

February 1, 2026



**From Weeping to Rejoicing**

**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: From Weeping to Rejoicing**

The more we come to revere and understand God's Word the more we see the truth of God's Law. The Law unveils truths about us that make us want to weep. And yet, the more we come to revere and understand God's Word the more we also see the truth of God's Gospel. The good news of Jesus dries our tears and brings joy to our sin-weary hearts. Jesus is the one who takes us from weeping to rejoicing.



## 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!*



/livinghopechatt

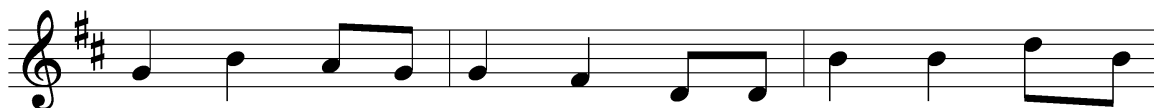
*Music reprinted under OneLicense.net A-730027 and CCLI A-21626251*

# See This Wonder in the Making

CW 646



1 See this won - der in the mak - ing: God him -  
2 Mir - a - cle each time it hap - pens as the  
3 Far more ten - der than a moth - er, far more  
4 Here we bring a child of na - ture; home we



self this child is tak - ing as a lamb safe in his  
door of heav - en o - pens and the Fa - ther beams, "Be -  
car - ing than a fa - ther, God, in - to your arms we  
take a new-born crea - ture, now God's pre - cious son or



keep - ing, his to be, a - wake or sleep - ing.  
lov - ed, heir of gifts a king would cov - et!"  
place *him/her/them*, with your love and peace em - brace *him/her/them*.  
daugh - ter, born a - gain by Word and wa - ter.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

Tune: Lofsånger och andeliga visor, Sweden, 1873

Text: © 1984 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 730027

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.**

## **Holy Baptism**

I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

**Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.**

*John 3:5,6*

Surely we were sinful at birth, sinful from the time our mothers conceived us.

*Psalm 51:5*

**But we were washed, we were sanctified, we were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.**

*1 Corinthians 6:11*

As baptized children of God, we confess our sins.

**Holy and merciful Father,**

**I confess that I am by nature sinful**

**and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good.**

**For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity.**

**But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray:**

**Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless (*Ephesians 5:25-27*). Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins 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."

## BAPTISMAL RITE for Liliana Lopez

*Parents: Sebastian and Melody Lopez*

*Godparents: Thomas and Lisania Meyer (Liliana's aunt and uncle)*

### I Am Jesus' Little Lamb

CW 804



1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb; ev - er glad at  
2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my  
3 Who so hap - py as I am, e - ven now the



heart I am, for my Shep - herd gent - ly guides me,  
staff and stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me,  
Shep - herd's lamb? And when my short life is end - ed,



knows my need and well pro - vides me, loves me ev - 'ry  
in - to pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; when I thirst, he  
by his an - gel host at - tend - ed, he shall fold me



day the same, e - ven calls me by my name.  
bids me go where the qui - et wa - ters flow.  
to his breast, there with - in his arms to rest.

Text: Henrietta L. von Hayn, 1724–1782; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Choral-Buch . . . Brüder-Gemeinen, Leipzig, 1784

Text and tune: Public domain

## Prayer of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, look with mercy on our weaknesses, and in all our dangers and needs stretch out the right hand of your majesty to help and defend us; 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

*2 Peter 1:16–21*

<sup>16</sup>For we did not follow cleverly devised stories when we told you about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in power, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup>He received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.” <sup>18</sup>We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain.

<sup>19</sup>We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup>Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation of things. <sup>21</sup>For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

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

*Please Stand*

## **Gospel**

*Matthew 5:17–20*

<sup>17</sup>“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. <sup>18</sup>For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

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.*



# The People Who in Darkness Walked

CW 381



1 The peo - ple who in dark - ness walked have seen a glo - rious  
 2 To us a child of hope is born, to us a son is  
 3 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, the Ev - er - last - ing  
 4 His right - eous gov - ern - ment and pow'r shall o - ver all ex -  
 5 Lord Je - sus, reign in us, we pray, and make us yours a -



light; the heav'n - ly dawn broke forth on those who  
 giv'n, and on his shoul - ders ev - er rests all  
 Lord, the Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, the  
 tend; on judg - ment and on jus - tice based, his  
 lone, for you are with the Fa - ther and the



dwelt in death and night, who dwelt in death and night.  
 pow'r in earth and heav'n, all pow'r in earth and heav'n.  
 God by all a - dored, the God by all a - dored.  
 reign shall have no end, his reign shall have no end.  
 Spir - it ev - er one, the Spir - it ev - er one.

