



**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
A Stephen Ministry Congregation

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

# Welcome to Hope

## SUNDAYS

9:15AM—Worship  
10:30AM—Family Bible Hour  
4:00PM—Spanish Worship w/Communion

## WEDNESDAYS

6:30PM—Worship  
6:30PM—Hope Studies

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

***“Anchored in Christ, Empowered by the Spirit, Connecting People to Jesus”***

*We are glad you are taking the time to worship our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with us this weekend! We pray God’s blessings on your worship and time spent among us at Hope Lutheran Church! We ask you to please take the time to fill in the Friendship pad (be sure to give us your name and address) and feel free to indicate any prayer concerns on the reverse side of the pad. We are a “Family-Friendly Church” and encourage the participation of children in our worship. However, we realize there are times when children can become disruptive to other worshipers, and for that reason there is a cry room located in the back of the church for your use. Children’s worship bags are available in the narthex for your use during the service (see an usher or elder). Please return the bag following the service to the “Worship Bag Tree.” We encourage you to join us for any and all activities at Hope in the week ahead!*

**IMPORTANT NOTES:** *for the sanctity of our worship and the benefit of those around you, please refrain from excessive talking in the narthex and sanctuary, and turn off all cell phones, pagers, etc. Please time entrances and exits during congregational singing to minimize distraction to our worshipping community. Following our worship, please make every effort to leave God’s House just as you found it. Please do not bring coffee, cans of soda or bottled water into the sanctuary for your use before or even during the service. Also, please be sure to remove any “used” tissues from the pews or hymnal racks. Your help in keeping God’s house neat and clean will most certainly be appreciated! Thank you!*

*Hope: Anchored in Christ*



**Please turn off or silence your cell phone and NO food or drinks in the Sanctuary.**

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*Activities This Week at Hope:*

<b>Sunday 5/14</b>	<b>Mother's Day</b> <b>Youth Scrip Orders Due</b>
9:15	Worship
10:15	Blood Pressure Screening
10:30	Family Bible Hour ( <i>snacks: open</i> )
11:45	Human Care Ministry Team Meeting
4:00	Spanish Worship w/Communion
<b>Monday 5/15</b>	<b>DEADLINE—June newsletter info &amp; calendar dates</b>
6:30	Choir
7:30	Young Adults @ Starbucks
<b>Wednesday 5/17</b>	12:00 Zaycon @ Hope
	4:30 Youth Group
	5:30 Bell Choir
	6:30 Living Hope Worship
	6:30 Hope Studies
<b>Thursday 5/18</b>	10:30 Bible Study
	6:30 Building Committee Meeting
<b>Saturday 5/20</b>	1:00 Youth Rival Nerf Tag @ Grace, Winter Haven
<b>Sunday 5/21</b>	9:15 Worship w/Communion
	10:30 Family Bible Hour ( <i>snacks: open</i> )
	11:45 Voters' Meeting & Pot Bless
	4:00 Spanish Worship w/Communion

*Worship Attendance / Communion:*

**Wednesday, May 3, 2017**

**Worship: 6:30: 24/21**

**Hope Studies: 4**

**Sunday, May 7, 2017:**

**Worship: 9:15: 145/123**

**Spanish Worship: 4:00: 23/10**

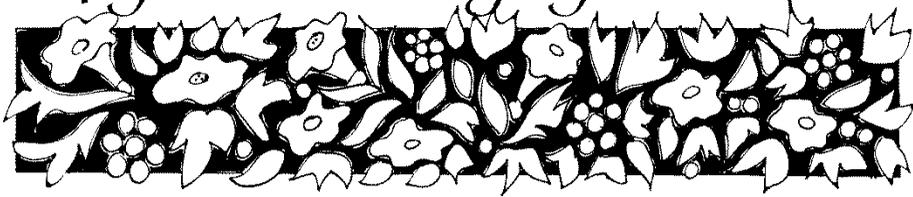
**Offerings—General Fund: \$5,261.99**

*Stewardship Perspective:*

**1 Peter 2:9** "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." God has called us to be His own. He has chosen us out of love, out of mercy, out of sheer, divine joy. The Apostle says that God has done this that we may share in His glory and joy, that we may "proclaim the excellencies of Him" who has made us His own. And truly, this is our delight! His joy brings joy in our hearts as well.

