



Welcome to Hope

SUNDAYS

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

WEDNESDAYS

6:30PM—Living Hope 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 worshippers, 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 5/9		Mother's Day Youth Scrip Orders Due Deadline—Voters' Mtg Reports Due
	8:00 & 10:30	Worship
	9:15	Family Bible Hour
	4:00	Spanish Worship w/Communion
Monday 5/10	9:00	Circuit Pastors @ Grace, Winter Haven
	5:30	Bell Choir
Tuesday 5/11	12:00	Deadline—BOD Reports Due
	6:30	Forged Men's Group
	6:30	GriefShare
Wednesday 5/12	6:30	Living Hope Worship
	7:15	Spanish Kids ZOOM
	8:00	Spanish ZOOM Prayer & Bible Study
Thursday 5/13		Ascension of Our Lord
	6:30	Board of Directors Meeting
Sunday 5/16	8:00 & 10:30	Worship w/Communion
	9:15	Family Bible Hour
	4:00	Spanish Worship w/Communion

Worship Attendance / Communion:

Sunday, May 2, 2021
Worship: 8:00: 27/27 10:30: 49/47
Spanish Worship: 4:00: 25/19

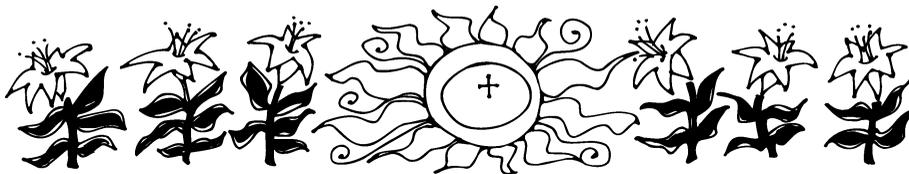
Wednesday, May 5, 2021
Worship: 6:30: 20/20

Total Offerings (General & BHFTF): \$15,956.93

Stewardship Perspective:

1 John 5:3 – “For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.” God's commandments are not burdensome. That's only true for Christians precisely because we know that we are not saved by our keeping of the Law. We are saved by grace. Therefore, we are set free by grace to walk in newness of life, to grow in faithfulness, and to rejoice in the Law of the Lord. The love of God is that we keep His commandments.

welcome



Sixth Sunday Of Easter

May 9, 2021

AS WE GATHER

"In the sight of God" is a phrase used throughout Scripture. It reminds us of God's unceasing care and concern for His creation. In Proverbs: "Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man" (Proverbs 3:3-4). All our life is in God's amazingly loving sight as He watches over all His creation and especially over people. Out of love for Christ and one another, we can strive to see others around us in the same way that God sees them.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELLS

PRELUDE

"Lancashire"

sett'g: John Eggert

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

"The Day of Resurrection"

LSB 478



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil That we may see a - right
3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, Let earth its song be - gin,
△ 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, All praise to God the Son,



The pass - o - ver of glad - ness, The pass - o - ver of God.
The Lord in rays e - ter - nal Of res - ur - rec - tion light
Let all the world keep tri - umph And all that is there - in.
All praise to God the Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, From sin's do - min - ion free,
And, lis - t'ning to His ac - cents, May hear, so calm and plain,
Let all things, seen and un - seen, Their notes of glad - ness blend;
Let all the ran - somed num - ber Fall down be - fore the throne



Our Christ has brought us o - ver With hymns of vic - to - ry.
His own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, May raise the vic - tor strain.
For Christ the Lord has ris - en, Our joy that has no end!
And hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry As - cribe to God a - lone!

Tune and text: Public domain

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: The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations.

C: **Praise the LORD!**

P: As penitent people, we ask God for His grace and mercy. Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

C: **Gracious God, in heartfelt repentance we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are sin-stained people by nature. Each day we have sinned and done things we ought not to have done and have not done that which we are to have been doing as Your servants. We have not seen people in the loving way that You see them. We have not always been ready to care and quick to help. We do indeed deserve Your punishment in this life and for eternity. Trusting in Your mercy, we come to You for forgiveness. Our trust is in the merits of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and by the power of the Holy Spirit at work within our hearts and lives, lead us into ways that reflect Your goodness and love.**

P: God is loving and merciful. He sees us with loving eyes and graciously hears our supplications. By the command of our Lord and as His called and ordained servant, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

**Celebrate Jesus, celebrate. Celebrate Jesus, celebrate.
Celebrate Jesus, celebrate. Celebrate Jesus, celebrate.
He is risen, He is risen and He lives forevermore. He is risen, He is risen,
Come on and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Risen and ascended Lord,

C: **while we were still in our sins, You chose us, laid down Your life for us, and called us friends.**

P: By Your great love for us, inspire us to love one another and to go out into the world to bear fruit according to Your promise;

C: **for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,**

P: one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**



† **SERVICE OF THE WORD** †

FIRST READING

Acts 10:34–48

(People from every nation are accepted by God.)

