

January 18, 2026



**Jesus Is for You in Every Little Way**

**LIVING HOPE**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

welcome to  
**WORSHIP**

We're so glad you decided to worship with us today. You could have chosen to be anywhere this morning, and you chose to spend your time with Living Hope. Thank you! It's an honor to have you here and to have the chance to fill you with hope. Welcome to Living Hope.

**CURRENT SERIES INFO**

**Current Series: Know Jesus, Know Joy**

Epiphany is the season of revelation—when God pulls back the curtain and shows us who Jesus truly is. From the worship of the Magi to the waters of baptism and the first signs of glory, Jesus is made known not just as a teacher, but as the Savior of the world. This series invites us to move beyond familiarity to true knowing. As we encounter Jesus in Scripture, worship, and daily life, we discover a joy that is deeper than happiness and stronger than circumstances. When Christ is revealed, joy is renewed. Because to know Jesus is to know joy.

**Today's Focus: Jesus is for you in every little way**

Today Pastor Eric and Jennifer are in Arlington, TN just outside of Memphis to visit one of the church planters that he's been coaching. It's a great blessing to share in the work of planting churches together in our synod and great networking opportunity for the coaches and the pastors they coach. Today, for our sermon, we'll be listening to a video sermon by one of the leaders of our synod's Church Planter Network, Pastor Matt Rothe. Pastor Matt serves at a church plant called The Way in Fredericksburg, VA. He'll be sharing a message with us that centers on Jesus' baptism and how our Savior shows that he is here for us in every way—both the big ways and the little ways. We also thank our church president, David Dyer, for leading us through the liturgy today!



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LUTHERAN CHURCH

## ABOUT LIVING HOPE

Living Hope Lutheran Church is a brand new mission church on Chattanooga's east side. We are funded by and a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, a collection of over 1,300 churches across the United States and Canada.

**Living Hope succeeds in its mission when hope forever in Jesus brings hope for every day in life.**

For more on our mission, background, and beliefs just visit our website: [livinghopechatt.com](http://livinghopechatt.com)

## ABOUT WORSHIP

Worship at Living Hope is designed to fill you with hope! The message you hear at Living Hope will center you on your Savior, Jesus, and what he's done for you. Worship isn't just about filling up God with praise. Worship is all about *God filling you* with good news!

We follow a basic order of service, called the liturgy. In the message, in specially selected Scripture readings, and in carefully crafted songs, prayers, and creeds, the liturgy proclaims the good news (gospel) about Jesus from start to finish. Gospel-centered worship is also designed to include participation of those in attendance.

- Feel free to get up to use restrooms **at any time** during the service.
- **Restrooms** are located around the corner to your right.
- A **nursery** is available for small children out the left-hand side of the worship space. Just look for the **Kid's Zone sign** just past the info corner by the main entrance. Feel free to use that space during worship. The service will be livestreamed into the room.
- **Kid activity bags** are available on a table by the entrance to the sanctuary.
- Please fill out a **connection card**. It's our best way to stay in touch with you and thank you for joining us today! You'll find connection cards on the table at the entrance.
- Everything you need to enjoy today's worship will be found in this Worship Folder. **Songs** will also be found on the screen.

*Show friends where you are—check in!*



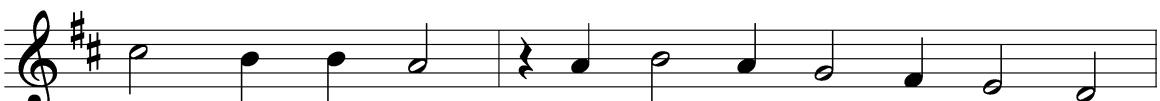
*Music reprinted under OneLicense.net A-730027 and CCLI A-21626251*

