



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
A Stephen Ministry Congregation

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Welcome to Hope

SUNDAYS

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

WEDNESDAYS

6:30PM—Living Hope 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:

Sunday 4/1	<i>Easter</i>
7:00	Sonrise Festival Worship w/Communion
8:15	Easter Breakfast (<i>host: Elders Ministry Team</i>)
9:15	Easter Egg-Stravaganza (<i>host: Christian Growth Ministry Team</i>)
10:30	Festival Worship w/Communion
4:00	Spanish Easter Worship w/Communion
5:00	Spanish Easter Egg-Stravaganza
Monday 4/2	<i>Church Office Closed</i>
6:30	Choir
7:30	Young Adults @ Starbucks, Plant City
Tuesday 4/3	10:30 GriefShare
	6:00 Fellowship Ministry Team Meeting
	6:30 GriefShare
	6:30 Missions & Outreach Ministry Team Meeting
Wednesday 4/4	5:00 Confirmation
	5:30 Bell Choir
	6:30 Living Hope Worship w/Communion
	6:30 Hope Studies
Thursday 4/5	10:30 Bible Study
	6:30 Elders Ministry Team Meeting
Saturday 4/7	8:00 Trustees' workday
	12:00 Zaycon @ Hope
Sunday 4/8	<i>Youth Scrip Orders Due</i>
	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 Christian Growth, Human Care, and Youth Ministry Team Meetings
	4:00 Spanish Worship w/Communion

Worship Attendance / Communion:

Wednesday, March 21, 2018:

Worship: 6:30: 42

Offerings—General Fund: \$6,232.25

Sunday, March 25, 2018:

Worship: 8:00: 66 10:30: 104

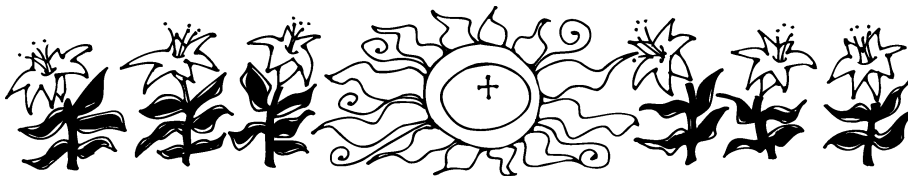
FBH: Adults: 46 Youth: 7 Children: 5

Spanish Worship: 4:00: 45/21

Stewardship Perspective:

John 20:1 – “Now on the first day of the week ...” All is made new by the Resurrection of Jesus! Even the day of worship has transitioned from the Old Testament’s Saturday Sabbath to the Lord’s Day of the New Testament. For the Lord has made all things new: He has begun a new week for a new creation in rising from the dead as the New Adam. We are also made new in Him – a new heart, a new life, new desires, a new outlook toward God: all this comes from our Risen Lord’s grace.

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!



The Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Sunrise Festival Worship

April 1, 2018—7:00am

AS WE GATHER

Easter dawn is here as the sun rises to signal the beginning of this new day. On the first Easter, the real dawning happened inside Mary, Peter, and John, and eventually all the disciples, as they realized what had happened: Jesus had conquered death and returned to resurrected life, unbound by time and space. Moreover, as Job had prophesied and Paul confidently wrote, one day we shall see God with our own eyes as He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Our worship today is an opportunity to let the Son rise to break through the mists of our minds and the heaviness of our hearts. By the grace of God, we rejoice with the psalmist, "The LORD is God, and He has made His light to shine upon us" (Psalm 118:27).



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELLS



PRELUDE AND MEDITATION "Alleluia! The Strife Is O'er"

Lani Smith

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Let us gather at the tomb as a few of the Lord's friends did and recall the events of this week with sorrow.

C: **As we mourn the death of our Lord, we mourn our own death.**

- P: For as the Scriptures teach in Romans 6: "Don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?" So then, mourn His death and the death of your sin.
- C: **But death is not the end for us. Just as Christ's death was not His end, it is a new beginning!**
- P: As we come into view of the tomb, the stone is rolled away! We are told the news by the angels and other witnesses:
- C: **"Why do you seek the living among the dead?"**
- P: Christ is risen! Alleluia!
- C: *(Loudly)* **He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!**
- P: There is more! There is news in the Scriptures even greater than this, as we once again read from Romans:
- C: **"Just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father we too may live a new life!"**
- P: We, who in our baptism were buried in the tomb with Him,
- C: **Have come out of the baptismal waters, raised with Him, to a new life here in time, and forever with Him.**
- P: He is risen! Alleluia!
- C: *(Loudly)* **He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!**