³⁴So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality,
³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.
³⁶As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus
Christ (he is Lord of all), ³⁷you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea,
beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus
of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all
who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹And we are witnesses of all that
he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging
him on a tree, ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, ⁴¹not to all
the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with
him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²And he commanded us to preach to the people and to
testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³To him
all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of
sins through his name." ⁴⁴While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on
all who heard the word. ⁴⁵And the believers from among the circumcised who had come

with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. ⁴⁶For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, ⁴⁷“Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” ⁴⁸And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 John 5:1–8

(The victory of Christ overcomes the world.)

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. ⁴For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. ⁷For there are three that testify: ⁸ the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE

“You Are My King”

ABS (3) 4

**I’m forgiven because You were forsaken. I’m accepted, You were condemned.
I’m alive and well, Your spirit is within me because You died and rose again.**

(Chorus) **Amazing love, how can it be That You, my King would die for me?
Amazing love, I know it’s true; It’s my joy to honor You. In all I do, to honor You.**

You are my King. You are my King. Jesus, You are my King. You are my King.
(Repeat all)

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HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:9–17

(Obeying Christ’s commands and remaining in His love)

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

C: *(Spoken)* **Glory to You, O Lord!**

⁹As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and

that your joy may be full. ¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. ¹⁷These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord!

C: *(Spoken)* **Praise to You, O Christ!**

SONG OF THE DAY *“Come, People of the Risen King”* **ABS (4) 29**

**Come, people of the risen King who delight to bring Him praise.
Come all and tune your hearts to sing to the Morning Star of Grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth we will lift our eyes to Him.
Where steady arms of mercy reach to gather children in.**

(Chorus)

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Let ev’ry tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice, O church of Christ, rejoice!**

**Come, those whose joy is morning sun and those weeping through the night.
Come those who tell of battles won and those struggling in the fight.
For His perfect love will never change and His mercies never cease.
But follow us through all our days with the certain hope of peace. *(Chorus)***

**Come, young and old from ev’ry land, men and women of the faith.
Come those with full or empty hands, find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world His people sing, shore to shore we hear them call.
The truth that cries through ev’ry age, “Our God is all in all!” *(Chorus)***

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Let ev’ry tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice— O church of Christ— rejoice!**

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SERMON

“MOM!”
Rev. Dean Pfeffer

Romans 6:13

HYMN OF RESPONSE *“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”* LSB 487; vs. 1-3, 5



1 Come, you faith-ful, raise the strain Of tri - um-phant glad-ness!
2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst His pris - on
3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright With the day of splen - dor,
5 Al - le - lu - ia! Now we cry To our King im - mor - tal,



God has brought His Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness,
And from three days' sleep in death As a sun has ris - en;
With the roy - al feast of feasts Comes its joy to ren - der;
Who, tri - um - phant, burst the bars Of the tomb's dark por - tal.



Loosed from Pha-raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,
All the win - ter of our sins, Long and dark, is fly - ing
Comes to glad - den faith-ful hearts Which with true af - fec - tion
Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain Of tri - um - phant glad - ness!



Led them with un-moist-ened foot Through the Red Sea wa - ters.
From His light, to whom is giv'n Laud and praise un - dy - ing.
Wel - come in un - wea - ried strain Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion!
God has brought His Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness!

Tune and text: Public domain

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.

RECOGNITION OF MOTHERS

P: Since 1870, the second Sunday in May has been designated as a time to honor mothers in the United States. In more recent times, expressions of appreciation and honor have been extended to grandmothers, great-grandmothers, and all women whose contributions to the well-being of children have enriched society. Through the ages, many women have been remembered and honored by the Church. The hymn “For All the Faithful Women” celebrates Christian women throughout the centuries, thanking God for them.

HYMN

“For All the Faithful Women”

LSB 855; v. 1

**For all the faithful women Who served in days of old,
To You shall thanks be given; To all, their story told.
They served with strength and gladness In tasks Your wisdom gave.
To You their lives bore witness, Proclaimed Your pow’r to save.**

Text: © 1993, 1997, 2003 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000904

P: Several women commemorated in individual stanzas of “For All the Faithful Women” are honored for their examples of blessed motherhood. Among those are Hannah, from Old Testament times, and Eunice and Lois, mentioned in the New Testament writings of Paul. There is also a stanza for Mary, the mother of our Lord. Bringing the remembrance to present times, a new stanza honors mothers from all times and places as “gifts among us.”

