

HOPE CHURCH



Allegories of the Virtues: Karitas (Charity), Giotto, 1306.

May 3, 2026

Reflections

“You may say to yourself, ‘My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.’ But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth...”

Deuteronomy 8:17-18

“What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?”

1 Corinthians 4:7

“There is not one square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry, ‘Mine!’”

Abraham Kuyper

“Considering the full sweep of the Christian tradition, one would have to conclude that the most profane word we can utter is that word: mine.”

William Willimon

“If we are not giving away our money in remarkable portions, we have not grasped (or we are not currently remembering) Christ’s generosity in saving us. Let’s put it even more starkly: you will always give effortlessly to that which is your salvation, to those things that give your life meaning. If Jesus is the one who saved you, your money flows out easily into his work, his people, and his causes. If, however, your real religion is your appearance, your social status, your pleasure, and your security, your money flows most easily into those items and symbols . . . To give largely and liberally, not grudging at all times, requires a new heart – an old heart would rather part with its lifeblood than with its money.”

Tim Keller

Order of Worship

GATHERING

House of God Forever

God is my shepherd
I won't be wanting
I won't be wanting
He makes me rest in fields of green
With quiet streams
Even though I walk through the valley
Of death and dying
I will not fear 'cause You are with me
You are with me

Your shepherd's staff comforts me
You are my feast in the presence of enemies
Surely goodness will follow me
Follow me
In the house of God forever

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Trust in the Lord, and do good;
dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

**Delight yourself in the Lord,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.**

Commit your way to the Lord;
trust in him, and he will act.

**He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,
and your justice as the noonday.**

I have been young, and now am old,
yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken
or his children begging for bread.

**He is ever lending generously,
and his children become a blessing.**

The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord;
he is their stronghold in the time of trouble.

from Psalm 37

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

Arise, Shine, For Your Light Has Come

Arise, shine, for your light has come
And the glory of God is on you.
Arise, see when the earth grows dark
That the Lord will arise upon you,
That the Lord will arise upon you.

Nations will come to your light;
Lift up your eyes and see.
We'll gather together and come to you
And your love will be all that we know.
Yes, your love will be all that we know.

Arise, come to the open gates
For the Father is welcoming you.
Fear not for the Lord brings peace
And redemption to all who believe,
And redemption to all who believe.

The sun will not shine cause you'll
Be all the light we need,
And violence will end all the wars
That we wage will cease.
We will glorify your name,
We will glorify your name.

PRAISE SONG

Great Are You Lord

You give life You are love
You bring light to the darkness

You give hope You restore
ev'ry heart that is broken
Great are You Lord

It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only

All the earth will shout Your praise
Our hearts will cry these bones will sing
Great are You Lord

CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace, you have called us to give ourselves completely to you. Yet, we often hold back part for worldly pursuits.

Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.

You have given us the gift of time. You give us time to serve, time to learn, time to grow, time to share. We spend our time serving self.

Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.

You provide us with opportunities to serve in numerous ways using the talents and abilities we have been given. We tend to hide our gifts.

Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.

You have provided even the least among us with more financial resources than most of the world. We resist sharing because of fear for the future.

Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.

You have provided us with a beautiful creation to enjoy. We take it for granted and abuse this incredible earth.

Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

...if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

2 Chronicles 7:14

RENEWAL SONG

Satisfied

All my life long I had panted

For a drink from some cool spring
That I hoped would quench the burning
Of the thirst I felt within

Hallelujah He has found me
The One my soul so long has craved
Jesus satisfies all my longings
Through His blood I now am saved

Feeding on the filth around me
Till my strength was almost gone
Longed my soul for something better
Only still to hunger on

Poor I was and sought for riches
Something that would satisfy
But the dust I gathered 'round me
Only mocked my soul's sad cry

Well of water ever springing
Bread of Life so rich and free
Untold wealth that never faileth
My Redeemer is to me

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

“Renewing Stewardship of the Good News of Christ”

David Speakman

¹⁷ Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. ¹⁸ And when they came to him, he said to them:

“You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, ¹⁹ serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; ²⁰ how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹ testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith

in our Lord Jesus Christ. ²² And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³ except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. ²⁴ But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. ²⁵ And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again.

³² And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³ I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴ You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵ In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

Acts 20: 17-25, 32-35

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

Thanks be to God!

Sermon Notes

RESPONSE

SONG OF RESPONSE

Exsultet



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

Open Hands

The earth you made and blest in days,
your spirit breathing into clay:
Lord, I receive with open hands

The breath that fails, the light that fades
while earth and heaven pass away,
I let them go with open hands.

In desert days a feast you spread
and with your manna I am fed,
Lord, I receive with open hands.
And when another needs this bread,
They ask as Christ, who broke and blessed
I let it go with open hands.

The work that waits for me today,
the joys and sorrows on the way,
Lord, I receive with open hands.
I give you any good I've gained
I give because you freely gave
I let it go with open hands.

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

Jesus Paid It All

I hear the Savior say, "Thy strength indeed is small!
Child of weakness watch and pray; find in Me thine all in all."

Lord, now indeed I find Thy power, and Thine alone,

Can change the leper's spots, and melt the heart of stone.

Jesus paid it all; all to Him I owe!
Sin had left a crimson stain: He washed it white as snow.

And when, before the throne I stand, in Him, complete,
"Jesus died my soul to save!" My lips shall still repeat!

Oh praise the One who paid my debt
And raised this life up from the dead

SENDING

SENDING SONG

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace.

Jesus, the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace

He breaks the pow'r of reigning sin,
he sets the pris'ner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean,
his blood availed for me.

Hear him, you deaf; you voiceless ones
your loosen'd tongues employ;
You blind, behold your Savior come;
and leap, you lame, for joy.

My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of your name.

BENEDICTION

“Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.”

Hebrews 13:20-21

LIFE TOGETHER

FAMILY UPDATES

Congrats Matthew and Olivia Morganti on the birth of Noah Andrew Morganti:
Meal plan in Looking Up.

SERVE

CityLights Snack Bag Wishlist in Looking Up for Hope Kids' Outreach May Project.
Forsyth Jail & Prison Ministry worship service - May 24: Contact Ethan Smith.
Hope for the City Mission Week - June 1-4: Registration for each day now open.

CHURCH LIFE

Summer Schedule begins May 17: Single 10am service and no Sunday School.
Men's Mentoring Ministry: Reach out to Tom Nicholson or Ben Shaw.
Lawn Party - May 3 5-7pm: Games | Dinner | Teacher Appreciation in the Pavilion.
High School Seniors Celebration - May 10 10am: Celebrate our grads in the Pavilion.
Women's Summer Book Study - Wednesdays 7:30-9pm: Register now.

PARENTS & CHILDREN

Hope Kids Camp - June 1-4: Register now for current K-5th!
Kids Connection - *May Verse* - God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21

FINANCIAL UPDATE AS OF APRIL 28TH, 2026

	Actual to Date		Budget through 4/30	Difference	
Income	\$435,103		\$440,233	-\$5,130	-1.17%
Expense	\$508,627		\$528,965	-\$20,338	-3.84%
Surplus (Deficit)	-\$73,524		-\$88,732		

ANNUAL MINISTRY BUDGET: \$1,558,309

MAKING ROOM FOR MORE UPDATE

Campaign Goal	Campaign Commitments	Gifts Received Beyond Commitments	Total Funds Received to Date
\$9.4 million	\$5,243,302	\$737,317	\$4,575,204