**LIVING HOPE OPC ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Sunday, July 23rd, 2023 at 10:45 AM**

***\*With Membership Vows and Baptism of Timothy Marc Miner***

**Opening Song** – Living Hope

**Announcements**

**Gospel Greeting** – To the church of God . . . to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Cor. 1:2-3

**Call to Worship Song** – NTH 734 – Gloria Patri

**Call to Worship** – Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth! Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised. Ps. 96:1-4a

**Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

**Hymn of Praise** – NTH 295 – Crown Him with Many Crowns

**Reading of the Law** – Ephesians 2:1-3

(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 offended against your holy laws. 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, miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared unto 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** – For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. Eph. 2:8-9

***\*Membership Vows and Baptism of Timothy Marc Miner*** (to be conducted by Pastor Phelps and Pastor Emeritus Tim Young at Grace Community Church at 12:30pm)

**Exhortation to Give** – Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Heb. 13:16

**Collection with Prayer** (Offertory: NTH 247 – O Sacred Head Now Wounded)

**Doxology** – NTH 733

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Hymn of Preparation** – NTH 246 – Man of Sorrows, What a Name!

**Scripture Readings** – OT: Psalm 126 / NT: John 16:16-24

Psalm 126 (ESV)

1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. 2 Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then they said among the nations, “The Lord has done great things for them.” 3 The Lord has done great things for us; we are glad. 4 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like streams in the Negeb! 5 Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy! 6 He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.

John 16:16–24 (ESV)

16 “A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.” 17 So some of his disciples said to one another, “What is this that he says to us, ‘A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me’; and, ‘because I am going to the Father’?” 18 So they were saying, “What does he mean by ‘a little while’? We do not know what he is talking about.” 19 Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, “Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, ‘A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me’? 20 Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. 21 When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. 22 So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. 23 In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. 24 Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Sermon** – An Exposition of John 16:16-24: “From Sorrow to Joy”

The sorrow of Jesus’ Cross leads to the joy of His resurrection.

1. The sorrow is real but temporary. (John 16:16-20)
2. The joy is real – and permanent. (John 16:21-22)
3. The access to joy in sorrow is the way of prayer in Jesus’ name. (John 16:23-24)

**Prayer of Application**

**Psalm of Response** – NTH 360 – When in His Might the Lord (from Psalm 126)

**Benediction** – 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. – Romans 15:5-6