

## Hopewell Worship Guide for 10/04/20

### **Call to Worship:** *Psalm 27:1*

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**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 in 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 55:6–9*

<sup>6</sup>“Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; <sup>7</sup>let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. <sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. <sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

*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:** *Lord, we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but let your Spirit help us in our weakness and intercede for us. O pour upon us a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, the Spirit of adoption teaching us to cry, “Abba, Father”; that we may find in our hearts to pray this prayer: Send out your light and your truth; let them lead us, let them bring us to your holy hill and to your dwelling; to God, our exceeding joy. O Lord, open our lips, and our mouths will declare your praise. This is what you, O LORD, have said: that you will be sanctified among those who are near you, and before all the people you will be glorified. We therefore worship before you, O Lord, that we may glorify your name; and therefore we call upon you, that you may deliver us, and we may glorify you. For from you and through you and to you are all things*

**Confession:** *O the riches of the patience and forbearance of God! How patient he is toward us, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. You have not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid us according to our iniquities, but you wait to be gracious to us. Sentence against our evil deeds has not been executed speedily, but you have given us time to repent and make*

*our peace with you, and call even faithless sons to return to you, and have promised to heal our faithlessness; and therefore, behold, we come to you, for you are the LORD our God. Surely the patience of our Lord is counted as salvation; and if the LORD had meant to kill us, he would not now have shown us such things as these. And O that this kindness of God might lead us to repentance! For though we have broken faith with our God, yet now there is hope for us in Israel in spite of this. You have said it and have confirmed it with an oath, that you have no pleasure in the death of sinners, but rather desire that we should turn and live. Therefore will we rend our hearts, and not our garments, and return to the LORD our God; for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him.*

**Petition:** *Lord, qualify us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light; let God himself prepare us for this very thing, and give us the Spirit as a guarantee in our hearts. O that we may know that our citizenship is in heaven, and that from there, with comfort, we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus, who shall transform our lowly bodies to be like his glorious body. O that we may set our minds on things that are above, and that our life may be hidden with Christ in God; that when Christ, who is our life, shall appear, we also may appear with him in glory; that when he shall appear, we may be like him, may see him as he is, may behold his face in righteousness, and when we awake, may be satisfied with his likeness. When we fail, let us be received into the eternal dwellings, in the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God; that we may always be together with the Lord, to see as we are seen and know as we have been fully known; and, in the meantime, help us to encourage ourselves and one another with these words. And hoping in Christ, may we purify ourselves as he is pure. And now, may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort our hearts and establish them in every good work and word*

**Thanks:** *You have not quenched the smoldering wick, nor broken the bruised reed, nor despised the day of small things; but having had the help of God, we continue up to this time. On the day we called, you answered us; and our strength of soul you increased. We have been continually with you, you have held our right hand, when our feet had almost stumbled and our steps had nearly slipped. We have reason never to forget your precepts, for by them you have given us life; and if your law had not been our delight, we would have perished in our affliction many a time; for your statutes have been our songs in the house of our sojourning. If the Lord had not been our help, our souls would soon have lived in the land of silence: But when we thought, “Our foot slips,” your steadfast love, O LORD, held us up; and when the cares of our hearts are many, your consolations cheer our souls.*

**Intercession:** *Lord, give to those who are young to remember their Creator in the days of their youth; that thereby they may be kept from the vanity which childhood and youth are subject to, and may be restrained from walking in the way of their heart and in the sight of their eyes, by considering that for all these things God will bring them into judgment. Lord, make young people self-controlled; and let the word of God abide in them, that they may be strong and may overcome the evil one. From the womb of the morning let Christ have the dew of your youth; and let him be formed in the hearts of those who are young. Keep those who are setting out in the world from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire; and give to those who have been well-educated, to hold fast the pattern of sound words, and to continue in what they have learned. There are some who are old disciples of Jesus Christ; Lord, give them still to bear fruit in old age, to declare that the LORD is upright, that he is their Rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him. Now the evil days have come and the years of which they say, "I have no pleasure in them"; let your consolations cheer their souls. You have said, "Even to your old age I am he, and to gray hairs I will carry you." You have made them, Lord; we beg you, bear, yes, do carry and save them. Those whom you have taught from their youth up and to whom you still proclaim your wondrous deeds, now, also, when they are old and gray headed, forsake them not; cast them not off in the time of old age; forsake them not when their strength is spent. Let every gray head be a crown of glory to those who have it, being gained in a righteous life, and give them to know whom they have believed.*

**Ministries Hopewell Supports:** Word of Grace Church, Roddey & Becky Caughman, Michael & Tricia Lee – Panama, Kevin & Jan Rutledge - Germany, 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: Deuteronomy 4:31**

*"For the Lord your God is a merciful God. He will not leave you or destroy you or forget the covenant with your fathers that he swore to them."*

**New Testament Reading: Philippians 1:18b–27**

<sup>18</sup> What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.

Yes, and I will rejoice, <sup>19</sup> for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, <sup>20</sup> as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. <sup>21</sup> For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup> If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. <sup>23</sup> I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. <sup>24</sup> But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. <sup>25</sup> Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, <sup>26</sup> so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

<sup>27</sup> Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel,

**Benediction:** May He Who has revealed to every nation His everlasting righteousness, Who sits enthroned in ageless splendor, Rule in your hearts since as members of one body you were called to peace. Colossians 3:15