

August 3, 2025



Your Savior Gives Individualized Care

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: Undivided Attention

We live in a world where a thousand things are competing for our attention. There is the real danger that we focus on the frivolous and ignore the indispensable. As a result, we often talk about the importance of being "free from distraction." But the stakes are higher than that. We need to be *freed* from distraction. We need the spiritual power to give our undivided attention to that which truly makes a difference, not only here and now, but also in eternity. A life focused on all the right things is only possible because of a Savior who is always focused on us.

Today's Focus: Your Savior Gives Individualized Care

We know Jesus brings salvation to the whole world. But maybe sometimes we feel that the message of Jesus is just a "copy-and-paste" answer given to everyone. We have unique challenges. We have unique temptations. We have individual needs. Is God's message of salvation for the world too big to meet our own personal needs? Witness Jesus give individual compassion to a deaf man. Be assured, he takes into account your individual needs and treats you with individual compassion.



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 Strong and Kind

By City Alight



1. Je - sus said that if I thirst, I should come to Him.
2. Je - sus said if I am weak, I should come to Him.
3. Je - sus said that if I fear, I should come to Him.
4. Je - sus said if I am lost, He will come to me.




No one else can sat - is - fy. I should come to Him.
No one else can be my strength. I should come to Him.
No one else can be my shield. I should come to Him.
And He showed me on that cross He will come to me.

Chorus



Lord is good and faith - ful. He will keep us day and night. We can



al - ways run to Je - sus. Je - sus, strong and kind.

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

If we claim to be without sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.
(1 John 1:8,9)

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his holy life and innocent death.

Trusting in him, I pray:

God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority,

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

By Grace I'm Saved

CW 575 sts. 2, 5



2 By grace God's Son, our on - ly Sav - ior, came down to
5 By grace! On this I'll rest when dy - ing; in Je - sus'



earth to bear our sin. Was it be - cause of your own
prom - ise I re - joice, for though I know my heart's con -



mer - it that Je - sus died, your soul to win? No, it was
di - tion, I al - so know my Sav - ior's voice. My heart is



grace, and grace a - lone, that brought him from his heav'n - ly throne.
glad, all grief has flown since I am saved by grace a - lone.

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

Tune: Cornelius H. Dretzel, 1697–1775

Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

O God, you reveal your mighty power chiefly in showing mercy and kindness. Grant us the full measure of your grace that we may obtain your promises and become partakers of your heavenly glory; 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

Ruth 1:1–19a

¹In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab. ²The man's name was Elimelek, his wife's name was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there.

³Now Elimelek, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, ⁵both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.

⁶When Naomi heard in Moab that the LORD had come to the aid of his people by providing food for them, she and her daughters-in-law prepared to return home from there. ⁷With her two daughters-in-law she left the place where she had been living and set out on the road that would take them back to the land of Judah.

⁸Then Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back, each of you, to your mother's home. May the LORD show you kindness, as you have shown kindness to your dead husbands and to me. ⁹May the LORD grant that each of you will find rest in the home of another husband."

Then she kissed them goodbye and they wept aloud ¹⁰and said to her, "We will go back with you to your people."

¹¹But Naomi said, "Return home, my daughters. Why would you come with me? Am I going to have any more sons, who could become your husbands? ¹²Return home, my daughters; I am too old to have another husband. Even if I thought there was still hope for me—even if I had a husband tonight and then gave birth to sons— ¹³would you wait until they grew up? Would you remain unmarried for

them? No, my daughters. It is more bitter for me than for you, because the LORD's hand has turned against me!"

¹⁴At this they wept aloud again. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her.

¹⁵"Look," said Naomi, "your sister-in-law is going back to her people and her gods. Go back with her."

¹⁶But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. ¹⁷Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me." ¹⁸When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her.

¹⁹So the two women went on until they came to Bethlehem.

Psalm (spoken responsively)

Psalm 111:1-5

Praise the Lord. I will extol the Lord with all my heart
in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

Great are the works of the Lord;
they are pondered by all who delight in them.

Glorious and majestic are his deeds,
and his righteousness endures forever.

