



POINT HOPE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

POINTING THE HEARTS OF CHARLESTON
TO THE HOPE OF THE GOSPEL

Welcome to Point Hope Presbyterian Church

*To all who are weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory;
to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors
and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

Thank you for joining us for worship today. We are delighted that you are here and we hope to be a blessing to you. Point Hope is a new church seeking to point the hearts of Charleston to the hope of the gospel. We desire to be a church where people can experience what it means to belong and live in a true community where Jesus Christ is experienced in His presence and power.

Our Worship

You will notice that we follow a thoughtful and connected rhythm in our worship, called our liturgy. The order of our worship reflects the progress of the gospel in our hearts. In worship, we come together to tell the story of the gospel by the structure of our worship, the content of our worship, and the way that we worship. Parts of our worship service may be new to you. We would encourage you to participate through observation and reflection and welcome the chance to discuss our service with you.

Parents of Young Children

We are so glad you are here. We believe the church is for all people, young and old, and we want Point Hope to be a church where children are seen, heard, and loved. We invite you to keep your children in our service and help them understand and participate. Children learn how to worship by imitating you. We say and sing parts of our worship service every week in order to help our nonreading children to participate.

During the sermon, children ages 4 through 2nd grade are invited to attend Children's Church. There they will participate in an engaging, age-appropriate Bible lesson, songs and activities. Children will return after the sermon to join for the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

If you need to step out during the service, feel free to do so but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." A nursery is provided for infants and children up to 3 years old. Your child's safety and security are our highest priorities! Our children's ministry is staffed by friendly, well-trained, well-screened workers.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Lord's Day | Easter Sunday | April 9, 2023

PRELUDE | Welcome to Point Hope. Please find a seat and silence your electronic devices

REFLECTION | As we prepare for Worship, we invite you to a time of quiet reflection

The New Testament writers speak as if Christ's achievement in rising from the dead was the first event of its kind in the whole history of the universe. He is the 'first fruits,' 'the pioneer of life,' He has forced open a door that has been locked since the death of the first man. He has met, fought, and beaten the King of Death. Everything is different because He has done so. ~ C.S. Lewis

"While graveyards may remind one of the brevity of life, the resurrection ensures the brevity of death." ~ David Garland

RESURRECTION ANNOUNCEMENT

This is the good news—
The grave is empty; Christ is risen.

Hallelujah!

This is the good news—
The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never put it out.

Hallelujah!

This is the good news—
Once we were not a people; now we are God's people.

Hallelujah!

Christ is our peace, the indestructible peace we now share with each other.

Hallelujah!

***CALL TO WORSHIP** | *God invites us into His presence to worship Him*

Christ the Lord is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed!

He has broken the bands of death.

He has set His people free!

The Lord is lifted up.

The Lord is lifted up over all!

The Lord reigns.

The Lord reigns in heaven and on earth!

Oh, magnify the Lord with me.

And let us exalt His name together!

** Please stand*

***HYMN OF ADORATION** | *We sing praises to God*

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Words: Charles Wesley (trans.). Music: Lyra Davidson.

Christ, the Lord, is risen today, Alleluia!
Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!
Raise your voice and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth, reply, Alleluia!

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal, Alleluia!
Christ has burst the gates of hell, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids His rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened Paradise, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once He died, our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

***INVOCATION** | *We pray for God's presence, power and blessing in worship*

***DOXOLOGY** | *(Glory Words) We praise the Triune God*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION | *We acknowledge our sin and ask for God's grace*

Heavenly Father, many of us come before you today with troubled hearts and minds. We are fearful about our relationships, our health, our finances, our families, our futures, and many other things. We have a hard time believing in you in a way that would bring comfort to our hearts. Instead we greatly doubt your love and concern for us, and sometimes even your very existence. We are not calmed by the thought that you have prepared a place for us in heaven. Father, forgive our unbelief. Holy Spirit, help us to believe in Christ. Help us to believe that in his death we died, and that in his resurrection we are raised to new life. Give us the joy and peace that should flow from that reality, as we continue to face the broken world in which we live. Help us to live in the light of our full forgiveness, and to die with great confidence in the sufficiency of your grace to us in Jesus Christ. In his name, we pray, Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDONING GRACE | *God forgives our sin and gives us grace*

1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed by the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith – more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire – may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

***HYMN OF GRACE** | *We celebrate God's gift of grace*

The Sands of Time Are Sinking

Words: Anne Ross Cundell Cousin. Music: Phillip Palmertree.

The sands of time are sinking, the dawn of heaven breaks;
The summer morn I've sighed for, the fair, sweet morn awakes:
Dark, dark had been the midnight, but dayspring is at hand,
And glory, glory dwelleth, in Emmanuel's land.

The king there in His beauty, without a veil is seen:
It were a well-spent journey, though seven deaths lay between:
The Lamb with His fair army, doth on Mount Zion stand,
And glory, glory dwelleth, in Emmanuel's land.

O Christ, He is the fountain, the deep, sweet well of love!
The streams on earth I've tasted, more deep I'll drink above:
There to an ocean fullness, his mercy doth expand,
And glory, glory dwelleth, in Emmanuel's land.

The bride eyes not her garment, but her dear Bridegroom's face;
I will not gaze at glory, but on my King of grace.
Not at the crown He giveth, but on His pierced hand;
The Lamb is all the glory, of Emmanuel's land.

O I am my Beloved's, and my Beloved is mine!
He brings a poor vile sinner, Into His house of wine,
I stand upon His merit I know no other stand,
Not e'en where glory dwelleth, In Emmanuel's land.