*Large Print editions of our Sunday worship folders are available from the ushers. If you are in need of one, don't hesitate to ask!*

# *Fifth Sunday of Easter*



May 14, 2017

## **AS WE GATHER**

*Only after Easter were the disciples able to understand Jesus' words. Now they knew that He was and is God in the flesh, our way to the Father. So sure were they, that Stephen could echo Jesus' last words as he faced death. Peter, in the Epistle, was able to review prophetic words of Scripture that they now knew spoke of Jesus. Today it is our turn to proclaim Jesus as the way, truth, and life, so that our friends will also know who He is and join us to live in His marvelous light.*

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **RINGING OF THE BELLS**

## **PRELUDE AND MEDITATION**

*"Come, Now Is the Time to Worship"      Brian Doerksen*

*The sanctuary is a place of meditation and preparation for worship. Therefore, as the prelude begins, we cease our conversations and quiet our hearts to converse silently with God.*

## OPENING SONG

*"Come, Now Is the Time to Worship"*

ABS (3) 8

**Come, now is the time to worship.  
Come, now is the time to give your heart.  
Come, just as you are to worship.  
Come, just as you are before your God. Come.**

**One day, every tongue will confess You are God.  
One day, every knee will bow.  
Still, the greatest treasure remains  
for those who gladly serve you now. *(Repeat)***

**Come, now is the time to worship.  
Come, now is the time to give your heart.  
Come, just as you are to worship.  
Come, just as you are before your God. Come.**

"Come Now Is The Time To Worship"; words and music by Brian Doerksen © 1998 Vineyard Songs (UK/Eire) (Admin. by Vineyard Music UK)  
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## INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Praise the LORD!

**C: Praise the LORD, O my soul!**

P: I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

**C: I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

P: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

**C: whose hope is in the LORD his God.**

P: Our help is in the name of the LORD,

**C: who made heaven and earth.**

P: If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

**C: But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared.**

P: Let us confess our sins, confident of God's grace, mercy, and forgiveness.  
*(Silence for reflection on the Word of God and for self-examination.)* We give thanks,  
Lord Jesus, for apostles and martyrs who have gone before us.

**C: We confess that we have not always made a clear witness to the  
salvation You won for us in Your death and resurrection. Forgive  
us, and give us opportunities to witness to You, the way, the  
truth, and the life.**

- P: We give thanks, heavenly Father, that You graciously call us Your holy nation, Your royal priesthood.
- C: We confess that in our life and conduct we have too often reflected the world around us rather than our membership in the Body of Christ. Forgive us, and strengthen us to walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.**
- P: We give thanks, O Holy Spirit, that You have worked faith in our hearts so that we may approach the throne of grace with every petition.
- C: We confess that too often we seek to bend Your will to ours, failing to trust You not only for the place You have prepared for us in eternity, but also for that which is best for us today. Forgive us, and open our hearts to receive Your answers, which are always better than our prayers.**
- P: God has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. You are His own people, thanks to the grace and mercy that is ours through our Lord Jesus Christ. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.**

## SONG OF PRAISE

*"Above All"*

*ABS (1) 216*

**Above all powers, above all kings,  
Above all nature and all created things;  
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man,  
You were here before the world began.**

**Above all kingdoms, above all thrones,  
Above all wonders the world has ever known;  
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth,  
There's no way to measure what You're worth.**

**Crucified, laid behind the stone;  
You lived to die, rejected and alone;  
Like a rose, trampled on the ground,  
You took the fall, and thought of me above all.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, revealed Your eternal love for all people.

C: **Grant that we may confidently ask whatever we need in His name and also proclaim Him as the way, the truth, and the life;**

P: through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**



## FIRST READING

*Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60 (p.914)*

*(The first martyr is executed.)*

<sup>1</sup>Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. <sup>2</sup>And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. <sup>3</sup>Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. <sup>4</sup>But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." <sup>5</sup>And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. <sup>6</sup>These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. <sup>7</sup>And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith. <sup>8</sup>And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup>Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. <sup>2</sup>And Stephen said: "Brothers and fathers, hear me. <sup>51</sup>"You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. <sup>52</sup>Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the

Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, <sup>53</sup>you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it." <sup>54</sup>Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. <sup>55</sup>But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." <sup>57</sup>But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. <sup>58</sup>Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup>And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **EPISTLE**

*1 Peter 2:2–10 (p.1014)*

*(You are living stones in God's house.)*

<sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— <sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. <sup>4</sup>As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup>you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." <sup>7</sup>So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," <sup>8</sup>and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. <sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSE

*"We Bow Down"*

*ABS (1) 26*

**You are Lord of creation and Lord of my life,  
Lord of the land and the sea.  
You were Lord of the heaven before there was time,  
And Lord of all lords You will be!**