He has caused his wonders to be remembered;
the Lord is gracious and compassionate.

He provides food for those who fear him;
he remembers his covenant forever. Amen.

Epistle Reading

Galatians 5:1, 13–25

¹It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

¹³You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. ¹⁴For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁵If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

¹⁶So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

¹⁹The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

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.

Amazing Grace

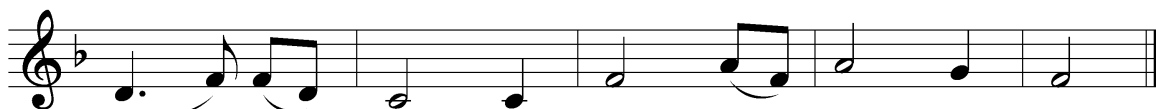
CW 576



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— that
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
Word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found, was blind but now I see.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text (sts. 1–3): John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.; (st. 4): A Collection of Sacred Ballads, Richmond, 1790
Tune: Columbian Harmony, Cincinnati, 1829, ed. Benjamin Shaw; ed. Charles H. Spilman
Text and tune: Public domain

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

Sermon Reading

Mark 7:31–37

³¹Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis. ³²There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged Jesus to place his hand on him.

³³After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. ³⁴He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" (which means "Be opened!"). ³⁵At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly.

³⁶Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it. ³⁷People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

The gospel of the Lord
Praise be to Christ!

Please be seated

Your Savior Gives Individualized Care

Questions to consider while hearing the sermon:

1. What sort of advertising is everywhere today?
2. Even though we know Jesus saves the world, what question might we still have?
3. What does the crowd beg Jesus to do for the deaf man?

4. What are the 4 actions Jesus takes to show personal care for the deaf man?
- 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
5. God uses many different accounts in the Bible to give you a _____ picture of the gospel.
6. What are some physical proofs of your Savior's individualized care for you?
7. What will we not stop talking about?

Discussion questions:

1. Name another account in the Bible where Jesus/God gives individualized care to someone.
2. Which gospel account especially touches your heart and lifts your soul? In what circumstances have you especially been comforted by it?
3. Share an event in your life where, looking back now, you can see how God used it for your good to uniquely take care of you?
4. In what way is God's Church positioned to give individualized care to souls in need? *(In other words, what benefit can you receive from being part of a local congregation and not just a loner Christian out there with a Bible?)*

Please stand

Holy Is Your Name

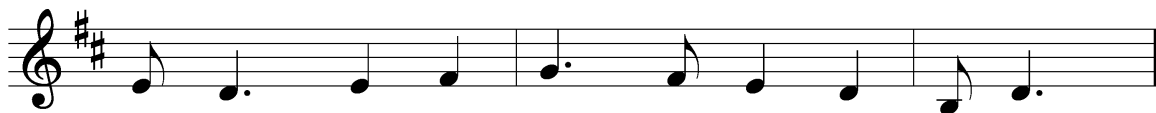
CW 956 sts. 1, Ref, 5



1 My — soul is filled with joy as I
5 In your love you now ful - fill all you



sing to God, my Sav - ior. You have looked up - on your
prom - ised to your peo - ple. I will praise you, God, my



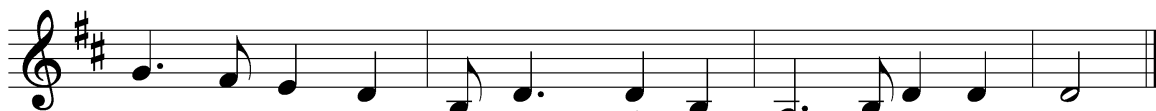
ser - vant, you have vis - it - ed your peo - ple.
Sav - ior, ev - er - last - ing is your mer - cy.



And ho - ly is your name through all gen - er -



a - tions! Ev - er - last - ing is your mer - cy to the



peo - ple you have cho - sen, and ho - ly is your name!

Text: anonymous, alt.

Tune: Scottish

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

Living in a world where people believe that the universe was formed through chance and accident, what do you believe?

