# March 24, 2024

# **Grand Reopening Sunday**







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.

# **SERVICE INFO**

# **Palm Sunday**

Today, Christian churches around the world celebrate Palm Sunday. Palm Sunday begins the seven days known as Holy Week. On this day, Jesus rode triumphantly into Jerusalem. He had come to be the Savior of the world. However, that meant his journey to Jerusalem did not end at a king's throne, but at a criminal's cross.

Today we cry out *Hosanna* with Christians of ages past. The word *hosanna* is a transliteration of the Hebrew phrase that expresses the plea, "Lord, save us" (Psalm 118:25), a cry of joyous hope. Since the days of the early church, palm fronds have been used not only to recall the palms dispersed before Jesus as he entered Jerusalem, but are also symbols of victory, life, and hope.

This morning, we will ride with Jesus into Jerusalem and follow him to Calvary's cross. Blessed is our king who came to save us! Hosanna!



#### **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

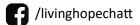
#### ABOUT WORSHIP

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.

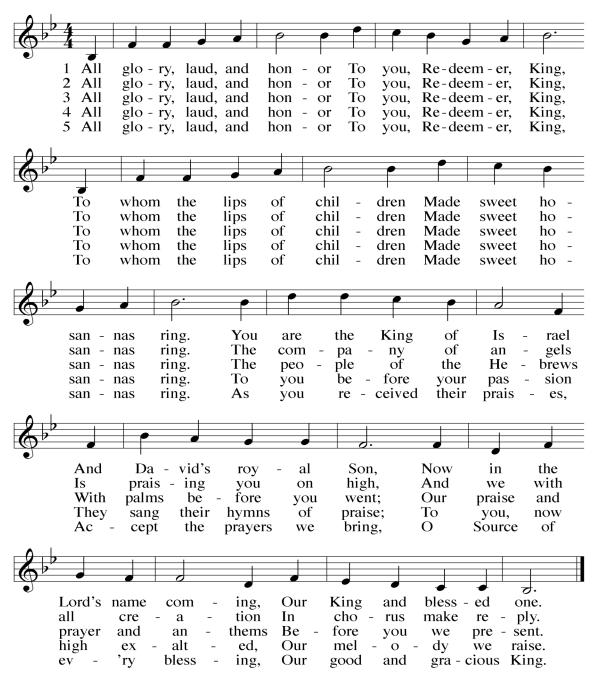
- Feel free to get up to use restrooms at any time during the service.
- Restrooms are located around the corner to your right.
- A nursery is available for small children out the left-hand side of the worship space. Just look for the **Kid's Zone sign** just past the info corner by the main entrance. 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!



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# OPENING SONG—All Glory, Laud, and Honor CW131



The name of the Triune God and sign of the cross remind worshipers of their baptisms.

# **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Minister: In the name of the Father, and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: 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**

M: Lord God, heavenly Father, we humbly come before you today knowing that we have failed to speak lovingly, think purely, or act rightly. We have sinned against you and against others... ...in wasting the precious time you give us.

C: ...in our slowness and hesitancy to spread your Gospel.

M: ...in the faithful care of our relationships.

C: ...in our restless and relentless preoccupation with worldly wealth.

M: ...in caring for the bodies and minds you have given us.

C: ...in our refusal to make you our first priority.

M: Hear our confession, for we have sinned and are in need of your mercy and forgiveness.

C: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

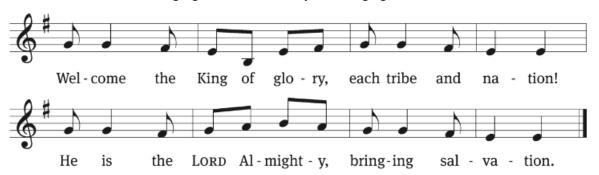
Lord, have mercy upon us.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen

# Welcome the King Psalm 24B

The congregation is invited to join in singing after verse 1.







- 1 See, all the earth is God's, its peo ple and na tions;
- 2 Who can go up this moun-tain, who stand in prais-ing? 3 They shall re-ceive for-give-ness, and have God's bless-ing
- 4 Come, lift vour voic es high, be lift ed to glo ry;



God built it the deeps and laid its foun - da - tions. Those who pure, who come with clean hands up - rais - ing. are con - fess - ing. if will search for God. their Say - ior thev the Lord God ap - proach - es, come, shout the our sto - rv.

