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

**for Sunday, December 5th, 2021 at 10:45 AM**

**Prelude**

**Opening Song** – NTH 195 – Joy to the World

**Announcements**

**Gospel Greeting** – Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen. Gal. 1:3-5

**Call to Worship Song** – NTH 213 – What Child Is This

**Call to Worship** – Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting. The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. Ps. 147:1-3

**Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

**Hymn of Praise** – NTH 219 – All Praise to Thee, Eternal Lord

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

*(Silent Confession of Sin)*

**Psalm of Confession** – NTH 486 (Ps. 51) – God, Be Merciful to Me

**Declaration of Pardon** – For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21

**Doxology** – NTH 731

**Exhortation to Give** – Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. 2 Corinthians 9:7-8

**Prayer for Regular & Diaconal Collections with Pastoral Prayer**

**Hymn of Preparation** – NTH 476 – The Light of the World Is Jesus

**Scripture Readings** – OT: Isaiah 42:16-25 / NT: John 9:24-41

Isaiah 42:16–25 (ESV)

16 And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. 17 They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, “You are our gods.” 18 Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! 19 Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the Lord? 20 He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. 21 The Lord was pleased, for his righteousness’ sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious. 22 But this is a people plundered and looted; they are all of them trapped in holes and hidden in prisons; they have become plunder with none to rescue, spoil with none to say, “Restore!” 23 Who among you will give ear to this, will attend and listen for the time to come? 24 Who gave up Jacob to the looter, and Israel to the plunderers? Was it not the Lord, against whom we have sinned, in whose ways they would not walk, and whose law they would not obey? 25 So he poured on him the heat of his anger and the might of battle; it set him on fire all around, but he did not understand; it burned him up, but he did not take it to heart.

John 9:24–41 (ESV)

24 So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, “Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.” 25 He answered, “Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” 26 They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” 27 He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” 28 And they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. 29 We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” 30 The man answered, “Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. 31 We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. 32 Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. 33 If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” 34 They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out. 35 Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” 36 He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” 37 Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” 38 He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. 39 Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” 40 Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?” 41 Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Communion Sermon** – An Exposition of John 9:35-41: “Seeing (Spiritually) Is Believing”

Jesus opens spiritually blind eyes – but leaves those who think they see in their blindness.

1. Jesus is seen, believed in, and worshiped by the once-blind man. (John 9:35-38)
2. Jesus is a light which divides – some blind see, but those who claim to see remain in darkness. (John 9:39-41)

**Prayer of Application**

**Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper**

(Bread: NTH 246 – Man of Sorrows / Cup: NTH 480 – Come, for the Feast Is Spread)

* Invitation, Warning, and Prayer of Consecration
* Confession of Faith: The Apostles’ Creed
* Serving the Supper
* Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Closing Song** – NTH 455 – And Can It Be That I Should Gain

**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