

## Hopewell Worship Guide for 12/13/20

### Call to Worship Hebrews 10:19–22

“Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.”

**Invocation:** Let us pray: Almighty God, O Heavenly Father, whose presence is an eternal peace, whose dwelling is an everlasting glory, Lord who rules over earth and heaven, we bow before you in this place, confessing with our hymns and prayers the name of Christ, whom we acknowledge as Lord indeed. Grant to us your blessing and your presence, your Word and your peace, that our worship be that worship which is in Spirit and truth. Through Jesus Christ our Savior, whom with you O Father, and the Holy Spirit we always worship and adore. One God forever and ever. Amen.

### Old Testament Isaiah 61:1-11

**Isaiah 61 (ESV)** — **1** The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; **2** to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; **3** to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified. **4** They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. **5** Strangers shall stand and tend your flocks; foreigners shall be your plowmen and vinedressers; **6** but you shall be called the priests of the Lord; they shall speak of you as the ministers of our God; you shall eat the wealth of the nations, and in their glory you shall boast. **7** Instead of your shame there shall be a double portion; instead of dishonor they shall rejoice in their lot; therefore in their land they shall possess a double portion; they shall have everlasting joy. **8** For I the Lord love justice; I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. **9** Their offspring shall be known among the nations, and their descendants in the midst of the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are an offspring the Lord has blessed. **10** I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of

righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. **11** For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.

*These prayer components are pulled from Matthew Henry’s Method of Prayer, a method of prayer that helps us pray the Bible. <http://www.matthewhenry.org>*

**Adoration:** *All things are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account, even the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Your eyes are in every place keeping watch on the evil and the good: They run to and fro throughout the whole earth, that you may give strong support to those whose hearts are blameless toward you. You search the heart and test the mind, that you may give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds. O God, you have searched us and known us! You know when we sit down and when we rise up; you discern our thoughts from afar. You search out our path and our lying down and are acquainted with all our ways. Even before a word is on our tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether. Such knowledge is too wonderful for us; it is high; we cannot attain it. Darkness is as light with you. Your understanding, O Lord, is infinite, for you determine the number of the stars, and give to all of them their names. You are wonderful in counsel and excellent in wisdom; wise in heart and mighty in strength. O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all; all according to the counsel of your own will. Oh, the depth of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!*

**Confession:** *We are born of the flesh, and we are flesh. Dust we are: We have borne the image of the man of dust; and in us (that is, in our flesh) dwells nothing good. For we have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out; for we do not do the good we want, but the evil we do not want is what we keep on doing. We have a law in our members waging war against the law of our mind and making us captive to the law of sin that dwells in our members; so that when we want to do right, evil lies close at hand, and clings to us so closely. The whole head is sick, the whole heart is faint; from the sole of the foot even to the head, there is no soundness in us, but bruises and sores and raw wounds. There is in us a bent to turn away from the living God: Our hearts are deceitful above all things and desperately sick; who can understand them? They start aside like a treacherous bow*

**Petition:** *O God, be gracious to us and bless us and make your face to shine upon us; yes, let God, our God, give us his blessing. May the LORD, he who made heaven and earth, bless us from Zion; bless us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus. O that you would bless us indeed! Command the blessing upon us, even life forevermore;) for you bless, O LORD, and it shall be blessed. Let us receive blessing from the LORD, even righteousness from the God of our salvation. Have you but one blessing? Indeed, you have many blessings! Bless us, even us also, O our Father; yes, let the blessing of Abraham come to us, which comes to the Gentiles through faith; and the blessing of Jacob, for we will not let you go unless you bless us. If your presence will not go with us, do not bring us up from here; never leave us nor forsake us. O cast us not away from your presence, or ever take your Holy Spirit away from us; but let us always dwell with the upright in your presence.*

**Thanks:** *When we have eaten and are full, we have reason to bless you for the good land that you have given us, a land which the eyes of the LORD our God are always upon, from the beginning of the year to the end of the year. You make peace in our borders and fill us with the finest of the wheat: We are delivered from the sound of archers at the watering places; there, therefore, will we repeat the righteous triumphs of the LORD, the righteous triumphs of his villagers in Israel. We thank you that the powers that are set over us are servants of God for our good; that they seek the welfare of our people and speak peace to all our people*

**Intercession:** *O teach transgressors your ways, and let sinners return to you. O give them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, the truth as it is in Jesus, the truth which accords with godliness; that they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil. Let those who are straying like sheep return to Jesus Christ, the Shepherd and Overseer of our souls. Show those fools their folly and misery who have said in their hearts, "There is no God," and who are corrupt and do abominable deeds. Lord, maintain the honor of the Scriptures, the teaching and the testimony, and convince those who speak not according to that word, that it is because they have no dawn. You have exalted above all things your name and your word; magnify the law, magnify the gospel, and make both glorious. Let those who will not be won by the word, be won by the conduct of Christians, which we beg may be such in everything that those who do not believe may be convicted by all and called to account by all, may be brought to worship God and to declare that God is really among them*

**Ministries Hopewell Supports:** Roddey & Becky Caughman, Michael & Tricia Lee – Panama, Child Evangelism Fellowship, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Hope House, Reformed University Fellowship, Palmetto Women's Center,

**Lord's Prayer:** Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.

**Assurance of Pardon:** *Romans 4:7–8 (ESV) — 7* "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; 8 blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin."

**New Testament Reading:** *1 Thessalonians 5:16–24*

<sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. <sup>19</sup> Do not quench the Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Do not despise prophecies, <sup>21</sup> but test everything; hold fast what is good. <sup>22</sup> Abstain from every form of evil.

<sup>23</sup> Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>24</sup> He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

**Benediction:** May the Lord, Who longs to be gracious to you, who waits on high to have compassion on you, Plant you firmly in the faith, established, steadfast and unmovable, Through the hope of the Gospel, proclaimed to all the creation under heaven. Isaiah 30:18; Colossians 1:23