- 5 Who is this glorious one, for whom we are waiting?
  We wait the mighty LORD, our God celebrating. (Refrain)
- 6 Come, lift your heads with joy; come, lift up your tower; the King of glory comes in full might and power. (Refrain)
- 7 Who is this King of glory of whom we're singing?
  Our God, this LORD of hosts, the vict'ry is bringing. (Refrain)

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: We praise you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ. As he was acclaimed by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in his path, so may we always hail him as our King and follow him with perfect confidence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

# **GOD'S WORD**

EPISTLE HEBREWS 12:1-3

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup> fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

<sup>3</sup> Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not

grow weary and lose heart.

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

Please stand

GOSPEL MARK 11:1-10

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, <sup>2</sup> saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>3</sup> If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.'"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, <sup>5</sup> some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that

colt?" <sup>6</sup> They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. <sup>7</sup> When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. <sup>8</sup> Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup> Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" NIV

M: The gospel of our Lord.

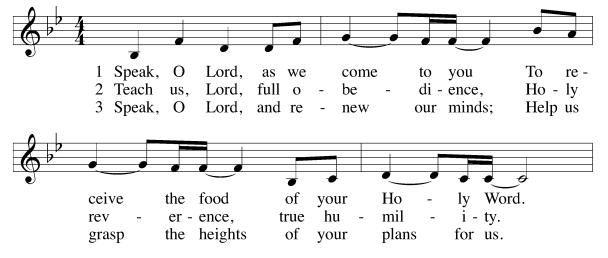
## C: Praise be to Christ.

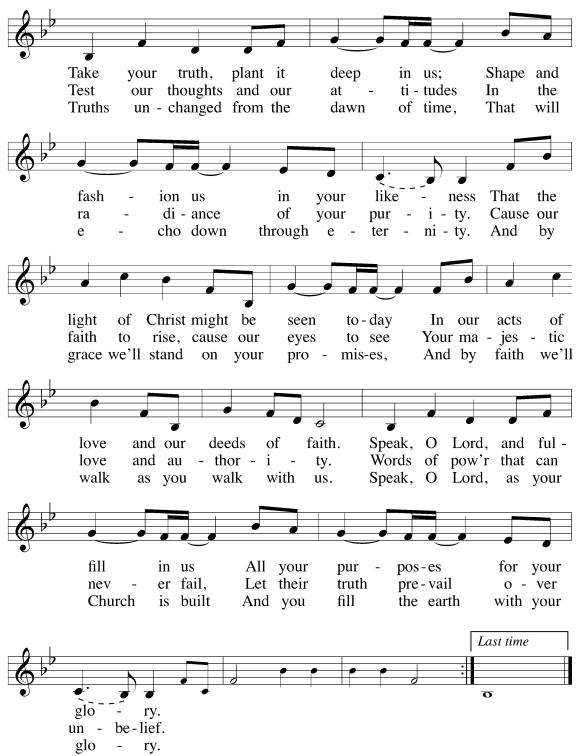
Please be seated

# CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children are invited to come forward into the front row for the children's message. They will be given a special message designed just for them that ties in with the sermon.

# SERMON HYMN—**Speak, O Lord** CWS735





#### **SERMON**

Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion!
Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!
See, your king comes to you,
righteous and victorious,
lowly and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

10 I will take away the chariots fro

<sup>10</sup> I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the warhorses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken.

He will proclaim peace to the nations.

His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.

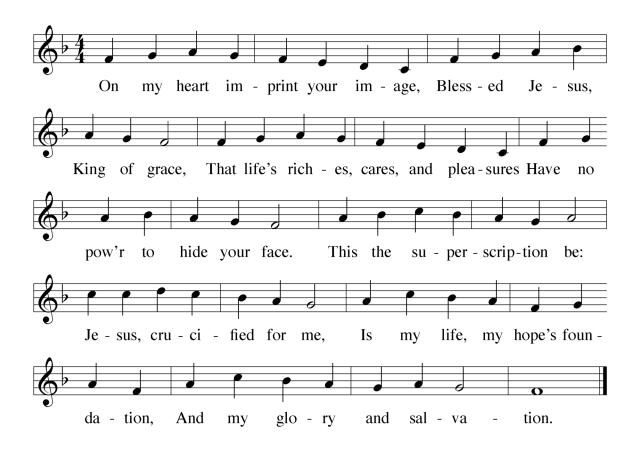
- <sup>11</sup> As for you, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit.
- <sup>12</sup> Return to your fortress, you prisoners of hope; even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you.

## **PRISONERS OF HOPE**

# **Questions to consider while hearing the sermon:**

1. What does Zechariah tell us about our King?
2. What are the 3 things your Savior does individually for you?
1.
2.
3.
3. What is a waterless pit?
4. What is the problem with <i>distraction</i> and <i>dopamine</i> culture?
5. What's really the spiritual root of this problem?
6. What does the phrase "the blood of the Lord's covenant with you" mean?
7. The fortress we are invited into is?
8. Why do we need hope even now, today?
9. Our hopes and dreams are being made in Christ!
Sermon notes:

# On My Heart Imprint Your Image CW 320



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).

