

ANNOUNCEMENTS [www.allgather.org/calendar](http://www.allgather.org/calendar)

**Job Opening.** Holy Family Episcopal Church in Chapel Hill is looking for a full-time Parish Administrator to start work on July 1. The job description and application procedure can be found at [www.chfepiscopal.org/jobs](http://www.chfepiscopal.org/jobs).

**Child Dedication.** On Sunday, June 7, the worship service will include a time for child dedication. Any parents who would like to participate, please contact Mark Acuff: [mark@allgather.org](mailto:mark@allgather.org).

Join the Gathering Church for a **Summertime Celebration** on Sunday, June 7. After the service we will enjoy a special lunch of sub sandwiches and Maple View Farms ice cream. Fun games and activities for all!

**Women's Retreat.** Women's Walk with Christ, an affiliate of Marked Men for Christ, will be having its first NC weekend next September 11-13. They limit it to 45 people so it fills up quickly. For more info and to register, visit [www.womenswalkwithchrist.org](http://www.womenswalkwithchrist.org). Be part of the first pilot group to go!

**INFORMATION & CONNECTING**

To find out more about the Gathering Church, or to connect, please fill out a card on the back table and place it in the black box.

**GIVING** [www.allgather.org/giving](http://www.allgather.org/giving)

Giving is a vital part of our worship of God. If you would like to give this morning, you may do so by putting your offering in the black box on the back table. Thank you for your participation in the life and mission of this church.

Other ways to give:

- (1) By automating a draft through your bank.
- (2) By mailing a check to PO Box 16402/Chapel Hill, NC 27516.
- (3) Online through Paypal.

**CHURCH STAFF**

Mark Acuff – Lead Pastor ([mark@allgather.org](mailto:mark@allgather.org))

Jeff Crawford – Music Director ([jeff@allgather.org](mailto:jeff@allgather.org))

Lindsay Rogers – Kids' Ministry Director ([lindsaybrogers@gmail.com](mailto:lindsaybrogers@gmail.com))

Ben Bowman – Administrative Assistant ([ben@allgather.org](mailto:ben@allgather.org))

[www.allgather.org](http://www.allgather.org) | [facebook.com/allgather](https://facebook.com/allgather) | @allgather | @markacuff

Church office at Hamilton Centre: 1415 W NC54 Ste. 114, Durham, NC 27707  
p – 919.797.2884, f – 919.908.1171

May 24, 2015  
Psalm 19:7-14 | Mark 4:1-20



*The Sower, Vincent Van Gogh*

A tree is shown by its fruits, and in the same way those who profess to belong to Christ will be seen by what they do. For what is needed is not mere present professions, but the perseverance to the end in the power of faith.

-St. Ignatius of Antioch

WELCOME TO THIS WORSHIP SERVICE OF THE GATHERING CHURCH

Whether you come today as a skeptic, seeker, or believer, our hope is that you will sense the welcome of God, the love of others, and the opportunity to join Jesus Christ in sharing the grace of God with all people.

GATHERING MUSIC – DEEPER WELL

WAY

Jesus, take me to the deeper well  
I want to see your glory  
Jesus, take me to the deeper well  
So I will never thirst  
Jesus, take me to the deeper well  
I want to feel your mercy  
Jesus, take me to the deeper well  
So I will never thirst

Jesus, take me to the river side  
I want to rest beside you  
Jesus, take me to the river side  
I want to feel your peace

I just want to see your face  
Meet me in this place  
Change me, Lord  
Cover me with your grace  
Guide me with your hands

Take my hand, lead me to the promised land  
Take my hand again  
Take my hand, lead me from this broken land  
Lead me home again

Written by Evan Way ©2014 Evan Way

OPEN OUR EYES

MCCRACKEN

Open up our ears to listen  
Open up our eyes to see  
Plant the seed of understanding  
Grow it up like the tallest tree

Plant the seed of understanding  
Grow it up like the tallest tree

Open up our ears to listen  
Open up our eyes to see

Pull the blinds  
Open wide all the windows  
Fill our hearts with the light of your truth

Written by Sandra McCracken ©2014 Drink Your Tea Music, ASCAP

WELCOME

GIVE ME JESUS

TRADITIONAL

In the morning, when I rise  
In the morning, when I rise  
In the morning, when I rise, give me Jesus

