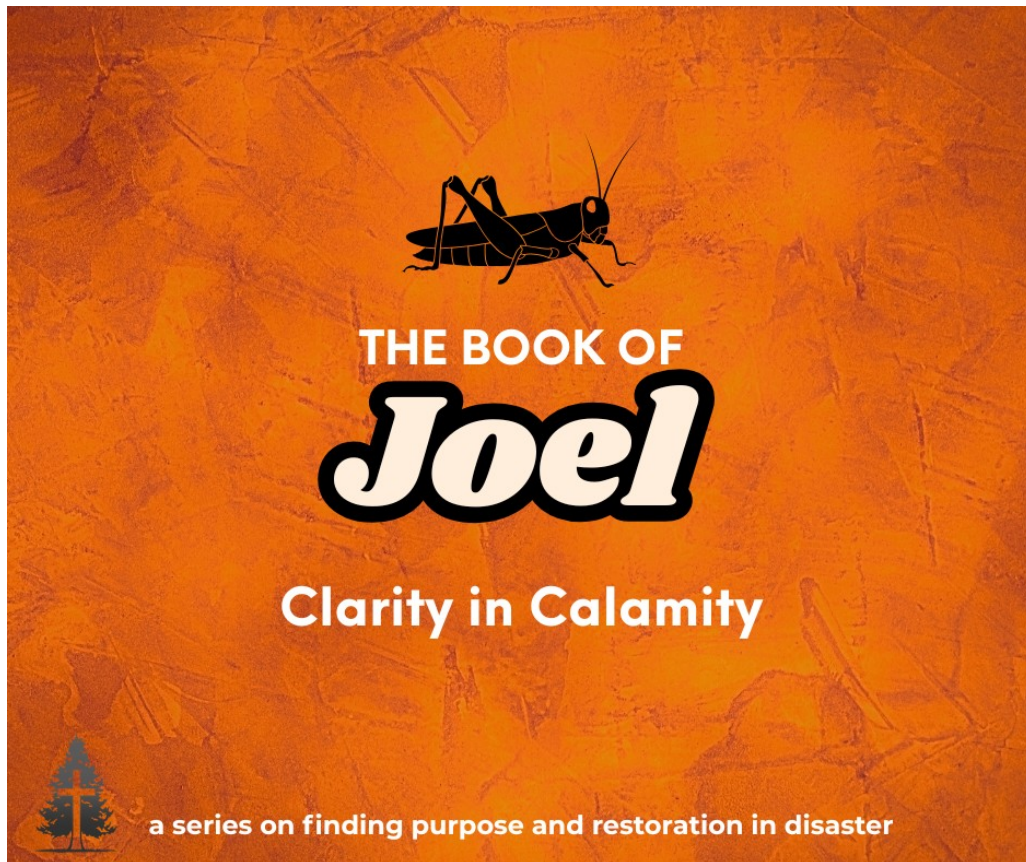


November 2, 2025

All Saints' Day



The Destination Gives Stamina to the Saints

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: the Book of Joel—Clarity in Calamity

When disaster strikes—when the world feels stripped bare and life seems out of control—where is God? The book of Joel begins with devastation: locusts, drought, and despair. Yet through the chaos, God speaks with surprising clarity. Joel calls God's people not to panic, but to return—to repent, to renew hope, and to rediscover God's faithfulness.

In this series, Clarity in Calamity, we'll journey through Joel's powerful message of warning and restoration. We'll see how God uses crisis to call his people closer, how repentance opens the door to renewal, and how the promise of the Spirit gives hope beyond destruction.

Even in the ruins, God's voice cuts through the noise—offering direction, mercy, and a future filled with his presence.

Today's Focus: The Destination Gives Stamina to the Saints

This whole section of Joel 3 could be pictured as God putting his hand under the chins of the downhearted and lifting up their eyes. We get clarity in calamity and hardship because of the abundantly good and clear picture God gives us of our destination. The destination is eternal life with God. No matter how hard the journey is, no matter the calamities along the way, it's the thought of home that gives you comfort and stamina to keep going.



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

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!



/livinghopechatt

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For All the Saints

CW 551 st. 1

1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest,
who thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy
name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.

Tune: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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.

As we gather in worship this All Saints' Sunday, our sanctuary offers a small glimpse of that glorious scene in heaven given to the Apostle John:

“After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm

branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice:

‘Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!’”