## O Holy Spirit, Enter In

CW 590



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, en - ter in and in our hearts  
2 Give to your Word im - pres - sive pow'r that in our hearts  
3 O might - y Rock, O Source of life, let your dear Word,



your work be - gin, your dwell - ing place now make us.  
from this good hour as fire it may be glow - ing,  
in doubt and strife, in us be strong - ly burn - ing



Sun of the soul, O Light di - vine, a - round and in  
that in true Chris - tian u - ni - ty we faith - ful wit -  
that we be faith - ful un - to death and live in love



us bright - ly shine, to joy and glad - ness wake us  
ness - es may be, your glo - ry ev - er show - ing.  
and ho - ly faith, from you true wis - dom learn - ing.



that we may be tru - ly liv - ing, to you giv - ing  
Hear us, cheer us by your teach - ing; let our preach - ing  
Your grace and peace on us show - er; by your pow - er



prayer un - ceas - ing and in love be still in - crea - ing.  
and our la - bor praise you, Lord, and serve our neigh - bor.  
Christ con - fess - ing, let us see our Sav - ior's bless - ing.

Text: Michael Schirmer, 1606–1673, abr., adapt.; (sts. 1, 3): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (st. 2): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.  
Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

The name of the Triune God and sign of the cross remind worshipers of their baptisms.

## Call to Worship

In the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

In every worship service we confess our sins then cling to the forgiveness that Jesus gives us. Confession is called the “heartbeat of the Christian.”

## Confession & Absolution

We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love.**

**Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**Amen.**

## Amazing Grace

CW 576 sts. 1-2

1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— that  
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, that his

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but  
Word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and

now am found, was blind but now I en - see.  
por - tion be as long as as life dures.

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt.

Tune: Columbian Harmony, Cincinnati, 1829, ed. Benjamin Shaw; ed. Charles H. Spilman

Text and tune: Public domain

## Prayer of the Day

Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children, and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## GOD'S WORD

### Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 42:1–7*

<sup>1</sup>“Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
    my chosen one in whom I delight;  
I will put my Spirit on him,  
    and he will bring justice to the nations.

<sup>2</sup>He will not shout or cry out,  
    or raise his voice in the streets.

<sup>3</sup>A bruised reed he will not break,  
    and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out.  
In faithfulness he will bring forth justice;  
    <sup>4</sup>he will not falter or be discouraged  
till he establishes justice on earth.

    In his teaching the islands will put their hope.”

<sup>5</sup>This is what God the LORD says—  
the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out,  
    who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it,  
    who gives breath to its people,  
    and life to those who walk on it:

<sup>6</sup>“I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness;  
    I will take hold of your hand.

I will keep you and will make you  
    to be a covenant for the people  
    and a light for the Gentiles,

<sup>7</sup>to open eyes that are blind,  
    to free captives from prison  
    and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.

## Epistle Reading

Acts 10:34-38

<sup>34</sup>Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism <sup>35</sup>but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. <sup>36</sup>You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

## Children's Message

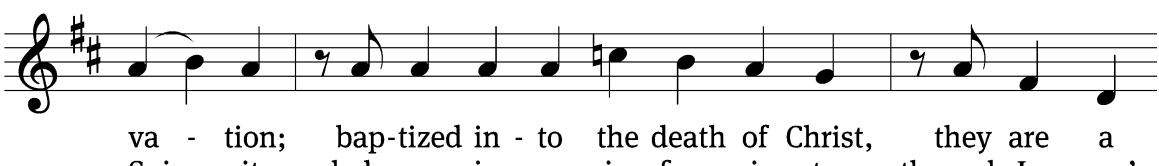
*Children are invited to come forward into the front for the children's message. They will be given a special message designed just for them that ties in with the sermon.*

## All Who Believe and Are Baptized

CW 692



1 All who be - lieve and are bap - tized shall see the Lord's sal -  
2 With one ac - cord, O God, we pray: grant us your Ho - ly



va - tion; bap - tized in - to the death of Christ, they are a  
Spir - it; help us in our in - firm - i - ty through Je - sus'



new cre - a - tion; through Christ's re - demp - tion they shall stand a -  
blood and mer - it; grant us to grow in grace each day that



mong the glo-rious, heav'n-ly band  
by this sac - ra - ment we may  
of ev - 'ry tribe and na - tion.  
e - ter - nal life in - her - it.

