



Worship Guide

April 7, 2024

Welcome

Welcome to Lake Highlands Baptist Church! We are thrilled that you have gathered with us for worship and we hope this guide helps you better understand and participate in our service this morning. We have gathered to hear and proclaim the Gospel to one another, which is the good news that God the Father has provided a way of salvation for us through his Son, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

We believe that each church is free to arrange its order of worship in whatever way it believes best glorifies God, edifies the saints, and invites the lost into salvation. With much prayer and reflection, we have carefully prepared the following order of worship.

Our worship service draws on historic practices from various traditions and is arranged with God's Word at its center. Within the service, there is a repeated pattern of God speaking to us through the Word preached, read, or recited, followed by our response in singing, prayer, giving, and taking the Lord's Supper together.

We hope that you will leave this gathering today more aware of God's love for us, and more in awe of his majesty and grace. To him be all glory forever!

Weekly Gatherings

Sunday

Small Groups | 9 AM

Worship Gathering | 10:30 AM

Prayer Meeting | 5:30 PM

Wednesday

Fellowship Meal | 5 PM

Lesson | 6 PM

Next Sunday's sermon passage is Philippians 2:19-30

Weekly News

Membership 101

Our next Membership 101 class will be this afternoon at 3 PM. Although it is the first step towards membership, you are not committed to joining just because you attend. Snacks and childcare are provided with your RSVP. You may sign up by filling out a Connection Card or contacting the office.

Women on Mission

Women on Mission invites you to a special event on April 9th, from 10:30 AM to noon in the Fellowship Hall, featuring guest speaker Christi Lawson (a.k.a. Winston's mom). Christi grew up as a missionary's daughter in the Congo, the Amazon, and Southeast Brazil and later served with her husband as a missionary in Brazil. Join us for an insightful session including slides from the mission field, songs in Kiyaka and Portuguese, and samples of African and Brazilian cuisine. Please RSVP at <https://shorturl.at/ehFH4>.

Teen Envelope Fundraiser

Our teens are hosting our annual Envelope Fundraiser to help with the cost of their camp this summer. We are asking church members to grab an envelope (located near the front entrance on the church office windows) and donate money that matches the corresponding number on the envelope (i.e., #25 envelope, \$25 donation). The fundraiser will run April 14th–April 28th. Filled envelopes may be placed in the offering plate or turned in to the front office. Checks can be made out to LHBC, memo "Teen Fundraiser". Thank you for helping our teens and their families!

Abuse Awareness and Prevention Day

In order to protect the vulnerable and provide a safe environment here at LHBC, we will be holding our first annual Abuse Awareness and Prevention Day on Wednesday, April 17. In place of our usual 6 PM Bible Study that day, we will hold a meeting in which we will discuss the issue of abuse, go over church policies/procedures regarding abuse prevention and reporting, and discuss the many ways each member can contribute to maintaining a safe and loving environment for everyone God brings our way. We encourage every member to attend this meeting and welcome guests as well. If you have any questions, please contact Kari at kari@lhbc.com.

Kid Connection Silent Auction

KC is having a silent auction on April 19th from 5 PM–6:30 PM. We are raising money for some needed updates to the big playground. This will benefit the children at church and the Kid Connections children. Please come out and bid on some awesome items such as a night stay at Great Wolf Lodge, tickets to the Modern Art Museum, a family photography session, an adult bike, Texas Rangers tickets, and SO MUCH MORE!!!

Baby Dedication

Parents: we will have a baby dedication on Sunday April 21. If you have a baby and would like to participate in this part of our service, please contact Pastor Winston at winston@lhbc.com.

Reception Honoring Our High School Graduates

Please join us in honoring high school graduates Jake Jackson and Kirsten Griffin on Sunday May 5 from 2 PM to 4 PM in the Family Life Center. Help us acknowledge their 12 years of hard work and send them off to college to prepare for a bright future.

Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal and Lesson

Every Wednesday night at 5 PM we have a freshly cooked meal together in the Fellowship Hall. If you plan on coming, please make a reservation by contacting the office by Tuesday afternoon. Beginning at 6 PM we move to the chapel to hear a lesson. We hope that you will be able to join us!

Fellowship Meal Menu for April 7

Chicken & Rice with Tangy Carrots, Salad & Rolls
Chocolate Chip Cookies & Ice Cream

Order of Worship

Theme: God Defeats His Enemies and Protects His People

Moment of Silence

Please use this moment of silence to prepare your heart for worship.

Call to Worship

Psalm 108:1–6

LEADER: My heart is steadfast, O God!
I will sing and make melody with all my being!

ALL: Awake, O harp and lyre!
I will awake the dawn!

LEADER: I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples;
I will sing praises to you among the nations.
For your steadfast love is great above the heavens;
your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

ALL: Be exalted, O God, above the heavens!
Let your glory be over all the earth!
That your beloved ones may be delivered,
give salvation by your right hand and answer me!