† THE UNVEILING OF THE CROSS †

(Stand and face Processional Cross)

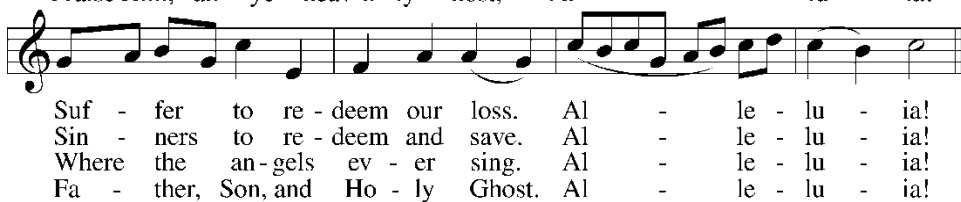
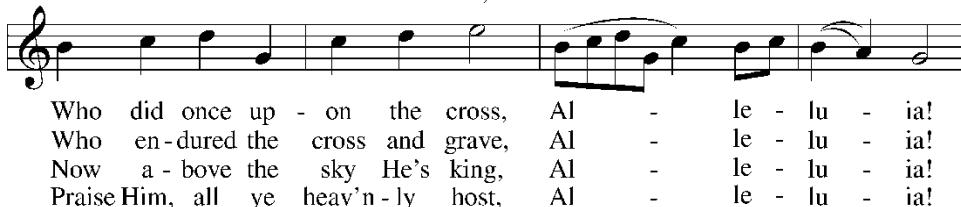
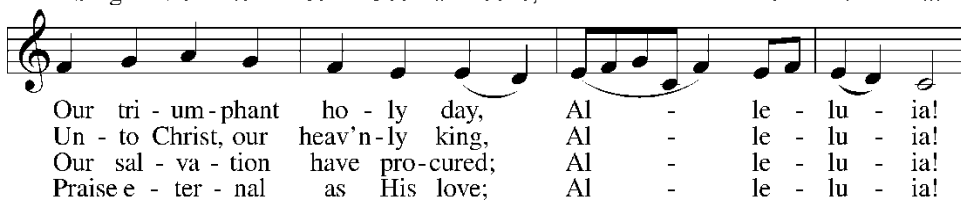
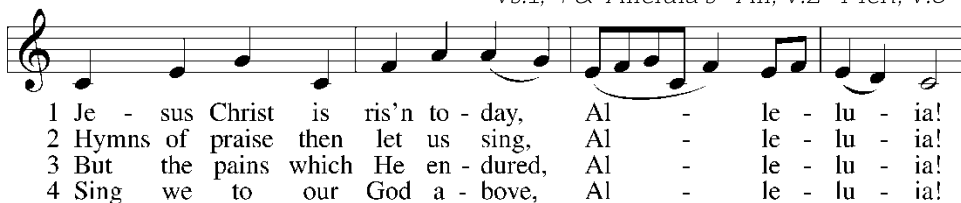
EASTER PROCLAMATION

- P: Rejoice now, all heavenly choirs of angels, rejoice now all creation; sound out trumpet of salvation and celebrate the triumph of our King. Rejoice too, earth, in the radiance of the light poured upon you, and made brilliant by the brightness of the Everlasting King, know that the ancient darkness has been banished forever. Rejoice, O Church, clothed in the brightness of this light. Let this place ring out with rejoicing, with the praises of God's people.
- C: *(Loudly)* **He is Risen! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today!"

LSB 457 
with *Hope Ringers*

vs.1, 4 & 'Alleluia's—All; v.2—Men; v.3—Women



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† LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE †

P: May the light of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ, bring light and salvation into our lives now and always.

C: (Loudly and Joyfully) **He is risen! Alleluia!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: This is the feast of victory for our God! Let us confess our sinfulness, and profess the power of the risen Lord to bring forgiveness: Father, we confess to You our sinfulness. You have called us to live in faith. So often we are still overwhelmed by doubt.

C: Forgive us Lord, and empower us to live as those who walk in newness of life.

P: You have called us to live in joy. Yet we still find ourselves often in despair.

C: Forgive us Lord, and empower us to live as those who celebrate Your victory.

P: You have called us to life in You. So often, we still choose our own way, the way of death.

C: Forgive us, and empower us to live abundantly as those who have died and risen again.

P: Jesus died.

C: Our sins are forgiven.

P: Jesus rose again.

C: We are redeemed. This is the feast of victory for our God!

P: It is in the fullness of Easter joy that as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority I announce to you that all your sins are forgiven, in the Name of the Father and of † the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: He is risen! Alleluia!

C: (Loudly & Joyfully) He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!

