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

**for Sunday, December 3rd, 2023 at 10:45 AM**

**Opening Song** – Light of the World

**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** – The Advent of Our God

**Call to Worship** – Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. – Hebrews 12:2

**Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

**Hymn of Praise** – NTH 194 – O Come, O Come Emmanuel

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

*(Silent Confession of Sin)*

**Confession of Sin** – Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

**Declaration of Pardon** – The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. 1 Tim. 1:15

**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

**Offering and Diaconal Collection with Prayer** (Offertory: NTH 193 – Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence)

**Doxology** – NTH 731 – Doxology

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Hymn of Preparation** – NTH 196 – Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

**Scripture Readings** – OT: Genesis 15:1-21 / NT: Hebrews 10:19-22

Genesis 15:1–21 (ESV)

1 After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: “Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” 2 But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” 3 And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.” 4 And behold, the word of the Lord came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.” 5 And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” 6 And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness. 7 And he said to him, “I am the Lord who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess.” 8 But he said, “O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” 9 He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” 10 And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half. 11 And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. 12 As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him. 13 Then the Lord said to Abram, “Know for certain that your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years. 14 But I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions. 15 As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. 16 And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.” 17 When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. 18 On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates, 19 the land of the Kenites, the Kenizzites, the Kadmonites, 20 the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, 21 the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites and the Jebusites.”

Hebrews 10:19–22 (ESV)

19 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, 20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Communion Sermon** – Christ in the OT 23: “God’s Death Oath” (Gen 15:7-19 with Heb 10:19-22)

God justifies believing sinners and ratifies His promise by taking an oath unto death.

1. The God of promise helps our unbelief. (Genesis 15:7-11)
2. The God of promise prophesies our deliverance. (Genesis 15:12-16)
3. The God of promise ratifies His promise to us in the blood of the covenant. (Genesis 15:17-19; Hebrews 10:19-22).

**Prayer of Application**

**Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper**

(Bread: NTH 251 – Beneath the Cross of Jesus / Cup: NTH 252 – When I Survey the Wondrous Cross)

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

**Closing Hymn** – NTH 305 – Arise, My Soul, Arise

**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