Prayer of Invocation

Pastor Noah LaHaye

Hymn

All Creatures of Our God and King

Hymn

Come Thou Almighty King

Scripture Reading

Revelation 19:11–21

Ethan Hester

Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems,

and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and with a loud voice he called to all the birds that fly directly overhead, “Come, gather for the great supper of God, to eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all men, both free and slave, both small and great.” And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth with their armies gathered to make war against him who was sitting on the horse and against his army. And the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who in its presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image. These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur. And the rest were slain by the sword that came from the mouth of him who was sitting on the horse, and all the birds were gorged with their flesh.

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

Prayer of Confession

Written and offered by Chris Kloepper

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have allowed pride to keep us from submitting to You. We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which

we ought not to have done; and there is nothing good in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent; according to Your promises declared unto men in Christ Jesus our Lord. Grant that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life; to the glory of His name. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Jeremiah 33:7–9

I will restore the fortunes of Judah and the fortunes of Israel, and rebuild them as they were at first. I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me. And this city shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and a glory before all the nations of the earth who shall hear of all the good that I do for them. They shall fear and tremble because of all the good and all the prosperity I provide for it.

Hymn

There is a Fountain

Prayer of Intercession

Pastor Bryan Cortimilia

This week we are praying for the following needs:

- That we would trust in God's protection of us
- All Saints Dallas
- Persecuted Christians in Libya
- International Mission Board
- Texas Senate

Offering/Hymn

Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

Sermon

Esther 8–10

Pastor Bill Watson

8¹On that day King Ahasuerus gave to Queen Esther the house of Haman, the enemy of the Jews. And Mordecai came before the king, for Esther had told what he

was to her. ² And the king took off his signet ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it to Mordecai. And Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman.

³ Then Esther spoke again to the king. She fell at his feet and wept and pleaded with him to avert the evil plan of Haman the Agagite and the plot that he had devised against the Jews. ⁴ When the king held out the golden scepter to Esther, Esther rose and stood before the king. ⁵ And she said, “If it please the king, and if I have found favor in his sight, and if the thing seems right before the king, and I am pleasing in his eyes, let an order be written to revoke the letters devised by Haman the Agagite, the son of Hammedatha, which he wrote to destroy the Jews who are in all the provinces of the king. ⁶ For how can I bear to see the calamity that is coming to my people? Or how can I bear to see the destruction of my kindred?” ⁷ Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther and to Mordecai the Jew, “Behold, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and they have hanged him on the gallows, because he intended to lay hands on the Jews. ⁸ But you may write as you please with regard to the Jews, in the name of the king, and seal it with the king's ring, for an edict written in the name of the king and sealed with the king's ring cannot be revoked.”

⁹ The king's scribes were summoned at that time, in the third month, which is the month of Sivan, on the twenty-third day. And an edict was written, according to all that Mordecai commanded concerning the Jews, to the satraps and the governors and the officials of the provinces from India to Ethiopia, 127 provinces, to each province in its own script and to each people in its own language, and also to the Jews in their script and their language. ¹⁰ And he wrote in the name of King Ahasuerus and sealed it with the king's signet ring. Then he sent the letters by mounted couriers riding on swift horses that were used in the king's service, bred from the royal stud, ¹¹ saying that the king allowed the Jews who were in every city to gather and defend their lives, to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate any armed force of any people or province that might attack them, children and women included, and to plunder their goods, ¹² on one day throughout all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar. ¹³ A copy of what was written was to be issued as a decree in every province, being publicly displayed to all peoples, and the Jews were to be ready on that day to take vengeance on their enemies. ¹⁴ So the couriers, mounted on their swift horses that were used in the king's service, rode out hurriedly, urged by the king's command. And the decree was issued in Susa the citadel.

¹⁵ Then Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal robes of blue and white, with a great golden crown and a robe of fine linen and purple, and the city of

Susa shouted and rejoiced. ¹⁶ The Jews had light and gladness and joy and honor. ¹⁷ And in every province and in every city, wherever the king's command and his edict reached, there was gladness and joy among the Jews, a feast and a holiday. And many from the peoples of the country declared themselves Jews, for fear of the Jews had fallen on them.

9 ¹ Now in the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar, on the thirteenth day of the same, when the king's command and edict were about to be carried out, on the very day when the enemies of the Jews hoped to gain the mastery over them, the reverse occurred: the Jews gained mastery over those who hated them. ² The Jews gathered in their cities throughout all the provinces of King Ahasuerus to lay hands on those who sought their harm. And no one could stand against them, for the fear of them had fallen on all peoples. ³ All the officials of the provinces and the satraps and the governors and the royal agents also helped the Jews, for the fear of Mordecai had fallen on them. ⁴ For Mordecai was great in the king's house, and his fame spread throughout all the provinces, for the man Mordecai grew more and more powerful. ⁵ The Jews struck all their enemies with the sword, killing and destroying them, and did as they pleased to those who hated them. ⁶ In Susa the citadel itself the Jews killed and destroyed 500 men, ⁷ and also killed Parshandatha and Dalphon and Aspatha ⁸ and Poratha and Adalia and Aridatha ⁹ and Parmashta and Arisai and Aridai and Vaizatha, ¹⁰ the ten sons of Haman the son of Hammedatha, the enemy of the Jews, but they laid no hand on the plunder.

