

Hopewell Worship Guide for 1/2/22

Call to Worship *Isaiah 49:13* Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted.

Invocation: Answer us when we call, O God of our righteousness! You have given us relief when we were in distress. Be gracious to us and hear our prayer! But know that the Lord has set apart the godly for himself; the Lord hears when we call to him. May we offer right sacrifices, and put our trust in the Yahweh. Lift up the light of your face upon us, O Lord!" You have put more joy in our hearts than they have when their grain and wine abound. In peace we will lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Yahweh, make us dwell in safety. We worship you God, - Father, Son, and Spirit, One God, Now and Forever. Amen (Psalm 4)

Old Testament *2 Samuel 7:8-16*

⁸ Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. ⁹ And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰ And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹ from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. ¹² When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³ He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴ I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, ¹⁵ but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. ¹⁶ And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.' "

Adoration: *You have established your throne in the heavens, and it is a throne of glory, high and lifted up; and before you the seraphim cover their faces. And it is in compassion to us that you hold back the face of that throne and spread a cloud over it. You make your messengers winds, and your ministers a flaming fire. Thousands of thousands of them minister to you, and myriads of myriads stand before you, to do your pleasure. They are mighty ones who obey the voice of your word. And we have come by faith and hope and holy love into a spiritual communion with that innumerable company of angels in festal gathering and the spirits of the righteous made perfect, even to the assembly of the firstborn, in the heavenly Jerusalem.*

Confession: *We have put far from us the day of disaster; and in our prosperity have said, "We shall never be moved," as if tomorrow will be like this day, great beyond measure. We have encouraged our souls to relax, to eat and drink and be merry, as if we had goods laid up for many years, when perhaps this night our souls may be required of us. We have been ready to set our hope on the uncertainty of riches, more than on the living God; to say to the gold, "You are our hope," and to the fine gold, "You are our confidence." When you have disciplined us, and we were disciplined, we have been like an untrained calf; and though our own folly has brought our way to ruin, yet our heart has raged against the LORD; and thus, in our distress we have become yet more faithless to the LORD. We have either despised the LORD's discipline or been weary of his reproof; and if we faint in the day of adversity, our strength is small. We have said in our alarm, "We are cut off from your sight"; and, "The LORD has forsaken us, our Lord has forgotten us"; as if God would never again be favorable, Psalm 77:7(ESV) as if he had forgotten to be gracious and had in anger shut up his compassion. This has been our infirmity.*

Petition: *Now may the God of peace himself sanctify us completely, and may our whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls us is faithful; he will surely do it. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Cast us not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit away from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit. Write your law on our hearts and put it within us, that we may be letters from Christ, written by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts; that the law of our God being in our heart, none of our steps may*

slip; and that we may delight to do your will, O God; may delight in the law of God in our inner being. O that we may become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which we desire to be committed, as into a mold, that our whole soul may be leavened by it; and that we may not be conformed to this world, but transformed by the renewal of our mind; may not be conformed to the passions of our former ignorance, but as obedient children, may be holy in all our conduct, as he who called us is holy.

Intercession: *You, LORD, rule over the nations: Who will not fear you, O King of the nations? You sit on the throne, giving righteous judgment; judge the world therefore with righteousness, and judge the peoples with uprightness. Lord, hasten the time when you will make wars cease to the end of the earth; when nation shall no more lift up sword against nation, nor kingdom against kingdom, but swords shall be beaten into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks, and they shall not learn war anymore. Make kings foster fathers, and their queens nursing mothers, to the Israel of God. And in the days of these kings, let the God of heaven set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, even the kingdom of the Redeemer. And whatever purposes there are in men's minds, Lord, let your purposes stand, and fulfill the plans of your heart to all generations*

Ministries Hopewell Supports: Roddey & Becky Caughman, Michael & Tricia Lee – Panama, Clark Emerson – Campus Outreach, 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: *2 Peter 3:9* The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

New Testament Reading: Colossians 1:13–20

¹³ He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Benediction:

Now may the God Who tends and spares us and well knows our feeble frame; Our Father who gently bears us and rescues us from our foes, Establish you like Mt. Zion, which cannot be moved but abides forever. Ps 125:1