**LIVING HOPE OPC ORDER OF WORSHIP (with Communion)**

**for EASTER Sunday, April 4th, 2021 at 10:45 AM**

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

**Gospel Greeting** – Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings of the earth. - Revelation 1:4-5

**Call to Worship Song** – W&C 215 – Alleluia, Alleluia

**Easter Call & Response**

Minister: The Lord is risen!

Church: He is risen indeed!

**Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

**Opening Hymn** – NTH 276 – Up from the Grave He Arose

**Reading of Law** – A Summary of the Ten Commandments & Great Commandment

*Let us silently confess our sins before the Lord… Let us unite our voices together in the confession of sin:*

**Confession of Sin** – 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 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 no health in us. But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us. And grant, O merciful Father, for Jesus’ sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous and joyful life, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

**Declaration of Pardon** – (Righteousness) will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification. – Romans 4:24b-25

**Exhortation to Give** – For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. – 2 Cor. 8:9

**Prayer for Regular & Diaconal Collections with Pastoral Prayer**

**Responsive Reading** – W&C 182

**Choir** – Were You There?

**Responsive Reading** – W&C 214

**Congregational Singing** – NTH 274 – Thine Be the Glory

**Mixed Quartet** – O Joyous Easter Morning

**Congregational Singing** – NTH 277 – Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

**Adult Choir** – Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

**Congregational Singing** – In Christ Alone

**Scripture Readings** – OT: Psalm 16 / NT: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Psalm 16 (ESV)

1 Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge. 2 I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you.” 3 As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight. 4 The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names on my lips. 5 The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. 6 The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance. 7 I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. 8 I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. 9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. 10 For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption. 11 You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

1 Corinthians 15:12–20 (ESV)

12 Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? 13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. 14 And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. 15 We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. 16 For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. 17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. 18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. 19 If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. 20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Communion Sermon** An Exposition of First Corinthians 15:12-20: “If Christ Has Not Been Raised”

Christ crucified is risen – this is essential to the Gospel we preach.

1. No resurrection, you say? Think of the consequences:
   1. Then Christ is not raised. (15:12-13)
   2. Then preaching and faith are in vain. (15:14)
   3. Then we are liars. (15:15-16)
   4. Then you are still in your sins, there is no hope for the dead, and we are fools. (15:17-19)
2. But thanks be to God – Christ is risen indeed! (15:20)

**Prayer of Application**

**Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper**

(Bread: NTH 261 – What Wondrous Love Is This? / Cup: NTH 252 – When I Survey)

* Invitation & Warning
* Serving the Supper
* Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Closing Song** – Psalm 16 (Trinity Psalter – stanzas 1, 4, 5)

**Benediction** – The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. 2 Cor. 13:14