HYMN

“We Thank You, Lord, for Mothers”

(tune: LSB 855)

**We thank You, Lord, for mothers Who Your great kindness share
Through loving deeds for others As emblems of Your care.
May we true honor show them And joyfully express
That they are gifts among us To cherish and to bless.**

Text: Gregory J. Wismar. Copyright © 2015 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

P: The final stanza of “For All the Faithful Women” is a doxology, most appropriate this day to glorify God as we express our thanks for the faithful women in our lives and in the ongoing life of the Church.

HYMN

“For All the Faithful Women”

LSB 855; v. 4

**All praise to God the Father! All praise to Christ the Son!
All praise the Holy Spirit, Who binds the Church in one!
With saints who went before us, With saints who witness still,
We sing glad Alleluias And strive to do Your will.**

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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 do 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.

PRESENTATION 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: Blessed God, You do not reject our prayers or remove Your steadfast love from us. Hear us now and answer us in Your love for Your whole Church and for all people according to their needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Heavenly Father, You invite us to freely come and hear Your Word. Bless and increase our faith, that we may rightly fear You and learn what You have done for our souls. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord of all, You make known the good news of peace through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Bless and direct the work of our missionaries, that in every nation there would be people who fear God, do what is right and, believing in Jesus, receive forgiveness of sins through His name. We pray Lord, that You would use us as Your missionaries right here in our communities to connect people to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Heavenly Father, Your Son in His incarnation took on our human flesh and was born of the Virgin Mary. He submitted to His mother, honoring and obeying her, so fulfilling the commandment where we have not. On this Mother's Day, graciously accept our thanksgiving for our mothers, whom You have given to us. Teach us to honor them aright — loving, obeying and giving thanks for them, as is fitting in Your sight. Strengthen all women with child, and give them safe delivery. Comfort all women who long to have children but cannot, that they may find their consolation in You and Your unfailing love. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Almighty Father, You rule this world by Your established authorities in ways that we do not always understand; yet in the name of Jesus, we may ask You anything freely as friends and sons. Bless our nation's leaders and cause them to serve wisely for our good. Give earthly peace and justice that is in accord with Your commandments and the order You have revealed. Bring an end to injustice, violence and disdain for Your truth, and let us receive all good with thanksgiving. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord God, the Giver of all that is good, grant Your healing and support to all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity especially *Bill Engel, Cindy Kemp, and Dennis Walkenhorst*. Give them also the gift of Your grace to accept and bear their crosses

with faith in You, that finally they would be prepared to depart this life and receive the gift of eternal life in Your kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into Your hands, Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER IN DIALOG

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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 on 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

“Scatter the Darkness, Break the Gloom”

LSB 481



1 Scat - ter the dark - ness, break the gloom; Sun, re - veal an
2 Bear - ing the stan - dard from on high As the Lamb of
3 Ban - ners of tri - umph, be un - furled! Trum - pets, sound through-



emp - ty tomb Shin - ing with joy for all our sor - rows,
God to die; He who for us, so cruel - ly treat - ed,
out the world! Cry - ing and sighs, give way to sing - ing:



Hope and peace for all to - mor - rows, Life un - e -
Lives a - gain— our foes de - feat - ed! Where is your
Life from death, our Lord is bring - ing! Let there be-