*(Chorus 1)*

**We bow down— and we worship You, Lord.  
We bow down— and we worship You, Lord.  
We bow down— and we worship You, Lord.  
Lord of all lords You will be!**

**You are King of creation and King of my life,  
King of all land and the sea.  
You were King of the heaven before there was time,  
And King of all kings You will be!**

*(Chorus 2)*

**We bow down— and we crown You the King.  
We bow down— and we crown You the King.  
We bow down— and we crown You the King.  
King of all Kings You will be!** *(Chorus 1)*

**You will be!**

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## HOLY GOSPEL

*John 14:1-14 (p.901)*

*(Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.)*

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

**C:** *(Sung)* **Glory to You, O Lord.**

**SP:** [Jesus said:] "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going." Thomas said to Him,

**AP:** *"Lord, we do not know where You are going. How can we know the way?"*

**SP:** Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also. From now on you do know Him and have seen Him." Philip said to Him,

AP: "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us."

SP: Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know Me, Philip? Whoever has seen Me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own authority, but the Father who dwells in Me does His works. Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in Me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in My name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it."

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord!

C: *(Sung)* **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**SONG OF THE DAY** "You Never Let Go" *ABS (4) 11*

**Even though I walk / through the valley / of the shadow of death,  
Your perfect love is casting out fear.  
And even when I'm caught / in the middle / of the storms of this life,  
I won't turn back, I know You are near.**

*(Pre-Chorus)* **And I will fear no e—vil for my God is wi—th me.  
And if my God is wi—th me, whom then shall I fear?  
Whom then shall I fear?**

*(Chorus)*  
**Oh / no / You never let go / through the calm and through the storm.  
Oh / no / You never let go / in ev'ry high and ev'ry low.  
Oh / no / You never let go. Lord, You never let go of me.**

**I can see a light that is coming / for the heart that holds on,  
A glorious light beyond all compare.  
And there will be an end to these troubles / but until that day comes,  
We'll live to know You here on the earth. *(Pre-Chorus & Chorus)***

*(Bridge)*  
**Yes, I can see a light / that is coming / for the heart that holds on.  
And there will be an end / to these troubles / but until that day comes  
Still I will praise You / Still I will praise You. *(Chorus)***

## SERMON

*"Chosen and Cherished"*  
*Rev. Shea Pennington*

*1 Peter 2:9-10*

## HYMN OF RESPONSE *"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"*

*LSB 469; vs. 1-4*

## EASTER CONFESSION OF FAITH

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, Who sent His Son as my Savior to rise on Easter morning.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate and died on Good Friday, rose again on Easter morning to free me from the curse of sin, the sting of death and the power of the devil.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, who has brought me to faith in the Christ of Easter. And by whose continuous work in my heart I am ever led to be steadfast and unmovable, always abounding in the work of my resurrected Lord. Amen.**

## CELEBRATION OF FRIENDSHIP

*As the offerings are received, please sign the register in the pews, whether you are a member of Hope Lutheran or a visitor. The person at the end of the pew should start and then pass it along. Thank you for making worship with us a priority this Lord's Day.*

## GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Our tithes are our regular, top priority, proportionate, grateful gifts to the Lord for the work of the gospel. Our offerings are our special gifts for special causes over and above our tithes.*

## VOLUNTARY

*"Trusting Jesus"*

*William Kirkpatrick*

## PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

**P:** Let us pray to our Father in heaven, who has made Himself known to us in His Son. Almighty God, You sent Your Son to be the Way to heaven by His death and resurrection. Comfort and enliven us with Christ, the Truth, in Your Word and Sacraments, that we might rejoice in Him, our Life, both now and forevermore. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** Heavenly Father, You honor the office of motherhood and make it a symbol of Your Church, where Your people are born in Holy Baptism and

