

July 19, 2026

STILL TRUE



God's truth does not expire...

No Other Rock

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: No Other Rock

The world can feel overrun with weeds. Evil seems to spread quickly, injustice often goes unanswered, and it's easy to wonder if wickedness is winning. At the same time, our own hearts are tempted to cling to false "rocks" that promise security but can never save. In Isaiah 44, God reminds his people that there is no rival to him. He alone is the King, the Redeemer, and the Almighty. While we wait for the day he will finally uproot every evil and make all things new, we live with confidence, trusting the only Rock who never fails. Join us as we hear God's reassuring promise: "There is no other Rock; I know not one."



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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On Eagle's Wings

CW 821 sts. 1, Ref, 2-3, Final Refrain



1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a -



bide in his shad-ow for life, say to the Lord: "My



ref - uge, my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain



And he will raise you up on ea - gle's wings,



bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the



sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

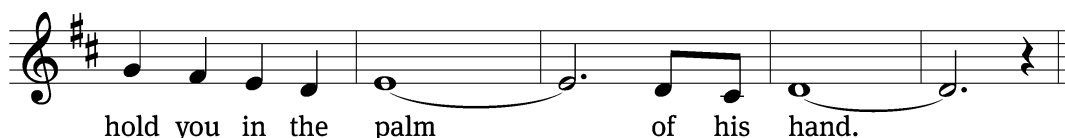
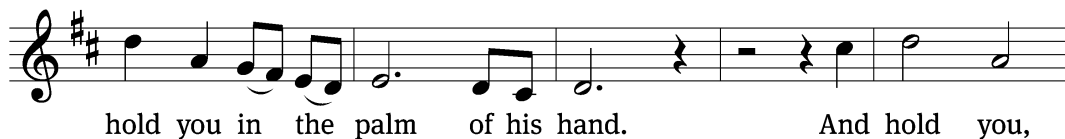
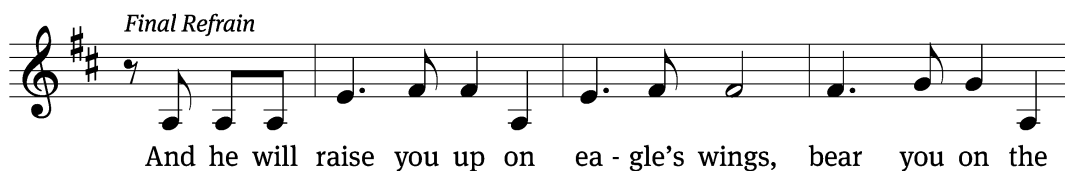
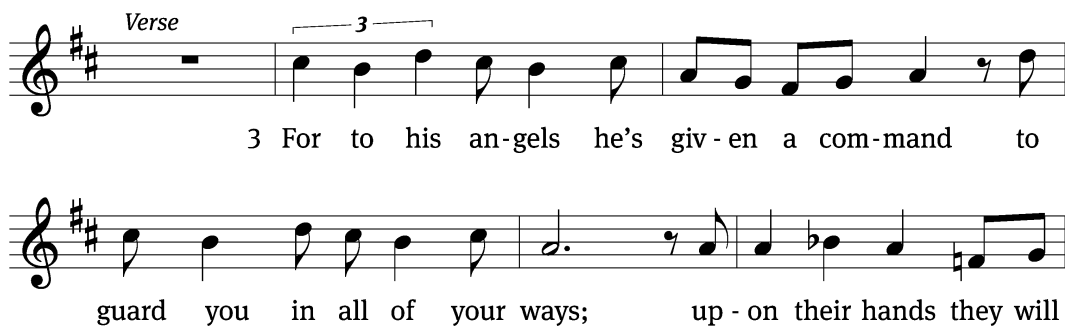
Verses