¹¹ That very day the number of those killed in Susa the citadel was reported to the king. ¹² And the king said to Queen Esther, "In Susa the citadel the Jews have killed and destroyed 500 men and also the ten sons of Haman. What then have they done in the rest of the king's provinces! Now what is your wish? It shall be granted you. And what further is your request? It shall be fulfilled." ¹³ And Esther said, "If it please the king, let the Jews who are in Susa be allowed tomorrow also to do according to this day's edict. And let the ten sons of Haman be hanged on the gallows." ¹⁴ So the king commanded this to be done. A decree was issued in Susa, and the ten sons of Haman were hanged. ¹⁵ The Jews who were in Susa gathered also on the fourteenth day of the month of Adar and they killed 300 men in Susa, but they laid no hands on the plunder.

¹⁶ Now the rest of the Jews who were in the king's provinces also gathered to defend their lives, and got relief from their enemies and killed 75,000 of those who hated them, but they laid no hands on the plunder. ¹⁷ This was on the thirteenth day of the month of Adar, and on the fourteenth day they rested and made that a day of feasting

and gladness. ¹⁸ But the Jews who were in Susa gathered on the thirteenth day and on the fourteenth, and rested on the fifteenth day, making that a day of feasting and gladness. ¹⁹ Therefore the Jews of the villages, who live in the rural towns, hold the fourteenth day of the month of Adar as a day for gladness and feasting, as a holiday, and as a day on which they send gifts of food to one another.

²⁰ And Mordecai recorded these things and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, ²¹ obliging them to keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same, year by year, ²² as the days on which the Jews got relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and gifts to the poor.

²³ So the Jews accepted what they had started to do, and what Mordecai had written to them. ²⁴ For Haman the Agagite, the son of Hammedatha, the enemy of all the Jews, had plotted against the Jews to destroy them, and had cast Pur (that is, cast lots), to crush and to destroy them. ²⁵ But when it came before the king, he gave orders in writing that his evil plan that he had devised against the Jews should return on his own head, and that he and his sons should be hanged on the gallows. ²⁶ Therefore they called these days Purim, after the term Pur. Therefore, because of all that was written in this letter, and of what they had faced in this matter, and of what had happened to them, ²⁷ the Jews firmly obligated themselves and their offspring and all who joined them, that without fail they would keep these two days according to what was written and at the time appointed every year, ²⁸ that these days should be remembered and kept throughout every generation, in every clan, province, and city, and that these days of Purim should never fall into disuse among the Jews, nor should the commemoration of these days cease among their descendants.

²⁹ Then Queen Esther, the daughter of Abihail, and Mordecai the Jew gave full written authority, confirming this second letter about Purim. ³⁰ Letters were sent to all the Jews, to the 127 provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus, in words of peace and truth, ³¹ that these days of Purim should be observed at their appointed seasons, as Mordecai the Jew and Queen Esther obligated them, and as they had obligated themselves and their offspring, with regard to their fasts and their lamenting. ³² The command of Esther confirmed these practices of Purim, and it was recorded in writing.

10 ¹King Ahasuerus imposed tax on the land and on the coastlands of the sea. ² And all the acts of his power and might, and the full account of the high honor of Mordecai, to which the king advanced him, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia? ³ For Mordecai the Jew was second in rank to King Ahasuerus, and he was great among the Jews and popular with the multitude of his brothers, for he sought the welfare of his people and spoke peace to all his people.

Communion/Hymn

Pastor Winston Hottman

*Isaac Watts Hymn No 2 (tune of *This is My Father's World*)*

Christ the True and Better

Benediction

Pastor Tom Wakefield

Sermon Notes

To access sermon recordings, go to the “Sermons” page on our website at www.lhbc.com/sermons.

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Weekly Calendar

Sunday 4/7

Small Groups | 9 AM

Worship Gathering | 10:30 AM

Prayer Meeting | 5:30 PM

Wednesday 4/10

Fellowship Meal | 5 PM

Lesson | 6 PM

Thursday 4/11

Precepts | 9:30 AM & 7 PM

Staff and Elders

Staff

Senior Pastor | Bill Watson

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Associate Pastor | Winston Hottman

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Elders (Pastors)

Bryan Cortimilia, Winston Hottman, Chris Kloepper, Noah LaHaye, Dan Nale, Tom Wakefield, Bill Watson, John Wiley



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