nursed with the pure spiritual milk of Your Word. Receive our thanks this day for Your gift of mothers: Bless them in their ongoing vocation of love, prayer and sacrifice for their children of all ages, and grant that their labors might remind us of the new life You have given us through Christ and His Bride. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Almighty God, Your Son honored You and became obedient even to death on the cross. Hear our prayers on behalf of children and youth: Provide them good and godly homes where they might be trained in Your ways, and give them thankful hearts that honor their fathers and mothers as Your servants. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Heavenly Father, bestow Your grace on all the nations of the earth. Especially we beg You to bless our land and its inhabitants and all who are in authority. Cause Your glory to dwell among us, and let mercy and truth, righteousness and peace everywhere prevail. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: O Lord, even as You make Your Son known to us through Your holy Word, so You also make known much about Your creation through discovery and education. Bless all educators and the students entrusted to their care: Give them good things to speak, ears ready to hear and learn, wisdom to use that knowledge according to Your will, and faith to trust You when answers remain a mystery. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: O Lord, as You remember us in our living and our dying, remember all those who cry to You in need especially *Carlos Floyd, George Hayes, Lauren Matthews, Rose Thomas, Joyce Van Matre, and Gloria Warner*. Strengthen and deliver them according to Your will, and grant them confidence of Your faithfulness. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Most holy God, we give You thanks for all those whom You have called out of darkness and into Your marvelous light. With thanks for all the saints whom You have gathered to Yourself throughout the ages, continue to enlighten us by Your grace until we join them before Your throne; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, who taught us to pray:

## LORD'S PRAYER IN DIALOG & SONG

*(Responses sung to LSB 862)*

P: Dear Father, who art in heaven,

W: You give me a glimpse of heaven in those special tender moments of motherhood.

M: Hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come.

W: Help me as I strive to create a corner of Your kingdom right here with harmony in our home.

**ALL:** *(Sung) Oh, blest the house, what e'er befall, Where Jesus Christ is All in All. For if He were not dwelling there, How dark and poor and void it were!*

P: Thy will be done,

W: Let all I do be an inspiration for my children to follow You.

M: Give us, this day, our daily bread,

W: Keep me ever thankful for the warmth that makes each loaf rise and aware of the love that keeps warmth in our home.

M: And forgive us our trespasses.

W: Forgive me, Lord. Forgive me, children. Through all the years, through all the tears, I am deeply sorry for the many times I may have hurt you. I did not mean to; I'm even sorrier for the many times I may not have let you know how much I love you.

M: As we forgive others,

W: lifting the love displayed wordlessly by an unselfish act, forgetting trivial hurts.

**ALL:** *(Sung) Oh, blest the house where faith is found, And all in charity abound. To trust their God and serve Him still And do in all His holy will.*

P: Lead us not into temptation,

W: from all that awaits as we venture into the world beyond our fence.

M: But deliver us from evil.

W: Protect the children so precious while I await their safe return.

**ALL:** *(Sung) Oh, blest that house, it prospers well! In peace and joy the parents dwell, And in their children's lives is shown How richly God can bless His own.*

P: For Thine is the kingdom,

W: Make me worthy of it, a better mother, more loving and more loveable.

M: And the power, and the glory,

**W:** The joy of knowing You love me, a mother, because I am Your child,  
as I love my children because I am their mother.

**M:** Forever and ever.

**W:** Thank You for the miracles that made me both Your child and a  
mother. Amen.

**ALL:** *(Sung) Then here will I and mine today A solemn cov'nant make  
and say: Though all the world forsake His Word, My house and I  
will serve the Lord.*

### **BENEDICTION**

**P:** The LORD bless you and keep you.  
The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
The LORD look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