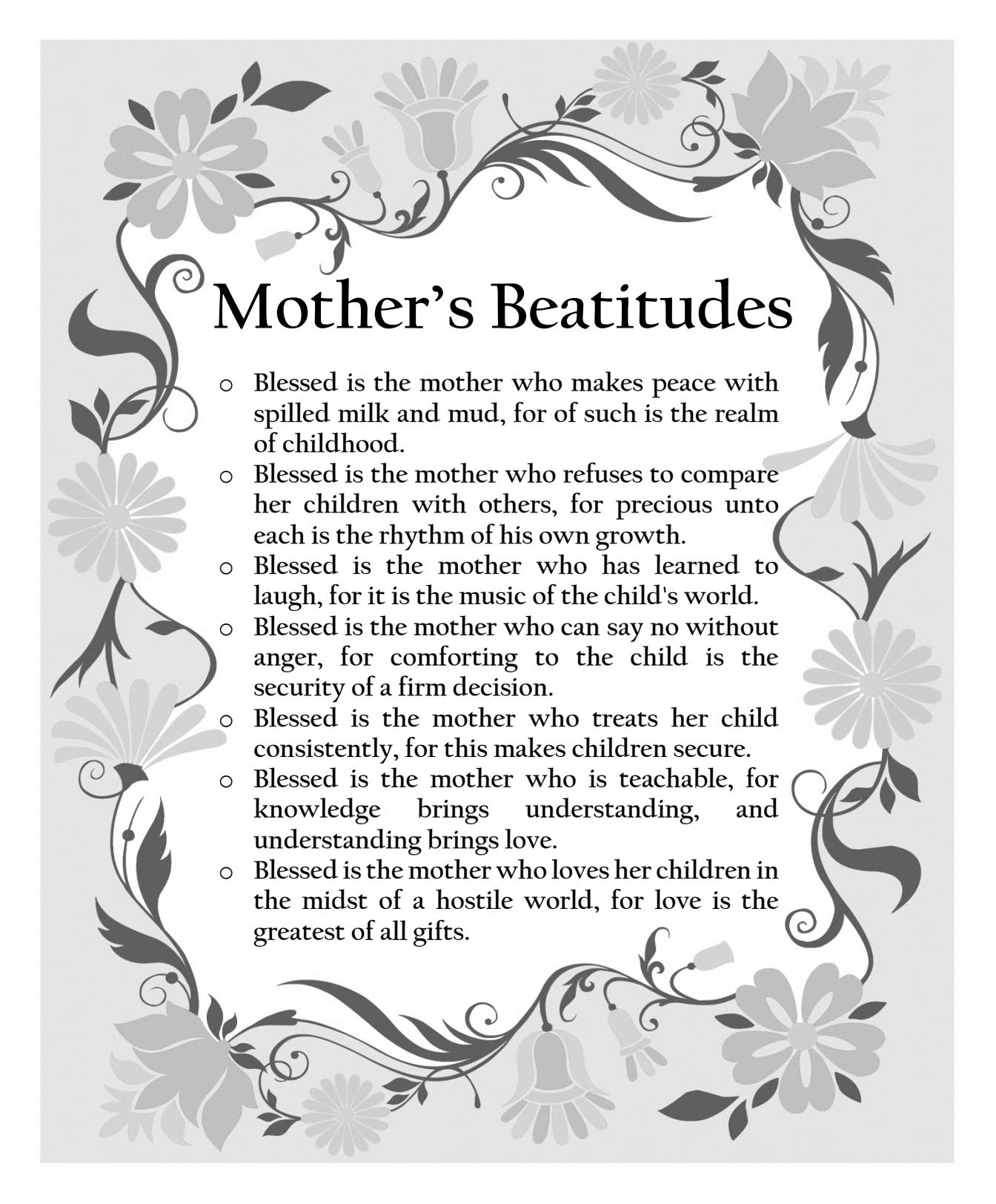
clipsed by doubt and dread: Christ has ris - en from the dead!
sting, O death and grave? Christ has shown His strength to save!
gin the ju - bi - lee— Christ has gained the vic - to - ry!

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POSTLUDE

“Besancon”

sett'g: Steven Wentz

A decorative border of stylized flowers and vines surrounds the text. The border includes various flower shapes like daisies, tulips, and bell-shaped flowers, along with scrolling vines and leaves. The design is symmetrical and elegant, framing the central text.

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: we continue to 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 following His resurrection until His ascension to the right hand of God the Father. During this season, we "resurrect" our "Alleluias" which 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 the Lord and what he has done for us through His suffering, death and resurrection.



PENTECOST BEGONIAS: In order to celebrate the birthday of the Christian Church on the **Day of Pentecost (5/23)**, we will once again place red begonias about the chancel area in our sanctuary. **PLEASE NOTE: We have reached our limit of 50 plants and CANNOT accept any additional orders.**
PLANTS AVAILABLE: 0



WHAT'S THE BUZZ?: YOUR **May** calendar and servant schedule was emailed. There are additional copies underneath the mailboxes; feel free to take two—one for you and one for a friend!



THANKS TO OUR YOUTH: who will be distributing Mother's Day carnations to all the ladies in worship **today**. Legend holds that red or pink carnations are given to those whose mother is still living and the white to those whose mother is no longer living.



BABY BOTTLES: will be handed out **THIS MORNING following worship**. Please take one home, fill it with change, and return it by **Father's Day, June 20**. Every little bit of change helps our *Plant City Pregnancy Care Center*—and our community! *Hope's Human Care Ministry Team* thanks you for your support!



MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS: Your written reports for our May congregational meeting are due to *Jessica (hopepcsecretary@gmail.com)* **TODAY** so they can be distributed **next Sunday**. Thanks for your assistance!



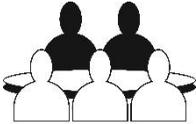
GRIEFSHARE: meets **TUESDAYS at 6:30PM** in the *Stephen Ministry Classroom*.



