



# Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

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[www.hopelutheranstl.org](http://www.hopelutheranstl.org)



## WEEKLY NEWS ❖ March 22, 2020

### ❖ IN THE LORD'S HOUSE TODAY ❖

*OBVIOUSLY*, we are not in the Lord's House today due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic and taking measures to slow its spread. Nevertheless, we are making the Service of the Word available on Hope's [Facebook page](#), beginning at 9:00 am on Sunday mornings. Opportunities for the Service of the Sacrament (Holy Communion) are available Sunday mornings following the live-stream and on Wednesdays. Click on [this link](#) or on the "Communion Registration" link on [Hope's website](#) to sign up.

### ❖ THE WORD FOR TODAY ❖

#### THE LORD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE

The Lord provided bread from heaven for His people in the wilderness (Ex. 16:2-21). Now He who is Himself the living bread from heaven miraculously provides bread for the five thousand (John 6:1-15). This takes place near the time of the Passover, after a great multitude had followed Jesus across the sea, and when He went up on a mountain. Seen in this way, Jesus is our new and greater Moses, who releases us from the bondage of Mount Sinai and makes us free children of the promise (Gal. 4:21-31). Five loaves become twelve baskets – that is, the five books of Moses find their goal and fulfillment in Christ, whose people continue steadfastly in the doctrine and fellowship of the twelve apostles, and in the breaking and receiving of the bread of life, which is the body of Christ together with His precious blood, and in the prayers (Acts 2:41-47). So it is that God's people "shall not hunger or thirst" (Is. 49:8-13). For He abundantly provides for us in both body and soul.

### ❖ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ❖

#### JESUS, PRICELESS TREASURE – LSB 743

Johann Franck's hymn is a love song from the bride (church) to her Lord Jesus Christ! This is not as easy to see in English as in the original German which includes this line: God's Lamb, my Bridegroom. Jesus is the priceless Bridegroom, pleasure, friend, and Lamb who has ransomed us, not with gold or silver, but with his precious blood (1 Peter 1:18-19). Jesus defends his bride against all evils of body and soul, especially that accuser Satan. Christians also can also defy fear and death. The world and its treasures hold no sway over those who, in faith, rely on Christ. Faithful Christians, members of the bride of Christ (Ephesians 5:22-33), do not fear leaving this evil world, for then they will dwell forever before the face of their Bridegroom, their priceless Treasure, in heaven. (from [logia.org](http://logia.org))

### ❖ PREPARING FOR WORSHIP ❖

- *PREPARE* to receive the Lord's Supper by reviewing "Christian Questions and Their Answers" beginning on 329 in the front part of *Lutheran Service Book*.
- *REFLECT* on Psalm 132 in the front part of *Lutheran Service Book*.
- *PONDER* today's Hymn of the Day, *LSB 743*, "Jesus, Priceless Treasure"

*HOLY COMMUNION* is celebrated at each Sunday morning Divine Service, with both chalice and individual cup offered. Members of congregations of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod may partake of the Sacrament trusting that in this Holy Meal the Lord Jesus Christ is present and gives His Body and Blood for our forgiveness, life, and salvation. Guests are asked to speak with the pastor prior to communing. Those who have a health concern with the alcohol in the cup are asked to speak with the pastor. If you are taking Communion, please fill out the attendance card by marking an "X" in the box by the names of those communing, and hand the card to an usher as you go to the Lord's Table.

### ❖ SCRIPTURE READINGS TO PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY ❖

#### FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT (March 29, 2020)

*Jesus is our Great High Priest who sacrifices Himself for us.*

Old Testament: **Genesis 22:1-14** – God tests Abraham and foreshadows the sacrifice of His own Son, Jesus the Christ.

Psalm: **Psalm 43** – "Vindicate me, O God."

Epistle: **Hebrews 9:11-15** – The blood of Christ cleanses us from sin.

Holy Gospel: **John 8:42-59** – Jesus says, "Before Abraham was, I AM" – equating Himself with God.



✘ PARISH NEWS AND NOTES ✘

EASTER LILIES will be used on Easter Sunday in the altar area. If you wish to place a plant in honor or memory of someone, please pick up an envelope from the narthex or call Carol, 752-0525, **before April 6**. Lilies are \$8.00 each and are yours to take home after the service on Easter.

THE MUSIC IN A SACRED SPACE *Laudamus* concert has been cancelled that was previously scheduled for today.

NOTICE: By action of the Church Council, the April 26 regular meeting of the Voters Assembly has been rescheduled to **Sunday, May 3** at 12:00 noon. This is due to the full afternoon of preparing for the Hymn Festival at 4:00 pm on April 26.

WE IN THE HOPE CHURCH OFFICE ARE DOING SOME SPRING CLEANING and need to remove a desk. If anyone is in need of a desk, please contact the church office by Thursday, March 19. The desk is made of MDF and dark plastic laminate and has a 30"x 60" work surface and is 26" tall. There is some damage to corners.

STEWARDSHIP BLURB FOR SUNDAY, March 22: **John 6:5b - "Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?'"** Of course, Jesus knows the answer to that question. Jesus knows how He means to care for His people. The Lord provided, and He is still providing. This knowledge frees us for generosity without fear.

DIRECT THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS BY MARCH 31! Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have available Choice Dollars® have until **March 31, 2020**, to direct them. Don't miss this opportunity to recommend that Thrivent Financial provide outreach funding to **Hope Ev. Lutheran Church**. Go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) to learn more. Or call **800-847-4836** and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt. If you aren't sure if you have any products that are eligible, don't hesitate to ask.

THIS WEEK ON [KFUO.org](http://KFUO.org), begin the book of Revelation on Thy Strong Word with Rev. AJ Espinosa and guest pastors (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), hear about gossiping on The Coffee Hour with Pastor Chris Hull (3/24 at 9:00 a.m. CT), and study Matthew 24-25 on Sharper Iron's All Righteousness Fulfilled (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT). Find these programs on demand at [kfu.org](http://kfu.org)!

**STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✘ Weeks of March 1, 2020 – March 14, 2020**

**ATTENDANCE**

Hearers: 84  
Communion: 76

**FINANCIAL**

<i>March 1 – March 14, 2020</i>			<i>February 2020</i>	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
Income:	\$11,893	\$10,648	Income: \$22,330	\$23,577
Expense:	\$8,594	\$10,649	Expense: \$20,314	\$23,580

**THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✘ March 22, 2020**

**SCHEDULE**

9:00 SERVICE OF THE WORD  
Live stream at  
[www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl](http://www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl)  
10:00-12:00 SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT (by sign-up)  
NO Sunday School/Bible Study  
NO Schola Rehearsal  
NO Youth Catechism Class

**SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR OFFERINGS**

*Nursery:*  
2nd Floor -  
*Auditorium:*  
Bible Class-

**WEEK'S CALENDAR**

MONDAY

TUESDAY  
*NO Kantorei*

WEDNESDAY  
SEVICE OF THE SACRAMENT  
12:00-2:00 (by sign-up)  
7:00-8:30 (by sign-up)

THURSDAY  
*NO Thrive Parent University*

FRIDAY

SATURDAY  
*Pastor's Day Off*