



Living Hope

Presbyterian Church (OPC)

According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead (1 Peter 1:3).

April 7, 2024 11:00 AM

142 Pleasant Street, Brunswick, Maine 04011

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Prayer

Psalm 25:5

Spiritual Song

Lead Me, Lord, Lead Me in Thy Righteousness – TH **727***

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness, make thy way plain before my face.

For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only, that makest me dwell in safety.

Teach me, Lord, teach me truly how to live, that I may come to know thee,

and in thy presence serve thee with gladness, and sing songs of praise to thy glory.

Call to Worship

Psalm 95:6-7a

Invocation & the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Hymn

It's Good to Thank the LORD (lines 1, 2, & 5) – TPH **92A***

It's good to thank the LORD, to praise your name, Most High;

to tell your love at dawn, your faithfulness by night

with ten-stringed lyre, resounding music played upon the harp and lyre.

Your deeds, LORD, made me glad; I'll sing of what you've done.

How great your works, O LORD, how deep your thoughts each one.

A senseless man devoid of knowledge, this truth will not understand.

Those planted by the LORD will in God's courts be seen;

when old they'll still bear fruit and flourish fresh and green,

and this proclaim: how upright is the LORD, my rock, no wrong in him!

Corporate Confession of Sin

A Call to Confession

Psalm 15:1-5

Unison Prayer of Confession

O Lord, none of us are worthy to approach you on our own. We are sinners, ever in need of your forgiving mercy in Christ Jesus. Our lifestyle is far from blameless. We fail to do what is right. We sin with our lips, speaking deceptively, unlovingly, even hurtfully toward others. We fail to keep our promises. We are less than generous toward those who are in need. Now we confess our sins before you, O God, and cast ourselves upon Christ, the Lamb, who takes away the sin of the world. Forgive us, Lord. Cleanse us from all that is displeasing to you. And work in us by your Holy Spirit, that by faith we may stand steadfast upon the Rock, who is Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 103:8-12

Congregational Prayer

A Call to Prayer

Psalm 62:8

The Congregational Prayer

* **TPH** = Trinity Psalter Hymnal / **TH** = Trinity Hymnal / **§** = Insert

At Living Hope Presbyterian Church, we celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper weekly, as appears to have been the practice in the Ancient Church. All who trust in Christ alone for salvation and are members in good standing in His church are welcome to join with us for this celebration of Christ. As part of the sacrament, we offer both wine and grape juice. When the cups are passed, the outer circle of cups contain grape juice, while the inner circles of cups contain wine. We leave it to your discretion as to which you would prefer.

Offering

An Invitation to Bring our Tithes and Offerings

Philippians 4:18-20

Collection

Doxology

TPH 570 / TH 733*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; alleluia, alleluia!

Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication

Ministry of the Word

Rev. Gordon Cook

First Reading of Scripture

Mark 12:28-34

Hymn of Preparation

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder (lines 1 – 3) – TPH 286*

Let us love, and sing, and wonder, let us praise the Savior's name!

He has hushed the law's loud thunder, he has quenched Mount Sinai's flame:

he has washed us with his blood, he has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord who bought us, pitied us when enemies,

called us by his grace and taught us, gave us ears and gave us eyes:

he has washed us with his blood, he presents our souls to God.

Let us sing, though fierce temptations threaten hard to bear us down!

For the Lord, our strong salvation, holds in view the conqu'ror's crown:

he who washed us with his blood, soon will bring us home to God.

Second Reading of Scripture

1 Corinthians 12:31 – 14:1

Sermon

The More Excellent Way

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed (TPH p.851, TH p.845*)

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary;
suffered under Pontius Pilate;
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn

How Deep the Father's Love for Us – TPH 351*

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure,
that he should give his only Son to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss: the Father turns his face away
as wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross, my sin upon his shoulders;
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there until it was accomplished;
his dying breath has brought me life— I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
but I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection.

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Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer,
but this I know with all my heart: his wounds have paid my ransom.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Hymn

Thy Loving-kindness, Lord, Is Good and Free (lines 1 & 4) – TPH **69B***

Thy loving-kindness, Lord, is good and free, in tender mercy turn thou unto me;
hide not thy face from me in my distress, in mercy hear my prayer, thy servant bless.

Let heav'n above his grace and glory tell, let earth and sea and all that in them dwell;
salvation to his people God will give, and they that love his name with him shall live.

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

Parting Hymn

(to the tune *Dundee*, TPH **121A**, TH **105***)

Now blessed be the Lord our God, the God of Israel,
For he alone doth wondrous works in glory that excel.

And blessed be his glorious name to all eternity;
The whole earth let his glory fill. Amen, so let it be. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTES

This week:

10 AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
11 AM	MORNING WORSHIP
12:30 PM	SUNDAY TIME OF PRAYER

A reminder: the session has discontinued the evening service, sensing that the spiritual needs of the congregation might be better met by a remote evening fellowship and study. In place of the evening service, we will have a Time of Prayer (including a couple of hymns, prayer requests and prayer), beginning about 20 minutes after the end of morning worship. At that time, those who do not wish to remain for prayer are encouraged to take their conversations downstairs to the fellowship hall.

Beginning this Thursday, April 11, we will resume our Bible Study group at 7 PM via zoom. We will be considering the Gospel of Mark, picking up where we left off in our evening sermon series, Mark 5:21-43. Gordon will send out Zoom invitations by Thursday afternoon. If you want to join the study, remember to send him an email.

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