

June 14, 2026

STILL TRUE



God's truth does not expire...



The Only Opinion that Matters

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: Still True

In a world overflowing with opinions, pressure, confusion, and competing loyalties, God's Word remains unchanged. His truth still saves sinners. His grace still calls the unworthy. His Son still leads his Church. His promises still hold under pressure. His love still comes first. This series follows believers who learned that the gospel is not merely true in theory—it is still true for real life.

Today's Focus: The Only Opinion that Matters

We live in a world overflowing with opinions. Every day we are evaluated, rated, criticized, and compared. We worry about what others think of us, and sometimes we become our own harshest critics. But whose opinion truly matters? In this message from 1 Corinthians 4, Paul points us away from the ever-changing judgments of people, and even our own consciences, to the verdict of Christ. Discover the freedom that comes from knowing that the Judge of all has become your Savior, declaring you forgiven, faithful, and his own. When Christ's verdict is the one that defines you, you can stop living for approval and start living in the confidence of his grace.



LIVING HOPE
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


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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Son of God, Eternal Savior

CW 729



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and
2 Bind us all as one to - geth - er in your Church's
3 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and



truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us,
sa - cred fold, weak and health - y, poor and wealth - y,
oth - ers live. Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed;
truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us



hal - lows all our hu - man race, you our head, who, throned in
sad and joy - ful, young and old. Is there want or pain or
free - ly may your ser - vants give. Yours the gold and yours the
hal - lows all our hu - man race, by your pray - ing, by your



glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead: fill us with your
sor - row? Make us all the bur - den share. Are there spir - its
sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea; we but stew - ards
will - ing that your peo - ple should be one, grant, O grant our



love and pit - y, heal our wrongs and help our need.
crushed and bro - ken? Teach us, Lord, to soothe their care.
of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

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

Call to Worship

The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:8-9

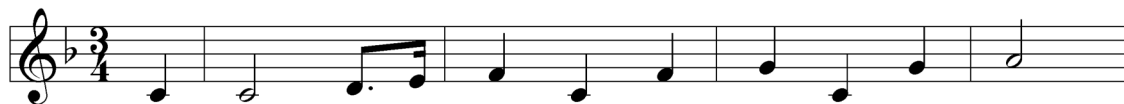
**For the wrong we have done, and all the good we have failed to do;
for angry deeds, for hurtful words, for uncharitable thoughts;
for self-centered living, and for failing to walk with humility and gentleness;
for longing to have what is not ours, and for failing to give thanks for what is ours;
for those sins we do not even remember committing:
Holy God, have mercy on us.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

To God Be the Glory

CW 1993 #399



1 To God be the glo - ry; great things he has done!



He so loved the world that he gave us his Son,



Who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin



And o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.

Refrain



Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear his voice!



Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the peo - ple re - joice!



Oh, come to the Fa - ther through Je - sus the Son



And give him the glo - ry— great things he has done!

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915, alt.

Tune: TO GOD BE THE GLORY (11 11 11 11 with Refrain) William H. Doane, 1832–1915.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty, eternal God, in the Word of your apostles and prophets, you have proclaimed to us your saving will. Grant us faith to believe your promises that we may receive eternal salvation; 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

Numbers 27:15–23

¹⁵Moses said to the LORD, ¹⁶“May the LORD, the God who gives breath to all living things, appoint someone over this community ¹⁷to go out and come in before them, one who will lead them out and bring them in, so the LORD’s people will not be like sheep without a shepherd.”

¹⁸So the LORD said to Moses, “Take Joshua son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit of leadership, and lay your hand on him. ¹⁹Have him stand before Eleazar the priest and the entire assembly and commission him in their presence. ²⁰Give him some of your authority so the whole Israelite community will obey him. ²¹He is to stand before Eleazar the priest, who will obtain decisions for him by inquiring of the Urim before the LORD. At his command he and the entire community of the Israelites will go out, and at his command they will come in.”

²²Moses did as the LORD commanded him. He took Joshua and had him stand before Eleazar the priest and the whole assembly. ²³Then he laid his hands on him and commissioned him, as the LORD instructed through Moses.

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

Matthew 9:35—10:8

³⁵Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

¹Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.

²These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

⁵These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions:

“Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. ⁶Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. ⁷As you go, proclaim this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ ⁸Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.

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.