REMINDER: that all ALL announcements for our worship bulletins **MUST** be received by **NOON, TUESDAYS** to be included. Verbal announcements must be requested by **Wednesday, Noon**. Thanks in advance for your assistance!



IF YOU ARE UNABLE: to complete the weekly surveys (at hopeplantcity.com) for worship attendance, **PLEASE** contact *Jessica* in the church office **BY NOON, THURSDAY** so that we can work to insure proper social distancing during worship. We also ask for the health & safety of all gathered together here, that everyone please **WEAR YOUR MASK** while on campus.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Don't forget we meet on **Thursday at 6:30PM** in *Fellowship Hall*. Please be sure to read chapter 4 of *GodSpace*, be on time, and most of all, please wear a mask and social distance. Your meeting materials will be emailed **Thursday morning**. If you need yours printed in advance of the meeting, please contact *Jessica* **by Thursday morning**.



PENTECOST SUNDAY HELP NEEDED: Once again as we celebrate the Festival of Pentecost, we would like to have the Gospel read in various languages at the same time (create our own Pentecost experience at Hope). If you can read/speak a foreign language and are willing to read the Gospel in that language on **Pentecost Sunday (May 23rd) at either or both morning services**, please contact *Pastor Pfeffer* (hopepcpastor@gmail.com).



PLAN AHEAD: for our **May Voter's Meeting** which will take place at **11:45AM on Sunday, May 23rd** in our Sanctuary. There is lots of information to share and updates on our new sanctuary so **PLEASE** plan on joining us!



MOVING HOPE: Our next distribution day for the mobile food pantry is **MAY 24** in our parking lot **beginning at 5:30PM**. Many hands are needed—can we count on yours to help stamp out hunger in our community?



CALLING ALL GRADUATES: Our congregation plans on recognizing all of our grads (high school, college, advanced degrees) on **Sunday, May 30th at the 10:30 worship service**. If you (or your child) graduated (or will graduate) **this academic year (September 2020-May 2021)**, please contact *Pastor Pfeffer* (hopepcpastor@gmail.com) with your name, school attended, and school planning to attend the coming year. **DEADLINE: May 12th**.

LOTS OF HUGS SUMMER READING CAMP: through the *Plant City Black Heritage Foundation* will return to our campus **beginning May 31st** and will be here **weekdays until school resumes in August**. If you would like to assist in ANY way with the camp, volunteers are always appreciated, and community service hours are available for high school students. Contact *Sharon Moody* at sharonmoody91@yahoo.com.



UNITED FOOD BANK: has a barrel in our narthex for you to donate some much-needed non-perishable food items (peanut butter, jelly, mac-n-cheese, tuna, canned fruit, dry cereal, etc.). Our Food Bank provides breakfast & lunch for all children in our area when school is not in session as well as a backpack program for those children who would otherwise go hungry Friday evening—Monday morning. Thanks in advance for your Spirit motivated giving and support! Many thanks to all who have provided much needed groceries!



HAPPY
Mother's
Day

Growing in the Grace of Giving

St. Paul teaches us: “Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches” (Gal. 6:6). And again, he says: “Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel” (1 Cor. 9:13–14). In other words, ministers of the Gospel are supported by the offerings of those who are served by them.

And this is how the church lives even now. It is standard practice. But this deserves closer examination. For it instructs us not just *that* we are to give but also *what* we are to give. And it does so with four little words: “In the same way ...”

St. Paul is building his case for supporting the preachers of the Gospel with the sacrificial giving of individual members on the example of the Old Testament people who supported the Levites with their offerings and sacrifices. We’re to support the Gospel ministry “in the same way.” But how did the Old Testament people support the Levites?

Moses records this: “You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always” (Deut. 14:22–23). The Levites were supported by the tithe, 10 percent of all the yearly yield of that which was harvested.

Does that seem like a lot? Does it surprise you that St. Paul instructs us that we are to support the New Testament Gospel ministry “in the same way?” If it does, ask yourself: Is the church’s job in the New Testament bigger or smaller than the Levites’ job in the Old Testament? Back then, there was one Temple, and the ministry was almost exclusively located in one nation among the descendants of Abraham. In Matthew 28, Jesus calls us to teach and baptize all nations, and there are churches and ministries all around the world! How could we support this new Gospel ministry with anything less than the Israelites supported the Old Testament ministry?

Of course, we are free to give more, for we have received more than those in the Old Testament. We have received the fullness of God’s revelation, the fullness of His salvation, and the fulfillment of everything that God promised to do. For we have received Christ, God’s own Son, in the flesh, who took upon himself our sins and in exchange gave us his righteousness. The Father claimed us as his own in Holy Baptism. He gathers us together in the place where his name dwells to feast on the first fruits of the resurrection, the risen and living body and blood of His Son – our Lord Jesus. He reminds us that we are His, that all things are ours because we belong to Him. He blesses us here in time with physical and spiritual gifts.

