

June 28, 2026

STILL TRUE



God's truth does not expire...



Remember Who You Are

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: Remember Who You Are

Today, since Pastor Eric is out of town for some family weddings, we'll get to hear a message from WELS pastor Matt Rothe. Pastor Matt serves at The Way in Fredericksburg, VA and he also serves as one of the leaders of our church body's Church Planter Network that Pastor Eric is a part of.

The message today will focus us on how we are the people God has called us to be. We are "children of God, adopted to sonship, heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ." In other words, we are part of God's family. As we live our lives in Christ we do so remembering who we are and the family we've been included in.



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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Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

CW 919



1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at your Word we are gath - ered
2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est
3 Gra - cious Sav - ior, good and kind, Light from Light, from
4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, praise to you and



all to hear you. Let our hearts and souls be stirred
dark - ness shroud - ed till your Spir - it breaks our night
God pro - ceed - ing, o - pen now our heart and mind;
ad - o - ra - tion! Grant that we your Word may trust,



now to seek and love and fear you, by your teach - ings,
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed. You a - lone to
help us by your Spir - it's plead - ing. Hear the cry your
con - fi - dent of our sal - va - tion, while we here be -



sweet and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love you sole - ly.
God can win us; you must work all good with - in us.
Church now rais - es; hear and bless our prayers and prais - es.
low must wan - der, till we sing your prais - es yon - der.

Text (sts. 1–3): Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–1684; (sts. 1–3): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (st. 4): Geistreiches Gesang-Büchlein, Berlin, 1707; (st. 4): tr. unknown, alt.

Tune: Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673, 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

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and repentant sinner,
confess that I have sinned against you in my thoughts, my words, and my actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should.
I am distressed by the sins that trouble me and am deeply sorry for them.**

Jesus' death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world.

He said to his people, "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven."

Because of the promise of our Savior Jesus, I forgive you all your sins.

Be assured that you are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life!

Amen.

Reformation Song

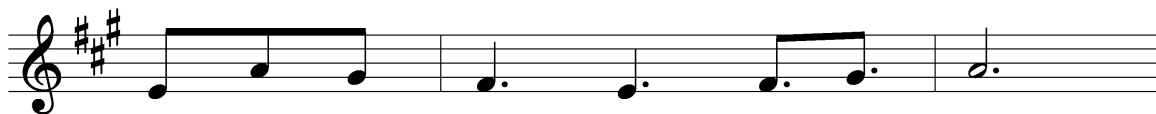
CW 877 sts. Ref, 3-4



3 In Christ a - lone we're jus - ti - fied;
4 By grace a - lone we have been saved;



his right - eous - ness is all our plea.
all that we are has come from you.



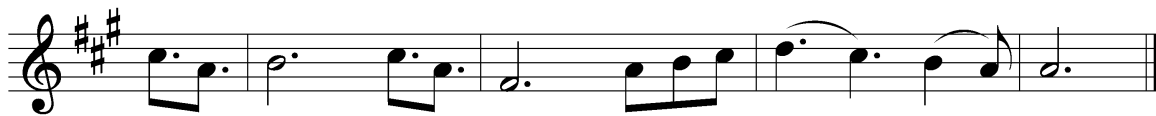
Your law's de - mands are sat - is - fied;
Hearts that were once by sin en - slaved



his per - fect work has set us free.
now by your pow'r have been made new.



Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, glo - ry to God a - lone.



Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, glo - ry to God a - lone.

Text: Tim Chester, b. 1967; Bob Kauflin, b. 1955

Tune: Tim Chester, b. 1967; Bob Kauflin, b. 1955

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Prayer of the Day

God of all power and might, you are the giver of all that is good. Help us love you with all our heart, strengthen us in true faith, provide us with all we need, and keep us safe in your care; 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 6:1–8

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ²Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. ³And they were calling to one another:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

⁴At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.

⁵“Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.”

⁶Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷With it he touched my mouth and said, “See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.”

⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?”

And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

Gospel

John 3:1–17

¹Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ²He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

³Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

⁴“How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

⁹“How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

¹⁰“You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? ¹¹Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. ¹²I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? ¹³No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. ¹⁴Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

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.

Holy Spirit, Light Divine

CW 593



1 Ho - ly Spir - it, light di - vine, shine up - on this heart of mine;
2 Ho - ly Spir - it, love di - vine, cleanse this guilt - y heart of mine;
3 Ho - ly Spir - it, joy di - vine, cheer this sad - dened heart of mine;
4 Ho - ly Spir - it, pow'r di - vine, dwell with - in this heart of mine;
5 Ho - ly Spir - it, fill my heart, cleanse my life in ev - 'ry part;



chase the gloom of night a - way, turn the dark - ness in - to day.
in your mer - cy pit - y me, from sin's bond - age set me free.
fill me with your heav'n - ly peace, let it grow and still in - crease.
cast down ev - 'ry i - dol throne, reign su - preme and reign a - lone.
your own tem - ple I would be now and for e - ter - ni - ty.