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

Living in a world where people are confronted with the guilt and punishment of sin, what do you believe Jesus did for you?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Living in a world where people are without hope and certainty, what do you believe?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Please be seated

Offering

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

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

Prayer of the Church

Eternal Lord, you speak to us in words of love and light and power. Fill us with peace today as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Guide our lives today as we see clearly the path you have laid out for us. Work in us today through your Spirit that our thoughts, words, and actions glorify you and serve our neighbor.

Fill us with the Word we have heard today and move us to believe and live it.

Forgive us for the times we hear your Word but fail to live it in our lives. Break down the apathy that lurks in us and leads us to ignore eternal realities. Convict us with your law and then fill us so full of your gospel that we overflow with zeal to do your will.

Give us thankful hearts to live and love with joy.

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 your grace.

Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. Fill eager minds with wisdom to discover new ways to treat disease and illness. Give patience and compassion to those who care for the sick and dying.

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

Eternal Lord, you guide the world with your mighty power and love all people because your Son lived and died and rose again. Hear our prayers 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.

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

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✚ give you peace.

Amen.

The Lord Loves You Face to Face



A ho - ly God should have me cursed. A ho - ly Lord should do his worst.
In dark-ness I have walked a - lone. I've put my trust in hearts of stone.



I am the one he ___ should re - vile but God looks on me and smiles.
These re - bel steps I have re - traced, God shines on me his face.



The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord smile up - on you. From sin re - leased,



he gives you peace. The Lord loves you face to face.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Services

Worship series - Undivided Attention: We need to be freed from distraction. We need the spiritual power to give our undivided attention to that which truly makes a difference. A life focused on all the right things is only possible because of a Savior who is always focused on us.

Next week: Undivided attention on heavenly treasure

Thank you to today's musicians and vocalists!

Emily Knutson; piano — Mark Hennings; piano — David Dyer; guitar — Sarah Dyer; piano, vocals

Sunday School and Bible Study—off for the month of July

Our Sunday school and adult Bible study will be off for the next few weeks. Stay tuned for when we re-launch in August!

Outreach Brainstorm Session—Sunday August 10 after worship

The first of our follow-up events to our Everyone Outreach workshop, back in May, will be held on August 10th after worship. This won't be a normal congregational meeting. This session will be interactive and held in the gathering area. Lunch will be provided. We'll be getting everyone involved and split into groups to come up with a bunch of ideas for the following topics:

- Welcoming first time guests
- Connecting to repeat worship guests
- Assimilating new members
- Other church-wide outreach efforts

Previous attendance at the Everyone Outreach workshop is not required! Children are welcome to attend with parents as well. We always want to be thinking outside of our walls here at Living Hope and focus on those who *are not here yet*! This will be a great step toward that goal!

Theology on Tap—Tuesday August 3 @ 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



Living Hope Small Groups

Find more information on the small groups bulletin board in the lobby about available groups to get involved with.

- Theology on Tap—Tuesdays at 7pm (sermon discussion group)
- Women's Group—Mondays every other week—**next session—Mon. Aug. 11**
- Book of Concord Discussion—Wednesdays at 7pm (online group)

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.

Members' Minute

Birthday Blessings:

KJ McNabb- 8-3

William Mattson- 8-5

Matthew Turner- 8-8

We pray for the following members, family, and friends

Ted Bunting — Recovering from heart issues that put him in a long stay at the hospital.

Kyle and Aimee Melso — Mourning and rejoicing baby Elias being taken to heaven on Thurs.

Terry and Robbin Lundquist—Terry's brother in law, Scott, who has been battling with cancer is nearing the end of his time here on earth.

Service Teams — This week

Sunday Setup Team—Marshall
Snack Provider—Bassett, Dyer
Ushers—Gorman, Hansen
Acolyte—Natalie Melso

Service Teams — Next week Aug 10

Sunday Setup Team—Thom
Snack Provider—Hynson, Schmidt
Ushers—Ludwig, Smith
Acolyte—Ember Turner



LIVING HOPE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

HOPE FOR EVERYDAY

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