2 The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and



fam - ine will bring you no fear; un - der his wings your



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

God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

**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.

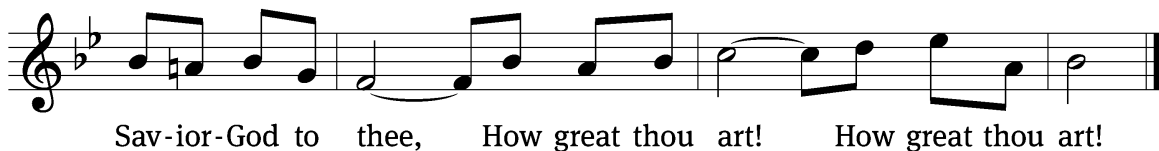
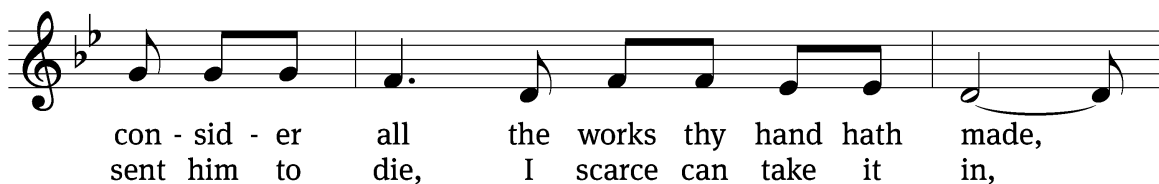
God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son as the atoning sacrifice for sin. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

How Great Thou Art

CW 612 sts. 1, Ref, 3



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der
3 And when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing,



Text: Stuart W. K. Hine, 1899–1989

Tune: Swedish

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Prayer of the Day

O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with you in perfect joy hereafter; 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

Romans 1:18–25

¹⁸The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, ¹⁹since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ²⁰For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

²¹For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²²Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools ²³and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

²⁴Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. ²⁵They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

Please Stand

Gospel

Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43

²⁴Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. ²⁶When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

²⁷“The owner’s servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?’

²⁸“ ‘An enemy did this,’ he replied.

“The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’

²⁹“ ‘No,’ he answered, ‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.’ ”

³⁶Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.”

³⁷He answered, “The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

⁴⁰“As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. ⁴²They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.

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.

Of the Father's Love Begotten

CW 358 sts. 1, 3-4



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
3 This is he whom seers and sa - ges sang of old with
4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him, an - gel hosts his



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
prais - es sing, pow'rs, do - min - ions bow be - fore him



he the source, the end - ing he,
prom - ised in their faith - ful word.
and ex - tol our God and King.



of the things that are, that have been,
Now he shines, the long - ex - pect - ed;
Let no tongue on earth be si - lent,



and that fu - ture years shall see ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
let cre - a - tion praise its Lord ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348–c. 413, abr.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Tune: plainsong, 13th cent.
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Reading

Isaiah 44:6–11

⁶“This is what the LORD says—

Israel’s King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty:

I am the first and I am the last;

apart from me there is no God.

⁷Who then is like me? Let him proclaim it.

Let him declare and lay out before me

what has happened since I established my ancient people,

and what is yet to come—

yes, let them foretell what will come.

⁸Do not tremble, do not be afraid.

Did I not proclaim this and foretell it long ago?

You are my witnesses. Is there any God besides me?

No, there is no other Rock; I know not one.”

⁹All who make idols are nothing,

and the things they treasure are worthless.

Those who would speak up for them are blind;

they are ignorant, to their own shame.

¹⁰Who shapes a god and casts an idol,

which can profit nothing?

¹¹People who do that will be put to shame;
such craftsmen are only human beings.
Let them all come together and take their stand;
they will be brought down to terror and shame.

No Other Rock

Questions to consider while hearing the sermon:

1. What do the weeds represent?
2. What question might we want to ask?
3. How will God address wickedness and “the weeds”?
4. What titles does God give to himself?
5. How do each of those titles show his answer to evil?
6. What personal issues do we also need to sort out? (*which commandment?*)
7. What did Martin Luther say a “god” is?
8. In what *manner* does idolatry usually strike at us?
9. The God who allows weeds to stand for a time also allows what to grow?
10. What do we do as wheat in the world?