O God, My Faithful God

CW 740



1 O God, my faith - ful God, O Foun-tain ev - er flow - ing,
2 Grant me the strength to do with read - y heart and will - ing
3 Keep me from say - ing things that lat - er need re - call - ing;
4 Lord, let me win my foes with kind - ly words and ac - tions,



who good and per - fect gifts in mer - cy are be - stow - ing,
what - ev - er you com - mand, my call - ing here ful - fill - ing,
grant that no i - dle words may from my lips be fall - ing,
and let me find good friends for coun - sel and cor - rec - tion.



give me a health - y frame, and may I have with - in
that I do what I should while trust - ing you to bless
but when with - in my place I must and ought to speak,
Help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small



a con-science free from blame, a soul un - hurt by sin.
the out - come for my good, for you must give suc - cess.
then fill my words with grace lest I of - fend the weak.
and by your Spir - it's might to live in peace with all.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.

Tune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 3rd ed., Meiningen, 1693

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Reading

1 Corinthians 4:1-7

¹This, then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed. ²Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful. ³I care very little if I am judged by you or by any human court; indeed, I do not even judge myself. ⁴My conscience is clear, but that does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges me.

⁵Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait until the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of the heart. At that time each will receive their praise from God.

⁶Now, brothers and sisters, I have applied these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, so that you may learn from us the meaning of the saying, “Do not go beyond what is written.” Then you will not be puffed up in being a follower of one of us over against the other. ⁷For who makes you different from anyone else? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?

The Only Opinion that Matters

Questions to consider while hearing the sermon:

1. We don't just rate products. What else do we rate?
2. What was Paul's response to the Corinthians' constant evaluation of him?
3. What kind of business does God involve us in?
4. Whom else did Paul not let himself get judged by?
5. How might we judge ourselves too lightly?

6. How might we judge ourselves too harshly?
7. What will we do when God brings to light what is hidden in darkness?
8. But what will God do as the Almighty Judge?
9. Instead of reading a list of the times we've failed, what will Jesus do instead?
10. Our aim is not to be successful but _____.
11. What are people born into the world looking for?

Discussion questions:

(for Theology on Tap)

1. Why do you think the Corinthians were so quick to judge Paul and other Christian leaders? How do we see similar attitudes today?
2. Paul also says, "I do not even judge myself." Why can self-evaluation be just as unreliable as the opinions of others? Which is a greater struggle for you: judging yourself too lightly or judging yourself too harshly? Why?
3. List some ways our culture encourages us to live for the approval of others. How can Christians resist that pressure?
4. The sermon emphasized that God calls us to faithfulness rather than success. Share how that distinction changes the way you view your work, parenting, witnessing, church service, or other callings.
5. The sermon noted that God will praise his people on the Last Day. What surprises you about that promise? What does it reveal about God's grace?

Please stand

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

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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

Father in heaven, you sent your Son, our Lord Jesus, to bring peace and hope to our fallen world. Already in eternity you planned to overturn the tyranny of Satan and the ravages of sin and you kept your promises to restore the perfection of paradise.
Lead us to cherish your great mercy and hold to it as our priceless treasure.

Lord Jesus, Lamb of God, we praise and adore you for offering your perfect life and innocent death to redeem the world from death and hell. You proclaimed the good news that sins are forgiven and life with God is restored and you called your followers to share the gospel with all people.

Make us bold and confident to be witnesses to family and friends we know and love.

Holy Spirit, Lord, and giver of life, through Word and sacrament you create and strengthen faith that trusts the promise of the Father and the work of his Son. You break down the barriers of resistance and rejection and bring the lost into the family of God.

Empower and encourage us to speak about Jesus to neighbors and acquaintances.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, move us by your great love to enter the mission fields near our homes and neighborhoods. Help us always to be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks us to give the reason for the hope that we have.
Guide us, strengthen us, and bless us as we share the love of Jesus. 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.

To our worship guests seeking an altar at which to commune: Since the Lord's Supper is an expression of outward unity in the faith as well as an inner union with Christ, we ask that those who are not communicant members of our fellowship please schedule a meeting with the pastor before coming to the Lord's Table. We ask this in loving obedience to the Scriptures and not in judgment of anyone's faith, sincerity or standing before God. See the announcement about our communion practice at the back of this worship folder for more info as well.

Holy 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.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.



Ho-san-na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san-na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

Tune: Deutsche Messe, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, 1937–2010

Text: Public domain

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Words of Institution

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

As you wait to go up to the table take some moments to examine your heart.

Acknowledge sin. Trust God's forgiveness through Christ. Recognize the real presence of Jesus' body and blood together with the bread and wine. (1 Corinthians 11:27-29)

Distribution

Personal Prayer: Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.

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

Blessing

M: Brothers and sisters go in peace.

Live in harmony with one another; serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

C: Amen.

