

August 31, 2025



The Great Reversal

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: Wounds That Heal

Not all wounds are bad. A skilled surgeon takes a deadly sharp scalpel and cuts through flesh and muscle. The result of that wound: not harm, but healing. In the same way, we often say that words cut us to the heart. Words can wound. Sometimes, however, those painful words provide the very healing we need.

"Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem" (Luke 13:22). Jesus knows that when he gets to Jerusalem, he is going to die. So, with a sense of extreme urgency, Jesus shares truths we need to hear, even though it hurts to hear them. In this series, we might not like everything that Jesus says. Yet, to ignore what Jesus teaches is to court eternal death. Hard as it may be, let us listen and take all that Jesus says to heart. For while Jesus speaks words that wound us, his intent is to heal our very soul.

Today's Focus: The Great Reversal

Jesus' sharp words this week teach us that seeking exaltation in futile and fleeing ways will only result in receiving the opposite. Those who attempt to exalt themselves will eventually be humbled by God. In contrast, Jesus promises that those who leave their exaltation to God will receive honor and glory far greater than any that can be awarded in this life. Our exaltation does not need to be our responsibility, because Jesus has already made it his.



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

Music reprinted under OneLicense.net A-730027 and CCLI A-21626251

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

CW 624 sts. 1, 4-5



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -
 5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is your
 fend you; sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall
 dore him! All that has life and breath, come now with



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear now to his
 dai - ly at - tend you. Pon - der a - new what the Al -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his



tem - ple draw near, join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 might - y can do as with his love he be - friends you.
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650-1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

Tune: Ander Theil Des Erneueren Gesang-Buchs, Stralsund, 1665, 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.

Holy Baptism

I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

John 3:5,6

Surely we were sinful at birth, sinful from the time our mothers conceived us.

Psalms 51:5

But we were washed, we were sanctified, we were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

1 Corinthians 6:11

As baptized children of God, we confess our sins.

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.

Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless (Ephesians 5:25-27). 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.

BAPTISMAL RITE for Juliet Schmidt

(After baptism)

Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love therefore urges all of us, especially parents and sponsors, to assist in whatever manner possible so that Juliet may remain a child of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, as God gives me strength.

Yes, as God gives me strength.

Prayer

All Who Believe and Are Baptized

CW 692



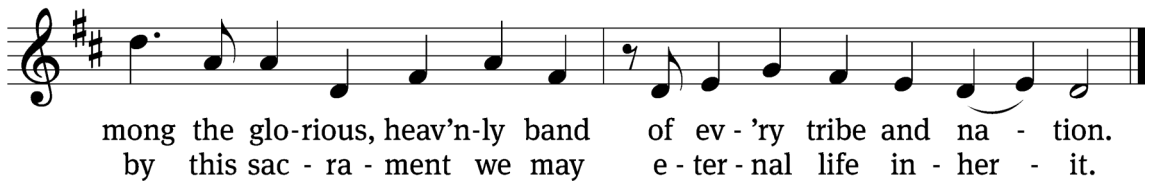
1 All who be-lieve and are bap-tized shall see the Lord's sal -
2 With one ac-cord, O God, we pray: grant us your Ho - ly



va - tion; bap-tized in - to the death of Christ, they are a
Spir - it; help us in our in - firm - i - ty through Je - sus'



new cre - a - tion; through Christ's re-demp-tion they shall stand a -
blood and mer - it; grant us to grow in grace each day that



Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt.
Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524
Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by your Holy Spirit to follow the example of your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; 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

Proverbs 25:6, 7a

⁶Do not exalt yourself in the king's presence,
and do not claim a place among his great men;

⁷it is better for him to say to you, "Come up here,"
than for him to humiliate you before his nobles.

Psalm

Psalm 112:1, 4-9

Praise the Lord. Blessed are those who fear the Lord,
who find great delight in his commands.

Even in darkness light dawns for the upright,
for those who are gracious and compassionate and righteous.

Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely,
who conduct their affairs with justice.

Surely the righteous will never be shaken;
they will be remembered forever.

They will have no fear of bad news;
their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

Their hearts are secure, they will have no fear;
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.

They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor, their righteousness endures forever;
their horn will be lifted high in honor. Amen.

Epistle Reading

James 2:1–13

¹My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. ²Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. ³If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, “Here’s a good seat for

you,” but say to the poor man, “You stand there” or “Sit on the floor by my feet,”
⁴have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

⁵Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? ⁷Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

⁸If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, “Love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing right. ⁹But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹For he who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.

¹²Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, ¹³because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

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.

Son of God, Eternal Savior

CW 729



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



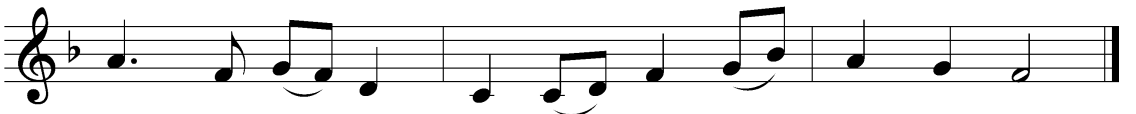
truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us,
sa - cred fold, weak and health - y, poor and wealth - y,
oth - ers live. Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed;
truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us



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



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



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

Text: Somersett T. C. Lowry, 1855–1932, abr., alt.

Tune: The Revivalist, Troy, 1868, ed. Joseph Hillman Text and tune: Public domain

Please Stand

Sermon Reading

Luke 14:1, 7–14

¹One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched.

⁷When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: ⁸“When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. ⁹If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, ‘Give this person your seat.’ Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, ‘Friend, move up to a better place.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all the other guests. ¹¹For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹²Then Jesus said to his host, “When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

The gospel of the Lord

Praise be to Christ!

Please be seated

The Great Reversal

Questions to consider while hearing the sermon:

1. What does it mean to “save face”?
2. What modern event might help us understand the “seats of honor” reference?
3. Why would the rich and influential not want to invite the poor and needy?
4. In what ways might pride be more of a subtle whisper than a shout?
5. We all have a problem of wanting to be _____.
6. This isn’t just life-hack from Jesus. It’s another powerful demonstration of the _____.
7. What is the true “great reversal” we are talking about here?
8. What moves us to humility?
9. What is God’s highest delight, his greatest gift and honor?

Discussion questions:

(for Theology on Tap)

1. Agree or disagree: Humility doesn’t mean thinking less of yourself. It means thinking of yourself less.
2. What aspects of “Mianzi / saving face” do we have in Western culture even if it’s not on the same level as Eastern cultures?
3. Is Jesus making a direct application in verse 13 for us to start throwing banquets like that? What is Jesus getting us to think about?

4. In Western culture we strive to show our value and unique talents we bring to the table—that we are like no one else out there and set apart. But being “set apart” when it comes to God’s kingdom means something else entirely. It is God the Holy Spirit who “sets us apart” as God’s holy people as we live a life of faith. Compare and contrast the world’s and God’s ideas of being people who are “set apart.”

Please stand

On My Heart Imprint Your Image

CW 1993 #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 contains the first two measures of the melody. The second line contains the next four measures. The third line contains the next four measures. The fourth line contains the next four measures. The fifth line contains the final two measures, ending with a double bar line. The lyrics are: "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."

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. Strømme, 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 and eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. Guide the work of the Church. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your Word, and bring salvation to people everywhere. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, your Spirit guides the Church and makes it holy. Strengthen and uphold all who serve you and your people. Keep them in health and safety for the good of the Church. Help each of us to do faithfully the work to which you have called us. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, enable those who do not acknowledge Christ to receive the truth of the gospel. Help us, your Church, to grow in love for you and for one another, so that we become more perfect witnesses of your love for all people. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, graciously direct those who have been set in positions of authority among us, so that people everywhere may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. In your mercy hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble, that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

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.