Text: John Morison, 1749–1798, abr., alt.

Tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561

Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon Reading

*Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10*

<sup>1</sup>...all the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded for Israel.

<sup>2</sup>So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. <sup>3</sup>He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

<sup>5</sup>Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. <sup>6</sup>Ezra praised the LORD, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, “Amen! Amen!” Then they bowed down and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

<sup>8</sup>They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read.

<sup>9</sup>Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, “This day is holy to the LORD your God. Do not mourn or weep.” For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law.

<sup>10</sup>Nehemiah said, “Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

## From Weeping to Rejoicing

### Questions to consider while hearing the sermon:

1. Why did Nehemiah weep?
2. What was the most important part of Nehemiah's restoration?
3. List the 4 interactions both we and the Israelites have with God's Word:

\_\_\_\_\_ the Word

\_\_\_\_\_ the Word

\_\_\_\_\_ at the Word

\_\_\_\_\_ at the Word

4. What strikes you most about the people's reverence for the Word?
5. Why are sermons "a thing"?
6. Why did the people weep when Ezra read God's Law?
7. How does God's Word challenge you?
8. What is the main point of God's Word?
9. What brings joy to your sin-weary heart?

My sermon notes:

*Please stand*

## On My Heart Imprint Your Image

The musical score is written for a single voice part on a treble clef staff in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. The lyrics are printed below the staff, aligned with the notes. The score consists of five lines of music.

On my heart im - print your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus,  
King of grace, That life's rich - es, cares, and plea - sures Have no  
pow'r to hide your face. This the su - per - scrip - tion be:  
Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me, Is my life, my hope's foun -  
da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion.

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703, abr.; tr. Peer O. Strømme, 1856–1921, alt.

Tune: FREU DICH SEHR (87 87 77 88) *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551, alt.

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!*

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

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

**Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.**

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

**Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.**

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

**Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.**

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

**Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.**

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

**Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.**

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

**Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.**

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.  
**Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.**

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.  
**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.**

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

## **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.**

# It Is Well with My Soul

CW 850



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when  
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let  
3 My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought— my  
4 And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll— what - ev - er my lot, thou hast  
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my  
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross, and I  
clouds be rolled back as a scroll; the trump shall re - sound, and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
help - less es - tate and hath shed his own blood for my soul.  
bear it no more: praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!  
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so, it is well with my soul.

## *Refrain*



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888, alt.

Tune: Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

Text and tune: Public domain

## 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!

Gretchen Bassett; piano

### Sunday School and Bible Study—After worship at 11:30—Off for today

Due to the fact that some of our Sunday School teachers will not be able to make it today due to the weather and road conditions we will not be having our normal Bible study time for kids or adults today. Any confirmation class students present will still meet with Pastor Eric today in the far classroom though, with an online make-up option available for the teens that can't make it in.

### 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 a couple weeks ago. 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.

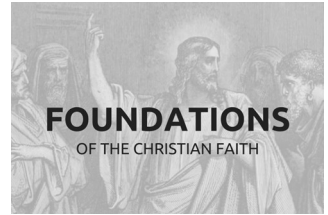
### Living Hope Small Groups

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. Feb 2)
- Hands of Hope—every other Thursday at 10am. (next meeting on Thurs Feb 12)

## 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:

Robbin Lundquist 2/1

Don Dillard 2/3

Roger Grimm 2/7

### Anniversary Blessings:

Clay and Dee Smith 2/5

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

Terry Lundquist — admitted to the ER last Thursday and now still at the hospital undergoing tests and treatment for a number of issues.

Liliana Lopez — thanksgiving for her baptism today and for God's continued blessings and guidance upon her life!

**HOPE** for everyday people  
**HOPE** for everyday problems  
**HOPE** for everyday unknowns  
**HOPE** for everyday anxiety  
**HOPE** for everyday life

**Service Teams — This week**

Sunday Setup Team—Thom  
Snack Provider— Bassett, Dyer  
Ushers—Mayer, Hynson  
Acolyte—Will Hynson

**Service Teams — Next week Feb 8**

Sunday Setup Team—Snyder  
Snack Provider—Frederickson, Turner  
Ushers—Ludwig, Smith  
Acolyte—Emi Ludwig



**LIVING HOPE**  
L U T H E R A N C H U R C H

**HOPE FOR EVERYDAY**

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