**LIVING HOPE OPC ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**for Sunday, March 30th, 2025, at 10:45 AM**

**Opening Song** – NTH 173 – Praise Him! Praise Him!

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

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

**Call to Worship** – If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. – Colossians 3:1-2

**Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

**Hymn of Praise** – NTH 604 – Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

**Reading of the Law** – Romans 3:9-20

*(Silent Confession of Sin)*

**General Confession of Sin** – Most holy and merciful Father, we acknowledge and confess before you our sinful nature – prone to evil and slothful in good – and all our shortcomings and offenses against you. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. O Lord, have mercy on us, who are ashamed and sorry for all the ways we have displeased you. Teach us to hate our errors, cleanse us from our secret faults, and forgive our sins for the sake of your dear Son. And O most holy and loving Father, send your purifying grace into our hearts, we beseech you, that we may henceforth live in your light and walk in your ways, according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon** – But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. – Romans 3:21-25a

**Exhortation to Give** – And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen. – Philippians 4:17-20

**Collection with Prayer** (Offertory: NTH 546 – The Sands of Time Are Sinking)

**Doxology** – NTH 733

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Medley**

– NTH 528 – My Faith Looks Up to Thee

– There Is a Redeemer

**Scripture Readings** – OT Lesson: Genesis 12:1-9 / NT Lesson: Hebrews 11:8-10

Genesis 12:1–9 (ESV)

1 Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” 4 So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. 5 And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, 6 Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. 7 Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. 8 From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the Lord and called upon the name of the Lord. 9 And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

Hebrews 11:8–10 (ESV)

8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. 10 For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Sermon** – An Exposition of Hebrews 11:8-10: “Faith Seeks the Heavenly City”

Abraham’s Gospel lesson for us: he walked by faith in God’s promise – not by sight. And so…

1. …with Abraham, by faith we obey God’s call. (Hebrews 11:8)
2. …with the Patriarchs, by faith we live as sojourners in this world. (Hebrews 11:9)
3. …with Abraham, by faith we seek God’s heavenly city. (Hebrews 11:10)

**Prayer of Application**

**Hymn of Response** – NTH 34 – The God of Abraham Praise

**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