

Hopewell Worship Guide for 9/5/21

Call to Worship *John 4:23–24*

Let us now worship God, who is a Spirit, in spirit and truth. For such people the Father seeks to worship Him.

Invocation: Father, whose glory is ever above us, whose mercy is ever with us, and whose everlasting arms are ever underneath us, holy, holy, holy is your name! Hear us Father, for we gather together in the name of Jesus, your only begotten, well-beloved Son, that in Him we might recognize your presence, that in him we see your glory. Hear us, Father, we have been too long in our far country. Receive us again in the name of Jesus. To you, O Father, together with the Son and the Holy Spirit, One God from all eternity and to all eternity, Be glory, wisdom, power, and dominion evermore. Amen

Old Testament *Deuteronomy 4:1–8*

1 “And now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the Lord, the God of your fathers, is giving you. 2 You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you. 3 Your eyes have seen what the Lord did at Baal-peor, for the Lord your God destroyed from among you all the men who followed the Baal of Peor. 4 But you who held fast to the Lord your God are all alive today. 5 See, I have taught you statutes and rules, as the Lord my God commanded me, that you should do them in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. 6 Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’ 7 For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is to us, whenever we call upon him? 8 And what great nation is there, that has statutes and rules so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?

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: *And, Lord, as duly as we pray every day for our daily bread, we pray for the forgiveness of our sins; for we are all held accountable to God, have all sinned and fall short of the glory of God. We all stumble in many ways every day. Who can tell how often he stumbles? If you should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared. God, be merciful to us sinners! We have wasted our Lord’s possessions; we have buried the talents we were entrusted with. We have not made return according to the benefit done to us; and thus, we have come to be in debt. The Scripture has concluded us all under sin; we have practiced such things as deserve death, things for which the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Our debt is more than ten thousand talents; it is a great debt, and we cannot pay. So far are we from being able to say, “Have patience with us, and we will pay everything.” Justly therefore might our accuser hand us over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, to be put in prison, the prison of hell, until we should pay the last penny.*

Petition: *But blessed be God, there is a way found out of agreeing with our accuser; for if anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous, and he is the propitiation for our sins. For his sake, we entreat you, blot out all our transgressions, and enter not into judgment with us. He is our Guarantor, who restored what he did not steal, that blessed Arbiter, who has laid his hand on us both. Through him let us be reconciled to God, and let the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands be cancelled and set aside, being nailed to the cross of Christ, that we may be made alive together with Christ, having all our trespasses forgiven us. Be merciful toward our iniquities, and remember our sins no more*

Thanks: *We bless you for all those who have been enabled to commend themselves to God by great endurance, in afflictions and calamities; who when they have been brought before kings and governors for Christ's sake, it has turned to them for an opportunity to bear witness, and God has given them a mouth and wisdom, which none of their adversaries were able to withstand or contradict. That those who for Christ's sake were killed all the day long and regarded as sheep to be slaughtered, were yet in all these things more than conquerors through him who loved them. That they conquered the accuser of the brothers by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. We bless you for the cloud of witnesses with which we are surrounded, for the tracks of the flock, the people of old who received their commendation, and are now, through faith and patience, inheriting the promises. Lord, give us to follow them, as they followed Christ*

Intercession: *Make those who rule over us just, ruling in the fear of God; and let those who judge remember that they judge not for man but for the LORD, who is with them in giving judgment, that therefore the fear of the LORD may be upon them. Make them able men and trustworthy, men who fear God and hate a bribe, that justice may run down like a river, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Enable our magistrates to defend the weak and fatherless, to maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute, to rescue the weak and the needy, and to deliver them from the hand of the wicked; and let governors never be a terror to good works, but to the evil.*

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: *Ephesians 1:7*

“In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace,”

New Testament Reading: *Ephesians 6:10–20*

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷ and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, ¹⁸ praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, ¹⁹ and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

Benediction: Based on Jude 25

And now, may the only true God – Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, Most blessed and glorious, the Ancient of Days, Be to you glory, majesty, power, and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen. (Jude 25)