



Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

5218 Neosho St, St. Louis, MO 63109 • 314-352-0014

www.hopelutheranstl.org



WEEKLY NEWS ✠ April 26, 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 GOOD SHEPHERD CARES FOR HIS SHEEP

Our Lord Jesus is the Good Shepherd (John 10:11-16). He is not like the hireling, who cares nothing for the sheep and only for himself, who flees when he sees the wolf coming. Rather, Jesus is the Good Shepherd who seeks out His scattered sheep to deliver them (Ezek. 34:11-16). He gathers them and feeds them in rich pasture. He binds up the broken and strengthens the sick. He lays down His life for wandering and wayward sheep. On the cross, Christ bore in His body the attacks of the predators of sin and death and the devil for you that you might be saved. He now lives to restore your soul in the still waters of baptism, to lead you in the paths of righteousness by the voice of His Gospel, to prepare the table of His holy supper before you, that you may dwell in the house of the Lord forever (Psalm 23). *"For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls"* (1 Peter 2:25).

✠ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ✠

THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS (LSB 709)

The hymn of the day for Good Shepherd Sunday is a hymn on a hymn! When Jesus sang hymns with his disciples, they would have been singing from their hymnal, the Psalms – Psalm 23 included. Since this hymn is a paraphrase of Psalm 23, Christians have been singing these words for more than three thousand years! King David wrote Psalm 23, perhaps the most beloved of all the Psalms. Our hymn pictures Jesus as the answer to David's hymn. It shows Jesus loving us; Jesus leading us to good water; Jesus shepherding us when we go astray; Jesus walking through the valley of the shadow of death with and for us; Jesus feeding us a meal in the wilderness of this life; and Jesus bringing us to eternal life. Its place in the middle of the Easter season shows the Good Shepherd rounding up his scattered church after his resurrection. One will call to mind Jesus shepherding the disciples on the road to Emmaus, bringing the Apostles and particularly Thomas back to the fold, opening Mary's tear-filled eyes to see that he is the Risen One, curing Peter's broken conscience and restoring him, appearing to his brother James and many others as the Shepherd who loves them. Even now he gathers the scattered through the preaching of the Word and restores the lost into the fold through the great "peace be to you," of the absolution. (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 23 in the front part of *Lutheran Service Book*.
- *PONDER* today's Hymn of the Day, *LSB 709*, "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

✠ SCRIPTURE READINGS TO PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY ✠

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (May 3, 2020) – *Make a joyful shout to God, all the earth!* (Jubilate)

Old Testament: **Isaiah 40:25-31** – On eagle's wings.

Psalm: **Psalm 147:1-11** – "Great is our Lord, and abundant in power"

Epistle: **1 Peter 2:11-20** – Living as free people.

Holy Gospel: **John 16:16-22** – Jesus turns our grief into joy.



✠ 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.

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 26: John 10:16 - “And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice.” The sheep know the Shepherd’s voice, and we delight to go where He leads. Of course, the world, the devil, and our own sinful flesh want to pull us in another direction. Following the Shepherd means life; following anyone else means death. So, no matter how difficult the path is that the Shepherd points out, let us follow Him!

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OLD THEOLOGY, NEW TECHNOLOGY...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 topics include: The Third Use of the Law, "Kindness" in the Bible, 4th Century Bishop Athanasius of Alexandria, Speaking the Truth in Love and more. You can tune in live weekdays from 3-5 p.m. on KFUE, 850 AM in St. Louis. You can also listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org and on the LPR mobile app.

THIS WEEK ON KFUE.org, continue in "The Righteousness of God for You" in the book of Romans on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), hear God's word for you in daily chapel (weekdays at 10:00 a.m. CT), and find the comfort found only in Christ on Moments of Assurance (weekdays at 12:00 p.m. CT / weekends at 7:45 a.m. CT). Find programs on demand at kfuo.org.

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STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✠ Weeks of April 5, 2020 – April 18, 2020

ATTENDANCE Hearers: Communion:	FINANCIAL			
	March 29 – April 11, 2020		March 2020	
	Actual	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted
Income:	\$11,298	\$11,003	\$24,821	\$23,577
Expense:	\$9,664	\$11,003	\$19,310	\$23,580

THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✠ April 26, 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 NO Kantorei WEDNESDAY THURSDAY NO Thrive Parent University FRIDAY SATURDAY Pastor’s Day Off