Discussion questions:

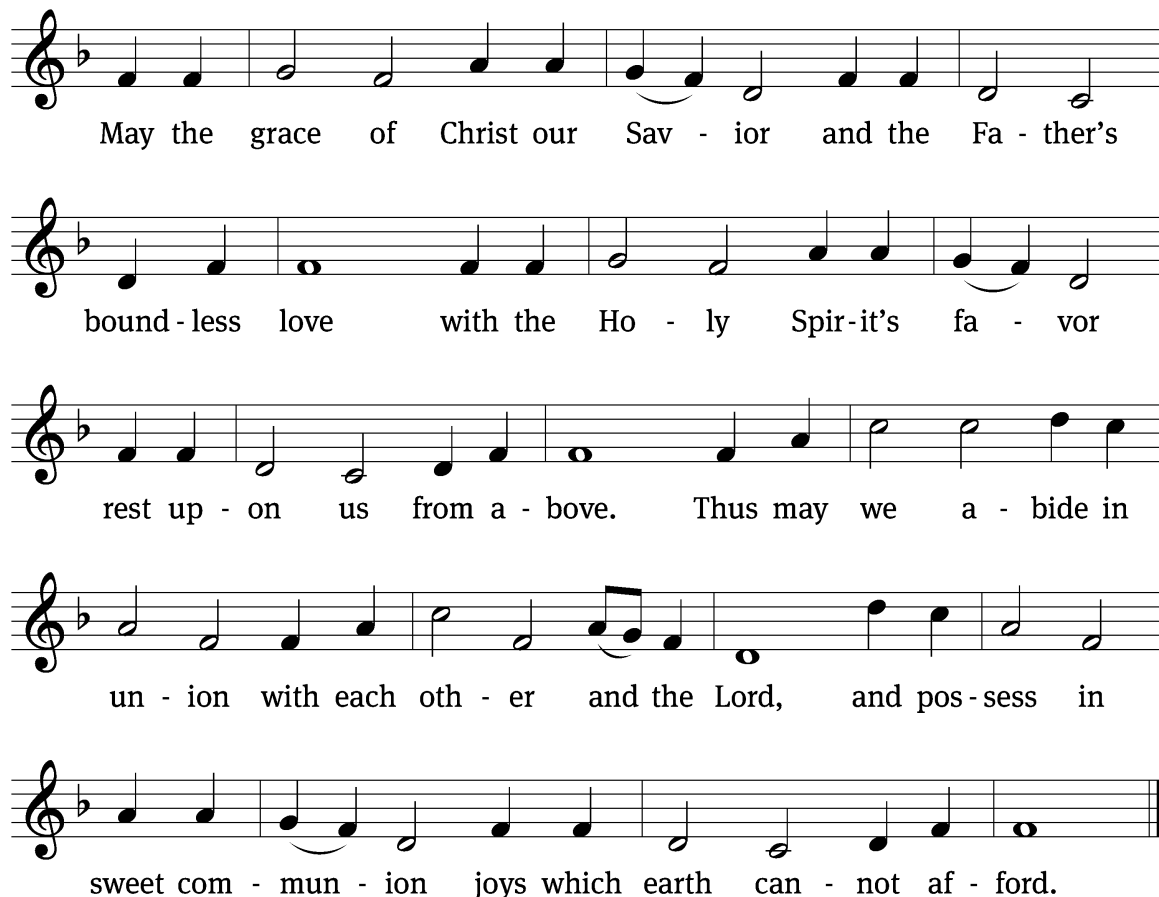
1. Have you ever had that question for God—why does he allow wickedness to exist?
Name some ways this sermon and these texts help you understand the answer to that question a little better.