Please stand

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

C: 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

M: Eternal Father, we give you thanks and praise for sending your one and only Son to share our humanity, carry our guilt, and become for us the perfect Lamb who takes away the sin of the world.

# C: O Lord, we adore you.

M: Keep our faith in your Son alive and strong. Nourish us with your Word and Sacrament and, by your Holy Spirit, give us strength to overcome Satan's power and pride. Help us to withstand the temptations the world and our sinful nature put on our path.

# C: O Lord, give us faith and courage.

M: We pray for our great city, for its neighborhoods and suburbs, and for all who live and work and find delight here. Give to the leaders of our government wisdom, courage, and unity as they address the serious challenges facing our country. Grant our nation peace and prosperity that we may have the opportunity and resources to spread the good news to people around the world.

# C: Govern and prosper your people.

M: Fill us with kindness and arouse us to do good to all people, especially those who are less fortunate than we. Bring your healing to those who are sick or diseased in body or mind and comfort those who are mourning the death of someone they love. We especially pray for brothers and sisters who care for the sick and stand at the side of the dying.

# C: Sustain those who endure the troubles of life.

M: Be a source of strength to all your people and fill them with your power and peace. Let us continually rediscover the joy that comes from Christ alone.

C: Let your peace reign in the hearts of all.

M: As you sent your Son to bring peace to all people on earth, so we pray for all people, those known and those unknown to us.

C: We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

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

## **BLESSING**

M: 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.

C: Amen.

# **CLOSING SONG—Living Hope**

#### Verse 1

Intro

How great the chasm that lay between us? How high the mountain I could not climb? In desperation I turned to Heaven, And spoke Your name into the night.

Then through the darkness, your loving kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul.
The work is finished, the end is written:
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

#### Verse 2

Brief Intro

Who could imagine so great a mercy?
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of angels stepped down from glory.
To wear my sin and bear my shame.

The cross has spoken, I am forgiven. The King of kings calls me His own. Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever, Jesus Christ, my living hope.

#### Chorus

Hallelujah!

Praise the one who set me free.

Hallelujah!

Death has lost its grip on me.

You have broken every chain, There's salvation in Your name, Jesus Christ, my living hope.

#### Verse 3

Then came the morning that sealed the promise.

Your buried body began to breathe.

Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion

Declared the grave has no claim on me.

Then came the morning that sealed the promise.

Your buried body began to breathe.

Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion

Declared the grave has no claim on me.

Jesus, yours is the victory!

#### Chorus

Brief Intro

Hallelujah!

Praise the one who set me free.

Hallelujah!

Death has lost its grip on me.

You have broken every chain, There's salvation in Your name, Jesus Christ, my living hope.

## Repeat Chorus

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **Upcoming Services**

Good Friday—Friday March 29 @ 6:30PM
Easter Sunday—Sunday March 31 @ 10:00AM

## Thank you to today's musicians and vocalists!

Gretchen Bassett; piano—David Dyer; guitar—Sarah Dyer; piano, vocals Jacob Schmidt; preservice

## Grand Reopening Celebration BBQ Lunch—after worship today

We'll be having a BBQ lunch catered by Mike's Smokehouse right after worship for all in attendance today. Please stick around to enjoy a free meal!

## Sunday School and Bible Study—starts up again after worship on April 7

Sunday School and Bible Study — Sunday Bible study for children and adult Bible study takes place after worship. The study for the adults will center on the hit TV series "The Chosen." We will review the approach the show takes and have discussion on some of the themes and stories from Scripture it depicts.

## **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.



A new small group class will begin on Thursday April 11 starting at 7:00PM at church.

## April Fellowship Outing: Chattanooga Zoo day—Saturday April 20 @ 9:00AM

Everyone is invited for a day at the Zoo together! Mark the date on your calendars. Sign up at the bulletin board in the gathering area.

## Theology on Tap—Tuesday April 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



#### **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:**

Ron Tarkowski — March 27th

# We pray for the following members, family, and friends:

- + Jean and Jeff Bogue—Jean's father, Robert, passed away and went to be with Jesus in heaven last Sunday
- + Terry Lundquist—soon undergoing a shoulder surgery

#### Service Teams — This week March 24th

Sunday Setup Team—Marshall Ushers—Hynson, Ludwig Acolyte—Gabe Amerson

#### Service Teams — Next week March 31st

Sunday Setup Team—Snyder
Ushers—Falls, Spann
Acolyte— Lydia Dyer
Musicians —Mark Hennings (Friday)
Emily Knutson (Sunday)



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