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt.

Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524

Text and tune: Public domain

*Please Stand*

The Gospel centers our worship as it shares with us the good news about Christ.  
We stand out of respect for our Savior as we hear about his words and deeds

## Sermon Reading

*Matthew 3:13–17*

<sup>13</sup>Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. <sup>14</sup>But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”

<sup>15</sup>Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented.

<sup>16</sup>As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup>And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

The gospel of the Lord

**Praise be to Christ!**

*Please be seated*

## **Jesus Is for You in Every Little Way**

**My sermon notes:**

*Please stand*

## Create in Me a Pure Heart

Cre - ate in me a

pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with -

in me. Do not cast me a - way from your

pres-ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from

me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -

hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Christians have used the Apostles' Creed since the second century to unite themselves together and to obey God's invitation to "confess with our mouth and believe with our hearts" (Romans 10:9).

## Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into 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 Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**  
**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## **Offering**

*We collect offerings out of thanks for what God has done for us so that we can support gospel work here and around the world. You can give using the envelope provided in your worship folder. You'll also find instructions there for how to give online if you'd prefer. Thank you for supporting our gospel ministry! If you are a guest with us don't feel obligated to contribute. This service is our free gift to you!*

Praying the prayer of the church is a time when we can pray for people in all kinds of circumstances and for the work of God's church on earth.

## **Prayer of the Church**

Heavenly Father, as your Son fulfilled all righteousness and submitted to Baptism in the Jordan with sinners to your good pleasure, you opened the heavens for us and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. As you have joined us to Jesus' death and resurrection by the waters of Holy Baptism and given us your Spirit, strengthen our hearts and open our ears to hear your holy Word and rejoice that in Christ you have made us to be your beloved children too. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Lord of all power, all the might of nations and kingdoms is nothing before you. We ask you to give your blessing to all those who serve your people in government,

the police, firefighters, emergency medical personnel, disaster relief and the armed forces. Give them good and honest hearts for their service, and lead them to know and do what is good and right for all people. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Gracious Father, at his Baptism, your Son voluntarily took on himself all our frailties and the results of our sinfulness. Give your comfort to all who mourn. Extend your healing hand to all who need your care. Assure them of your promise that even when your people walk through the fire, the flames will not consume them. Grant them faith to believe that they need not fear, for you are with them. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, gracious Father, we commend ourselves and all those for whom we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

**Amen.**

The historical “blessing of Aaron” (Numbers 6:24-26) has been spoken over God’s people for over 3,500 years.

# There Is One Gospel

By City Alight

There is one Gos - pel on which I stand for all the  
is one Gos - pel to which I cling,  
is one Gos - pel where hope is found,  
all e - ter - ni - ty. It is my sto - ry, my  
else I count as loss. For there, where jus - tice and my  
emp - ty tomb still speaks. For death could not keep my  
Fa - ther's plan, the Son has res - cued me.  
mer - cy meet, He saved me on the cross.  
Sav - iour down, He lives and I am free.  
Oh, what a Gos - pel, oh what a peace. My high - est joy and my  
No more I boast in what I can bring, no more I car - ry the  
Now on my Sav - iour I fix my eyes, my life is His and His  
deep - est need. Now and for - ev - er, He is my light. I  
weight of sin. For He has brought me from death to life. I  
hope is mine. For He has pro - mised I will rise. I  
stand in the Gos - pel of Je - sus Christ.  
stand in the Gos - pel of Je - sus Christ.  
stand in the Gos - pel of Je - sus Christ.

