**LIVING HOPE OPC ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**for Sunday, February 25th, 2024 at 10:45 AM**

**Opening Song** – His Mercy Is More

**Announcements**

**Gospel Greeting** – Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Call to Worship Song** – Reformation Hymn

**Call to Worship** – But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than that of Abel. Hebrews 12:22-24

**Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

**Hymn of Praise** – NTH 140 – O Word of God Incarnate

**Reading of the Law** – 1 Corinthians 6:9-10

*(Silent Confession of Sin)*

**Corporate 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.

**Assurance of Pardon** – And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. – 1 Corinthians 6:11

**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: Wonderful Words of Life)

**Doxology** – NTH 731

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Hymn of Preparation** – The Word of God Is Jesus Christ\*

**Scripture Readings** – OT: Psalm 119:49-56 / NT: John 20:28-31

Psalm 119:49–56 (ESV)

49 Remember your word to your servant, in which you have made me hope. 50 This is my comfort in my affliction, that your promise gives me life. 51 The insolent utterly deride me, but I do not turn away from your law. 52 When I think of your rules from of old, I take comfort, O Lord. 53 Hot indignation seizes me because of the wicked, who forsake your law. 54 Your statutes have been my songs in the house of my sojourning. 55 I remember your name in the night, O Lord, and keep your law. 56 This blessing has fallen to me, that I have kept your precepts.

John 20:28–31 (ESV)

28 Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” 29 Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” 30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Sermon** – An Exposition of John 20:28-31: “The Saving Purpose of Scripture”

Jesus’ deeds and words are recorded by the Spirit in John’s Gospel so that we would believe:

1. Because His signs show us who He is and what He came to do. (John 20:30)
2. Because His Gospel declares to us that He is the Christ and the Son of God. (John 20:31a)
3. Because believing His Gospel, we have life in His Name. (John 20:31b)

**Prayer of Application**

**Hymn of Response** – NTH 141 – God, in the Gospel of His Son

**Benediction** – The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Numbers 6:24-26

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The Word of God is Jesus Christ

God's love forever speaking

The love that willed the worlds to be

A love forever seeking.

In Him was life the one true Light

That shines through all creation

The Light that calls all hearts to Him

From every age and nation.

The Word of God is flesh and blood

God's heart has fully spoken

In Christ we share the Father's life

With holy joy unbroken.

Now grace and truth are daily fruit

Of love beyond all knowing

We lift our face to Christ and drink

God's fullness overflowing.

*Words by Ken Bible
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*CCLI Song #4567620.*