**LIVING HOPE OPC ORDER OF WORSHIP**

***with Membership Vows of Nathan Batten, Jason and Abbie Garvey, Brian Phillips***

**for Sunday, December 27th, 2020 at 10:45 AM**

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

**Gospel Greeting** – Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen. Gal. 1:3-5

**Call to Worship Song** – Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You (Christmas version)

**Call to Worship** – Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Psalm 100:1-3

**Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

**Opening Hymn** – NTH 225 – Once in Royal David’s City

**Reading of God’s Law** – Deuteronomy 5:1-21

**Confession of Sin** – Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

**Declaration of Pardon** – For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly… But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:6, 8

**Exhortation to Give** – Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts! Ps. 96:8

**Doxology** – NTH 733

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**Prayer for Collection & Pastoral Prayer**

**Scripture Readings** – OT: Psalm 34:1-10 / NT: John 4:43-54

Psalm 34:1–10 (ESV)

1 I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. 2 My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. 3 Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together! 4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears. 5 Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed. 6 This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him and saved him out of all his troubles. 7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them. 8 Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! 9 Oh, fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack! 10 The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

John 4:43–54 (ESV)

43 After the two days he departed for Galilee. 44 (For Jesus himself had testified that a prophet has no honor in his own hometown.) 45 So when he came to Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him, having seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the feast. For they too had gone to the feast. 46 So he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. And at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill. 47 When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. 48 So Jesus said to him, “Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe.” 49 The official said to him, “Sir, come down before my child dies.” 50 Jesus said to him, “Go; your son will live.” The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way. 51 As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. 52 So he asked them the hour when he began to get better, and they said to him, “Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.” 53 The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, “Your son will live.” And he himself believed, and all his household. 54 This was now the second sign that Jesus did when he had come from Judea to Galilee.

**Medley**

– NTH 213 – What Child Is This?

– NTH 216 – Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Sermon** – An Exposition of John 4:43-54: “What Do We Expect from Jesus?”

Jesus is the true Prophet without true honor – as seen in wrong expectations versus true faith.

1. Do we welcome Him only for His miracles? (John 4:43-45)
2. Do we seek Him only for what we think He can do for us? (John 4:46-49)
3. Or, do we take Him at His Word – and believe Him for His life-giving salvation? (John 4:50-54)

**Prayer of Application**

**Song of Response** – NTH 509 – Jesus, Lover of My Soul

**Benediction** – The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Numbers 6:24-26