Sermon Reading

Romans 8:12–17

¹²Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ¹⁵The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” ¹⁶The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. ¹⁷Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

Remember Who You Are

Sermon notes:

Please stand

On My Heart Imprint Your Image

CW1993 #320

The musical score is written for a single voice part in 4/4 time, using a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The score consists of five lines of music. The first line begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "On my heart im - print your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus,". The second line continues: "King of grace, That life's rich - es, cares, and plea - sures Have no". The third line: "pow'r to hide your face. This the su - per - scrip - tion be:". The fourth line: "Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me, Is my life, my hope's foun -". The fifth line: "da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion." The piece ends with a double bar line.

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. Strömme, 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

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.

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, our heavenly Father, you love your whole creation and forget none of your creatures. We bring you our supplications for all your children, for all those we love and all those committed to your care:

We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

For all who have blessed us with kindness, led us with patience, and restored and refreshed us by their sympathy and help:

We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

For all who have wished or done us ill, that you would turn their hearts to penitence and ours to blessing:

Lord, have mercy.

For all who bear the cross of suffering, who are sick in body or in mind:

Be merciful and spare them, good Lord.

For all who are troubled by the suffering or sin of those they love:

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who have experienced worldly loss, that in the midst of darkness and confusion they may find their peace in you:

We implore you to hear us, O God.

For all who are lonely and sad in the midst of the joys of others, that they may know you as their Father, Friend, and Comforter:

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the infirm, the aged, and all who are approaching death, that they may find their strength in you and obtain a blessed end:

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all for whom we have forgotten to pray but who are dear to you:

Assist them according to their needs, and bring them to your heavenly kingdom, through Christ our Lord.

O God our Father, hear our intercessions, answer them according to your will, and make us the channels of your infinite pity and helpfulness.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.
I the Lord will smile up - on you and give you peace;



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for -
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry; here you touched him, saw his
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you; here his ten - der com - fort
I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and



ev - er. Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own.
glo - ry. Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
stilled you. Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free.
Broth - er. Go, my chil - dren; I will keep you and give you peace.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.

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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 True—You Get A Fresh Start

Thank you for serving us today!

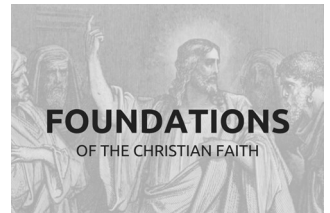
- David Dyer (church president); presiding for worship
- Rev. Matt Rothe (of the The Way in Fredericksburg, VA); video sermon
- Mark Hennings; piano

Sunday School and Bible Study

Both adults and children are on break for Sunday Bible study this week. Classes will resume on Sunday July 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. 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.

Viking Steel Concert—Sunday evening July 19

Wisconsin Lutheran High School's traveling steel pan drum band, Viking Steel, has a summer tour in Tennessee and Georgia this year and Living Hope gets to host one of their free concerts at our church. Viking Steel was started in 2017 and uses the steel pan, an instrument native to the Caribbean islands of Trinidad and Tobago. Viking Steel is the largest high school steel band program in the state of Wisconsin and they have performed recently for two of our WELS International Youth Rallies. The music they perform includes classic hymns, contemporary worship songs, pop music, and other island favorites. The exact time of the concert will be nailed down soon.

Summer/Fall Outreach Challenge

We're keeping this "challenge" as simple as possible: join a new social group to establish a relationship with someone new. Our goal with this isn't to make people come to church, but to get used to meeting new people, and developing relationships with the community and the people around us. Obviously we'd love to see these new people we meet also begin (or deepen) their relationship with Jesus but our goal is simply to meet a new friend/acquaintance, be ourselves, and allow God to open doors for sharing our faith. There is no more effective way to make disciples for Jesus than by getting to know people and being ourselves. So, instead of some big outreach event this summer we'd just like to send you out as an everyday missionary. And there's no door knocking involved. Simply join a group that participates in something you already enjoy doing: running, sports, art, a book club, library gathering, etc.

In the lobby you'll find a sheet where you can write down your name and the new group/social circle you plan to be part of—that way our outreach team can be praying for you and we can all encourage one another in our efforts. The most important thing with this is simply to have fun with it and be yourself!

Please check your inbox for an email from Living Hope that was sent last week which has more details about our new "outreach challenge." And continue to listen for more encouragement from Pastor and our Outreach Coordinator, Steve Rice, as we go along!

Living Hope Small Groups

- Men's Group—Mondays every other week at 7am. (next meeting Mon. July 20)
- Women's Group — Mondays every other week at 6:45pm (next meeting Mon July 20)
- Theology on Tap—weekly on Tuesday evenings at 7pm (off for July and August)
- Hands of Hope—every other Thursday at 10am. (next meeting on Thurs July 2)
- 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 and Women's Group

The Men and Women's small groups will both be on a short break until they resume on Monday July 20.

Theology on Tap

Our sermon discussion group that meets at Lupi's Pizza in Ooltewah is off for the months of July and August.

Service Group—"Hands of Hope" - Thursday July 2 @ 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

Birthday Blessings:

Kagon Talley—6/29

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—Mayer
Snack Provider— Amerson, Hynson
Ushers—Gorman, Frizzell
Acolyte—Emi Ludwig

Service Teams — Next week July 5

Sunday Setup Team—Thom
Snack Provider—Mayer, Rice
Ushers—Open
Acolyte—KJ McNabb



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

HOPE FOR EVERYDAY

Pastor Eric Melso
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