abide***

Jesus, with Thy church abide;  
Be her savior, Lord, and Guide,  
While on earth her faith is tried:  
We beseech Thee, hear us,  
We beseech Thee, hear us.

Keep her life and doctrine pure;  
Grant her patience to endure,  
Trusting in Thy promise sure:  
We beseech Thee, hear us,  
We beseech Thee, hear us.

May she one in doctrine be,  
One in truth and charity,  
Winning all to faith in Thee:  
We beseech Thee, hear us,  
We beseech Thee, hear us.

May she guide the poor and blind,  
Seek the lost until she find  
And the brokenhearted bind:  
We beseech Thee, hear us,  
We beseech Thee, hear us.

## WELCOME

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name;  
make known his deeds among the peoples!

**Sing to him, sing praises to him;**

**tell of all his wondrous works!**

Glory in his holy name;

**let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!**

Seek the Lord and his strength;  
seek his presence continually!

**Remember the wondrous works that he has done,**

## his miracles, and the judgments he uttered

Psalm 105:1-5

### 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.

### GATHERING SONG

#### *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Come, Thou fount of ev'ry blessing,  
tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above;  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it;  
mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
hither by Thy help I'm come;  
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wand'ring from the fold of God:  
He, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor  
daily I'm constrained to be;  
Let that grace, now, like a fetter,  
bind my wand'ring heart to Thee.  
Prone to wander — Lord, I feel it —  
prone to leave the God I love:  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it!  
Seal it for Thy courts above!

### PRAISE SONG

#### *By Faith*

By faith we see the hand of God  
In the light of creation's grand design,

In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness,  
Who walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith our fathers roamed the earth  
With the power of His promise in their hearts,  
Of a holy city built by God's own hand,  
A place where peace and justice reign.

We will stand as children of the promise;  
We will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward.  
Till the race is finished and the work is done,  
We'll walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith the prophets saw a day  
When the longed-for Messiah would appear  
With the power to break the chains of sin and death  
And rise triumphant from the grave.

By faith the church was called to go  
In the power of the Spirit to the lost  
To deliver captives and to preach good news  
In every corner of the earth.

By faith this mountain shall be moved  
And the power of the gospel shall prevail,  
For we know in Christ all things are possible  
For all who call upon His name.

## **CONFESSION & ASSURANCE**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

O God, you have shown us the way of life through your Son, Jesus Christ.  
We confess with shame our slowness to learn of him, our failure to follow him, and  
our reluctance to bear the cross. Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us.  
We confess the poverty of our worship, our neglect of fellowship and of the means of  
grace, our hesitating witness for Christ, our evasion of responsibilities in our service,  
our imperfect stewardship of your gifts.  
Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us. Amen.

### **SILENT CONFESSION**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

By a single offering [Christ] has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified  
Therefore... since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus,  
by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through  
his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near  
with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil  
conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession  
of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

Hebrews 10:14, 19-23

## **RENEWAL SONG**

### ***Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder***

Let us love and sing and wonder  
Let us praise the Savior's name  
He has hushed the law's loud thunder  
He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame  
    He has washed us with His blood  
    He has washed us with His blood  
    He has washed us with His blood  
    He has brought us nigh to God

Let us love the Lord who bought us  
Pitied us when enemies  
Called us by His grace and taught us  
Gave us ears and gave us eyes  
    He has washed us with His blood  
    He has washed us with His blood  
    He has washed us with His blood  
    He presents our souls to God

Let us sing though fierce temptation  
Threatens hard to bear us down  
For the Lord our strong salvation  
Holds in view the conqu'ror's crown  
    He who washed us with His blood  
    He who washed us with His blood  
    He who washed us with His blood  
    Soon will bring us home to God

Let us wonder grace and justice  
Join and point to mercy's store  
When through grace in Christ our trust is

Justice smiles and asks no more  
He who washed us with His blood  
He who washed us with His blood  
He who washed us with His blood  
Has secured our way to God

Let us praise and join the chorus  
Of the saints enthroned on high  
Here they trusted Him before us  
Now their praises fill the sky  
You have washed us with Your blood  
You have washed us with Your blood  
You have washed us with Your blood  
You are worthy Lamb of God

### **PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

### **CHILDREN DISMISSED**

### **LIFE TOGETHER**

## **PREACHING OF THE WORD**

### **“The Means of Change”**

**Ethan Smith**

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, <sup>13</sup> for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Philippians 2:12-13

<sup>41</sup> So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

<sup>42</sup> And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. <sup>43</sup> And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> And all who believed were together and had all things in common. <sup>45</sup> And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup> And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes,

they received their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Acts 2:41-47

<sup>31</sup> And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

<sup>32</sup> Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. <sup>33</sup> And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup> There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold <sup>35</sup> and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. <sup>36</sup> Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas (which means son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, <sup>37</sup> sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Acts 4:31-37

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

**Thanks be to God!**

### **Sermon Notes**

## **RESPONSE**

### **SONG OF RESPONSE**

#### ***Spirit of the Living God***

Spirit of the Living God,  
Fall afresh on me,  
Spirit of the Living God,  
Fall afresh on me.

Break me, melt me, mold me, fill me.  
Spirit of the Living God,  
Fall afresh on me.

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**



## **OFFERTORY**

### ***My Friends, May You Grow in Grace***

My friends, may you grow in grace  
And in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior.  
My friends, may you grow in grace  
And in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

To God be the glory!  
Now and forever  
Now and forever, Amen  
To God be the glory!  
Now and forever  
Now and forever, Amen

My friends, may you grow in strength  
And to the labors God brings before you.  
My friends, may you grow in grace  
And in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

## **DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

## **COMMUNION**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

## **COMMUNION SONG**

### ***The Breastplate Of St. Patrick***

When my work takes me places I don't want to go  
Christ before me

And my heart aches with sorrow as I hit the road  
Christ be with me  
When the care of my family takes all that I have  
Christ within me  
When I'm worn and exhausted, ashamed that I'm mad  
Christ defend me

I rise up today in a strength that is not my own  
I'm held by the promise of God that I'm never alone

When I'm tossed to the side and I want to give up  
Christ beside me  
When I'm breaking my back but it's never enough  
Christ beside me  
When I work hard but someone else gets the reward  
God's eyes see me  
I ask for promotion and they shut the door  
God's ears hear me

When I climb the first steps toward a long-held dream  
Christ above me  
And I leap out in faith and I hope to find wings  
Christ beneath me

***'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus***

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,  
just to take Him at His word  
Just to rest upon His promise;  
just to know, "Thus saith the Lord!"

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him!  
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!  
Je-sus, Jesus, precious Jesus;  
O for grace to trust Him more!

Yes 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus,  
just from sin and self to cease  
Just from Jesus simply taking  
life, and rest, and joy, and peace

I'm so glad I learned to trust him,  
Precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;

And I know that he is with me —  
will be with me to the end!

## **SENDING**

### **SENDING SONG**

#### ***My Friends, May You Grow in Grace***

My friends, may you grow in grace  
And in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior.  
My friends, may you grow in grace  
And in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

To God be the glory!  
Now and forever  
Now and forever, Amen  
To God be the glory!  
Now and forever  
Now and forever, Amen

My friends, may you grow in strength  
And to the labors God brings before you.  
My friends, may you grow in grace  
And in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

### **BENEDICTION**

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

## **LIFE TOGETHER**

### **SERVE**

**August School Supplies Drive** for Speas: Amazon link in Looking Up.

### **CHURCH LIFE**

**Schedule Change** - Aug. 17: Sunday School at 10am and Worship at 8:30 and 11am.

**Adult Sunday School:** On Marriage with pastors Ethan Smith and Ben Shaw, 1st Samuel with elder Delane Clark.

**Barnabas Training Basic** - Aug. 23 9am-4pm: Register before August 18th for Early Bird discount..

**Installation & Ordination Service w/ Dessert** - Aug. 24 7pm: All welcome!

**Gathering Hour** - Aug. 25 8-9pm: All women welcome to join us at the Remedy.

**Women's Bible Study in Revelation** - Begins Sept. 2: Register now for Wednesdays 9:30-11:30am (childcare available) or Tuesdays 7-8:30pm.

**Men's Cohorts in Revelation** - Begins week of Sept. 7: Register now for various times/days.

**Prayer Gathering** - Mondays 7-8pm: All are welcome in Rm 107.

**Women's Retreat** - Oct. 24-26: All women welcome! Registration now open.

### **PARENTS & CHILDREN**

**Hope Kids Worship Service** details available in Church Center and on the website.

**Youth Fall Programming** details available in Church Center and on the website.

**6th Grade Kickoff** - Today 4:30-6:30pm: Putt-putt + Dinner at Roar.

**Youth & Families Kickoff** - Aug. 17 5-6:30pm: Dinner provided in the pavilion!

**Kids Connection** - *Summer Verses* - God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea. (Psalm 46:1-2) My soul finds rest in God alone. My salvation comes from him. He alone is my rock and my salvation. He is my fortress. I will never be shaken. (Psalm 62:1-2)

**FINANCIAL UPDATE AS OF AUGUST 5, 2025**

	<b>Actual to Date</b>	<b>Budget through 8/31</b>	<b>Difference</b>	
<b>Income</b>	\$735,019	\$790,101	-\$55,082	-6.97%
<b>Expense</b>	\$781,307	\$976,612	-\$195,305	-20.00%
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	-\$46,289	-\$186,511	\$140,223	

**ANNUAL MINISTRY BUDGET: \$1,482,783**

<b><i>Making Room for More</i></b>	<b>Campaign Goal</b>	<b>Campaign Commitments</b>	<b>Gifts Received</b>
	\$8.6 million	\$5,224,302	\$2,521,945