Revelation 7:9-10

**♪ You were their rock, their fortress, and their might;
You, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight
And in the darkness drear their one true light.
Alleluia! Alleluia! (CW551:2)**

The Confession

As we look forward to joining the saints in heaven, we struggle as saints on earth. The prophet Isaiah tells us: “All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.” Despised and scorned by the world, we beg for forgiveness and respite from our earthly anguish and fallen condition so that we too may join the saints in heaven:

**Most merciful God, who has given your only begotten Son to die for us,
have mercy on us in our weakness.**

**As we have struggled against Satan, the world, and our sinful flesh,
all too often we have strayed from your ways
and stained our clothing with transgression.**

**Grant us remission O heavenly Father!
Increase in us our true knowledge of you and of your will.**

**Strengthen us and increase our obedience in this great tribulation
so that we too may endure to the end!**

**♪ And when the fight is fierce, the warfare long,
Steals on the ear the distant triumph-song,
And hearts are brave again and arms are strong.
Alleluia! Alleluia! (CW 551:5)**

The Absolution

Brothers and sisters in Christ, our Savior Jesus assures us: “the one who endures to the end will be saved.” It is this same Jesus who endured the tribulation of this world without sin, endured the unbounded wrath of God on the cross in our place, and conquered death forever with his resurrection. Rest assured knowing that because of his saving work, you will endure to the end!

Your filthy garments have become clean because they have been washed in the blood of the Lamb. Hear the Word of God through his called servant, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

We return to the glorious vision of the Apostle John:

Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?”

I answered, “Sir, you know.”

And he said, “These are they who are coming out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Therefore,

“they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple;

and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

‘Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst.

The sun will not beat down on them,’ nor any scorching heat.

For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd;

‘he will lead them to springs of living water.’

And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’

Revelation 7:13-17

♪ The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon, to faithful warriors comes their rest.
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

♪ From earth's wide bounds to ocean's farthest coast
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia! (CW551:6,8)

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you have knit your people together into one holy Church, the body of Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow the example of your blessed saints in lives of faith and willing service and with them at last inherit the inexpressible joys that you have prepared for those who love you; 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

Epistle Reading

Revelation 21:1–6

¹Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ²I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴“He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

⁵He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

⁶He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life.

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

Gospel

Luke 6:20–23

²⁰Looking at his disciples, he said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹Blessed are you who hunger now,
for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²²Blessed are you when people hate you,
when they exclude you and insult you
and reject your name as evil,
because of the Son of Man.

²³“Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

The gospel of the Lord
Praise be to Christ!

Please be seated

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.

By All Your Saints Still Striving

CW 892 sts. 1, 4, 3



- 1 By all your saints still striv - ing, for all your saints at rest,
- 2 A - pos - tles, proph - ets, mar - tyrs, and all the no - ble thron
- 3 Then let us praise the Fa - ther and wor - ship God the Son



your ho - ly name, O Je - sus, for - ev - er - more be blessed.
who wear the spot - less rai - ment and raise the cease - less song—
and sing to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One,



You rose, our King vic - to - rious, that they might wear the crown
for these, passed on be - fore us, we of - fer prais - es due
till all the ran - somed num - ber who stand be - fore the throne



and ev - er shine in splen - dor re - flect - ed from your throne.
and, walk - ing in their foot - steps, would live our lives for you.
as - cribe all pow'r and glo - ry and praise to God a - lone.

Text: Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823–1913, alt.

Tune: Finnish

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Reading

Joel 3:17–21

¹⁷“Then you will know that I, the LORD your God,
dwell in Zion, my holy hill.

Jerusalem will be holy;
never again will foreigners invade her.

¹⁸“In that day the mountains will drip new wine,
and the hills will flow with milk;
all the ravines of Judah will run with water.

A fountain will flow out of the LORD’s house
and will water the valley of acacias.

¹⁹But Egypt will be desolate,
Edom a desert waste,
because of violence done to the people of Judah,
in whose land they shed innocent blood.

²⁰Judah will be inhabited forever
and Jerusalem through all generations.

²¹Shall I leave their innocent blood unavenged?
No, I will not.”

The LORD dwells in Zion!

The Destination Gives Stamina to the Saints

Questions to consider while hearing the sermon:

1. What are some ways we might understand the word “saints”?
2. What 5 issues will we still run into in this life, despite the fact we are “saints”?
3. In what ways does unrest/conflict show up in our lives?

