



# Welcome to Hope

## SUNDAYS

8:00 & 10:30AM—Worship  
9:15AM—Family Bible Hour  
4:00PM—Spanish Worship w/Communion

## LENTEN WEDNESDAYS

5:15PM—Fellowship Dinner  
6:30PM—Lenten Worship

### 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 3/4</b>	<b>Florida Strawberry Festival (March 1-11)</b>
8:00	Worship w/Communion
9:15	Family Bible Hour ( <i>snacks: open</i> )
10:30	Worship w/Communion
11:45	Christian Growth and Youth Ministry Team Meetings
4:00	Spanish Worship w/Communion
<b>Monday 3/5</b>	<b>Florida Strawberry Festival (March 1-11)</b>
6:30	Choir
7:30	Young Adults @ Starbucks, Plant City
<b>Tuesday 3/6</b>	<b>Florida Strawberry Festival (March 1-11)</b>
10:30	GriefShare
6:30	GriefShare
6:30	Missions & Outreach Ministry Team Meeting
<b>Wednesday 3/7</b>	<b>Florida Strawberry Festival (March 1-11)</b>
5:15	Fellowship Dinner ( <i>host: Health and Human Care Ministry Teams; menu: Soups</i> )
5:40	Bell Choir
6:30	Lenten Worship
<b>Thursday 3/8</b>	<b>Florida Strawberry Festival (March 1-11)</b>
<b>Friday 3/9</b>	<b>Florida Strawberry Festival (March 1-11)</b>
<b>Saturday 3/10</b>	<b>Florida Strawberry Festival (March 1-11)</b>
10:00	Confirmation
<b>Sunday 3/11</b>	<b>Florida Strawberry Festival (March 1-11)   Youth Scrip Orders Due</b>
8:00	Worship
9:00	Blood Pressure Screening
9:15	Family Bible Hour ( <i>snacks: open</i> )
10:30	Worship
11:30	Blood Pressure Screening
11:45	Human Care Ministry Team Meeting
4:00	Spanish Worship w/Communion

*Worship Attendance / Communion:*

**Wednesday, February 21, 2018:**

**Worship: 6:30: 59**

**Offerings—General Fund: \$7,919.75**

**Sunday, February 25, 2018:**

**Worship: 8:00: 65    10:30: 87**

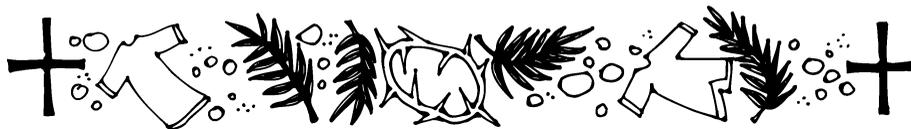
**FBH: Adults: 48    Youth: 10    Children: 6**

**Spanish Worship: 4:00: 18/10**

*Stewardship Perspective:*

**John 2:16** –“And he told those who sold the pigeons, ‘Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade.’” The Lord’s House is not a place to sell, but a place to receive and a place to give. It’s not a place for our schemes and plans. Instead the Church is a place for the Lord’s gracious giving and our faithful sacrifices in response.

*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!*



# Third Sunday In Lent

March 4, 2018

## **AS WE GATHER**

*"The Law is bad and the Gospel is good." Wait a second! While this statement might make sense on the surface, it's false. God's Word of Law and Gospel are both good—and necessary. While it may be easy for us to see how the Gospel, centered in Jesus Christ, is good, maybe it's not so easy to see how the Law is good. Yet, it is. God's Law is a curb guarding against evil. God's Law is a guide leading us in God's ways. Chiefly, however, God's Law is a mirror showing us our sin and need for a Savior. Thanks be to God that Jesus is that Savior who has fulfilled the Law perfectly for you!*

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**PRELUDE AND MEDITATION**    *"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"*    David Paxton  
*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 HYMN

## "Thy Word Is a Lamp"

LSB 973



Thy Word is a lamp un-to my feet And a light un-to my path.