SONG OF PRAISE

"Risen Today"

Christ the Lord is risen today, Hallelujah! Sons of man and angels say, Hallelujah!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Hallelujah! Sing ye heavens and earth reply.

Love's redeeming work is done, Hallelujah! Fought the fight the battle won, Hallelujah!
Death in vain forbid Him rise, Hallelujah! Christ has opened paradise.

(Chorus) Hallelujah He is risen! Hallelujah! Our sins have been forgiven!
Now we have power over the grave; Christ the Lord is risen today!

Continued on next page...

Lives again our glorious King, Hallelujah! Where, O death, is now thy sting! Hallelujah!
Dying once our souls to save, Hallelujah! Where thy victory, O grave? *(Chorus)*

(Bridge)

All creation sang: Hallelujah! The King is risen! Glory to the name of our risen Lord!
Let all the earth proclaim: Hallelujah! Our sin's forgiven!
Glory to Your name forevermore! *(Chorus)*

We have power over the grave; Christ the Lord is risen today!

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SPECIAL MUSIC

"Worthy Is The Lamb"

Jubilation Singers



† SERVICE OF THE WORD †

OLD TESTAMENT

Exodus 15:1-11 (p.57)

¹Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the Lord, saying, "I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea. ²The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him. ³The Lord is a man of war; the Lord is his name. ⁴"Pharaoh's chariots and his host he cast into the sea, and his chosen officers were sunk in the Red Sea. ⁵The floods covered them; they went down into the depths like a stone. ⁶Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power, your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy. ⁷In the greatness of your majesty you overthrow your adversaries; you send out your fury; it consumes them like stubble. ⁸At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up; the floods stood up in a heap; the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea. ⁹The enemy said, 'I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil, my desire shall have its fill of them. I will draw my sword; my hand shall destroy them.' ¹⁰You blew with your wind; the sea covered them; they sank like lead in the mighty waters. ¹¹"Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 (p.961)

¹Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ²and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. ³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE

“A New Hallelujah”

**Can you hear? There’s a new song breaking out from the children of freedom.
Ev’ry race and ev’ry nation, sing it out, sing a new hallelujah.**

**Let us sing love to the nations, bringing hope of the grace that has freed us.
Make it known, and make Him famous. Sing it out, sing a new hallelujah.**

**Arise, let the church arise. Let love reach to the other side.
Alive, come alive, let the song arise.**

**The whole world sings a new song, reaching out with a new hallelujah.
Ev’ry son and ev’ry daughter, ev’ry one sing a new hallelujah.**

**Arise, let the church arise. Let love reach to the other side.
Alive, come alive, let the song arise.**

Ev’ry one sing a new hallelujah. Ev’ry one sing a new hallelujah.

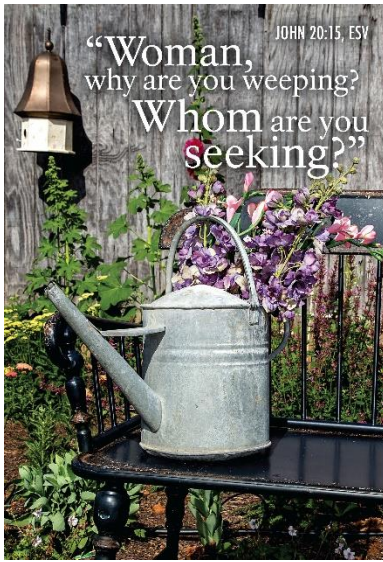
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HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:1-18 (p.906)

P: The Resurrection Gospel of our Lord, according to St. John, chapter 20.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord!**



¹Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. ⁴Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, ⁷and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and

believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples went back to their homes. ¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. ¹²And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹³They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means *Teacher*). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her.

P: This is the resurrection Gospel of our Risen Lord!

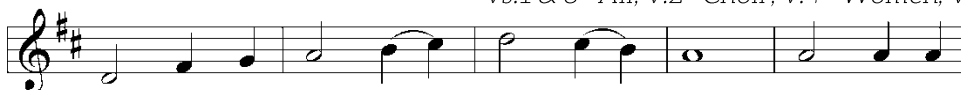
C: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

HYMN OF EASTER FAITH "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" LSB 461



with *Jubilation Singers*

vs.1 & 8—All; v.2—Choir; v.4—Women; v.6—Men



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com-fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -
4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; He lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious
guide me with His eye; He lives to com - fort



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.
in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.