When I am alone  
When I am alone  
When I am alone, give me Jesus

Give me Jesus, give me Jesus  
You can have all this world  
Just give me Jesus

When I come to die  
When I come to die  
When I come to die, give me Jesus

Traditional Spiritual (Public Domain)

DOXOLOGY

THOMAS/MAINZER

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

Written by Ken Thomas 1675 and Joseph Mainzer 1845 Public Domain

NOTES

PSALM 19:7-14

The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul.  
 The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple.  
 The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart.  
 The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes.  
 The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever.  
 The decrees of the Lord are firm, and all of them are righteous.  
 They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold;  
 they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb.  
 By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward.  
 But who can discern their own errors?  
 Forgive my hidden faults.  
 Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me.  
 Then I will be blameless, innocent of great transgression.  
 May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart  
 be pleasing in your sight, Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

RELENTLESS

HOUSTON/CROCKER

Salvation sounds a new beginning  
 As distant hearts begin believing  
 Redemption's bid is unrelenting  
 Your love goes on  
 Your love goes on

The time is up for chasing shadows  
 You gave the world a light to follow  
 A hope that shines beyond tomorrow  
 Your love goes on  
 Your love goes on

You carry us when the world gives way  
 You cover us with your endless grace

You carry us when the world gives way  
 You cover us with your endless grace

**Your love is relentless**  
**Your love is relentless**  
**Your love is relentless**  
**Your love is relentless**

Written by Joel Houston & Matt Crocker © 2012 Hillsong Music Publishing CCLI #6428743

COMMUNION

Each Sunday, we remember that we only find life in Jesus, through the love he demonstrated by his death on the cross. So, bringing nothing, we come and receive his grace in the Bread and the Cup that he offers to those who follow him.

PRAYER

If you would like to have someone pray for you or for any other need, you will find Prayer Team members at the back of the gym who will gladly pray with you.

**GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS**

CHISOLM/RUNYAN

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father  
 There is no shadow of turning with thee  
 Thou changest not  
 Thy compassions, they fail not  
 As thou hast been thou forever will be

Summer and winter  
 And springtime and harvest  
 Sun, moon and stars in their courses above  
 Join with all nature in manifold witness  
 To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love

Great is thy faithfulness, great is thy faithfulness  
 Morning by morning new mercies I see  
 All I have needed thy hand hath provided  
 Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth  
 Thine own dear presence  
 To cheer and to guide  
 Strength for today  
 And bright hope for tomorrow  
 Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside

Written by Thomas Chisolm/William Runyan ©1923 Hope Publishing Company CCLI #18723

**OVERWHELMED**

WHITE

I wonder what you think of frantic tales  
 That speak of you as if you're not there  
 Oh, I wonder if it breaks your heart

We'll look up and we'll say  
 Glorious, beautiful  
 Jesus, we are weak so be our strength

I wonder if the mountain would really jump  
 Into the sea if only we believed  
 Oh, help our unbelief

I wonder when like a thief you will return  
 Will we be asleep, or do our hearts yearn  
 To come beneath your burning gaze

Forgive us for the days that we stray  
 When we're overwhelmed

We are overwhelmed by your love  
 We are overwhelmed by your love

Written by Josh White © 2011 Touch The Sun Music (BMI)

**DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN/YOUTH AND GREETING ONE ANOTHER**

Children and Youth are dismissed to participate in their various classes. As they leave, meet and welcome those around you, especially those you might not know. Feel free to fill in the front and center areas.

**MARK 4:1-20**

Again Jesus began to teach by the lake. The crowd that gathered around him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it out on the lake, while all the people were along the shore at the water's edge. He taught them many things by parables, and in his teaching said: "Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain. Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, some multiplying thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times."

Then Jesus said, "Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear."

When he was alone, the Twelve and the others around him asked him about the parables. He told them, "The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables so that,

"they may be ever seeing but never perceiving,  
 and ever hearing but never understanding;  
 otherwise they might turn and be forgiven!"

Then Jesus said to them, "Don't you understand this parable? How then will you understand any parable? The farmer sows the word. Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them. Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful. Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown."