**LIVING HOPE OPC ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**for Sunday, May 23rd, 2021 at 10:45 AM**

**Opening Song** – Light of the World

**Announcements**

**Gospel Greeting** –Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Call to Worship Song** – Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy Is the Lord

**Call to Worship** – Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. Ps. 95:1-3

**Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

**Hymn of Praise** – NTH 524 – Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ

**Reading of the Law** – Romans 3:9-20

*(Silent Confession of Sin)*

**Corporate Confession of Sin** – Most holy and merciful Father, we acknowledge and confess before you our sinful nature – prone to evil and slothful in good – and all our shortcomings and offenses against you. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. O Lord, have mercy on us, who are ashamed and sorry for all the ways we have displeased you. Teach us to hate our errors, cleanse us from our secret faults, and forgive our sins for the sake of your dear Son. And O most holy and loving Father, send your purifying grace into our hearts, we beseech you, and that we may henceforth live in your light and walk in your ways, according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon** – But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. Romans 3:21-25a

**Psalm of Praise** – Psalm 27:1-6 (tune: NTH 634 Sweet Hour of Prayer)

The Lord’s my light and salvation—of whom, then, shall I be afraid?  
The Lord’s the stronghold of my life; whom shall I fear when on Him stayed?  
When evildoers come to me, who would my flesh and life devour;  
When enemies and foes attack, they fall and stumble in that hour.

Though hosts besiege me round about, my heart won’t fear, but rest content;  
Though war against me does break out, e’en then I will be confident.  
One thing I ask and I will seek—dwell in the Lord’s house all my days,  
To see the beauty of the Lord, and seek Him in His temple’s praise.

For in the day of trouble, He will keep me safe by His own hand.  
He’ll hide me in His sheltered tent, and set me on a rock to stand.  
My head will then be lifted up above my enemies around,  
And I will offer sacrifice with songs of praise and joyful sound.

All metrical versions of the psalms have been written by Tim and Julie Tennent in order to provide an open source psalter for public and private worship. Permission is granted to use these metrical settings for public worship with acknowledgement of the source. Permission is not granted for commercial use or financial charge. Source: http://psalms.seedbed.com

**Exhortation to Give** – As it is written, “He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.” He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for all your generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. 2 Cor. 9:9-11

**Doxology** – NTH 733

**Prayer for Collection & Pastoral Prayer**

**Hymn of Preparation** – NTH 481 – Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus

**Scripture Readings** – OT: Isaiah 49:1-7 / NT: John 8:12-20

Isaiah 49:1–7 (ESV)

1 Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The Lord called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name. 2 He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. 3 And he said to me, “You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.” 4 But I said, “I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my right is with the Lord, and my recompense with my God.” 5 And now the Lord says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel might be gathered to him— for I am honored in the eyes of the Lord, and my God has become my strength— 6 he says: “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.” 7 Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation, the servant of rulers: “Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves; because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

John 8:12–20 (ESV)

12 Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” 13 So the Pharisees said to him, “You are bearing witness about yourself; your testimony is not true.” 14 Jesus answered, “Even if I do bear witness about myself, my testimony is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. 15 You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. 16 Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is true, for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me. 17 In your Law it is written that the testimony of two people is true. 18 I am the one who bears witness about myself, and the Father who sent me bears witness about me.” 19 They said to him therefore, “Where is your Father?” Jesus answered, “You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also.” 20 These words he spoke in the treasury, as he taught in the temple; but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Sermon** – An Exposition of John 8:12-20: “The Light of the World”

Jesus is the Light of the world – but many willfully remain in darkness.

1. To those who follow Him, He dispels the darkness and gives light and life. (8:12)
2. To those who reject His testimony, He calls on the witness of His Father. (8:13-18)
3. To those who don’t know His Father, He exposes their ignorant unbelief. (8:19-20)

**Prayer of Application**

**Hymn of Response** – NTH 476 – The Light of the World Is Jesus

**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