6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend; He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing; He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

8 He lives, all glory to His name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!

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SONRISE SERMON

"The Joke's on Them"

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Rev. Dean R. Pfeffer, Senior Pastor

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISE

P: Beloved in the Lord; on this holiest of days, the church, recalling the death and burial of the Lord Jesus Christ, rejoices with great joy in the celebration of His glorious Resurrection. The Apostle Paul says: "By our Baptism, then, we were buried with Him and share His death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from death by the glorious power of the Father, so also we might live a new life. And we know that our old being has been put to death with Christ on His cross, in order that the power of the sinful self might be destroyed, so that we should no longer be the

slaves of sin. In the same way you are to think of yourselves as dead, so far as sin is concerned, but living in fellowship with God through Jesus Christ." Let us then renew the promises once made in our Baptism as we profess our faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, confess the faith of the Church, and thereby promise faithful service to God in His Church. I ask you then: Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

C: I do.

P: Do you believe in God the Father Almighty?

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

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: 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, was crucified, died and was 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 thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: I believe in the Holy Spirit; the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

P: Do you promise to continue in this faith and in the promises of your Baptism, and as a member of the Church to be diligent in the use of the Means of Grace and in prayer?

C: I do, by the help of God.

P: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

C: 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.

VOLUNTARY

"Triumphantly Risen!"

Ross Anderson

EASTER 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 needs. Father in heaven, You raised Your Son, Jesus Christ, from the dead as the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. Fill all Your baptized people with the joy of His victory, and send us forth as witnesses to His resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lover of mankind, prosper Your Gospel wherever it is preached throughout the world, that it may give and sustain faith in all who hear it, delivering them from the power of darkness and bringing them into the joyful Kingdom of Your risen Son. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord of glory, Your Son established Your Church to be a refuge of peace in a troubled world. Raise up servants of Your Church in every place who will devote their lives to the spread of the Gospel and the service of Your people. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: King of the nations, remember in Your kindness all who bear authority in our land, and give them wisdom and integrity that they may serve our people according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Rock of refuge in every time of need, hear the prayers of those who call upon You in times of distress, especially those who are lonely and homebound, the sick, the dying and the mourning especially *Ron Gugel and Mark Stefanos*. May Your Son ever be for them their joy in sorrow, their health in sickness and their life in death. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Bountiful Giver of all things, Your Son has prepared a feast of forgiveness and life for His people. Grant to all who come to His altar today a faithful share in His unending life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our risen Lord 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 +

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

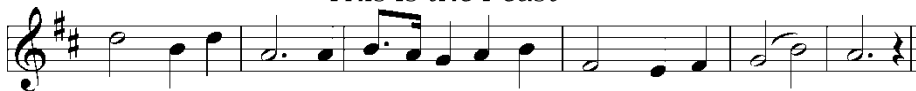
We listen again to the very words spoken by Jesus Christ in the upper room, "take and eat, this is my body... take and drink, this is my blood". We prepare to receive what Jesus has promised to share with us, His very presence. As we eat this bread and drink this wine, Christ nourishes us, forgives us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

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

C: And also with you.

"This Is the Feast"

LSB 171



P: This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



C: Wor-ty is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,

whose blood set us free to be people of God.
 Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and
 hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.
 This is the feast of vic - to-ry for our God. Al - le -
 lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of
 God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:
 Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
 This is the feast of vic - to-ry for our God,
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

COMMUNION STATEMENT

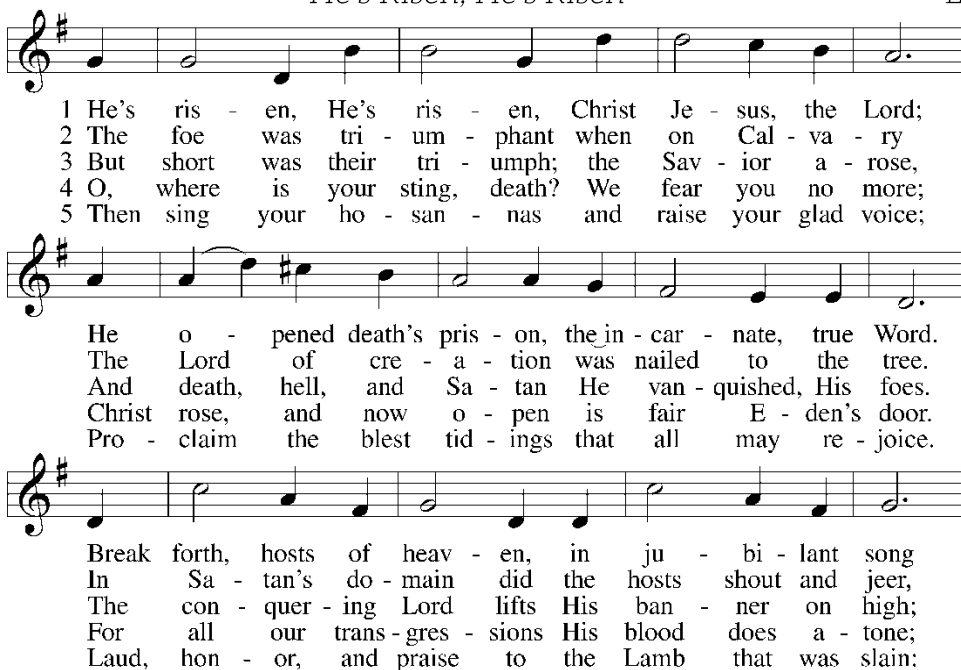
If you desire to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion, please remember that the Sacrament of Holy Communion is available to those who: ¹Are baptized AND instructed in the Christian faith; ²Examine themselves in a manner appropriate to adult maturity and recognize their own need for forgiveness; ³Believe that the Crucified and Risen Lord is truly present in, with and under the bread and wine; ⁴Believe that in this sacrament God gives us forgiveness of sins and strengthening of faith; ⁵Accept 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