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.

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

CW 766



- 1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of
- 2 Still your chil - dren wan-der home-less; still the hun - gry
- 3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re -
- 4 Sent from wor - ship as your ser - vants, forth in your dear



hu - man need, who up - on the cross, for - sak - en,
cry for bread; still the cap - tives long for free - dom;
veal - ing light in its height and depth and great - ness,
name we go, to the child, the youth, the a - ged,



of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed, we, your ser - vants,
still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, your
dawns up - on our quick - ened sight, mak - ing known the
love in liv - ing deeds to show; hope and health, good -



bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart, con - se -
deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul, use the
needs and bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear, stir - ring
will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give, that your



crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift that you im - part.
love your Spir - it kin - dles still to save and make us whole.
us to tire - less striv - ing, your a - bun - dant life to share.
ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.

Tune: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844

Text: © 1988 Oxford University Press. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 730027

Tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Liturgical and musical settings of Scripture based on text from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.

Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Services

New worship series - Wounds that Heal. Jesus shares truths we need to hear, even though it hurts to hear them. In this series, we might not like everything that Jesus says. Hard as it may be, let us listen and take all that Jesus says to heart. For while Jesus speaks words that wound us, his intent is to heal our very soul.

Next week: Count the Cost

Thank you to today's musicians and vocalists!

Gretchen Bassett; piano



Sunday School and Bible Study—After worship at 11:30

Sunday School for children and Sunday Study will take place after worship today. The adults are doing a study on the book of Judges called Broken Saviors as we take a deep dive into a very rich and messy book of the Bible full of applications for us today.

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

Theology on Tap—Tuesday September 2 @ 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

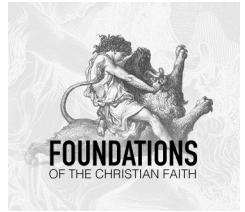
Find more information on the small groups bulletin board in the lobby about available groups to get involved with.

- Theology on Tap—Tuesdays at 7pm (sermon discussion group)
- Women's Group—Mondays every other week at 6:30pm
- Book of Concord Discussion—Saturdays at 8am (online group)
- Men's Group—Mondays every other week at 7am.

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.

There are both in-person or online classes available!



Next in person classes start up on Saturdays at 11:00am at church. **First session will be this coming Saturday September 6.**

Outreach Brainstorm Session—Sunday September 14 after worship

The second of our follow-up events to our Everyone Outreach workshop, back in May, will be held on September 14th 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 assess our outreach efforts pertaining to some of the following topics:

- Outreach focus in worship
- Evangelism
- Youth and children's ministry
- Facility

Previous attendance at the Everyone Outreach workshop or previous meetings 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!

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.

Members' Minute

Birthday Blessings:

Elie Ludwig—August 31

We pray for the following members, family, and friends

Lois Thom — Thanksgiving for a successful back surgery and continued recovery at home.

Melody Lopez — Melody and Sebastian gave birth to a healthy baby girl, Lillian Grace, this past week! Lillian and Melody are doing well.

Mike and Rachel Frederickson—Rachel went in to the hospital to have a baby on Saturday.

Service Teams — This week

Sunday Setup Team—Smith

Snack Provider—Appugliese, Bogue, Bunting

Ushers—Mayer, Gorman

Acolyte—Will Hynson

Service Teams — Next week Sept. 7

Sunday Setup Team—Baggett, Bloedorn

Snack Provider—Bassett, Dyer

Ushers—Frizzell, Rice

Acolyte—Emi Ludwig


HOPE for everyday people
HOPE for everyday problems
HOPE for everyday unknowns
HOPE for everyday anxiety
HOPE for everyday life

Pastor Eric Mello

423-933-2452

pastormello@livinghopechatt.com

www.livinghopechatt.com

 /livinghopechatt

 @livinghopechatt