***CONFESSION OF FAITH** | *We confess what we believe*

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and 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, dead, and 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 catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

GREETINGS OF PEACE | *Welcome and announcements*

TITHES AND OFFERING | *We offer our gifts to God*

*Online giving is available at pointhopepres.com/give
You may also place your gift in the offering box on the table in the back.*

INTERCESSORY PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER | *We lift up our requests to God*

Our Father, who 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, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***HYMN OF PREPARATION** | *We prepare our hearts to hear God's Word*

Pensive, Doubting, Fearful Heart

Words: John Newton. Music: Wendell Kimbrough.

Pensive, doubting, fearful heart, hear what Christ the Savior says;
Every word should joy impart, change thy mourning into praise.
Yes, He speaks and speaks to thee, may He help thee to believe;
Then thou presently will see, thou has little cause to grieve.

Fear thou not, nor be ashamed; all thy sorrows soon shall end,
I, who heaven and earth have framed, am thy Husband and thy Friend;
I the High and Holy One, Israel's God, by all adored,
As thy Savior will be known, thy Redeemer and thy Lord.

For a moment I withdrew, and thy heart was filled with pain;
But my mercies I'll renew; thou shall soon rejoice again;
Though I seem to hide my face, very soon my wrath shall cease;
'Tis but for a moment's space, ending in eternal peace.

Though afflicted, tempest tossed, comfortless awhile thou art,
Do not think thou can be lost, thou art graven on my heart;
All thy wastes I will repair; thou shalt be rebuilt anew;
And in thee it shall appear, what the God of love can do.

SCRIPTURE | 1 Corinthians 15:1-22

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ² and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

THE INVITATION

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, forever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

O most merciful Father, we do not presume to come to your Table trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your Table. We humbly beseech you to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us a means of grace in your dearly-beloved son Jesus Christ. Renew us by your Holy Spirit and nourish us with the body and blood of Christ, that we may grow into his likeness and become a living temple to your glory. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Alleluia! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Note About Partaking: The Lord's Supper, also called Communion or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians. We invite followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this sacrament: those who have believed the good news, have repented of their sins, and are baptized members in good standing in the Lord's Church. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with His people, the Church.

"Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself."
1 Corinthians 11:27-29

Note About Communion Wine: *The trays marked "Juice" contain only non-alcoholic grape juice. The other unmarked trays and the common cup contain wine.*

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Those Struggling Against Sin

Lord Jesus, give me the ability to see in you the fulfillment of all my needs and desires, and help me to turn from every false source of satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely to me, and run with perseverance the race that you have set before me, looking only to you, the author and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

Prayer for Covenant Children

Lord Jesus, thank you for giving me the opportunity to grow up in a Christian family where I am surrounded by the good news of the gospel. Help me to grow in my understanding of who you are and what you have done for me on the cross. Help me learn what it means for me to turn from my sins and trust in you alone for my salvation. Teach me what it means to follow you as one of your disciples. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN | *We celebrate the family meal of Christians*

On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand

Words: Samuel Stennet. Music: Christopher Miner

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand, and cast a wishful eye
To Canaan's fair and happy land, where my possessions lie.

All o'er those wide extended plains, shines one eternal day;
There God the Son forever reigns, and scatters night away.

*Chorus: I am bound (I am bound), I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound for promised land; I am bound (I am bound)
I am bound (I am bound), I am bound for promised land.*

No chilling winds nor poisonous breath, can reach that healthful shore;
Sickness, sorrow, pain and death, are felt and feared no more. (Chorus)

When shall I reach that happy place, and be forever blessed?
When shall I see my Father's face, and in His bosom rest? (Chorus)

***THANKSGIVING**

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

Words & Music: Sandra McCracken.

*We will feast in the house of Zion. We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together. We will feast and weep no more*

We will not be burned by the fire, He is the LORD our God
We are not consumed by the flood, Upheld, protected, gathered up

In the dark of night, before the dawn, My soul, be not afraid
For the promise morning, oh how long?, O God of Jacob, be my strength

Every vow we've broken and betrayed, You are the Faithful one
And from the garden to the grave, Bind us together, bring shalom

***BENEDICTION** | *God pronounces his blessing upon us*

Benediction means "good word." A benediction is not a prayer. God pronounces His blessing upon His people and sends them out into the world to serve Him. We lift up our heads and our hearts to receive his blessing.

***DISMISSAL** | *God sends us out into the world*

Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome

Welcome! At some point during our service, a pad will be passed down your row. We would love for you to fill it out and get to know the person next to you.

Connecting through Church Center

We would love to connect you to our digital tool, Church Center. The app can be found on the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. You'll find helpful resources and information about all that's happening at Point Hope, including event registrations.

Encountering Jesus Through The Gospel of John | Wednesdays, April 19th, 6:30PM

Just as a garden needs tending to flourish, so do our personal relationships. Coming to know someone requires patience, commitment, respect and humility. So it is with coming to know Jesus. To come to know Jesus more intimately we will use the Gospel of John as our guide and mentor to quicken our imagination. Our goal will be John's goal, "so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name". Our attempt will be done communally, not by lecture. Please consider joining us on this 6 week meditation.

Women's Gathering | May 10th, 6:30PM at Susan Jackson's house

The women of Point Hope are invited to come together for a fun evening of fellowship with games, appetizers and desserts. You can RSVP through Church Center or by connecting with Susan Jackson or Paige Statham.

Giving to Point Hope Presbyterian Church



You may use this QR Code if you would like to support the ministry of Point Hope Presbyterian Church.

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