"He's Risen, He's Risen"

LSB 480



1 He's ris - en, He's ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;
2 The foe was tri - um - phant when on Cal - va - ry
3 But short was their tri - umph; the Sav - ior a - rose,
4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;
5 Then sing your ho - san - nas and raise your glad voice;
He o - pened death's pris - on, the in - car - nate, true Word.
The Lord of cre - a - tion was nailed to the tree.
And death, hell, and Sa - tan He van - quished, His foes.
Christ rose, and now o - pen is fair E - den's door.
Pro - claim the blest tid - ings that all may re - joice.
Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song
In Sa - tan's do - main did the hosts shout and jeer,
The con - quer - ing Lord lifts His ban - ner on high;
For all our trans - gres - sions His blood does a - tone;
Laud, hon - or, and praise to the Lamb that was slain;



And earth, sea, and moun - tain their prais - es pro - long.
 For Je - sus was slain, whom the e - vil ones fear.
 He lives, yes, He lives, and will nev - er - more die.
 Re - deemed and for - giv - en, we now are His own.
 With Fa - ther and Spir - it He ev - er shall reign.

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"All the Earth Will Sing Your Praises"

ABS (3) 54

(Chorus)

You lived, You died, You said in three days You would rise.

You did; You're alive.

You rule, You reign, You said You're coming back again.

I know You will, all the earth will sing Your praises.

All the earth will sing Your praises.

You took, You take our sins away, O God.

You give, You gave Your life away for us.

You came down, You saved us through the cross.

Our hearts are changed because of Your great love. *(Chorus)*

No one, no name can rise above You, Lord.

One hope, one life will shine forever more.

Your kingdom in heaven and on earth.

Your children stand to sing of Your great worth. *(Chorus)*

All the earth will sing Your praises.

All The Earth Will Sing Your Praises, words and music by Paul Baloche, © 2003 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing),
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POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

THANKSGIVING

"Alleluia, Alleluia"

(tune: TOSB 6)

Alleluia, Alleluia

The tomb is empty, Alleluia

Christ is Risen, Alleluia

EASTER BENEDICTION

P: Jesus Christ is risen! This good news has filled us and now sends us on our way. Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, receive this good news in your hearts and continue strong in it, confident that by His death and resurrection you are saved, that your faith is not in vain! Pass on what you know and tell what the Almighty God has done in His Son Jesus Christ! And the peace and true joy of Easter bless you and abide with you now and always. He is risen! Alleluia! Alleluia!

C: *(Loudly)* **He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

CLOSING HYMN

"Thine Is the Glory"

LBW 145

1 Thine is the glo - ry, Ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; End - less is the
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, Ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
3 No more we doubt thee, Glo - rious Prince of life; Life is nought with-

vic - t'ry Thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
greet thee, Scat - ters fear and gloom; Let his Church with glad - ness
out thee; Aid us in our strife; Make us more than con-qu'rors,

Rolled the stone a - way, Kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
Hymns of tri - umph sing, For the Lord now liv - eth;
Through thy death - less love; Bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain
Where thy bod - y lay.
Death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, Ris - en, con-qu'ring Son;
To thy home a - bove.

End - less is the vic - t'ry Thou o'er death hast won!

POSTLUDE

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

Michael Thomas

Please join us...

Easter Breakfast

8:15AM, Fellowship Hall

Eggs, sausage, biscuits & gravy,
fresh fruit and beverages

Hosted by your Elders Ministry Team

Proceeds to benefit Hope's Vacation Bible School 2018



Annual Easter Egg-Stravaganza!