In the same way – and in response to His fatherly divine goodness and mercy – we gladly give to those who proclaim to us “the excellencies of him who called us out of darkness and into his marvelous light.” For once we were not a people, but now we are God’s people; once we had not received mercy, but now we have indeed (1 Peter 2:9–10).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Yes, the Church is having a birthday and we want you to see RED.

When: The Day of Pentecost, Sunday, May 23, 2021

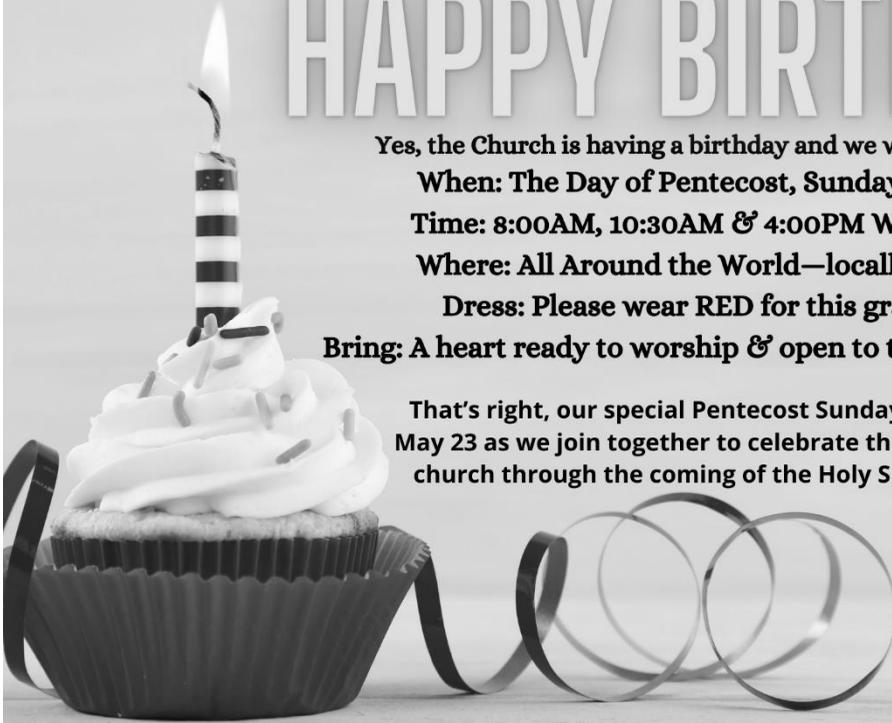
Time: 8:00AM, 10:30AM & 4:00PM Worship Services

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 May 23 as we join together to celebrate the birthday of the Christian church through the coming of the Holy Spirit that first Pentecost.



HEAR YE! HEAR YE! CONGREGATION MEETING

MAY 23, 2021 at 11:45AM (following worship)

We will gather for our semi-annual meeting (in the Sanctuary)

AMONG THE ITEMS ON THE AGENDA ARE:

- o Approval of minutes from November 2020 meeting;**
- o Approval of Pastor's, Staff & Ministry Team reports;**
- o Building/Construction Committee Update**

All information for your review will be emailed to you.

***NOTE: NO Lunch to follow**

FAMILY BIBLE HOUR SUNDAYS 9:15AM

PRESCHOOL—GRADE 5

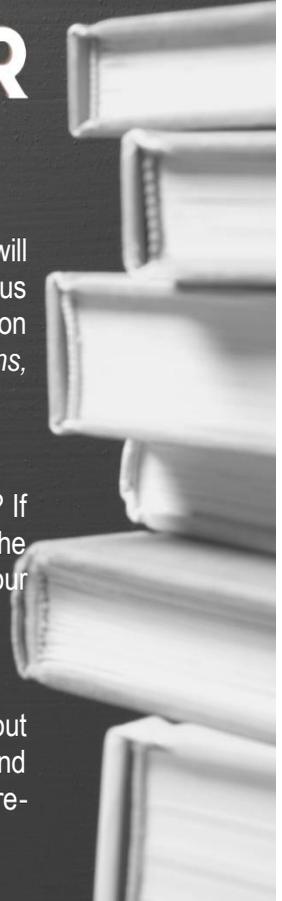
SIMPLY LOVED: Join us as we explore the Old and New Testaments. We will journey chronologically through the Bible and discover friendships with Jesus throughout God's story. Simply Loved is designed to help kids remember each lesson with activities, songs, and special Bible Memory Buddies. *Leaders: Stacey Greatens, Tracy MacDonald, Ellen Whitehurst*