4. Why does the 5th issue hurt the most?
5. How does God address all 5 of those issues?
6. What are the 5 “p” words that God has given us instead?
7. Old Testament prophecies often have a threefold fulfillment. What are the 3?
8. What kind of “prosperity” is now ours in the New Testament Church?
9. How does God give us his “presence” today, here and now?
10. How does knowing our destination give us stamina for each day in life?

Discussion questions:

1. Why do you think it’s hard for believers to feel like saints even when God calls us holy?
2. How have you seen God give you “stamina” in a time when you were spiritually tired or discouraged?
3. In your own words, share how the concept of Old Testament prophecies having a “threefold fulfillment” helps you better appreciate the Old Testament today.
4. Which of the five promises described in Joel 3—purity, prosperity, peace, permanence, and presence—do you most long for in your life right now?
5. How might fixing your eyes on your eternal destination change the way you approach daily frustrations, losses, or fears?

Please stand

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

Living in a world where people believe that the universe was formed through chance and accident, what do you believe?

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

Living in a world where people are confronted with the guilt and punishment of sin, what do you believe Jesus did for you?

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.

Living in a world where people are without hope and certainty, what do you believe?

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!

Lord, When Your Glory I Shall See

Offertory

Sung by the Living Hope choir

Prayer of the Church

With grateful hearts, Lord,

We remember before you this day...

That great cloud of witnesses whose living trust in you, recorded in your Word, becomes an example for us to imitate and follow.

Inspire us as we remember them and grant us your blessing.

With grateful hearts, Lord,

We remember before you this day...

The reformers and confessors who faced the terror of church and empire but stood firm in your truth because they were moved by grace, empowered by faith, and guided by Scripture.

Inspire us as we remember them and grant us their courage.

With grateful hearts, Lord,

We remember before you this day...

Your faithful followers of every age—among them our parents and grandparents and our mentors and models—whom your Spirit called, gathered, enlightened, and sanctified to be your holy Church and by whose faithful words and deeds the gospel of your grace arrived also to us.

Inspire us as we remember them and grant us their resolve.

With grateful hearts, Lord,

We remember before you this day...

Those we have known who endured uncommon handicaps, chronic illnesses, and severe hardships yet followed you in simple faith and lived their lives with patience and persistence.

Inspire us as we remember them and grant us their joy.

With grateful hearts, Lord,

We remember before you this day...

Our own loved ones whose memories still burn within our hearts, whom you have called in your good time from their labors in life to that life which knows no end.

Inspire us as we remember them and grant us their reward.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Empower us, Lord, to carry on the work you gave to your people of the past, trusting your Son, holding to your Word, confessing your truth, loving the lost, reaching out with your love, until you call us, too, by your great grace in Jesus Christ, to join them where memories are swallowed up in everlasting joy.

Amen.

When Jesus' disciples asked him how to pray he gave them the words of this prayer. (Matt. 6:9-13 and Luke 11:2-4) Since Jesus advises we pray this way, we say "The Lord's Prayer" every Sunday.

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.

Jerusalem the Golden

CW 889



1 Je - ru - sa - lem the gold - en, with milk and hon - ey blest—
2 O sweet and bless - ed coun - try, the home of God's e - lect!
3 The Christ is ev - er with them, the day-light is se - rene;



the sight of it re - fresh - es the wea - ry and op - pressed.
O sweet and bless - ed coun - try that ea - ger hearts ex - pect,
the pas - tures of the bless - ed are ev - er rich and green.



I know not, oh, I know not what joys a - wait us there,
where they who with their lead - er have con - quered in the fight
There is the throne of Da - vid, and there, from care re - leased,



what ra - dian - cy of glo - ry, what bliss be - yond com - pare:
for - ev - er and for - ev - er are clad in robes of white:
the shout of them that tri - umph, the song of them that feast.



to sing the hymn un - end - ing with all the mar - tyr throng,
in mer - cy, Je - sus, bring us to that dear land of rest
To God en - throned in glo - ry the Church's voic - es blend,



a - midst the halls of Zi - on re - sound - ing full with song.
where sings the host of heav - en your glo - rious name to bless.
the Lamb for - ev - er bless - ed, the Light that knows no end.

Acknowledgments

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Services

Current worship series - Clarity in Calamity: the Book of Joel. In this series we'll journey through Joel's powerful message of warning and restoration. We'll see how God uses crisis to call his people closer, how repentance opens the door to renewal, and how the promise of the Spirit gives hope beyond destruction.