1 When I feel a - fraid, think I've lost my way,  
2 I will not for - get Your love for me, and yet My



Still You're there right be - side me. And  
heart for - ev - er is wan - der - ing.



noth - ing will I fear as long as You are near.  
Je - sus, be my guide and hold me to Your side;



Please be near me to the end. \_\_\_\_\_  
I will love You to the end. \_\_\_\_\_

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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: O Lord, throughout these forty days

C: **You prayed and kept the fast;**

P: Inspire repentance for our sin,

C: **And free us from our past. Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

**C:** The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.

**I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

**P:** The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. 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.

**RESPONSE**

*"Chief of Sinners Though I Be"*

*LSB 611; vs. 1 & 5*

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are: "I Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His blood for me, Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine." The music consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The final note of the fourth staff is a double bar line.

5 O my Savior, help afford By Your Spirit and Your Word!  
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;  
Grace in time of need supply While I live and when I die.

Public domain

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. O God, the Law no longer condemns, for Christ came to fulfill the Law and the Prophets.

**C: Grant that by faith we would live as Your people with Your Law as our guide;**

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

**C: Amen.**



## OLD TESTAMENT

*Exodus 20:1-17 (p.61)*

### *(The Ten Commandments)*

<sup>1</sup>And God spoke all these words, saying, <sup>2</sup>I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. <sup>3</sup>You shall have no other gods before me. <sup>4</sup>You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. <sup>7</sup>You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain. <sup>8</sup>Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, <sup>10</sup>but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. <sup>11</sup>For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. <sup>12</sup>Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. <sup>13</sup>You shall not murder. <sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery. <sup>15</sup>You shall not steal. <sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. <sup>17</sup>You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE

*1 Corinthians 1:18-31 (p.952)*

*("We preach Christ crucified.")*

<sup>18</sup>For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." <sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. <sup>26</sup>For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup>so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSE

*LSB 157*

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra-cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead-fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.



## **SERMON**

*"Protect This House" John 13:12-22; 1 Cor. 1:18-31  
Rev. Shea Pennington*

## **NICENE CREED**

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**Lord, help me to grasp that all the blessings I think I have are really Yours. Help me to grasp that all the blessings our church has does not belong to the church, but to You. Give us healthy giving hearts to use these blessings according to Your purpose. In Your name I pray. 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.*

**PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their need. For true wisdom in Christ, that the faithful may recognize that the foolishness of God is wiser than the wisdom of the world, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the Holy Christian Church throughout the world and for all who confess the name of Christ, that God would guard and defend us from the temptations of the devil, the world and our sinful nature, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For a true zeal for the Gospel, that all Christians may recognize the privilege it is to share Christ and comfort others with the comfort we have received, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For those who have wandered from the faith, that the Holy Spirit would use us to call them home to the Father, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For all who have been given positions of public trust, that they may use the authority entrusted to them honorably and for the good of the people, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For all the faithful, that the Spirit would lead them to cheerful, generous giving from the bounty the Lord provides, to support the Church and to help those in need, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

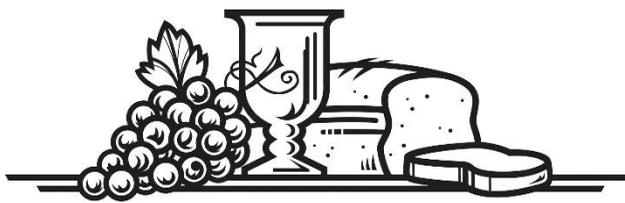
P: For those who are hospitalized, recovering from surgery, facing chronic pain or long-term health problems, and all who suffer as a result of living in a fallen world especially *Gerry Buschbacher, Ernie Reaume, and Mark Stefanos*, that God would grant mercy and perseverance, as well as healing according to His good and gracious will, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy**

P: O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His

ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own high priest. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, who taught us to pray:

**C: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**



**+ HOLY COMMUNION +**

## **PREFACE**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: It is truly good, right...praising you and singing.

## **SANCTUS**

*(tune: LSB 422)*

**Holy, holy, God is holy, He the Lord of might and pow'r,  
Filling heav'n and earth with glory, Now He comes to fill this hour.  
Hail, Hosanna, David's Son, Blessed is the One who comes  
In the Lord's name; high and holy Jesus, save us now, we pray Thee.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

*We listen again to the very words spoken by Jesus Christ in the upper room, "take and eat, this is my body... take and drink, this is my blood". We prepare to receive what Jesus has promised to share with us, His very presence. As we eat this bread and drink this wine, Christ nourishes us, forgives us and strengthens us with His presence.*

**P:** The peace of the Lord † be with you always.

**C:** **And also with you.**

## **AGNUS DEI**

*(tune: LSB 439)*

**O dearest Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy  
On us poor sinners. Lamb of God have mercy.  
You take away the guilt of this world's sinning;  
Grant us Your peace, Lord.**

*(The congregation may be seated.)*

## **COMMUNION STATEMENT**

*If you desire to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion, please remember that the Sacrament of Holy Communion is available to those who: <sup>1</sup>Are baptized AND instructed in the Christian faith; <sup>2</sup>Examine themselves in a manner appropriate to adult maturity and recognize their own need for forgiveness; <sup>3</sup>Believe that the Crucified and Risen Lord is truly present in, with and under the bread and wine; <sup>4</sup>Believe that in this sacrament God gives us forgiveness of sins and strengthening of faith; <sup>5</sup>Accept their place of responsibility in the whole church on earth. If this is your sincere belief, then joyfully share this sacrament with us. If this is not your belief, please remain seated for a time of prayer on the many blessings God has given you. If you have any questions, please see a pastor or an elder. Please remember the words of St. Paul, "For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself." (1 Cor. 11:29) For those with dietary restrictions, a light-colored grape juice is also served in the center of the tray, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

*Note: During distribution, one of our pastors will be in the back of the church for a time of individual prayer with anyone desiring.*

## **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

*"Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed"                      LSB 560*

*"Christ, the Life of All the Living"                      LSB 420; vs. 1-4*

## **NUNC DIMITTIS**

*(tune: LSB 863)*

**In peace, Lord, at Your Word, Now let Your servant go;  
For I have seen and heard What all the earth must know;  
Salvation for the world is here!  
And Israel's Light shines bright and clear  
Upon the nations far and near.**

**Eternal praise and fame Be to our God alone!  
We proudly bear His name, Proclaim what He has done.  
For our redemption, full and free,  
To Father, Son and Spirit be All praise and thanks eternally.**

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

**God, reignite the hearts of us all to have a passion for the Gospel. Teach our church to share the Gospel with others. Teach us to live as those who are true bearers of the good news of Jesus Christ. Remind us of our purpose. Convict us of our purpose. Empower us to live our purpose. In Jesus name. Amen.**

## **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**

*"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"*

*LSB 427*

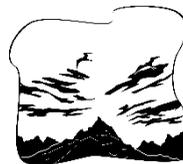
## **POSTLUDE**

*"My Jesus, I Love Thee"*

*William Barnet*

## Connecting Points

**TODAY:** we continue in the holy season of Lent. Lent is a time of deep repentance for the people of God as we focus on the payment God made for our sins through the sacrifice of His only begotten Son on the cross that we might live. **During this time of Lent**, the singing of our "Alleluia's" is omitted from the vocabulary of the church until we sing them again on the **Day of Resurrection**. While Lent is season that lasts 40 days, Sundays are *NOT* included, as every Sunday for the Christian is a mini celebration of our Lord's Easter victory. The color of Lent is *purple*~ the color of repentance and royalty as we reflect on our sins and give thanks for our Lenten King of Glory.



**EASTER LILIES:** You have the insert in your worship folder **TODAY** to place your order for lilies to adorn our Lord's altar as we celebrate with joy His Easter victory! Please be sure to complete the order form and place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office **ASAP**. No orders will be accepted after **March 25<sup>th</sup>** **OR until all 65 lilies have been adopted**. Cost per plant is \$6.50.