Final verse on next page

And in this Gos-pel, the church is one, we  
 do not walk a - lone. We have His Spi - rit as we press on to  
 lead us safe - ly home. And when in glo - ry still I will sing  
 of this old sto - ry that res - cued me. Praise to my Sav - iour, the  
 King of life. I stand in the Gos - pel of Je - sus Christ.

#### Acknowledgments

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Upcoming Services

Current sermon series: Know Jesus, Know Joy

Epiphany is the season of revelation—when God pulls back the curtain and shows us who Jesus truly is. As we encounter Jesus in Scripture, worship, and daily life, we discover a joy that is deeper than happiness and stronger than circumstances. When Christ is revealed, joy is renewed. Because to know Jesus is to know joy.

### Thank you to today's musicians and vocalists!

Mark Hennings; piano



## **Sunday School and Bible Study—After worship at 11:30**

Sunday School for children and Sunday Study will take place after worship today. The adults are doing a study on the book of Judges called Broken Saviors as we take a deep dive into a very rich and messy book of the Bible full of applications for us today. Children will meet with their appropriate age groups and are taught by a team of teachers with full background checks.

## **Fellowship Event: Living Hope Talent/No Talent Show—Saturday February 7th: 4-7PM**

Time to get out of the house and have some fun! Living Hope will be having its first Talent/No Talent Show on Saturday, February 7th from 4-7pm. We are looking for people of all ages to share their “talents” with everyone! If you are a musician, magician or the best fitted sheet folder, we want you there! Artistically talented? Bring and share, we would love to see it! We will have a sign-up sheet in the fellowship area or you can sign up with the link that was emailed to you last week. There will be a sign up for those who want to present a talent and a sign up for those who just want to share in the food and fun. Pizza and drinks will be provided.

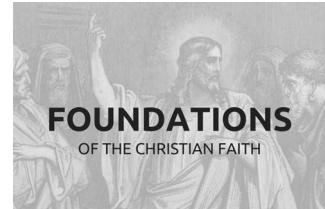
## **Living Hope Small Groups**

Find more information on the small groups bulletin board in the lobby about available groups to get involved with.

- Theology on Tap and Women’s Group — (ON BREAK)
- Men’s Group—Mondays every other week at 7am. (next meeting Mon. Jan 19)
- Hands of Hope—every other Thursday at 10am. (next meeting on Thurs Jan 29)

## **Foundations Bible Study**

If you’re interested in membership here at Living Hope, Foundations is our “next step” class, but even if you’re not interested in membership, you’ll find it to be a good overview of what God has to say to you in his Word. If you’re interested in attending the course just check the box on your connection envelope that says “I’d like to attend a membership class” in order to jump into a new group class or individual class. There are both in-person or online classes available!



In person classes are available on Saturdays at 11:00am at church.

Online classes are available on Thursdays at 7:30pm. Message pastor for a class link.

## Connection Envelopes

We'd love to get your valuable feedback on our worship service today. If this is your first time at Living Hope we also want the opportunity to give you a gift to say "thanks for being our guest!" You can place your connection envelopes in the offering plate as it passes or in the basket located at the entrance of the sanctuary. Also feel free to just hand it to pastor.

## Members' Minute

### Birthday Blessings:

Devon Frank 1/19  
Don McCary 1/19  
Anne Smith 1/19  
Jenny Hynson 1/22  
Hattie Kilberg 1/22  
Aaron Nolan 1/23

### We pray for the following members, family, and friends

Snyder family— Chuck and Mary's son-in-law, Brian, passed away a week ago on Sunday. We pray especially for Sara and their two boys, Joe and Charlie.

### Service Teams — This week

Sunday Setup Team—Baggett, Bloedorn  
Snack Provider—Mayer, C. Rice  
Ushers—Hansen / Open  
Acolyte—Eliza Dyer

### Service Teams — Next week Jan 25

Sunday Setup Team—Mayer  
Snack Provider—Amerson, Hansen  
Ushers—Frizzell, Smith  
Acolyte—Ka'myah Davis

Pastor Eric Melso

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