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

THE CASE FOR CHRIST: What evidence is there for Jesus outside of the Bible? If God is such a good God, why is there so much suffering and evil and chaos in the world? Let's dig into these tough questions and more—and learn how to defend our faith. *Leaders: Youth Ministry Team*

ADULTS

ENDURING FAITH: As we progress through this program, we learn in depth about our Savior, Jesus Christ, what our Savior means to us, how to defend our faith, and how to teach the faith to others. Lessons spiral going deeper each time we re-encounter a Bible passage. *Leader: Pastor Pfeffer*



TUESDAYS @ 6:30PM - CONFERENCE ROOM



Contact Jim Carnicelli to join

BUILDING NEWS

To give online to *Building Hope for the Future*, simply go to Hope's website (hopeplantcity.com) and click "GIVE HERE."



WANNA PEW? Now is the time to plan if you want one of the pews from our current sanctuary as a keepsake. Once our move is complete to the new Sanctuary, you are more than welcome to the pews. HOWEVER, you must be ready at a moment's notice, and YOU will be responsible for removing and transporting your pew. Please contact Wendell Lattz at wendelllattz@verizon.net to reserve.

STANDING ON THE WORD OF GOD: As we look forward to the transition to our new Sanctuary, we have discussed writing our favorite Bible verses on the floor of the Sanctuary prior to the installation of flooring. This probably will not happen until **later in May**. So, in advance, write your favorite verses down so that when the big day comes, we all come prepared to write our verses all over the floor. You bring the verses, and we will supply the permanent markers!

Building Hope for the Future: Impact Phase May 2021

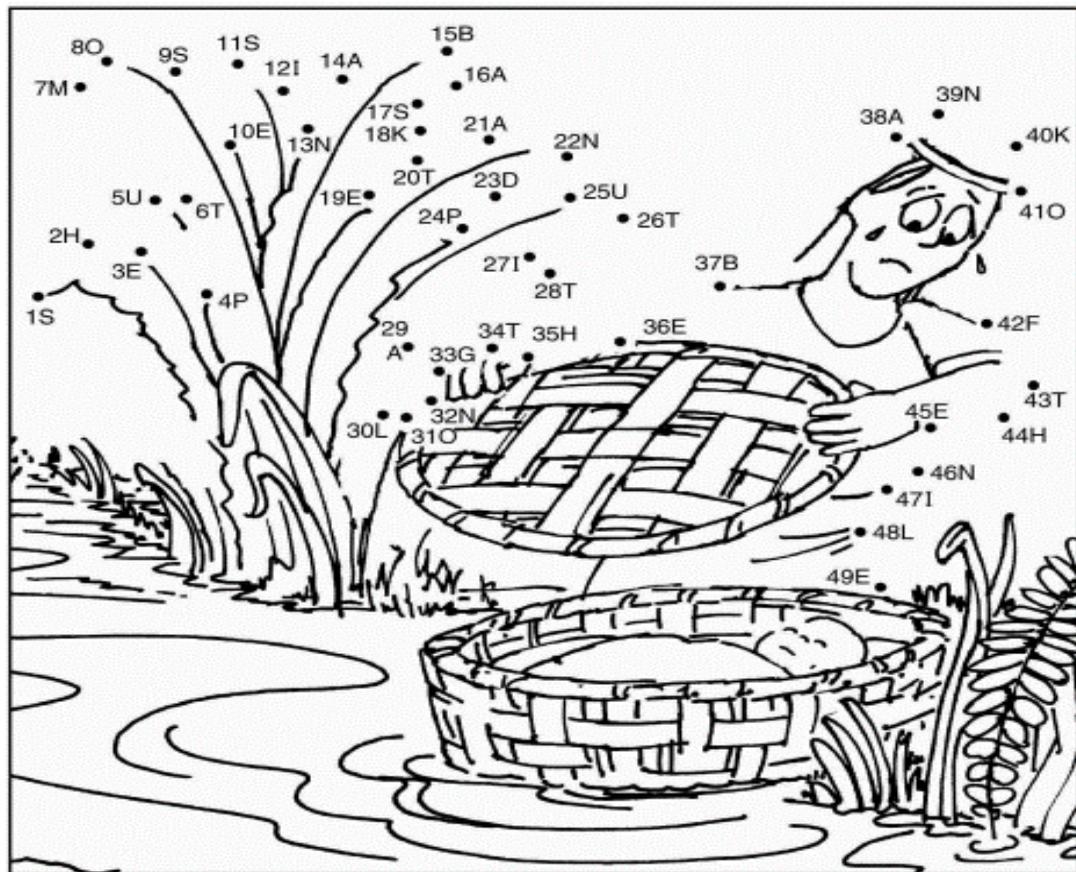


Contributions received in April have increased our total to \$534,288 or 79.1% of our total commitments of \$675,501 and we approach the halfway point of our Building Hope for the Future 3-year timeline. Thank you to everyone who generously supports Building Hope as our Lord blesses us with Immeasurably More! Exciting things are happening as we see our new mission hub nearing completion so watch for opportunities to be a part of the experience. Also, if you have been making your contributions electronically, please take a few minutes to review your bank or credit card information in our system to ensure that everything is current. And please keep Building Hope in your prayers and plans.