**CHECK YOUR MAILBOX TODAY:** because you will find something very special...*YOUR March* calendar and Servant Schedule. There is a lot happening here at Hope **this month**...be sure to take your calendar home with you so you don't miss a thing!



**FESTIVAL WORKERS:** If you have not yet received your festival tickets enabling you to get into the Strawberry Festival on the day you are scheduled to serve, check your mailbox **TODAY** or contact the *Church Office* **ASAP**. PLEASE, if you cannot work your scheduled shift, contact *Patrick Griffin* at 813-376-0258 **ASAP** and bring your ticket to the church office so that it can be passed along to your replacement. Thanks so much in advance for your help, assistance and willingness to share Jesus!



**LENTE DEVOTIONALS:** from *Lutheran Hour Ministries* are in your mailboxes (with additional copies underneath for you to take **AND** share!). We will also make these devotionals available at the Strawberry Festival. Please feel free to help yourself to extras to share with family and friends.



**MORE LENTE DEVOTIONALS:** Are available **DAILY** from our Florida-Georgia District at their website: [www.flgadistrict.org](http://www.flgadistrict.org). These devotionals are written by our District's Circuit Visitors and Board of Directors. *Pastor Pfeffer's* next devotional will be posted **March 26<sup>th</sup>**.



**DON'T FORGET:** to fill your Lenten coin folders **each and every day** and return it on the **Day of Resurrection!**

**MARCH MINISTRY TEAM MEETINGS:** Team members, please note your team's meeting:



Christian Growth—**TODAY, Sunday 3/4 @ 11:45AM**, Fellowship Hall

Youth Ministry—**TODAY, Sunday 3/4 @ 11:45AM**, Fellowship Hall

Missions & Outreach—**Tuesday 3/6 @ 6:30PM**, Fellowship Hall

Human Care—**Sunday 3/11 @ 11:45AM**, Fellowship Hall

Elders—**Tuesday 3/13 @ 6:30PM**, Conference Room

Board of Directors—**Thursday 3/15 @ 6:30PM**, Conference Room

Remember, the Lord's work here at Hope is counting on you—and so are we!



**OUT OF THE OFFICE:** *Pastor Pfeffer* is out of the office **this week** with very limited access to email, etc. *Pastor and Liz* are tour hosts in the Holy Land—walking where Jesus walked! Also on the tour, are our *Music Director, Christine Mansell* and *Parish Nurse, Joyce Van Matre*. They will return **late Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup>**. Please keep them in your prayers for safe travel.



**SPECIAL THANKS:** to *Pat Bender* who is covering at both the organ & keyboard for *Christine Mansell* in her absence. Thanks so much for sharing your God given gifts with us as you lead us in worship!

**HOLY LAND PICTURES:** are being posted by *Pastor Pfeffer, Liz, Christine & Joyce*. Please be sure to go to our Hope website: [www.hopeplantcity.com](http://www.hopeplantcity.com) for updates and pictures.

**GREIFSHARE:** *Why ME???* And why *NOW??* Why did this happen to me and to our family?



The timing could not be worse! When we 'lose' a loved one by death—the timing is always wrong for us. We have many questions, many concerns, and much pain and sudden loneliness. There is a way for you to recover and get "back into life" again—it does take some time, but true healing is possible for you and your family. At GriefShare, we have some suggestions, some recommendations, and a lot of love to carry you through this journey. GriefShare meets **every Tuesday at 10:30 AM and at 6:30 PM**—come join us and we'll walk through this time together. We're already praying for you...



**LENT IS HERE:** Our Lenten theme this year is "*Thy Will be Done*," and again except for **Maundy Thursday** and **Good Friday**, the pastors of our *Winter Haven Circuit* will join together for a "round robin" where we will have the opportunity to welcome some of our circuit pastors to lead us in worship. **This week** *Pastor Shea* is leading worship at *Our Savior, Zephyrhills*. Plan now to join us **each week** and don't forget...INVITE a friend to join you!

