**LIVING HOPE OPC ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**for Sunday, April 18th, 2021 at 10:45 AM**

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

**Announcements**

**Gospel Greeting** –Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. 1 Tim. 1:2

**Call to Worship Song** – NTH 7 – From All That Dwell below the Skies (based on Psalm 117)

**Call to Worship** – One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple. Psalm 27:4

**Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

**Opening Hymn** – NTH 59 – Forever Settled in the Heavens (Psalm 119:89-97)

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

*(Silent Confession of Sin)*

**Corporate 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 left undone those 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. And grant, O merciful Father, for Jesus’ sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous and joyful life, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon** – Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Romans 5:1-2

**Doxology** – NTH 732

**Exhortation to Give** – “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” – Matthew 6:19-21

**Prayer for Collection & Pastoral Prayer**

**Medley**

– NTH 644 – May the Mind of Christ My Savior

– Speak, O Lord

**Scripture Readings** – OT: Deuteronomy 16:18-20 / NT: John 7:14-24

Deuteronomy 16:18–20 (ESV)

18 “You shall appoint judges and officers in all your towns that the Lord your God is giving you, according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment. 19 You shall not pervert justice. You shall not show partiality, and you shall not accept a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and subverts the cause of the righteous. 20 Justice, and only justice, you shall follow, that you may live and inherit the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

John 7:14–24 (ESV)

14 About the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and began teaching. 15 The Jews therefore marveled, saying, “How is it that this man has learning, when he has never studied?” 16 So Jesus answered them, “My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me. 17 If anyone’s will is to do God’s will, he will know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own authority. 18 The one who speaks on his own authority seeks his own glory; but the one who seeks the glory of him who sent him is true, and in him there is no falsehood. 19 Has not Moses given you the law? Yet none of you keeps the law. Why do you seek to kill me?” 20 The crowd answered, “You have a demon! Who is seeking to kill you?” 21 Jesus answered them, “I did one work, and you all marvel at it. 22 Moses gave you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and you circumcise a man on the Sabbath. 23 If on the Sabbath a man receives circumcision, so that the law of Moses may not be broken, are you angry with me because on the Sabbath I made a man’s whole body well? 24 Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment.”

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Sermon** – An Exposition of John 7:14-24: “Jesus, Moses, and Right Judgment”

Jesus’ heavenly doctrine confounds the religious masses.

1. It confounds the Jewish authorities. (7:14-15)
2. It confounds those who don’t want to do God’s will. (7:16-19)
3. It confounds those who judge by outward appearances. (7:20-24)

**Prayer of Application**

**Hymn of Response** – NTH 181 – We Come, O Christ, to You

**Benediction** – Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word. 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17