

**LIVING HOPE OPC ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**for Sunday, 21 May 2023 at 10:45 AM**

**Prelude**

**Opening Song** –NTH 381-Brethren, We have Met to Worship

**Announcements**

**Gospel Greeting** – “To those who are called, beloved in God the Father and Kept for Jesus Christ; May mercy, peace, & love be multiplied to you.” - Jude 1:1-2

**Call to Worship Hymn** – NTH 7-From All That Dwell Below the Skies

**Call to Worship** – “But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house; I will bow down toward your holy temple in fear of you.” - Psalm 5:7

**Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

**Hymn of Praise** –NTH 355- We are God’s People

**Reading of the Law** – Matthew 22:34-40

(Silent Confession of Sin)

**Corporate Confession of Sin** –

 “Lord God, You require us to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly before You. We confess that we have not loved Your or our neighbor in this way. We repent of this. Grant that Your Holy Spirit drives us to seek these things through Christ. Amen.”[[1]](#footnote-1)

**Assurance of Pardon** – “I will heal their apostasy, I will love them freely, for my anger has turned from them. I will be like the dew to Israel; he shall blossom like the lily; he shall take root like the trees of Lebanon; his shoots shall spread out ; His beauty shall be like the olive, and his fragrance like Lebanon. They shall return to dwell beneath My shadow; they shall flourish like the grain; they shall blossom like the vine; their fame shall be like the wine of Lebanon.” - Hosea 14:4-7

**Exhortation to Give** – “Bring the full tithes into the storehouse, tat there may be food in My house. And thereby put Me to the test, says the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open the window of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.” - Malachi 3:10

**Collection with Prayer**--Offertory-NTH 649-More Love to Thee, O Christ

**Doxology** – **NTH 733**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Medley**

-NTH 353-I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

-Let It Be Said of Us

**Scripture Readings** –

 OT Text: Ezekiel 37:1-14

 NT Text: 1 John 4:7-12

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Sermon:** God is Love - 1 John 4:7-12

Homiletical Point: John is exhorting us in two ways. First, John is telling us that it is in Jesus Christ, first and foremost that we know Godly love. Second, that those who discover this love are called to exhibit that love in turn both toward God and toward fellow believers.

 Part 1: Love is From God. Vss. 7-8

 Part 2: What is Love? Vss. 9-10

 Part 3: What Ought We to do about Love? Vss. 11-12

**Prayer of Application**

**Hymn of Response** – NTH 359-Blest Be the Tie That Binds

**Closing Prayer** – on the Basis of Romans 15:5-6
 “May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

1. Griffith, Bobby G. *Confessions of Sin & Assurances of Pardon.* Christian Focus Publications. Scotland, UK. Pg. 26 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)