**LIVING HOPE OPC ORDER OF SERVICE**

March 29, 2020

**Prelude** – Like a River Glorious

**Announcements**

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

**Call to Worship** – Hebrews 12:22-24

**Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

**Opening Hymn** – NTH 691: *It Is Well with My Soul*

**Reading of Law** – Matthew 22:37-40

**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 offended against your holy laws. We have left undone the 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, miserable offenders. Spare us, O God who confess our faults. Restore those who are penitent, O Lord; according to your promises declared to mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake; that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

**Declaration of Pardon** – 1 John 1:8-9

**Exhortation to Give** – 2 Corinthians 8:9

**Doxology** – NTH 731

**Prayer for Collection & Pastoral Prayer**

**Scripture Readings** – OT: Psalm 46 / NT: Hebrews 12:18-29

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Sermon** – Psalm 46: “Christ Our Refuge and Strength”

Outline:

God is our refuge and our strength – in Christ.

1. Christ is our confidence in a shaky and uncertain world. (1-3)
2. Christ is our joy by His refreshing Spirit and presence. (4-7)
3. Christ is our peace and victory over this rebellious world. (8-11)

**Prayer of Application**

**Closing song** – Psalm 46 paraphrase from *The Psalter,* 1912 (lyrics in public domain; tune: “A Mighty Fortress”)

1. God is our refuge and our strength, a helper ever near us.

We will not fear though earth be moved, for God is nigh to cheer us.

Although the mountains quake and earth’s foundations shake,

Though angry billows roar and break against the shore, our mighty God will hear us.

1. God’s city is forever blest with living waters welling;

Since God is there, she stands unmoved ‘mid tumults round her swelling.

God speaks and all is peace, from war the nations cease;

The Lord of hosts is nigh. Our father’s God Most High is our eternal dwelling.

1. Behold what God has done on earth; his wrath brings desolation.

His grace, commanding wars to cease, brings peace to ev’ry nation.

Be still, for he is Lord, by all the earth adored;

The Lord of hosts is nigh. Our father’s God Most High is our strong habitation.

**Benediction** – Numbers 6:24-26