

June 7, 2026

STILL TRUE



God's truth does not expire...



Your Past Is Not Bigger than Christ's Mercy

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: Your Past Is Not Bigger than Christ's Mercy

We all carry things from our past that we'd rather forget—regrets, failures, sins, and moments we wish we could undo. Sometimes those memories still have a way of accusing us years later. In 1 Timothy 1, the apostle Paul looked honestly at his own past as a blasphemer, persecutor, and violent man. Yet instead of despair, Paul marveled at the mercy of Christ. His story reminds us of a life-changing truth: no sinner is beyond God's grace, and no past is bigger than Christ's mercy. Today we'll hear again the trustworthy saying that stands at the heart of the Christian faith: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." That promise was true for Paul, and it is still true for us.



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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Jesus Sinners Does Receive

CW 654 sts. 1-4



1 Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive; oh, may all this
2 We de - serve but grief and shame, yet his words, rich
3 Sheep that from the fold did stray are not by the
4 I, a sin - ner, come to you with a pen - i -



say - ing pon - der who in sin's de - lu - sions live
grace re - veal - ing, par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;
Lord for - sak - en; wea - ry souls who lost their way
tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, show me mer - cy, too;



and from God and heav - en wan - der. Here is hope for
here their ills have per - fect heal - ing who with hum - ble
are by Christ, the Shep - herd, tak - en in his arms that
grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words my



all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
hearts be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
they may live: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671-1756, abr.; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Tune: Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, Darmstadt, 1699
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

Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.

For faithless worrying and selfish pride,

For sins of habit and sins of choice,

For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,

You should cast me away from your presence forever.

O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus’ sake.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ 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.

Jesus Sinners Does Receive

CW 654 sts. 5-7



5 Oh, how blest it is to know, were as scar - let
6 Now my con - science is at peace, from the law I
7 Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive, e - ven I have



my trans - gres - sion, it shall be as white as snow
stand ac - quit - ted. Christ has pur - chased my re - lease
been for - giv - en. And when I this earth must leave,



by your blood and bit - ter pas - sion, for these words I
and my ev - 'ry sin re - mit - ted. Naught re - mains my
I shall find an o - pen heav - en. Dy - ing, still to



do be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
soul to grieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
him I cleave: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and merciful God, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to seek and to save the lost. Graciously open our ears and our hearts to hear his call and follow him by faith that we may feast with him forever in his kingdom; 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

Exodus 3:1–15

¹Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ²There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. ³So Moses thought, “I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up.”

⁴When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!”

And Moses said, “Here I am.”

⁵“Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” ⁶Then he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

⁷The LORD said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. ⁸So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. ⁹And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. ¹⁰So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.”

¹¹But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”

¹²And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

¹³Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”

¹⁴God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’ ”

¹⁵God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’

“This is my name forever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation.

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 9:9–13

⁹As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector’s booth. “Follow me,” he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

¹⁰While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew’s house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. ¹¹When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”

¹²On hearing this, Jesus said, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. ¹³But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

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.

Chief of Sinners Though I Be

CW 578



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed his
2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, high - er than the
3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part com - fort to a
4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in
5 Strength - en me, O gra - cious Lord, by your Spir - it



blood for me, died that I might live on high,
heav'ns a - bove, deep - er than the depths of sea,
wound - ed heart, peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,
all to me; all my wants to him are known,
and your Word. When my way - ward heart would stray,



lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty, love that found me—
joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, faith and hope to
all my sor - rows are his own. Safe with him in
keep me in the nar - row way; grace in time of



to the vine, I am his and he is mine!
won - drous thought— found me when I sought him not.
walk with God in the way that E - noch trod.
earth - ly strife, I a - wait the heav'n - ly life.
need sup - ply while I live and when I die.

Sermon Reading

1 Timothy 1:12–17

¹²I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service. ¹³Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. ¹⁴The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

¹⁵Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. ¹⁶But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. ¹⁷Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Your Past Is Not Bigger than Christ's Mercy

Questions to consider while hearing the sermon:

1. In what way do the 3 readings from Scripture today tie well together?
2. What “object lesson” could we use today to illustrate Christ’s mercy?
3. Each of us could rightly say, “I’m the _____.”
4. Does your past haunt you in any ways?
5. If we don’t feel our past or present are all that bad what question will fix that way of thinking?

6. What is Christianity's front-page headline here in these verses?
7. Your past is not bigger than Christ's mercy. And neither is your _____.
8. List some words in these verses that show the many mercies of Christ.
9. Instead of dying for us and then telling us to "earn it" or "be worthy of his sacrifice," what does Jesus tell us?