**C:** **Amen.**

**P:** We are now entering the mission field!

**C:** **'Here am I! Send me!'**

### **CLOSING HYMN**

*"The Day of Resurrection"*

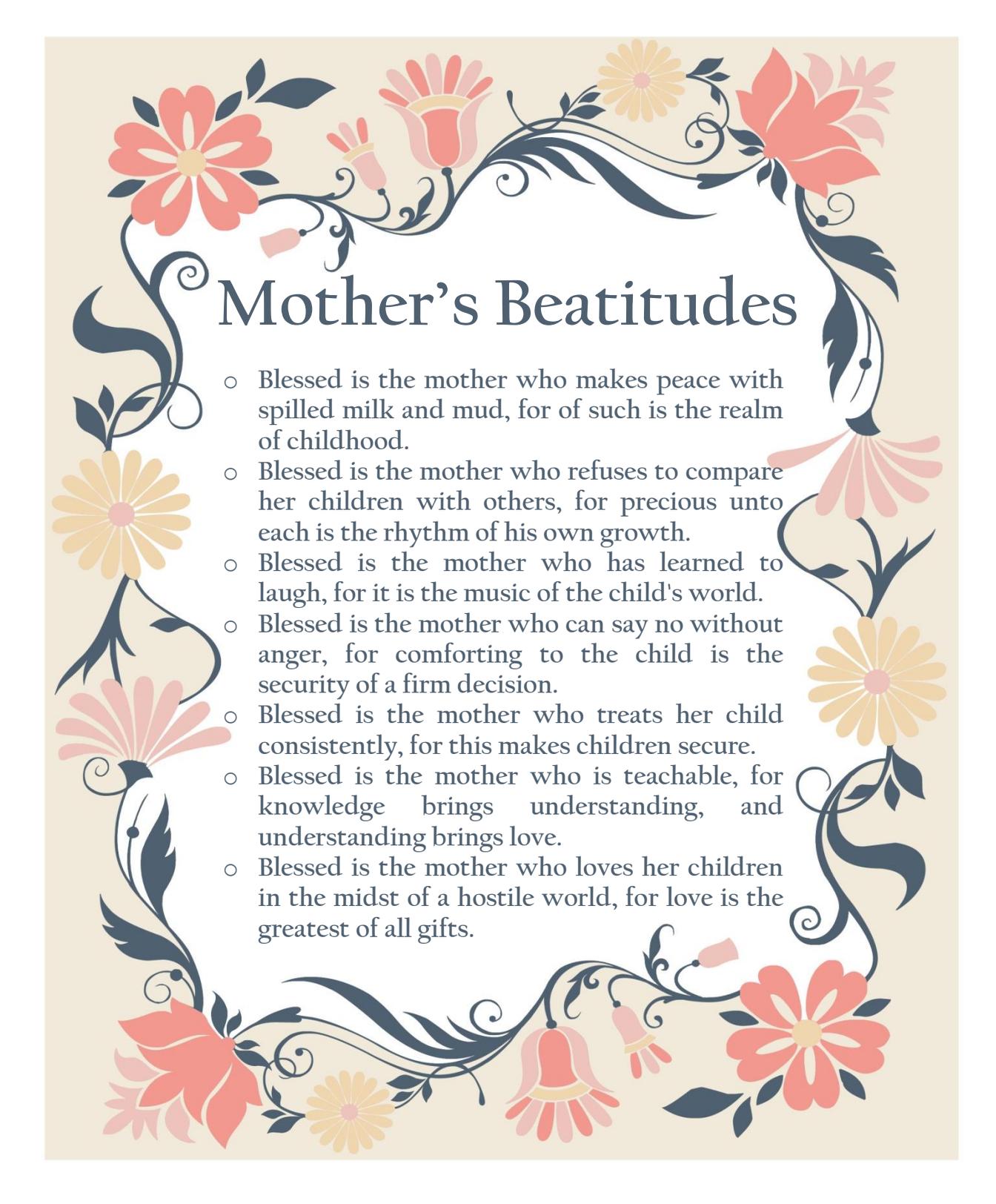
*LSB 478*

### **POSTLUDE**

*"Laudation On 'Lancashire'"*

*Alice Jordan*



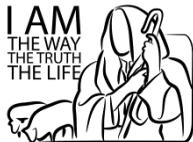


# Mother's Beatitudes

- Blessed is the mother who makes peace with spilled milk and mud, for of such is the realm of childhood.
- Blessed is the mother who refuses to compare her children with others, for precious unto each is the rhythm of his own growth.
- Blessed is the mother who has learned to laugh, for it is the music of the child's world.
- Blessed is the mother who can say no without anger, for comforting to the child is the security of a firm decision.
- Blessed is the mother who treats her child consistently, for this makes children secure.
- Blessed is the mother who is teachable, for knowledge brings understanding, and understanding brings love.
- Blessed is the mother who loves her children in the midst of a hostile world, for love is the greatest of all gifts.

## Connecting Points

**TODAY:** the church continues to rejoice as we celebrate the season of Easter which **lasts for 7 Sundays and culminates with the Festival of Pentecost (50 days after Easter)**. During the Easter Season, the *Pascal candle* is lit to remind us of our Lord's physical presence on earth prior to His ascension to the right hand of the Father. During the season as well, we 'resurrect' our *Alleluia's* that have been buried since the beginning of Lent. The color of the season is *WHITE*~ the color of purity and completeness as we rejoice in our Lord and what He has done for us through His suffering, death and resurrection.



**TREMENDOUS THANKS:** to *Pat Bender* for all her time and energy **over the last 4 weeks** as she shared her God given gift of music with us during our Music Director, *Christine Mansell's* vacation. *Christine* returned home **late last night** and will be back on the bench for our *Living Hope Worship* **this Wednesday**. We truly thank God for you Pat!



**HAPPY MOTHERS DAY:** from our youth. **Today** all ladies will receive a special gift from our youth in honor of Mother's Day.

