



Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

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WEEKLY NEWS ✠ April 19, 2020

✠ IN THE LORD'S HOUSE TODAY ✠

OBVIOUSLY, we are not in the Lord's House today due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, voluntarily taking measures to slow its spread, and the local government stay-at-home orders. Nevertheless, we are making the Service of the Word available on Hope's [Facebook page](#), beginning at 9:00 am on Sunday mornings. Only a pre-selected group of ten people, or less, are allowed to be in the church on Sunday mornings. By advice and encouragement from the Missouri District office, we are no longer offering times for the Service of the Sacrament during this crisis. However, we continue to find comfort, peace, and strength in our Lord's other means of grace – His Word, Baptism, and Absolution.

✠ THE WORD FOR TODAY ✠

THE WOUNDS OF CHRIST GIVE US LIFE

"For there are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood" (1 John 5:7). These three point to Christ and flow from Christ. Jesus shows His disciples His hands side, from which blood and water flowed, saying "Peace be with you." He presents the wounds which turn our fear to gladness and which restore us to the Father. Jesus breathes on His disciples and says, "Receive the Holy Spirit" (John 20:23). His breath, His words are Spirit and life. They raise up our dry, dead bones and give us new and everlasting life (Ezek. 37:1-14). Christ now gives His ministers to speak His forgiving, Spirit-filled words to the penitent in His stead. Our Lord continues to come to His people, presenting His wounds to us in the Sacraments of water and blood. He bids us to touch His side at His table, to receive His risen body and blood in true faith, that believing we may have life in His name.

✠ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ✠

O SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE KING (LSB 471)

The hymn tells the story of Jesus' resurrection appearances. In nine verses the accounts of the first week of the resurrection unfold. The many individuals who were overcome with immense sorrow encounter the preaching of the word and with it Christ and his resurrection. It indicates such a joyous turn of events by wrapping its verses throughout in joyful Alleluias. The words paraphrase John 20. When we sing this hymn, we participate with St. John and the holy angels in the preaching of Christ's resurrection to the world. Both singer and hearer go with the women early in the morning to the tomb, hide behind locked doors with the disciples, encounter Jesus and his wounds with Thomas, all the while seeing sorrow, fear, and unbelief shattered by Christ and the proclamation that today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia! The Resurrection grants and strengthens faith to a fear-filled world, and so the work of this hymn both restorative to the fallen and missional to the unbelieving. It culminates in verse eight before ending with a high doxology in verse nine. "How blest are they who have not seen and yet whose faith has constant been, For they eternal life will win. Alleluia!" (from *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 33 in the front part of *Lutheran Service Book*.
- *PONDER* today's Hymn of the Day, *LSB 471*, "O Sons and Daughters of the King"

✠ SCRIPTURE READINGS TO PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY ✠

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (April 26, 2020)

The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord. (Misericordias Domini).

Old Testament: **Ezekiel 34:11-16** – God is our Shepherd.

Psalm: **Psalm 23** – "The LORD is my Shepherd; I shall not want."

Epistle: **1 Peter 2:21-25** – Life through God's Word.

Holy Gospel: **John 10:11-16** – Jesus the Good Shepherd.



✠ PARISH NEWS AND NOTES ✠

NOTICE: The Spring regular Voters Assembly meeting (originally scheduled for April 26, then rescheduled for May 3) will be postponed until after the St. Louis City COVID-19 stay-at-home order is lifted. The Church Council is considering scheduling the meeting to occur two weeks after we are permitted to return to public, in-person worship services. More details will be announced when they are known.

MUSIC IN A SACRED SPACE EVENTS: Unfortunately, the final events in this year’s music series have been cancelled. This includes the Organ Vespers on April 19 and the Hymn Festival on April 26. We look forward to rescheduling these and additional events for the 20-21 season.

APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS from the “Roschke-Stohlmann Lutheran Vocations and Education Fund” are now being accepted. Scholarships shall be granted based on motivation, financial and scholarship needs of the applicant as evaluated by the Board of Finance. Scholarships shall be awarded in the following order of priority: 1. Seminary training; 2. Pre-seminary training; 3. Full-time rostered church work training (teacher, DCE, DCO, Deaconess, etc.); 4. Lutheran elementary education; 5. Lutheran high school education. Application must be received by **Monday, May 11, 2020**. Contact the church office for a copy of the application.

STEWARDSHIP BLURB FOR SUNDAY, April 19: John 20:19 – “On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ ” Jesus spends a lot of His time telling the disciples to not be afraid. Our fears constantly hem us in and prevent us from following the Lord’s will. But there is no need to fear. Jesus has conquered. No fear can keep us locked up. We have been set free by Jesus for lives that declare His marvelous deeds.

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A DAILY LUTHERAN BIBLE STUDY...Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's teachings include: "Patience" in the Bible, The Book of Titus, Jesus' Ascension, The Passover and more. You can tune in live weekdays from 3-5 p.m. on KFUE, 850 AM in St. Louis. You can also listen on-demand at issuesetc.org and on the LPR mobile app.

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STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✠ Weeks of March 29, 2020 – April 11, 2020

ATTENDANCE Hearers: Communion:	FINANCIAL			
	March 29 – April 11, 2020		March 2020	
	Actual	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted
Income:	\$11,689	\$10,927	\$24,821	\$23,577
Expense:	\$8,848	\$10,928	\$19,310	\$23,580

THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✠ April 19, 2020

SCHEDULE	SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR OFFERINGS	WEEK’S CALENDAR
9:00 SERVICE OF THE WORD Live stream at www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl NO Sunday School/Bible Study NO Schola Rehearsal NO Youth Catechism Class	Nursery: 2nd Floor – Auditorium: Bible Class-	MONDAY TUESDAY 7:00 pm - Church Council via ZOOM WEDNESDAY THURSDAY NO Thrive Parent University FRIDAY SATURDAY Pastor’s Day Off