Jeremiah 29:11—“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

Moses was born during that dangerous time.
What did his mother do to protect him?

Connect the dots and write the letters in order on the lines below.



In Our Thoughts and Prayers

SHUT-INS:

Jim Baldwin
Diane Bates
Betty Christiansen

Putt & Sue Crouse
Bonnie Genrich
Ray & Rita Gonzalez

LEADERS:

Liz Miller

Rev. Dean & Liz Pfeffer
LCMS Synod & District
Hope Staff & Ministries

Pres. Joseph Biden
Our Nation & World
Our Armed Forces
Our 1st Responders

Family and Friends of Hope

NEW REQUESTS:

Bill Engel health concerns; recovering from surgery
Rhonda daughter of Barbara Carnicelli—hospitalized
Dennis Walkenhorst hospitalized

CURRENT REQUESTS:

Kayra Cannell niece of Alan & Sue Griffin—rare form of lupus
Granddaughter of Tim & Julie Gates hospitalized; kidney stones
Mike & Kathy Horne & family mourning death of Bud Hendershot
Cindy Kemp health concerns
Margret friend of Janet Reitzel—health concerns
Becky Simpson & family friend of Becky Hartmann—mourning death of husband Jamie

BATTLING CANCER:

	D	Jerry Gross	Pat Mason	
Austin Dobbs	Debbie	JoAnne Hayashi	Jennifer McCourt	Betty Snaper
Tom Battling	Derek	Burt Hermann	Faye Mueller	Judy Strait
Laura Blake	Ginnie Donaldson	Barry Himmel	Ovie	Jeannie Lee Taylor
Bob Broshelle	Jace Driggers	Dale Jarvis	Lynn Reagin	Virginia
Dave Cannell	Kori Dunke	Gordon Long	Fran Saitta	Rick Ward
Mary Clapp	Marcus Elam	Jean Marie Mactye	Becky Schlicher	Mr. Wells
Alice Correia	Bill Engel	Pat Mailloux	Mary Scott	Millie Wetz
Valde Cruz	Tim Griffie	Mari	Abbey Sedlacek	Heather Whitehurst

Serving in the Military (R—Reserves)

	Stephanie Enloe—R	Aaron Morley	Derek Quackenbush
Alex Almaguer	Joshua Gross	Tyler Newkirk	Justin Rappa
Jacob Bertsch	Brandon Hastings	Stephen Olliff—R	Ryan Sonnenberg
Stephen Daniell—R	Brad Landis	Blake Paton—R	Caleb Strand
Lorrie Daniell—R	Bobby Martin	Donnie Pittman	Mike Szostkiewicz—R

Please email your prayer requests to hopePCprays@gmail.com.

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 SUNDAY (5/9/2021) ARE:

Lector 8:00/Julie Gates; 10:30/Kathy Drapp
Elder on Duty 8:00/Tom Whitehurst; 10:30/Jim Drapp
Flowers Hartmann & Pfeffer families
Offerings Alan & Sue Griffin
Ushers Team 1

8:00/Wayne Warner,* David Booher, David Niver, Jeff Reaume;
10:30/Todd Warner,* Mack Goethe, Billy Mueller; Dora Mueller; Jim Szostkiewicz

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by
Ken & Becky Hartmann in memory of their daughter Laurel
and
Pastor & Liz Pfeffer in honor of Alex's 6th birthday*

SERVING OUR LORD THIS WEDNESDAY (5/12/2021) ARE:

Lector 6:30/Carl Bergner
Elder on Duty 6:30/Mike McMinn

SERVING OUR LORD NEXT SUNDAY (5/16/2021) ARE:

Lector 8:00/Tena Matthews; 10:30/Nora Trivunovich
Elder on Duty 8:00/Lonnie Bertsch; 10:30/Nick Trivunovich
Communion Assistant 8:00/Lonnie Bertsch; 10:30/Nick Trivunovich
Flowers McMinn family
Offerings Wendell & Pam Lattz
Ushers Team 2

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