Next week: The Calamity Plot Twist

Thank you to today's musicians and vocalists!

Emily Knutson; piano — Living Hope choir



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.

Congregational Update—Sunday November 9 after worship

Our next ministry update will be held after worship next week on Sunday November 9. Plan to stick around to hear more about what's coming up, how you can get involved in our gospel outreach, and to share your valuable input with the Council.

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—Tuesdays at 7pm (sermon discussion group)
- Women's Group—Mondays every other week at 6:30pm (ON BREAK)
- Men's Group—Mondays every other week at 7am.
- Hands of Hope—Thursdays twice a month at 10am.

Theology on Tap—Tuesday November 4 @ 7:00PM

Grab a drink. Grab a bite to eat. Get a taste for good theology and good conversation in a laid back setting. Each week we'll take a deeper look at Sundays sermon content and discuss how to apply that message to everyday life.

Theology on Tap meets at **Lupi's Pizza** in Cambridge Square.

9454 Bradmore Ln. Suite 109—Cambridge Square, Ooltewah



Living Hope Men's Group—Next session: Monday, November 3 @ 7:00AM

The Living Hope men's group will be meeting every other Monday morning at 7am at Panera Bread on Gunbarrel Rd. The group will discuss a wide variety of topics that address men living as citizens of the kingdom of heaven in a fallen world. Men of all ages are invited.

Panera Bread—1810 Gunbarrel Road—Chattanooga, TN 37421

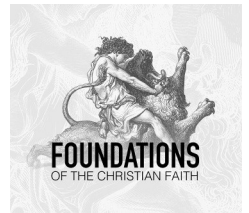
New Small Group!— "Hands of Hope"

"Hands of Hope" is Living Hope's newest small group. This is a service focused group with members working together to clean and maintain our church facilities, as well as supporting other small projects. The group will meet twice a month on Thursday mornings at 10 a.m. (for approximately 2 hours or less) and is open to all members: retired, near-retired, or anyone who has free time! This is a budgeted group, so in addition to the work time there will be a time of fellowship with lunch provided afterward at a restaurant. **Next meeting: 11/6/25 at 10am** Coordinator: Gretchen Bassett, 423-584-1981, gretchen.bassett@gmail.com

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

Anniversary Blessings:

Donnie and Elizabeth Harr—November 3

Don and Kelly Dillard—November 7

We pray for the following members, family, and friends

Amy Rice — Moving to a new area for a job.

Frank Patterson — Frank is Kate Talley's brother in law. He's been going through many health difficulties which is causing a lot of stress (mentally and financially) for their whole family. Frank goes in for his first hip surgery on November 4th.

What the Christian faith teaches is that believers in Christ always have hope in the midst of earthly problems. God has promised good things in the future, and, in times of trouble, we can set our hearts on his Gospel promises. The sinful world always seems to be lurching from one misery to the next—be it locusts, war, disease, poverty, pollution, floods, fire, earthquakes, accidents, oppression, rioting, genocide, or terrorism. In the midst of these chaotic surroundings, believers in Christ can be calm, confident, and optimistic. For Christ's sake, God dwells with us in Zion now, providing all that we need spiritually and physically. And just as the book of Joel has a triumphant ending, so the life of every believer in Christ will have a triumphant ending. God will receive us into heavenly bliss, where we will dwell in the presence of God for all eternity.

Cyril of Alexandria closed his commentary on Joel with a little prayer as he was thinking about the heavenly Jerusalem, and we can join him: "May it come to pass that we arrive there through Christ, through whom and with whom be glory to the Father, together with the Holy Spirit forever. Amen."⁴² We can say with the apostle John: "Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!" (Rev 22:20).

Great quote on Joel 3:17-21 from Prof. Thomas P. Nass in Joel: Concordia Commentary (p.565)

Service Teams — This week

Sunday Setup Team—Marshall
Snack Provider—Hansen, Turner
Ushers—Frizzell, Rice
Acolyte—Natalie Melso

Service Teams — Next week Nov. 9

Sunday Setup Team—Thom
Snack Provider—Bassett, Dyer
Ushers—Ludwig, Marshall
Acolyte—Benjamin Shulz



LIVING HOPE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

HOPE FOR EVERYDAY

Pastor Eric Melso

423-933-2452

pastormelso@livinghopechatt.com

www.livinghopechatt.com

