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

**for Sunday, May 7th, 2023 at 10:45 AM**

**Prelude**

**Opening Song** – Shout to the Lord

**Gospel Greeting** – To the church . . . in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Thess. 1:1b-2

**Call to Worship Hymn** – NTH 1 – All People that on Earth Do Dwell

**Call to Worship** – Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Psalm 98:1-3

**Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

**Hymn of Praise** – NTH 2 – O Worship the King

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

*(Silent Confession of Sin)*

**Confession of Sin** – Almighty, everlasting God, for our many sins we justly deserve eternal condemnation. In Your great mercy, you sent your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who won for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting righteousness. Grant us true repentance that, dead to sin, we may be raised up by faith in Your life-giving Gospel. Grant us your Holy Spirit that we may be ever thankful and live a faithful and godly life in your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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** – Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Heb. 13:16

**Offering and Diaconal Collection with Prayer** (Offertory)

**Doxology** – NTH 731

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Scripture Readings** – OT: Genesis 11:1-9 / NT: Acts 2:1-21

Genesis 11:1–9 (ESV)

1 Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. 2 And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. 3 And they said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly.” And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. 4 Then they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth.” 5 And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. 6 And the Lord said, “Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. 7 Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another’s speech.” 8 So the Lord dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. 9 Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth. And from there the Lord dispersed them over the face of all the earth.

Acts 2:1–21 (ESV)

1 When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. 5 Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. 6 And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. 7 And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? 9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, 11 both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.” 12 And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” 13 But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.” 14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. 15 For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. 16 But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel: 17 “ ‘And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; 18 even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. 19 And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; 20 the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day. 21 And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Communion Sermon** – Christ in the OT: “Tongues Divided in Judgment & United in Praise”

The LORD first descends in judgment to confuse and scatter self-exalting humanity – and then descends to save us and unite us in God-exalting praise.

1. Man’s self-exalting pride. (Genesis 11:1-4)
2. The LORD’s judgment – confusion and scattering. (Genesis 11:5-9)
3. The LORD’s salvation – which unites us to praise God in Christ by the Spirit. (Acts 2:1-21)

**Prayer of Application**

**Communion Hymn of Preparation** –NTH 253 – There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood

**Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper**

(Bread: / Cup: )

* Invitation, Warning, and Prayer of Consecration
* Confession of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 1
* Serving the Supper
* Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Closing Hymn** – NTH 164 – O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

**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

(For overhead:)

**Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 1**

Q: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A:

That I am not my own, but belong –

body and soul, in life and in death –

to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,

and has delivered me from the tyranny of the devil.

He also watches over me in such a way

that not a hair can fall from my head

without the will of my Father in heaven;

in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit,

also assures me of eternal life

and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready

from now on to live for him.