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

**for Sunday, March 26th, 2023 at 10:45 AM**

**Prelude**

**Opening Song** – My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness

**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 Hymn** – Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy Is the Lord

**Call to Worship** – But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than that of Abel. Hebrews 12:22-24

**Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

**Hymn of Praise** – NTH 100 – Holy, Holy, Holy

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

*(Silent Confession of Sin)*

**Psalm of Confession** – NTH 486 – God, Be Merciful to Me (Psalm 51)

**Declaration of Pardon** – Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities under foot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. Micah 7:18-19

**Exhortation to Give** – So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith. Gal. 6:10

**Offering and Diaconal Collection with Prayer** (Offertory: NTH 420 – At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing)

**Doxology** – NTH 731

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Song of Preparation** – Lord, I Need You (Lord, I Come)

**Scripture Readings** – OT: Genesis 9:18-29 / NT: Ephesians 2:11-22

Genesis 9:18–29 (ESV)

18 The sons of Noah who went forth from the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (Ham was the father of Canaan.) 19 These three were the sons of Noah, and from these the people of the whole earth were dispersed. 20 Noah began to be a man of the soil, and he planted a vineyard. 21 He drank of the wine and became drunk and lay uncovered in his tent. 22 And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father and told his two brothers outside. 23 Then Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it on both their shoulders, and walked backward and covered the nakedness of their father. Their faces were turned backward, and they did not see their father’s nakedness. 24 When Noah awoke from his wine and knew what his youngest son had done to him, 25 he said, “Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be to his brothers.” 26 He also said, “Blessed be the Lord, the God of Shem; and let Canaan be his servant. 27 May God enlarge Japheth, and let him dwell in the tents of Shem, and let Canaan be his servant.” 28 After the flood Noah lived 350 years. 29 All the days of Noah were 950 years, and he died.

Ephesians 2:11–22 (ESV)

11 Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— 12 remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14 For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility 15 by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, 16 and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. 17 And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. 18 For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. 19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. 22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Communion Sermon** – Christ in the Old Testament: “Noah’s Shame, Curse, and Blessing”

Christ blesses us by covering the shame of our sin – but those who mock sin are cursed.

1. A shameful sin. (Genesis 9:18-21)
2. Some *mock* sin but others *cover* it. (Genesis 9:22-23)
3. An oracle of curse and blessing. (Genesis 9:24-29; Ephesians 2:11-22)

**Prayer of Application**

**Communion Hymn of Preparation** – Behold the Lamb

**Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper**

(Bread: NTH 252 – When I Survey the Wondrous Cross / Cup: NTH 254 – Alas and Did My Savior Bleed)

* Invitation, Warning, and Prayer of Consecration
* Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed
* Serving the Supper
* Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Closing Hymn** – NTH 345 – Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

**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 Corinthians 13:14