2. The sermon highlighted several titles God gives himself: King, Redeemer, Lord Almighty, the First and the Last, and our Rock. Which of these titles stands out to you right now, and why?
3. Idolatry often happens subtly rather than dramatically. What are some everyday distractions or priorities that can quietly begin replacing God in our hearts?
4. What does it look like to stand firmly on Christ without becoming discouraged or cynical about the brokenness around us?
5. Jesus doesn't remove us from the field; he plants us in it. What opportunities has God given you to be "wheat" in your workplace, neighborhood, school, or family?

Please stand

May the Grace of Christ Our Savior

CW 928



May the grace of Christ our Sav - ior and the Fa - ther's

bound - less love with the Ho - ly Spir - it's fa - vor

rest up - on us from a - bove. Thus may we a - bide in

un - ion with each oth - er and the Lord, and pos - sess in

sweet com - mun - ion joys which earth can - not af - ford.

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 prisoners and captives and all who suffer from oppression, that you would lead them to know the perfect freedom of your Son's forgiveness, relieve their suffering, and move us to imitate you by assisting them with works of mercy and compassion:

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 absorbed in their own grief, that they may be raised to share the sorrows of their brothers and sisters and to know and appreciate the fellowship of those who bear Christ's cross:

We implore you to hear us, O God.

For all who are undergoing temptations of the flesh or who imagine evil in their hearts, that you would enable them to overcome and obtain the victory through Christ:

Be merciful and spare them, good Lord.

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.

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.

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

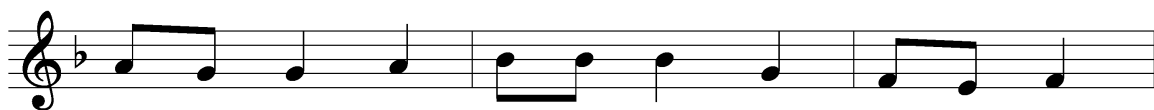
CW 564



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than
 2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant and blood sup -
 4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and right - eous - ness; I dare to make no
 rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
 port me in the rag - ing flood; when ev - 'ry earth - ly
 may I then in him be found, clothed in his right - eous -



oth - er claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
 prop gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.
 ness a - lone, fault - less to stand be - fore his throne.

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is



sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.
 Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868
 Text and 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: True Wealth Is Spiritual Wealth

Thank you to today's musicians and vocalists!

Mark Hennings; piano—David Dyer; guitar

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. Our current study series will be a sermon based discussion using the questions written in this worship folder. The format will follow our usual "Theology on Tap" discussion that we have at Lupi's Pizza throughout most of the year.

Viking Steel Concert—Sunday evening July 19 @ 6:30PM

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.

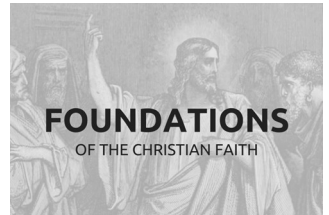
Connection Envelopes

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.

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.



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 30)
- 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 July 20 @ 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 July 20 @ 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)

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! Continue to listen for more encouragement from Pastor and our Outreach Coordinator, Steve Rice, as we go along!

Members' Minute

Birthday Blessings:

Dagon Talley 7/20 Chuck Snyder 7/24

We pray for the following members, family, and friends

Becky Schmeckpeper — Recovering from congestive heart failure and knee surgery.

Ken Bassett — Undergoing open heart surgery after scheduling with surgeon on July 21.

Vicki Frizzell — (Cody Frizzell's mother) Upcoming hip surgery on July 30th.

Service Teams — This week

Sunday Setup Team—Frizzell, Turman
Snack Provider—Flater, Frederickson
Ushers—Flater, Schulz
Acolyte—Eliza Dyer

Service Teams — Next week July 26

Sunday Setup Team—Smith
Snack Provider—Chandler, Cundiff
Ushers—Frizzell, Smith
Acolyte—Silas Dyer

Pastor Eric Melso

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