After breakfast, we will gather for a

story, craft, and egg hunt



Hosted by Hope's Christian Growth Ministry Team

Connecting Points

TODAY: the church rejoices as we celebrate the "Resurrection of our Lord." The season of Easter 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 God. During the season as well, we "resurrect" our *Alleluia's* which have been buried since the beginning of Lent (Ash Wednesday). The color of the season is *WHITE*~ the color of purity and completeness as we rejoice in the Lord and what He has done for us through his suffering, death and resurrection.



MANY THANKS: to those who placed Easter Lilies to adorn our Lord's altar **this Day of Resurrection!** Please remember that plants can be taken home **following our 10:30 worship today** or picked up **during the week (Tuesday—Thursday).**



IT'S IN THERE: That's right, your **APRIL** Calendar & Servant Schedule along with your newest issue of Portals of Prayer, is in your mailbox **TODAY!** Please be sure to take yours home with you!



THANK YOU: to all who shared their love for Jesus **this past week** and invited your favorite "peeps" to worship with us. Over 350 invitations were distributed! Now that's **LIVING BOLDLY!**



HUGE THANKS: to our *Elders (and their wives)* for **today's** delicious breakfast; to our *Christian Growth Ministry Team* for the egg-citing Easter Egg-Stravaganza; to our *Jubilation Singers, Hope Ringers, Praise Team; instrumentalists, musicians, and leaders* for all their extra efforts to add to our rejoicing as we celebrate the Feast of Victory for our God!



JUST A REMINDER: The church office will be CLOSED **tomorrow, Easter Monday** to give our staff a day of R & R following the long Lenten season and busier-than-usual schedules here **these last few weeks.** In the event of a Pastoral emergency, please contact *Pastor Pfeffer* at 813-752-1164 or cell 813-416-2373. Thanks for your understanding!



WINTER VISTORS & FRIENDS: We realize that within the **next few weeks** many of you will be north again **until next fall.** We ask that you please contact the church office so that we make the needed changes for your mail, etc. We pray God's hand of safety on your journey, and we look forward to seeing you again in the fall. God be with you till we meet again!

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...



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

Fellowship—**Tuesday 4/3 @ 6:00PM**, Pastor Pfeffer's office

Missions & Outreach—**Tuesday 4/3 @ 6:30PM**, Fellowship Hall

Elders—**Thursday 4/5 @ 6:30PM**, Conference Room

Trustees—**Saturday 4/7 @ 8:00AM**, around campus

Christian Growth—**Sunday 4/8 @ 11:45AM**, Fellowship Hall

Human Care—**Sunday 4/8 @ 11:45AM**, Fellowship Hall

Youth—**Sunday 4/8 @ 11:45AM**, Fellowship Hall

Board of Directors—**Thursday 4/12 @ 6:30PM**, Conference Room

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



CONFIRMANDS & PARENTS: Just a reminder that classes return to **WEDNESDAYS this week**. These final classes are critically important, and attendance is mandatory as we move towards Confirmation day.



RETURNING THIS WEDNESDAY: is our **Wednesday evening (6:30PM)** *Hope Studies* led by John Koren in the Conference Room and *Living Hope Worship* in the sanctuary. Be sure to take advantage of these awesome opportunities to gather around both God's Word and His Sacraments.



ATTENTION ELDERS: Don't forget we meet **this THURSDAY at 6:30PM** in the Conference Room. Please be sure to read chapters 3 & 4 of *Joining Jesus* in advance of our meeting. If you need your meeting packet printed in advance of the meeting, please contact Jessica in the church office.



WALK FOR LIFE: hosted by the Pregnancy Care Center of Plant City will take place on **Saturday, April 7th**. This is a fun way to get involved and support the life affirming work of the Pregnancy Care Center. For more information on joining the walk or making a pledge, please contact Cindy Kemp at 813-716-2498.





PEANUTS AVAILABLE: Anyone interested in purchasing a frozen 5lb bag of our regular boiled peanuts (\$7.00/ONE bag or \$10.00/TWO bags), stop by the church office **this week**.



SPRING HAS SPRUNG: So plan now to attend (and BRING SOME FRIENDS) the annual *Hope Family Picnic* on **Sunday, April 22nd**. Our schedule that morning will be **8:00** worship in the sanctuary, **NO FAMILY BIBLE HOUR**, **10:30** worship with Communion in the courtyard. Watch for more information!



