

HOPE CHURCH



Courage 2, Jody Hewgill

March 8, 2026

Reflections

“Is there nothing to sing about today? Then borrow a song from tomorrow; sing of what is yet to be.”

Charles Spurgeon

“We all long for Eden and are constantly glimpsing it: our whole nature is soaked with the sense of exile.”

J.R.R. Tolkien

“The enthusiasms of my conversion have worn off. For whole stretches since the dream, since the baptism, my belief has faltered, my sense of God’s closeness has grown strained, my efforts at living in accord with what I take to be the call of the gospel have come undone.... Once upon a time, I thought I had arrived. Now I have arrived at a middle.”

Lauren Winner, *Still: Notes on a Mid-Faith Crisis*

Order of Worship

GATHERING

Rejoice, the Lord is King

Rejoice, the Lord is King:
Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing,
And triumph evermore.

Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Jesus, the Savior, reigns,
The God of truth and love;
When He has purged our stains,
He took his seat above;

His kingdom cannot fail,
He rules o'er earth and heav'n;
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus giv'n:

Rejoice in glorious hope!
Our Lord and judge shall come
And take His servants up
To their eternal home:

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

You have said, "Seek my face."
My heart says to you,
"Your face, Lord, do I seek."
Hide not your face from me.
Turn not your servant away in anger,
O you who have been my help.
Cast me not off; forsake me not,
O God of my salvation!

For my father and my mother have forsaken me,
but the Lord will take me in.

Teach me your way, O Lord,
and lead me on a level path
because of my enemies.

**Give me not up to the will of my adversaries;
for false witnesses have risen against me,
and they breathe out violence.**

I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living!

**Wait for the Lord;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the Lord!**

Psalm 27:8-14

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

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Hail to the Lord's anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun;
His reign on earth begun!

He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free,
To take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

He comes with comfort speedy
to those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong.

To give them songs for sighing,

their darkness turned to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
are precious in His sight.

He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
spring in His path to birth.

The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove;
His Name shall stand forever —
That Name to us is Love!

CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sovereign Creator, You spoke all that exists into being. You have made everything for its purpose, even the wicked for the day of trouble. Yet we confess that we have little faith. We worry about the same things that the world worries about. We confess that we are often anxious, trying to figure out the future and plan for every possibility. We obsess over the latest bad news as if by obsessing we can control things. We get stressed over the uncertainties of life rather than praying about them.

Lord, forgive us for our doubt and fear. Strengthen our faith to more firmly believe Your promise that if we seek Your kingdom first, You will take care of all our needs. Give rest to our minds by fixing them on Your sovereign power and perfect wisdom. Give peace to our hearts by anchoring them in Jesus, who has overcome the world by His glorious resurrection.

Through Jesus, our Living Hope, we pray.

Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

“O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?”

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

RENEWAL SONG

We Are Not Overcome

Flesh will fail, and bones will break;
thieves will steal, the earth will shake.
Night will fall, the light will fade;
The Lord will give and take away:

Because of His great love,
we are not overcome!
Because of His great love,
we are not overcome!

Put no trust in the earth,
in the sod you stand upon.
Flowers fade into dust;
The Lord will make a place for us:

Have no fear for your life;
turn your cheek! turn your cheek!
Bear the yoke of love and death;
The Lord will give all life and breath:

COVENANT OF BAPTISM (8:30am)

Greer Wells Jasperse

Jesus Loves You

Jesus loves you, this we know
For the Bible tells us so
Little ones to Him belong
They are weak, but He is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves you,
Yes, Jesus loves you,
Yes, Jesus loves you,
The Bible tells us so.

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CHILDREN DISMISSED (Both Services)

LIFE TOGETHER

PREACHING OF THE WORD

“Living the Little While of Discipleship”

David Speakman

¹⁶ Jesus went on to say, “In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me.”

¹⁷ At this, some of his disciples said to one another, “What does he mean by saying, ‘In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me,’ and ‘Because I am going to the Father’?” ¹⁸ They kept asking, “What does he mean by ‘a little while’? We don’t understand what he is saying.”

¹⁹ Jesus saw that they wanted to ask him about this, so he said to them, “Are you asking one another what I meant when I said, ‘In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me’?” ²⁰ Very truly I tell you, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. ²¹ A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. ²² So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy. ²³ In that day you will no longer ask me anything. Very truly I tell you, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. ²⁴ Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

²⁵ “Though I have been speaking figuratively, a time is coming when I will no longer use this kind of language but will tell you plainly about my Father. ²⁶ In that day you will ask in my name. I am not saying that I will ask the Father on your behalf. ²⁷ No, the Father himself loves you because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. ²⁸ I came from the Father and entered the world; now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father.”

