



**HICKORY GROVE**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**W O R S H I P   G U I D E**

*Mallard Creek Campus (North) | Week of November 11, 2018*

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

---

*Sunday, November 11, 2018*

## **Call to Worship**

*Psalm 24:1-5*

“Saved My Soul”

## **Baptism**

“Hallelujah for the Cross”

## **Sermon**

*Genesis 43*

## **Prayer**

## **Offering**

“Good and Gracious King”

“Not for a Moment”

## **Benediction**

*1 Thessalonians 5:24*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

---

The Scriptural call to worship at the beginning of our service is a reminder that, as we gather, it is God who initiates and reveals Himself to us through His Word, and we respond to Him.

*The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, for He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers. Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully. He will receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation.*

**Psalm 24:1-5**

## OFFERING

---

Giving is an act of worship in which we give generously of our substance to further the mission of the church and to bring glory to God.

## BENEDICTION

---

*He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.*

**1 Thessalonians 5:24**

# ORPHAN SUNDAY

---

**held him tight.** The tightness of the squeeze of my arms wrapped around him was just enough to satisfy the physical reaction to the inner emotions I was feeling toward this beautiful baby boy I had seen for the very first time just a few hours earlier. Within an hour's drive, I now found myself standing in my backyard. As I squeezed him in my arms, I whispered in his ear, "You are safe. You are loved. I will never leave you." I knew this 7-month-old baby boy couldn't understand what I was saying nor interpret the hugs I was giving, but it didn't matter. In that moment, I felt the heart of God, and my heart was full. The courts might interfere. Family members might question. One day this little boy may rebel against me, but the Spirit was leading my heart to peace, compassion, and a drive to be long-suffering in loving this human being made in the image of God.

**S**tatistics, statistics, statistics. Sermons. Sermons. Sermons. Blog after blog. Article after article. I, like many of you, am aware of even the below-the-surface realities around the world surrounding the topic of orphans. You see, it doesn't take more than just a scan of the front-page of the newspaper to realize that this world is corrupt. We live in a fallen world that operates in oppressive systems of war, famine, and disease. That means there will always be orphans among us. Every day, children are orphaned or abandoned due to economic need or disabilities. According to UNICEF, **153 million kids worldwide have lost one or both of their parents** due to

all causes. That's twice the total number of children in the U.S.

This article isn't to tell you that every Hickory Grove member or Christian in America needs to step up and adopt all of these orphaned children. Adoption is a very good thing. However, not all of these 153 million kids can be, or need to be, adopted. But, they do need our help. In obeying God and caring for the fatherless, **we have the opportunity, as His adopted children, to experience our Heavenly Father in ways we never imagined.**

James 1:27 says, "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world." If your experience is like

I whispered  
in his ear,  
"You are safe.  
You are loved.  
I will never  
leave you." ✠

mine, this may not come easily or naturally for you. Nevertheless, Orphan Sunday serves as a reminder and an invitation to join God in what He desires for every one of the 153 million orphaned and vulnerable children around the world.

Understanding the plight of orphans and their families is critical for us as a church family to understand. It's not just about statistics. **This is about real children—children whom God our Father loves and longs to rescue.** Deuteronomy 10:18 testifies, “[God] executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing.” Psalm 68:5 tells us God is “a father of the fatherless.” Yes, God fights for orphans and loves them as their Father and He exhorts us to “bring justice to the fatherless” (Isaiah. 1:17).

Reading and talking about orphan ministry on one Sunday won't

resolve all the problems related to orphaned and vulnerable children. But discussing it with other people at Hickory Grove and becoming aware of steps that can be taken points us in the right direction.

Pray and think through how you can help. You can become a person involved in foster care and adoption. Also, you can help fulfill a variety of needs to practically assist those fostering and adopting. Keep the following ways to help in mind as you seek the Lord and strive to obey him with your life. ■

**Justin Paslay**

*Campus Pastor, Mallard Creek Campus*

## HOW CAN I HELP?

At Hickory Grove, we seek to be an example of the rich mercy and great love that God has shown us (Ephesians 2:4) by **supporting families involved in foster care and adoption.** We need a team of volunteers fulfilling a variety of needs to assist these families practically and encourage them not to grow weary in doing good. Whatever your skill, there is a place for you to help.

### HOW TO HELP:

- Preparing meals for foster and adoptive families
- Providing gifts cards for families (groceries, restaurants, Walmart, Target, etc.)
- Writing notes of encouragement to foster and adoptive moms
- Providing lawn care to foster and adoptive families
- Becoming a prayer partner for foster and adoptive families
- Another skill that you would like to deploy in service or help to these families

*Sign up to volunteer to support these families online:*

**HickoryGrove.org/AdoptionSupport**

# THE NEW CITY CATECHISM

---

The New City Catechism is a modern-day resource aimed at helping children and adults alike learn the core doctrines of the Christian faith via 52 questions and answers. Learn more at [NewCityCatechism.com](http://NewCityCatechism.com).

## Part 3: Spirit, Restoration, Growing in Grace

---

### QUESTION 46

## What is The Lord's Supper?

Christ commanded all Christians to eat bread and to drink from the cup in thankful remembrance of Him and His death. The Lord's Supper is a celebration of the presence of God in our midst; bringing us into communion with God and with one another; feeding and nourishing our souls. It also anticipates the day when we will eat and drink with Christ in His Father's kingdom.

*For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

**1 Corinthians 11:23-26**

## PRAYER

Bread of Life, we take The Lord's Supper in reverent obedience. We do not want to receive it unworthily, so we come in repentance and faith. Help us to forgive the sins of those who have sinned against us, especially the believers with whom we share the bread and the cup. May our partaking of this meal proclaim your saving death and our desperate need of it. Amen.

# SCHEDULE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

---



## Guest Information

If you are a guest, we welcome you and invite you to stop by any Guest Information Area to learn more about Hickory Grove and to get answers to your questions. Be sure to pick up a Guest Information Card, fill it out, and either drop it in the offering plate or leave it at any Guest Information Area.

.....

## Schedule

### **Sunday, November 11**

Sunday School: 8:45 AM  
Worship: 10:15 AM

Kids Choir: 5 PM  
Equip Classes: 5 PM

### **Wednesday, November 14**

Dinner: 5 PM  
Awana: 6:15 PM  
Student Worship: 6:30 PM  
Pastors' Class: 6:30 PM

*Church Conference following  
Pastors' Class*

## **VETERANS DAY**

We would like to thank all our veterans for serving our country and protecting our freedoms!

## **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

Bless a child this Christmas season with a shoebox full of gifts! Drop off your shoebox in the Lobby by November 19. Learn more at [HickoryGrove.org/OCC](http://HickoryGrove.org/OCC).

## **CHURCH CONFERENCE**

*Wednesday, November 14, Room 327*  
The Proposed 2019 Church Budget will be presented to the church family. A vote on the budget (without discussion) will take place on Wednesday, November 28, after the Pastors' Class.

## **ADORE NIGHT OF WORSHIP**

*Sunday, December 2, 5 PM*  
Come join us as we sing and pray together this Christmas season.

## **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

*Monday, December 24*  
Harris Campus (Main) - 4 PM  
Mallard Creek Campus (North) - 5:15 PM

## **HG STUDENTS: THE LUNCH CLUB**

*Thursday, December 13, Noon-2 PM  
The Loft*  
Students of homeschooled families gather together for lunch and a time of studying God's Word and building community. Cost is \$10.