**THIS WEEK'S LENTEN SERVICE:** we remember that, at first, Moses did not think he could free the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. But God gave him confidence to set his people free. In Lent we remember that God sent his Son to do his will and set all people free from the slavery of sin.



**CONFIRMANDS & PARENTS:** Just a reminder, Confirmation class *WILL* meet **this coming Saturday (3/10) from 10:00 – Noon** in the *Conference Room*. Please be sure to have your child here on time and pick them up on time.



**ST. PATRICK'S DAY**



**DINNER**



**&**

**Entertainment**

**Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup>**

**11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

**Our Savior Lutheran Church  
5626 20<sup>th</sup> Street, Zephyrhills, FL  
813-782-1369**

**\$8.00 each**

# *Let's Spring some Sunshine into our Shut-Ins' Homes!*

Your Human Care Ministry Team is collecting a variety of items to prepare March Baskets to share with those Shut-ins in our congregation in need of a bit of sunshine. Please bring the following items **no later than Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**, and place in the basket in the Narthex:

- Small tissue packets
- hand sanitizer
- greeting cards w/verses (NOT blank inside)
- stamps
- hand lotion
- magnifying glass
- large print word search/crossword/Sudoku books
- chap stick
- bags of mints
  
- Financial donations are also welcome and greatly appreciated

***Thanks in advance for your help  
as we spring forward sharing  
the love of Jesus!***



## **Work Day**

## **SAVE THE DATE**

**Saturday, March 17  
beginning at 8:00AM**

ALL hands are needed—**big** & **little**—to help get our campus looking good for our spring and summer activities. LOTS of jobs—large & small, inside & outside—need to be completed. Please consider helping. See *Wendell Lattz* or any Trustees Ministry Team Member for details.

## GROWING IN THE GRACE OF GIVING

Hudson Taylor, a Nineteenth Century British missionary to China, is reported to have said, "God's work, done in God's way, will not lack God's supply." To know God's way, we need to know His Holy Word. Or to say it another way: you need to know your Bible.

St. Paul, before he spends two chapters on giving, wrote that every thought is to be taken captive to the obedience of Christ (2 Cor. 10:5).

Doctrine matters. And doctrine matters because the Scriptures matter. And the Scriptures matter because this is where we learn the teaching of Christ. Our thoughts must be brought into line with the teaching of Scripture so that our work is what God wants done and so that we do this work in His way.

A good tree bears good fruit. A bad tree bears bad fruit. We have been made good trees in holy baptism. We are fertilized and pruned for bearing good fruit by constantly hearing God's Word preached and taught in sermon and Bible Class and in receiving the life-giving, faith-sustaining food of the Lord's Supper. Remember your doctrine, hold on to the Lord's teaching, and your thoughts will be taken captive to the obedience of Christ.

Bringing every thought captive to the obedience of Christ is recognizing that God does provide. The Lord's Prayer teaches us to pray for daily bread. Praying this day in and day out reminds us that the Lord is the giver of our daily bread, and that we are to give thanks for His daily provision of it.

God is rarely early and never late in His work, as Abraham learned, "on the mount of the Lord it will be provided" (Gen. 22:14). The Lord's generosity forms our generosity in return. Thus, we set aside for the work of God a generous, first-fruits, proportion of the daily bread that God has given to us. This act of trust in the Lord's provision is the working out of our faith in Him.

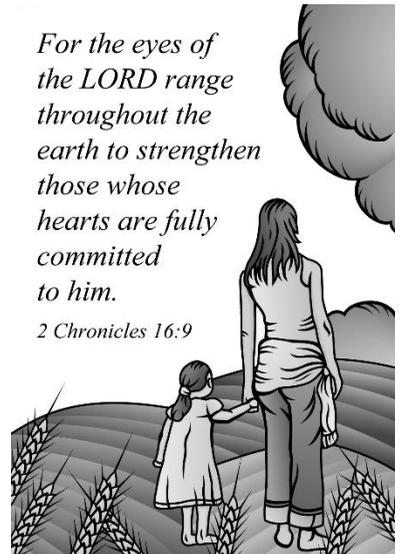
When budgetary discussions pop up, our natural reaction is to point fingers. But remember your doctrine, and what your mother taught about pointing fingers. Our first natural reaction is not always right. In fact, when our thoughts are brought into captivity of Christ, our first reaction should be repentance.