**GIVE MOM A PRESENT:** and be sure to get your blood pressure checked **immediately following worship** in the front of the sanctuary by one of our congregation's nurses. High blood pressure is the silent killer—don't let it creep up on you—get it checked **today!**



**PENTECOST BEGONIAS:** can be ordered **beginning TODAY** for the Festival of Pentecost on **June 4<sup>th</sup>**. There is a limit of 60 plants available so be sure to get your order in soon. Price per plant is \$4.50 and payment **MUST** accompany your order (Please see insert in bulletin).



**HUMAN CARE'S BABY BOTTLE DRIVE:** Baby bottles will be passed out **THIS MORNING following worship**. Please take one home, fill it with change, and return it **by Father's Day, June 18**.



**VOTERS' MEETING:** Your packet of information for our **May 21<sup>st</sup>** Voters' Meeting is in your mailbox **TODAY** for those who prefer a "printed copy." Please plan to attend this **IMPORTANT** meeting **immediately following Family Bible Hour (11:45AM) NEXT SUNDAY**. Our *Fellowship Ministry Team* will provide pulled pork for the main dish—**PLEASE** bring a side dish to share!



**HUMAN CARE MINISTRY TEAM:** will meet **TODAY at 11:45AM** in Fellowship Hall.

**CHRISTIAN LOVE & SYMPATHY:** to Carol Nilles as she mourns the death of her husband Rick who was called home on **May 4<sup>th</sup>**. A memorial service will take place on **Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 3:00PM** at Featherock Park (Hwy 60, Valrico). Please keep Carol and her family in your thoughts and prayers during this time.



*"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints."*

**THANK YOU:** to Patrick Griffin for all the amazing Confirmation Sunday pictures that are now posted on our congregation's website ([www.hopeplantcity.com](http://www.hopeplantcity.com)). Be sure to check them out!



**DEADLINE APPROACHETH:** for your **June** issue of "Hope's Anchor." Please be sure to submit all news, information, and calendar dates to Jessica ([hopepcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:hopepcsecretary@gmail.com)) **no later than NOON TOMORROW—May 15<sup>th</sup>** to be included.



**HOPE'S YOUNG ADULTS:** gather on **Monday evenings 7:30PM** @ Starbucks in Plant City. So, if you're a Young Adult (age 19-39) and like fun & fellowship or just coffee then join us Monday nights at Starbucks.



**CALLING ALL YOUTH:** If you're in middle school or high school, join us **every Wednesday from 4:30PM to 6:00PM** for loads of fun and fellowship...and invite your friends—the more the merrier!



**WEDNESDAY OPPORTUNITIES:** for *Living Hope Worship* and *Hope Studies* have returned to Hope once again. Worship and Bible study both **begin at 6:30PM and end at 7:30PM**. Take advantage of these great opportunities for a mid-week faith lift of Word and sacrament as you continue on your journey in the mission field!



**GOD LOVES YOU:** He always has, He always will! This new series of Bible study meets **Thursdays at 10:30am** in the Stephen Ministry Room. This is an in-depth look at the amazing attributes of God's love towards us and our relationship with HIM. All (men and women) are welcome to come. *Join us...and invite a friend.*



**ABSOLUTE LAST CALL—CALLING ALL GRADS & PARENTS OF GRADS:** If you or your child will be graduating **this year** (or did graduate **anytime during this 2016-2017 academic year**) from high school or college, please contact *Pastor Pfeffer* ([hopepcpastor@gmail.com](mailto:hopepcpastor@gmail.com)). Please do not assume that he is aware you are graduating—notify us **no later than May 21<sup>st</sup>**. Don't let the day pass without your brothers and sisters in Christ recognizing your achievements! Our recognition of graduates will take place during our **Sunday morning** worship on **June 4<sup>th</sup>**.



## HEAR YE! HEAR YE! CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**Date:** May 21, 2017

**Time:** 11:45AM (*Immediately Following Family Bible Hour*)

**Place:** In the Church

### PROPOSED AGENDA:

- Approval of minutes from November 2016
- Approval of Pastors' Reports
- Approval of Ministry Team Reports
- Building committee Update

### FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY TEAM POT BLESS TO FOLLOW!

Please bring **only a side dish** to share;

Fellowship will provide main dish;

Board of Directors will provide desserts

**NOTE:** Voters' Meeting information packets are available today.



YES, THE CHURCH IS HAVING A BIRTHDAY AND WE WANT YOU TO SEE **RED**.

