**LIVING HOPE OPC ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Sunday, July 30th, 2023 at 10:45 AM**

**Opening Song** – Christ Our Hope in Life and in Death

**Announcements**

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

**Call to Worship Hymn** – NTH 700 – Come, We That Love the Lord

**Call to Worship** – Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Psalm 98:1-3

**Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

**Hymn of Praise** – NTH 699 – Like a River Glorious

**Reading of the Law** – Deuteronomy 5:1-21

(Silent Confession of Sin)

**Corporate Confession of Sin** – Almighty, everlasting God, for our many sins we justly deserve eternal condemnation. In Your great mercy, you sent your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who won for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting righteousness. Grant us true repentance that, dead to sin, we may be raised up by faith in Your life-giving Gospel. Grant us your Holy Spirit that we may be ever thankful and live a faithful and godly life in your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**Declaration of Pardon** – There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Rom. 8:1

**Exhortation to Give** – “…Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” Acts 20:35b

**Collection with Prayer** (Offertory: NTH 703 – Loved with Everlasting Love)

**Doxology** – NTH 731

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Medley**

– He Will Hold Me Fast

– Jesus Strong and Kind

**Scripture Readings** – OT: Zechariah 13:7-9 / NT: John 16:25-33

Zechariah 13:7–9 (ESV)

7 “Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, against the man who stands next to me,” declares the Lord of hosts. “Strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered; I will turn my hand against the little ones. 8 In the whole land, declares the Lord, two thirds shall be cut off and perish, and one third shall be left alive. 9 And I will put this third into the fire, and refine them as one refines silver, and test them as gold is tested. They will call upon my name, and I will answer them. I will say, ‘They are my people’; and they will say, ‘The Lord is my God.’ ”

John 16:25–33 (ESV)

25 “I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. 26 In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; 27 for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. 28 I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.” 29 His disciples said, “Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! 30 Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God.” 31 Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? 32 Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. 33 I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Sermon** – An Exposition of John 16:25-33: “Be of Good Cheer – Christ Has Overcome”

Jesus clearly reveals the Father’s love to His anxious and confused disciples:

1. He came from the Father and returns to the Father for this reason. (John 16:25-28)
2. He perfects our weak faith to give us His peace and cheerful hearts. (John 16:29-33)

**Prayer of Application**

**Psalm of Response** – NTH 509 – Jesus, Lover of My Soul

**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