Dear Lord, to Your True Servants Give

CW 896



1 Dear Lord, to your true ser - vants give the grace to you a -
2 They glad - ly go at your com - mand to spread your Word o'er
3 When all their la - bor seems in vain, re - vive their sink - ing



lone to live. Set free from sin to serve you, Lord, they
sea and land. Be with them, Lord, and make them strong to
hopes a - gain; and when suc - cess crowns what they do, O



go to share your liv - ing Word, the gos - pel mes - sage
heal sin's ills, to right the wrong. Your rule is o - ver
keep them hum - ble, Lord, and true un - til be - fore your



to pro - claim that all may know your sav - ing name.
wind and wave, and might - y is your arm to save.
judg - ment seat they lay their tro - phies at your feet.

Text: W. Gustave Polack, 1890–1950, alt.

Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

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Tune: Public domain

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Services

Current worship series - [Still True](#). In a world overflowing with opinions, pressure, confusion, and competing loyalties, God's Word remains unchanged.

Next week: Still Be Prepared In Season and Out of Season

Thank you to today's musicians and vocalists!

Gretchen Bassett; piano

Sunday School and Bible Study— After worship @ 11:30AM

Sunday School for children will take place after worship today.

Children will meet with their appropriate age groups and are taught by a team of teachers with full background checks.

The adults will have Sunday Study today in the lobby, continuing a study series on “The Chosen” TV show.



June Fellowship Event—Red Clay Resort After Hours Party—Wednesday June 17 @ 6:00PM

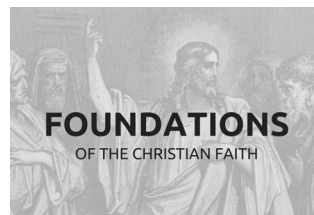
Join the Living Hope family for a fun day of swimming and activities at Red Clay Resort in Co-hutta, GA. We’ve reserved the park for our group starting at 6:00PM and will have it open for us until 9:00PM. For more details visit their website: <https://www.redclayresort.com>

Contact coordinator: Carla Mayer (carla@realityfitness.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. In-person or online classes are available!

Online classes are currently 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.

Living Hope Small Groups

- Men’s Group—Mondays every other week at 7am. (next meeting Mon. June 15)
- Women’s Group — Mondays every other week at 6:45pm (next meeting Mon June 15)
- Theology on Tap—weekly on Tuesday evenings at 7pm
- Hands of Hope—every other Thursday at 10am. (next meeting on Thurs June 18)
- Life on Mission—next session at church on Wednesday July 22 at 7pm

See more details for these groups at <https://livinghopechatt.com/small-groups>

Living Hope Men's Group—Monday June 15 @ 7:00AM

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

Contact coordinator: Mike Frederickson (mfrederickson20@outlook.com)

Women's Group—Monday June 15 @ 6:45PM

Women's Group will continue a study of Faith Unleashed: Utilizing Your Spiritual Gifts for Greater Kingdom Impact by Lori Lorig & Marilyn Sievert. Through this study, we will discover how God blessed ordinary people in the Bible to do exceptional things and see how He has uniquely designed each of us for His kingdom. We meet at Living Hope at 6:45pm for snacks and socializing, and the study begins at 7:00pm. Hope to see you there!

Contact Coordinator: Rachel Frederickson (rachel.k.frederickson@gmail.com)

Theology on Tap—Tuesday June 16 @ 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

Service Group—"Hands of Hope" - Thursday June 18 @ 10:00AM

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.

Contact coordinator: Gretchen Bassett, 423-584-1981 (gretchen.bassett@gmail.com)

Members' Minute

Anniversary Blessings:

Chuck and Mary Snyder 6/16

George and Sandra Collins 6/19

Communion at Living Hope

Communion is important to us at Living Hope and we seek to honor the biblical view of *close communion*. Before coming up for communion, all adults should ask themselves these questions:

1. Do you confess your sins and seek to turn away from the sins you confessed?
2. Do you recognize that Jesus' sacrifice on the cross is the only way sin is forgiven?
3. Do you recognize that in the Sacrament you receive Jesus' true body and true blood along with the bread and the wine? (*1 Corinthians 11:27-29 + 1 Corinthians 10:15-17*)
4. Do you believe that the Bible *IS* God's inspired Word and does not just contain some truths of God?
5. Do you believe that Living Hope Lutheran Church teaches only the truth of God based on His inspired Word? (A summary of these teachings is taught in the *Foundations* course.)

Service Teams — This week

Sunday Setup Team—Frizzell, Turman
Snack Provider—Schmidt, Frederickson
Ushers—Frizzell, Ludwig
Acolyte—Eliza Dyer

Service Teams — Next week June 21

Sunday Setup Team—Smith
Snack Provider—Bassett, Dyer
Ushers—Rice, Smith
Acolyte—Sam Hynson

Pastor Eric Mello
423-933-2452
pastormello@livinghopechatt.com
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