It should raise questions in our own lives. As good trees in Christ who are to bear good fruit, we should ask whether our thoughts are taken captive by obedience to Christ. Have we given generously? Have we given our first-fruits? You know. And God knows. "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him" (2 Chron. 16:9).

God **will provide**. He **always has** and He **always will**. He gives His meat in due season. He has not left you as orphans, but has grafted you into His own family. You belong to Him. Remember this, letting this thought dwell in you richly. And you will then be rich toward others.

*For the eyes of  
the LORD range  
throughout the  
earth to strengthen  
those whose  
hearts are fully  
committed  
to him.*

*2 Chronicles 16:9*



## FAMILY BIBLE HOUR—Sundays @ 9:15am



**ADULTS: THY WILL BE DONE:** This study will aid us in our quest to seek God's will in all aspects of our lives, especially in terms of our identity, our dreams for the future, our worldview and our response to Christ the crucified. Each week we examine the theme for that Wednesday's Lenten service. (We will resume God Connects after Easter). *Leader: Pastor Pfeffer*

**ADULTS: WATCH THE LAMB, WALK IN VICTORY:** The darkness-shattering light spoken into existence by God in Genesis explodes into glorious, unfiltered radiance in REVELATION. Here, God's story, revealed in His Word, draws to a stunning consummation. REVELATION unveils God's perfect justice and glorious design for those Jesus redeems from every tribe, language, people and nation. God's children find HOPE, PEACE AND REST in the unfailing purposes of God. Join us as we continue a verse-by-verse study of REVELATION. *Leader: Gloria Warner*

**GRADES 7—12: GUYS:** "We've been discovering what it really means to be a "man" in Becoming a Young Man of God. Now in this next 8-week study, guys will be learning how to Live as a Young Man of God. And the only way they do this is by looking at the perfect man, Jesus, in order to live in His image and learn how to deal with life as He would." *Leader: Pastor Shea*

**GRADES 7—12: GIRLS:** Teenage girls are so caught up with how they look, who they are, and what others think of them. Through media, models, and even friends our society gives an 'ideal image' for girls—what the world calls a 'Perfect 10'. But God defines girls with a different image. Created in His image you are beautiful. Constructed as His temple His Spirit lives in you (1 Cor. 3:16). This book, Godly and Girly, emboldens young women with self-esteem, confidence about their body image, and secures their identity as God's beloved daughters. *Leader: Liz Pfeffer*

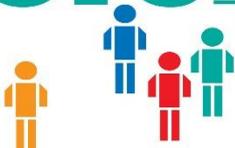
**GRADES 1-6: CROSS EXPLORATIONS:** This winter quarter continues with an overview of how God works through prophets and kings throughout the Bible. *Leader: Yolanda Heipp*

**PRE-SCHOOL—KINDERGARTEN: GROWING IN CHRIST:** This winter quarter continues with an overview of how God works through prophets and kings throughout the Bible.

*Leaders: Ellen Whitehurst, Tracy MacDonald*



# JOIN OUR BIBLE STUDY



## NEW Bible Class Series!

### ***Want "AN AMAZING LIFE??!!"***

Everyone wants an amazing life—you can obtain one! In a new Bible series, we will learn 9 different ways to have that kind of life. Nine different suggestions/ possibilities and guidelines to move your life from "stuck" to "off & running and improving!" Join us **beginning Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30AM** in the Stephen Ministry classroom to take "step #1." ***Everyone is welcome!!!*** Leader: *Lyn Senkarik*

## THY WILL BE DONE

**5:15—6:15PM: Fellowship Dinner**

**6:30PM: Worship**

**THY WILL BE DONE** is the theme for our Mid-Week Lenten worship on Wednesdays during Lent at our **6:30PM** worship services. As Jesus prayed, "Not as I will, but as you will" becomes our prayer as well this Lent as we seek to do our Father's will in our lives. Each of these services focus on a different aspect of God's will at work among us. Our fellowship dinners are served from **5:15—6:15PM**. Again this year, most of the pastors of our Winter Haven Circuit are participating in a "round robin," so each Wednesday we welcome another of our circuit pastors to our worship as *Pastor Pfeffer* leads worship in their congregations (excluding Holy Week Services).

