

HOPE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

August 17, 2025



Blessing of the Students

Our Church Staff

Rev. Benjamin J. Wines
Senior Pastor

Kathryn Bunch
Director of Music Ministries

Barbara Rowley
Organist

Robin Wimberley
Administrative Assistant

Jan Mangum
Church Custodian

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*Our Vision: to be a Christ-centered community, worshipping in the Spirit,
growing in discipleship, and sharing God's love.*

The Church at Worship

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Benjamin Wines

Chiming of the Trinity

Call to Worship

Psalm 80:1a, 7-9, 14-15, 18-19

Emma Stoops

Leader: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,

People: You who lead Joseph like a flock!

Leader: Restore us, O God;

People: Let your face shine, that we might be saved.

Leader: You brought a vine out of Egypt;

People: You drove out the nations and planted it.

Leader: You cleared the ground for it;

People: It took deep root and filled the land.

Leader: Turn again, O God of hosts;

People: Look down from heaven and see;

Leader: Have regard for this vine,

People: The stock that your right hand planted.

Leader: Then we will never turn back from you;

People: Give us life, and we will call on your name.

Leader: Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;

People: Let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Invocation

Emma Stoops

Hymn of Praise No. 303

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

HOLY MANNA

Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 23:23-29
(pages 1214-1215 in the pew bible)

Mike Dossett

Children's Message

Julie Stoops

Blessing of the Students – see below

Hymn of Faith No. 387 *God Who Made Us, Christ Who Calls Us*

GALILEE

Worship through Stewardship

Offertory Prayer

Anthem

See the Children Here Before Us

DEANNA

In honor of our students as they prepare to begin or return to school.

*See the children here before us, fresh expressions of God's love, each young life
a precious promise, sent from heaven's realm above. Lord, we ask You now to
bless them as they learn and grow each day. Help us teach them all the lessons
that will guide them on their way.*

*Priceless gifts beyond all measure are the children in our care. At this hour of dedication,
Lord, please hear our humble prayer: bless these parents on their journey through a vast,
uncharted land; help them follow as You lead them with a gentle guiding hand.*

Now the church has come together with a promise we must share: to be faithful to the children You entrusted to our care. Let us see Your love reflected in each small and precious face; help us show them all the wonders of Your endless love and grace.

Offertory Response

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.

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Rev. Benjamin Wines

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.

Sermon

A Word like Fire

Rev. Benjamin Wines

Hymn of Commitment No. 639 *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*

WEBB

Benediction

Rev. Benjamin Wines

Postlude

Rejoice, The Lord Is King
Arr. Raymond Haan

Barbara Rowley

Deacons of the Week – Jennifer Bowen & Leigh Bigger
Attendance last week – 51

Blessing of the Students Litany

Leader: God of new beginnings, the new school year is upon us once again. As the children of our community prepare to return to their studies, we ask a blessing over them and all those who care for them. Life-giving God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: O God, we ask your blessing for school teachers, administrators, counselors, support staff, and volunteers who interact with our children daily. Grant them wisdom as they strive to meet students' needs. Grant them patience when they are tired or frustrated. Grant them joy and a renewed sense of purpose when they see the spark in a child's eye that says, "I got it!" Wise and nurturing God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: O God, as this new school year begins, we ask your blessing on the parents and guardians of school children. Grant them the love and patience they need to help their children learn and grow. Loving and supportive God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: O God, we ask your blessing over the children as they return to the classroom. Help them feel safe. Spark their curiosity and help them find joy in learning. Teach them your gentleness and mercy, that they may make new friends and build long-lasting relationships. Vibrant and creative God,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Finally, O God, we ask for a blessing for this church. Help us create a place where the energy and excitement of youth has a home. Teach us to be faithful stewards of your love, that these children would know their church family loves them and supports them. Bless us with curiosity, that we would meet new ideas with excitement as we seek your will. Joyful and communal God,

People: Hear our prayer. Amen.

STUDENTS AND PRAYER PARTNER RECEPTION

**Today after morning worship in
the fellowship hall.**

A Reception and our monthly Sunday Social will be held following the morning worship in the Fellowship Hall to honor our students. This will be a great time to get to know and spend time with your student prayer partner.

Everyone is invited to attend the reception and extend well wishes to our students for the upcoming year.

Handbells Performance

We are excited to welcome the **Olive Chapel Handbell Ringers** who will lead our music in worship next **Sunday, August 24th!** Some of our own HVBC Ringers will join them and I know it will be as beautiful and meaningful as it was when they played for us last August. Come with open ears and an open heart ready to receive a blessing offered with love.

Food Bank

Due to popular demand, we have scheduled another volunteer day at the Food Bank on **Tuesday, August 26 from 1:00 - 3:00 pm.** You can find more details and how to register in the most recent newsletter.

HVBC Reads

The next meeting will be held at 10:30 am on Tuesday, August 26. HVBC Reads will discuss *The Color of Water*.

Contact Rhonda Welfare to get a Book Club Kit copy of *The Color of Water*.

Ladies Tea

Mark your calendars now!

Saturday, September 13

12:00 pm

Fellowship Hall

Fall Bible Study

Linda Ward will be leading a weekly bible study based on the book ***The Great Disappearance*** by Dr. David Jeremiah. It begins at 2:00 pm on Monday, September 8 and will meet weekly till November 17. The study will be available via Zoom and the cost of the book is \$10.75. Please let Robin in the office know if you plan on attending and to pick up the book.

Sermon Notes

August 17, 2025
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

“A Word like Fire”
Jeremiah 23:23-29
Emphasis on verses 26-27, 29

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

Questions for Further Reflection:

In this passage, God speaks out against those who peddle their own desires as "prophecy." How do we, as flawed people, figure out the difference between what we want and what God wants?