²⁹ Then Jesus’ disciples said, “Now you are speaking clearly and without figures of speech. ³⁰ Now we can see that you know all things and that you do not even need to have anyone ask you questions. This makes us believe that you came from God.”

³¹ “Do you now believe?” Jesus replied. ³² “A time is coming and in fact has come when you will be scattered, each to your own home. You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with me.

³³ “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

John 16:16-33

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

Thanks be to God!

Sermon Notes

RESPONSE

SONG OF RESPONSE

Trisagion

Ho - ly God.

Ho - ly and might - y.

Ho - ly im - mor - tal One,

6
Have mer - cy, have mer - cy, on us.

The musical notation is for a song in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves. The first three staves have lyrics underneath them, and the fourth staff has a '6' above it and lyrics underneath. The melody is simple and repetitive, with a final double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator 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 to hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended to 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.

OFFERTORY

Psalm 126

Our mouths, they were filled,
filled with laughter;
Our tongues, they were loosed,
loosed with joy.
Restore us, O Lord!
Restore us, O Lord!

Although we are weeping,
Lord, help us keep sowing
The seeds of Your Kingdom
For the day You will reap them!
Your sheaves we will carry;
Lord, please do not tarry!
All those who sow weeping
Will go out with songs of joy!

The nations will say,
“He has done great things!”
The nations will sing songs of joy.
Restore us, O Lord!
Restore us, O Lord!

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

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things we will say together
We will feast and weep no more

We will not be burned by the fire
He is the Lord our God
We are not consumed by the flood
Upheld protected gathered up

In the dark of night before the dawn
My soul be not afraid
For the promised morning oh how long
Oh God of Jacob be my strength

Every vow we've broken and betrayed
You are the faithful one
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together bring shalom

SENDING

The Lamb Has Overcome

The Lamb has overcome
The Lamb has overcome
The battle's done and the victory is won
For the Lamb has overcome

No grave could hold him down
No grave could hold him down
Up from the ground, "He is risen!" was the sound
No grave could hold him down

At God's right hand is he
At God's right hand is he
Our Perfect Plea as he lives to intercede
At God's right hand is he

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Glory be unto his name

The table now is spread
The table now is spread
This wine and bread, broken body and blood shed
The table now is spread

The day is drawing near
The day is drawing near
He shall appear and will wipe away each tear
The day is drawing near

The Lamb has overcome
The Lamb has overcome
The battle's done and the victory is won
For the Lamb has overcome

BENEDICTION

“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.”

Numbers 6:24-26

LIFE TOGETHER

SERVE

Bagging Up Blessings - Feb. 15-Apr. 5: Fill barrels by entries with nonperishables.
Manna Bag Supplies Needed - by Mar. 31 8:30am: Shopping list in Looking Up.
Backpack Packing Party - Mar. 22 3:15-4:15pm: All ages, join us in the pavilion!
Hope Kids Worship volunteer needed for 11am service Jun. 14 and Aug. 19.

CHURCH LIFE

Deacon Nominations Open - Nomination form available in Looking Up.
Poverty Awareness Simulation - Mar. 21 10am-12:30pm at Redeemer: Register now.
Praying Church Seminar - Mar. 27-28: Registration link in Looking Up.
Memorial + Celebration Easter Lilies Orders due March 29th: Register now.
Gathering Hour - Mar. 30 8pm: Women invited for fellowship at Lot63.
Maundy Thursday - Apr. 2 7pm: A short service of songs and readings at Hope.
Good Friday Service - Apr. 3 7pm: Register for childcare.
A Thriving Marriage Workshop - Apr. 11 9am-3pm: Register now.

PARENTS & CHILDREN

Combined Sunday School - Today: 2nd-5th grade in Rm 203; 3s-1st grade in RM 109.
Summer Conference Registration Now Open for the Edge and RYM.
Kids Connection - *March Verse* - I am the vine you are the branches, if you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit. John 15:5

FINANCIAL UPDATE AS OF MARCH 3RD, 2025

| | Actual to Date | Budget through 3/31 | Difference | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------|---------|
| Income | \$178,741 | \$355,242 | -\$176,501 | -49.68% |
| Expense | \$252,021 | \$398,699 | -\$146,677 | -36.79% |
| Surplus (Deficit) | -\$73,280 | -\$43,457 | | |

ANNUAL MINISTRY BUDGET: \$1,558,309

MAKING ROOM FOR MORE UPDATE

| Campaign Goal | Campaign Commitments | Gifts Received Beyond Commitments | Total Funds Received to Date |
|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| \$8.6 million | \$5,243,302 | \$733,645 | \$4,374,809 |