**March 7:** God's Will & My Inadequacy | Vicar Paul Radke (*Grace, Winter Haven*)  
Dinner Host: Health and Human Care Ministry Teams  
Menu: Soups

**March 14:** God's Will & My Response | Rev. Jonathan Horsman (*Redeemer, Bartow*)  
Dinner Host: Music Ministry  
Menu: Pulled Pork w/Slaw

**March 21:** God's Will & My Worldview | Pastor Pfeffer  
Dinner Host: Board of Directors  
Menu: Chicken & Rice Casserole w/Salad & Green Beans

# YOUTH DATES

April 11—Youth Group Kick-off @ 6:30pm

April 14-15—Youth Retreat @ St. Pete

April 18—Youth-led Worship

April 25—Youth Group @ 6:30pm

April 29—Confirmation Sunday

*Grades 6 through 12—friends are always welcome!*

*Contact Pastor Shea for more info: [hopecpastorshea@gmail.com](mailto:hopecpastorshea@gmail.com)*



The  
Lutheran  
Hour

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

## Topics for this month:

### March 11: "Condemned Already"

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

Some things just work better in the dark. You know, things like watching for shooting stars and getting a good night's sleep or dreaming about the future. People love the darkness for a lot of reasons, and not all of them are good. (John 3:19-21)

### March 18: "Thrown into the Arms of God"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

The desire to advance your own interests can alienate you from others and God. Serving others without thought of reward is God's way forward for followers of Jesus.

(Mark 10:32-45)





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

1Corinthians 4:1

**SERVING OUR LORD THIS SUNDAY (3/4/2018) ARE:**

Bell Ringer 8:00/Mason Reese; 10:30/Kaylee Greatens  
Acolyte 10:30/Tristan Mercier  
Lector 8:00/Carl Bergner; 10:30/Cindy Kemp  
Elder on Duty 8:00/Wayne Warner; 10:30/Todd Warner;  
4:00/Todd Warner  
Communion Assistant 8:00/Wayne Warner; 10:30/Todd Warner  
Flowers Drapp family  
Offerings Dale & Jonie Wenzel  
Ushers Team 1  
8:00/Wayne Warner,\* David Booher, David Niver, Jeff Reaume;  
10:30/ Todd Warner,\* Mack Goethe, Wendell Lattz, Jim Szostkiewicz

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by  
Jim & Kathy Drapp in honor of Kathy's birthday*

**SERVING OUR LORD THIS WEDNESDAY (3/7/2018) ARE:**

Acolyte 6:30/Scarlett Gembala  
Liturgist 6:30/Nick Trivunovich  
Lector 6:30/Scarlett Gembala  
Elder on Duty 6:30/Ryan Reese  
Ushers Youth

**SERVING OUR LORD NEXT SUNDAY (3/11/2018) ARE:**

Bell Ringer 8:00/Jerry Cockwell; 10:30/Tristan Mercier  
Lector 8:00/Tena Matthews; 10:30/Alex Drapp  
Elder on Duty 8:00/Brian Heipp; 10:30/Jim Drapp; 4:00/Wayne Warner  
Flowers Attalla & Pfeffer families  
Offerings Alison Reaume & Cathie Warner  
Ushers Team 2  
8:00/Tom Whitehurst,\* Carl Bergner, Harold Hastings, James Tennyson;  
10:30/Nick Trivunovich,\* Alex Drapp, Jim Drapp, Ken Hartmann

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

Altar Guild Tracy MacDonald  
Nurse/HMT Member Janet Reitzel