Discussion questions:

(for theology on tap)

1. When people think about their past, what kinds of memories tend to linger the longest—successes, failures, regrets, or something else?
2. Why do you think people often have a harder time forgiving themselves than believing God forgives them?
3. What stands out to you about the fact that Paul says, "I am the worst" rather than "I was the worst"? What does that teach us about our life of sanctification?
4. How does remembering your own need for mercy affect the way you treat people who have messy pasts?
5. How does Christ's finished work on the cross differ from the way the world typically thinks about earning acceptance or proving worth?

Please Stand

By Grace I'm Saved

CW 575 sts. 1, 3



1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; my soul, be -
3 By grace! O mark this word of prom - ise when you are



lieve and doubt it not. Why wa - ver at this word of
by your sins op - pressed, when Sa - tan plagues your trou - bled



prom - ise? Has Scrip - ture ev - er false-hood taught? So then this
con - science, and when your heart is seek - ing rest. What rea - son



word must true re - main: by grace you, too, shall heav'n ob - tain.
can - not com - pre-hend God by his grace to you did send.

Text: Christian L. Scheidt, 1709–1761, abr.; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Cornelius H. Dretzel, 1697–1775

Text and tune: Public domain

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

Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

**the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Please be seated

Offering

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

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

Prayer of the Church

Eternal Lord, give us peace as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Lead us to see clearly the path you have laid out for us.

Work in us so that we believe and live the Word we have heard today.

Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Fill them with a love like yours as they proclaim your grace to us and all people.

Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.

Guard and guide the families of our congregation. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Help parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus all their lives. Grant joy to those who are single, and make them a blessing to others.

Protect us from the temptations that surround us; give us pure hearts and minds.

Provide wisdom and insight to those who make laws and set policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to defend those who cannot defend themselves.

Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed to all.

Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends. Overcome unbelief, and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven.

Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in you.

Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. Give patience and compassion to all who care for the sick and dying.

Lift the eyes of the distressed to your love in Christ.

Gracious God, you govern and direct all things and you love all people. Hear our prayers, spoken and silent, and answer them in your wisdom and grace.

In Jesus' name we pray. 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.

His Mercy Is More

CW 579



1 What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done?
2 What pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam,
3 What rich - es of kind - ness he lav - ished on us;



Om - ni - scient, all - know - ing, he counts not their sum;
what Fa - ther so ten - der is call - ing us home!
his blood was the pay - ment, his life was the cost.



thrown in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore,
He wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor;
We stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford;



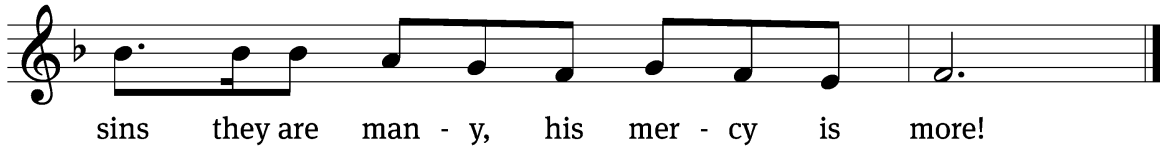
our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.
our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.
our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.



Refrain
Praise the Lord! His mer - cy is more!



Strong - er than dark - ness, new ev - 'ry morn; our



The refrain for stanza 3 is sung three times (twice, with no break between, then a final time).

Text: Matt Boswell, b. 1979; Matt Papa, b. 1983

Tune: Matt Boswell, b. 1979; Matt Papa, b. 1983

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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 Given a Trust

Thank you to today’s musicians and vocalists!

Mark Hennings; 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, starting a new study series on “The Chosen” TV show. To prep for next week’s discussion please watch season 3 episode 8.

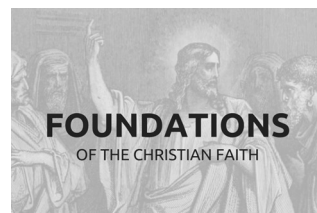
June Fellowship Event—Red Clay Resort After Hours Party—Wednesday June 17 @ 6:00PM

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 8)
- 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 June 17 at 7pm

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

Living Hope Men's Group—Monday June 8 @ 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)

Theology on Tap—Tuesday June 9 @ 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



Members' Minute

Birthday Blessings:

Rob Berna 6/11

Anniversary Blessings:

Tyler and Sarah Cundiff 6/7

Derek and Brystol Kilberg 6/10

We pray for the following members, family, and friends

Grant and Haley Johnson — Thanksgiving for the new addition to their family, a healthy baby boy named Samson born on May 25.

Service Teams — This week

Sunday Setup Team—Snyder
Snack Provider—Flater, Turner
Ushers—Gorman, Schulz
Acolyte—Ember Turner

Service Teams — Next week June 14

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



LIVING HOPE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

HOPE FOR EVERYDAY

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