**LIVING HOPE OPC ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**for Sunday, October 11th, 2020 at 10:45 AM**

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

**Gospel Greeting** – May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. – 2 Peter 1:2

**Call to Worship Song** – W&C 31 – Great Is the Lord

**Call to Worship** – The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake! The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples. Let them praise your great and awesome name! Holy is he! – Psalm 99:1-3

**Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

**Opening Hymn** – NTH 12 – Exalt the Lord, His Praise Proclaim

**Reading of Law** – Exodus 20:1-17

**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.

**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

**Confession of Faith (The Apostles’ Creed)**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Doxology** – NTH 732

**Exhortation to Give** – For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. – 2 Cor. 8:9

**Prayer for Collection & Pastoral Prayer**

**Scripture Readings** – OT: Hosea 2:14-23 / NT: John 3:22-36

**Medley** – NTH 644 – May the Mind of Christ Our Savior

 – I Exalt Thee

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Sermon** – An Exposition of John 3:22-36: “Christ Must Increase”

Christ must increase – and we must decrease.

1. Jealousy of God’s Servant is a denial of God’s gracious plan (John 3:22-26).
2. Instead, our calling is to rejoice in the Bridegroom’s voice (John 3:27-30).
3. For Christ alone is from above, beloved of His Father, and gives us eternal life. (John 3:31-36)

**Prayer of Application**

**Closing Song** – I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

**Benediction** – Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. Hebrews 13:20-21