**LIVING HOPE OPC ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Sunday, March 16th, 2025 at 10:45 AM**

***(with Covenant Infant Baptism of Grace Aletheia Batten)***

**Opening Song** – Amazing Grace

**Announcements**

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

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

**Call to Worship** – I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together! – Psalm 34:1-3

**Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

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

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

(Silent Confession of Sin)

**General 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. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Eph. 2:8-10

**Covenant Infant Baptism** – Grace Aletheia Batten

**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

**Collection with Prayer** (Offertory: But for the Cross of Christ)

**Doxology** – NTH 731

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Medley**

– Beneath the Cross of Jesus

– Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed

**Scripture Readings** – OT: Genesis 4:1-7 / NT: Hebrews 11:4-7

Genesis 4:1–7 (ESV)

1 Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, “I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord.” 2 And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. 3 In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, 4 and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, 5 but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. 6 The Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? 7 If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it.”

Hebrews 11:4–7 (ESV)

4 By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. 5 By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. 6 And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. 7 By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Sermon** – An Exposition of Hebrews 11:4-7: “That Old-Time Gospel Religion”

By faith in God’s Gospel-promise in Christ:

1. Abel offered a better sacrifice. (Hebrews 11:4)
2. Enoch did not see death. (Hebrews 11:5)
3. God is only pleased. (Hebrews 11:6)
4. Noah was justified and his family was saved. (Hebrews 11:7)

**Prayer of Application**

**Closing Hymn** – NTH 461 – Not What My Hands Have Done

**Benediction** – Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. Hebrews 13:20-21