WHEN: **THE DAY OF PENTECOST, SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2017**

TIME: **9:15AM & 4:00PM WORSHIP SERVICES**

WHERE: **ALL AROUND THE WORLD—LOCALLY HERE AT HOPE**

DRESS: **PLEASE WEAR RED FOR THIS GRAND OCCASION!**

BRING: **A HEART READY TO WORSHIP & OPEN TO THE GIFTS OF GOD'S SPIRIT**

THAT'S RIGHT, OUR SPECIAL PENTECOST SUNDAY CELEBRATION WILL BE HELD **SUNDAY, JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup>** AS WE JOIN TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTHDAY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH THROUGH THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT THAT FIRST PENTECOST.

YOU ALSO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLACE RED PLANTS ABOUT OUR LORD'S ALTAR THAT DAY (SEE BULLETIN INSERT).

*Walk to Wittenberg Update:* WE MADE IT!



We have walked 9,374 ½ of our 5,001 miles—we're on our way home now.

# FAMILY BIBLE HOUR @ 9:15AM

## ADULTS

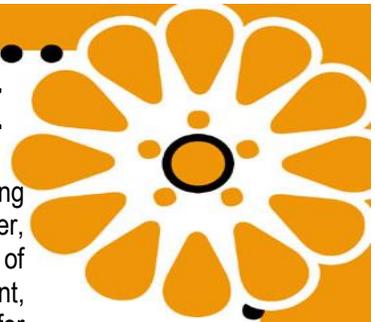
**GODCONNECTS:** a Lutheran Hour Ministries video/discussion series explaining the Christian faith in a way that makes it easy to invite a friend, family member, or church visitor. Plain language and helpful illustrations present God's work of salvation in a concise manner; ideal for those with questions about sin, judgment, redemption, Jesus, the believer's life, and more. This class is also great for anyone interested in becoming a member of Hope who has not been part of a Lutheran Church. *Leader: Pastor Pfeffer*

## YOUNG ADULTS & GRADES 9—12

**LIVE.BOLDLY:** Join us in 2017, as we look and learn from Christians throughout the ages—from Abraham to Paul to Martin Luther—how to live boldly in Christ so that we may “continue to speak the word of God with boldness” (Acts 4:31) in our everyday lives through actions and attitude in order to connect people to Jesus. #LiveBoldly *Leader: Pastor Shea*

## PRE-SCHOOL—GRADE 8

**GROWING IN CHRIST:** The fall quarter begins with an overview of the New Testament beginning with the birth of John the Baptist through the calling of Jesus' first disciples. *Leaders: Yolanda Heipp, Tracy MacDonald, Liz Pfeffer, Ellen Whitehurst*



# WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

**6:30PM**

## LIVING HOPE WORSHIP

Our Wednesday evening worship continues this spring as we celebrate the goodness and mercy of our God in an alternative worship format and style. Holy Communion is celebrated each Wednesday. Join us for a relaxed, celebrative worship alternative!

## HOPE STUDIES

**INQUIRING HEROES OF THE FAITH:** In an era of great challenge, the Heroes of the Faith Series highlights men and women in the Bible who overcame extraordinary difficulties. Their stories show that God chooses ordinary people—people like you—to do His extraordinary work. *Leader: John Koren*



# YOUTH DATES

May 20—Youth Rival Nerf Tag @ Grace, Winter Haven

Summer Youth Group @ Hope  
EVERY WEDNESDAY, 4:30–6:00PM

Grades 6 through 12—*friends are always welcome!*  
Contact Pastor Shea for more info: [hopepcpastorshea@gmail.com](mailto:hopepcpastorshea@gmail.com)



The  
Lutheran  
Hour

can be heard EVERY Sunday morning at 7:30 on 540AM

## Topics for this month:

**May 21:** "Comfort in the Spirit for Our Spirits"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

To be the people God created us to be, we must be connected to His power, to His Word, by His Spirit. (John 14:15-21)

**May 28:** "The Best of Things in the Worst of Times"

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus

As another generation comes along that knows not the Lord or what He has done, God enables His people to do the best of things in the worst of times.

(Philippians 1:27)



God's people are especially chosen by God for a particular purpose.



Find the message by writing the letter that is (<) less than/precedes or (>) greater than/follows the given letter.