MAKE PLANS NOW: as Hope marks the Rite of Confirmation on **Sunday, April 29th**. Those making public confession of their faith this year are: *Scarlett Gembala, Thomas Goethe, Bryan Greatens, and Keaira Griffin*. Please keep them in your prayers as they conclude their 2 years of studies with *Pastor Pfeffer and Pastor Shea*. A reception in honor of our confirmands will take place following the service.



HE'S ARRIVED: Congratulations to *Matt & Brittany Jones* and big sister *Delani* as they give thanks to God on the birth of *Remy Chase* on **Monday, March 26th**. *Remy* came into the world 7lbs, and 20.5". Proud grandparents are *Todd & Cathie Warner* and Great Grandma *Joyce Warner*! "*Before I formed you in the womb I knew you.*" Jeremiah 1:5

MANY, MANY THANKS: Our Human Care Ministry Team was overwhelmed by all the love and support shown to us for our love baskets. Thank you for all your support!



GERMANY, ANYONE?: That's right, *Pastor & Liz Pfeffer* are looking to lead a very special trip to Germany in **September, 2020** for Hope members to attend the Oberammergau Passion Play and then join in a River Cruise of the Danube River, also visiting Austria and Hungary. (the Passion Play occurs every 10 years) There is a limited number of seats available, so be sure to contact *Pastor or Liz* today. A special informational meeting will take place following Easter. Brochures are under mailboxes.



FREE: Now that we have your attention...Ever want to learn guitar? *Dark Horse Music* of Plant City (a Christian owned and operated company) is making **FREE...YES, FREE** guitar lessons available. Lessons INCLUDE a guitar. All that is needed from you is a commitment to **2 hours per night for 5 nights** of lessons right here at Hope. However, we must have at least 10 people commit (children—adults). *Even Pastor Pfeffer is game to learn!* If you are interested, please see or contact *Pastor Pfeffer* **IMMEDIATELY!**

GROWING IN THE GRACE OF GIVING

Our Father in heaven sent His Son, Jesus, to be our savior. His atoning sacrifice is the firstfruits of all the dead, a pleasing aroma to His Father – and ours – so that His perfect life and death count for all who believe in Him.

He claimed us as His own children in Holy Baptism. He sustains and strengthens our faith with His Holy Word and His Body and Blood. As new creatures, who have put on Christ, we bear good fruit. We do the good works prepared for us, which He makes known to us in His Word.

By faith then, trusting in the Word of God, we do what he says because He does not lie and always keeps His promises. For “without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him” (Heb. 11:6).

And so the Lord promises: “Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine” (Prov. 3:9-10).

How do we honor the Lord with the wealth that God has given us in His generosity? By giving it generously to those whom the Lord has called us to love and support: your family, your society, and your church. And His promise is that in so doing, you will never lack.

I can almost hear it now: “But that’s from the Old Testament!” But our Lord Jesus Himself gives us similar promises in the New Testament. He says, at the conclusion of the parable of the talents, “For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance” (Matt. 25:29).

And then at the end of the parable of the dishonest manager, he says: “One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another’s, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money” (Luke 16:10-13).

And in His sermon on the mount, he says: “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matt. 6:19-21).

We have become conditioned against these promises because of their misuse by the peddlers of the prosperity gospel – the guys on TV who say you get rich by putting God in your debt. And thus, we miss out on the fact that God does reward temporal faithfulness in temporal matters with temporal blessings.

It’s no quid pro quo. It’s all from God’s grace, His fatherly divine goodness and mercy. But those Bible passages just quoted do in fact say what they say! It’s not the Old Testament’s problem. It’s ours. It is almost as if we have become so jaded against this that we think it a virtue to be stingy with our offerings.

But our Father in heaven still loves to bless those who bless others. He loves to give to those who give freely and generously. In fact, he challenges us to challenge Him: “Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need” (Mal. 3:10).

And so, while we don’t give so that we would get, we do receive from the Lord in order to give, and He will bless your giving with more receiving. For “He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things” (Rom. 8:32)?

FAMILY BIBLE HOUR—Sundays @ 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*

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*





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: hopepcpastorshea@gmail.com



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

Topics for this month:

April 8: "It's Really Real"

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

Here's the deal. If Jesus actually rose from the dead, it would be wise to believe in Him because there will be salvation in no one else. If He didn't rise, we're all toast. Tune in to today's message and hear why you can be confident Jesus' resurrection is really real. (1 John 1:1-3)

April 15: "Peace to You"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

Christians often say, "The Lord be with you." What does that look like? And how do you know Jesus is indeed with you? Jesus' visit to His first disciples shows us the how and what of confidence in Christ. (Luke 24:36-49)

Paul thought his message to the
Corinthians was of utmost importance!

Use the decoding chart to find the gospel message.



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In Our Thoughts and Prayers

SHUT-INS:

Andy Anderson
Melva Dennison
Bonnie Genrich

Dorothy Maltzahn
Mark Stefanos
Tom Thomas

LEADERS:

Pastor Dean & Liz Pfeffer
Pastor Shea Pennington

Hope Staff
Hope's Ministries
LCMS Synod & District

Our Armed Forces
Our Nation
Our 1st Responders

Family and Friends of Hope

NEW REQUESTS:

Betty Toombs Chester	friend of Julie Gates—recovering from fall; broken arm
Jones & Warner families	celebrating birth of Remy Chase Jones (3/26)
Jeff & Theresa Justice & family	mourning death of Jeff's sister, Donna
Richard Reese	father of Ryan Reese—hospitalized; stroke
Myrtle Sander	mother of Beverly Mane—surgery (4/3)
Susan	friend of Julie Gates—recovering from fall—broken foot
Keith Schmidt	mourning death of sister, Gladys

CURRENT REQUESTS:

Burtz family	mourning death of John's sister-in-law
Burtz family	sister of Susan—hospitalized
Aiden Deitch	great-grandson of Judy Adkins—health concerns
Bonnie Genrich	mourning death of sister Elizabeth
Ron Gugel	recovering from eye surgery
Hope member/family	return of missing teenager; rebuilding family relationship
Lenore Janes	friend of P. Griffin family—recovering; health concerns
Wilbur Jordan	friend of Joyce Warner—health concerns
Kim Wigand	motorcycle accident; broken collar bone, recovering from surgery
Wigand family	mourning death of Chuck Wigand's step-mother

BATTLING CANCER:

Tom Battling	Laura Brom	Casey Doyle	Dale Jarvis	Judy Strait
Herb Bayer	Bob Broshelle	Jace Driggers	Lucille Luedke	Jeannie Lee Taylor
Laura Blake	Alice Correia	Kori Dunke	Pat Mailloux	Mr. Wells
CanDee Brandon	Austin Dobbs	Marcus Elam	John Rademacher	Millie Wetz
John Brom	Ginnie Donaldson	JoAnne Hayashi	Alan Rauner	Rick Ward
			Abbey Sedlacek	Heather Whitehurst

Serving in the Military (R—Reserves)

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

Due to space limitation, prayer requests can only be listed for four weeks.



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

1Corinthians 4:1

SERVING OUR LORD THIS EASTER SUNDAY (4/1/2018) ARE:

Bell Ringer	7:00/Jerry Cockwell; 10:30/Alex Attalla
Crucifer	7:00/Kristin Reagin; 10:30/Yulia Hartmann
Torch Bearers	7:00/Yulia Hartmann & Lana Hartmann; 10:30/Keaira Griffin & Lana Hartmann
Acolyte	7:00/Andrew MacDonald; 10:30/Bryan Greatens
Lector	7:00/Gloria Warner; 10:30/Kathy Drapp
Elder on Duty	7:00/Brian Heipp; 10:30/Todd Warner; 4:00/Nick Trivunovich
Communion Assistants	7:00/Brian Heipp & Todd Warner; 10:30/Jim Drapp & Todd Warner
Flowers	P. Griffin family
Offerings	Dale & Jonie Wenzel
Ushers	Team 2

8:00/Tom Whitehurst,* Carl Bergner, Harold Hastings, James Tennyson;
10:30/Nick Trivunovich,* Alex Drapp, Jim Drapp, Ken Hartmann

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by
Patrick & Jessica Griffin in honor of all of Hope's faithful volunteers*

SERVING OUR LORD THIS WEDNESDAY (4/4/2018) ARE:

Lector	6:30/Tena Matthews
Elder on Duty	6:30/Todd Warner

SERVING OUR LORD NEXT SUNDAY (4/8/2018) ARE:

Bell Ringer	8:00/Mason Reese; 10:30/Savannah Gembala
Lector	8:00/Tena Matthews; 10:30/Mary Decker
Elder on Duty	8:00/Lonnie Bertsch; 10:30/Nick Trivunovich; 4:00/Ryan Reese
Flowers	Trivunovich family
Offerings	Alison Reaume & Cathie Warner
Ushers	Team 3

8:00/Lonnie Bertsch,* Diane Bertsch, Tom Reagin;
10:30/ Stuart Howell,* Judy Adkins, Matt Finney, Jack Moberg

SERVING OUR LORD THIS MONTH OF APRIL:

Altar Guild	Yolanda Heipp
Nurse/HMT Member	Joyce Van Matre