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>B <I <P <T >D >M    >O >D >N <Q <M <F

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<U <I >D    <Q >Q <B <J >R >D <T    <P <G

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# *In Our Thoughts and Prayers*

**SHUT-INS:**

Melva Dennison      Tom & Nancy Kohr  
 Bonnie Genrich      Dorothy Maltzahn      Richard Van Matre

**LEADERS:**

Pastor Dean & Liz Pfeiffer      Hope's Ministries  
 Pastor Shea Pennington      LCMS Synod & District  
 Hope Staff      Our Nation & Armed Forces

## *Family and Friends of Hope*

**NEW REQUESTS:**

Carol Nilles and family      mourning death of husband Rick  
 Joyce Van Matre      health concerns  
 Gloria Warner      health concerns

**CURRENT REQUESTS:**

Joe Baamonde      friend of Jim & Lana Baldwin—blood infection  
 Sylvia Bosler      recovering from fall; broken hip  
 Brad      young nephew of Jesilynn Pfeiffer's boss—cancer  
 Carlos Floyd      recovering; shoulder surgery  
 Curtis Floyd      recovering; injured in altercation trying to arrest someone  
 family of Julie Gates' daughter—recovering; lost home to fire  
 Mari      friend of Niver-Kimbrell family—serious medical concern  
 Lauren Matthews, Josh & family      celebrating birth of Micah James Blocker  
 father of Holly Reese—prostate cancer  
 Lev & Kathy Stone & family      mourning death of Peg

**BATTLING CANCER:**

Jennifer Barkley	Dee	Lynnie Green	Victor Miranda	Sherrie
Tom Battling	Austin Dobbs	JoAnne Hayashi	Larry Morrell	Al Simmons
Laura Blake	Ginnie Donaldson	Lori Heneka	Jim Moore	Judy Strait
CanDee Brandon	Donna	Jeanette Herndon	Joy Neely	Chuck Sullivan
John Brom	Casey Doyle	Delores Huseth	Thomas Onderdonk	Rose Thomas
Laura Brom	Jace Driggers	Maggi Hutto	Sharyl Pallard	Mr. Wells
Bob Broshelle	Kori Dunke	Dale Jarvis	John Rademacher	Tom
Ken Buschbacher	Marcus Elam	Dot LaBar	Alan Rauner	Millie Wetz
Chantal	Ellen	Delores Lopresto	Andrea Reichard	Laura Winkel
Carol Chapman	Joy Fritzke	Lucille Luedke	DeAnne Reiter	Candy Wolfe
Chrissie	Gail	Pat Mailloux	Sara	Rick Ward
	Idele Green	David Miller	Abbey Sedlacek	Heather Whitehurst

## *Serving in the Military (R—Reserves)*

Zachary Allen	Travor Dahlke	Joshua Kinkead—R	Stephen Olliff—R
Alex Almaguer	Triston Dahlke	Brad Landis	Derek Quackenbush
Zachary Bennett	Lorrie Daniell—R	Ian Matthews	Justin Rappa
Matt Bracken	Stephen Daniell—R	Bobby Martin	Ryan Sonnenberg
Matthew Clissold	Joshua Gross	Aaron Morley	Caleb Strand
Rachael Clissold	Erika Grosskopf	Donnie Pittman	Mike Szostkiewicz—R



*"Think of us in this way as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries."*

1Corinthians 4:1

**SERVING THE LORD THIS SUNDAY (5/14/2017) ARE:**

Bell Ringer 9:15/Kaylee Greatens  
Greeters 9:15/Ken & Becky Hartmann  
Lector 9:15/Sheila Goethe  
Elder on Duty 9:15/Brian Heipp; 4:00/Andy Anderson  
Flowers Hartmann & McMinn families  
Offerings Alison Reaume & Cathie Warner  
Ushers Team 2

8:00/Tom Whitehurst,\* Carl Bergner, Harold Hastings, James Tennyson

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by  
Ken & Becky Hartmann in memory of their daughter Laurel  
and  
Mike & Willa McMinn*

**SERVING OUR LORD THIS WEDNESDAY (5/17/2017) ARE:**

Lector 6:30/Bryan Greatens  
Elder on Duty/Communion Assistant 6:30/Todd Warner

**SERVING OUR LORD NEXT SUNDAY (5/21/2017) ARE:**

Bell Ringer 9:15/Mason Reese  
Greeters 9:15/Carl & Brenda Bergner  
Acolyte 9:15/Thomas Goethe  
Lector 9:15/John Koren  
Elder on Duty 9:15/Lonnie Bertsch; 4:00/Lonnie Bertsch  
Communion Assistant 9:15/Lonnie Bertsch  
Flowers G. Miller family  
Offerings Richard & Mary Decker  
Ushers Team 3  
8:00/Lonnie Bertsch,\* Diane Bertsch, Tom Reagin

**SERVING OUR LORD THIS MONTH OF MAY:**

Altar Guild James & Laoretta Tennyson  
Nurse/HMT Member Sally Kimbrell