



Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

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WEEKLY NEWS ❖ September 27, 2020

❖ IN THE LORD'S HOUSE TODAY ❖

WELCOME! We are happy that you are worshipping with us. As Psalm 122:1 says, "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'" Here in the Lord's House our Lord Jesus Christ is truly present in His Word and Sacrament to give us His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. We continue to follow appropriate social distancing and hygienic protocols as noted in the service folder. The Sunday Divine Service is also being live-streamed on Hope's [Facebook page](#) and the service folder (bulletin) may be [accessed here](#). "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever" (Psalm 136:1).

❖ THE WORD FOR TODAY ❖

Today we celebrate the **Festival of St. Michael and All Angels**. At this time of year we notice the daylight hours getting shorter and the hours of night getting longer. For us Christians this "conflict" in nature is a reflection of the more critical spiritual conflict. There is a great battle going on in the world: the conflict between God's kingdom and the kingdom of darkness.

In Daniel 10 a prince of the Jewish nation – Michael, by name – fought against the prince of Persia and then the prince of Greece. He was aided and strengthened by an angel from God. This same Michael is mentioned in **Daniel 12**. In Jude 9 we read of "Michael the archangel" who fights against the devil. This is the Michael mentioned in **Revelation 12** where he and his angel army battle against the dragon (Satan) and his dark angels. This cosmic battle is won and decided, however, "by the blood of the Lamb," that is, Jesus Christ and Him crucified and risen, "and by the word of their testimony," that is, the Christian Gospel message. Hebrews 1:14 says that angels are "ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation." In **Matthew 18** Jesus reminds us of our place in God's kingdom as children who trust Him for our very protection. No matter how young or old, no matter how seasoned or "inexperienced," all Christians are the "little ones" who receive life and protection from our Lord Jesus Christ. What a privilege to be "little ones" in God's kingdom, "for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven."

❖ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ❖

Today we celebrate the feast of *St. Michael and All Angels*. This feast focuses our hearts and minds on the work of God's heavenly messengers, especially that of Michael the archangel. Our Hymn of the Day tells of the heavenly battle between Michael and the ancient serpent, or dragon, which results in Satan being banished from heaven. Lest the story end there, we continue singing of Jesus' final defeat of Satan for our salvation. *Stars of the Morning, So Gloriously Bright* (LSB 520), a text from the 9th century, gives us a glimpse into the softer side of the angels' work, that of ministering to the helpless, poor, and needy.

❖ 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 91 in the front part of *Lutheran Service Book*.
- **PONDER** today's Hymn of the Day, LSB 521, "Christ, the Lord of Hosts, Unshaken."

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 ❖

ANNIVERSARY OF A CONGREGATION (October 4, 2020)

- Old Testament: **1 Kings 8:22-30** – King Solomon prays at the dedication of the Jerusalem temple.
Psalm: **Psalm 84** – How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!
Epistle: **Revelation 21:1-5** – Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man.
Holy Gospel: **Luke 19:1-10** – Salvation comes to the house of Zacchaeus.



✠ PARISH NEWS AND NOTES ✠

IN KEEPING WITH THE ST. LOUIS CITY "REOPENING STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES," we are conducting in-person public worship with proper hygienic and social-distancing measures. Effective Sunday, September 13, we resume our regular Sunday morning schedule to include Sunday School, Bible Class, and Catechism Class. We are also offering a second Divine Service opportunity on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm, beginning September 16. For more details, see the most recent (7/29/20) [Pastoral Letter](#) on our [website](#).

WE CONTINUE OUR REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE. Sunday School and Bible Class will begin at 10:30 am **in the sanctuary**. Following the opening, Sunday School children will go to their respective class spaces and the adults will remain in the sanctuary for Bible Class.

FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR are placed to the praise and glory of God by Deaconess Grace Rao in loving memory of her father's birthday.

OPEN ALTAR FLOWER DATES ARE: Sunday, October 4, 11, 18 and 25. Vases are \$21 each and are yours after the last service. Please call Carol, 752-0525, to reserve a date.

MISSOURI DISTRICT NEWS: When the pandemic first began, Lutheran schools throughout Missouri quickly adapted to continue to meet the needs of students, families, and staff. We're all so appreciative of these administrators, teachers, and support staff members who continue shining the light of Christ in uncertain times. Please join the District in prayer this fall for our 50 early childhood centers, 50 elementary schools, and 9 high schools. Your work is making an eternal difference!

THIS WEEK ON KFUEO AM850 & [kfuo.org](#), continue studying the book of Proverbs on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m.), continue in the book of 1 Samuel on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m.), and spend a moment with KFUEO Radio on topics in faith, family, scripture, creation, and a little fun on KFUEO Midday Moments at 12:00 p.m. Find your favorite programs on demand at [kfuo.org](#) or wherever you get your podcasts.

STEWARDSHIP BLURB FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27: **Ephesians 3:14-15 - "For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named."** We have a Father in heaven. He cares for us. He knows how to give us all good things. This knowledge frees us from worry and anxiety. Jesus returned to this theme again and again, and we should take Him at His Word. Our Father will care for us, so we can be secure in generosity and faithful living.

PROVIDING ARTILLERY SUPPORT FOR THE CHURCH MILITANT ON THE FRONT LINES... *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 subjects include: Christian Survivors of Soviet Persecution; The Demolition of the Western Mind; Media Coverage of Religion; The Theological Foundation & Practice of Lutheran Day Schools; and more. You can tune in live weekdays from 3-5 p.m. on KFUEO, 850 AM in St. Louis. You can also listen at your convenience at [issuesetc.org](#), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✠ September 6-19, 2020

ATTENDANCE	FINANCIAL			
	September 6-19		Year-to-Date	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
Sunday: 67	Income: \$11,413	\$11,002	Income: \$189,564	\$188,615
Wednesday: 11	Expense: \$11,692	\$10,999	Expense: \$165,353	\$188,630

THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✠ September 27, 2020

SCHEDULE	SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR OFFERINGS	WEEK'S CALENDAR
9:00 DIVINE SERVICE Live stream at www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl	Nursery: 2nd Floor - Sanctuary: Bible Class "Where Is My Church? Life Together Before, During, and After the Pandemic" Pastor Asbury	MONDAY
10:30 – Sunday School/Bible Study		TUESDAY
11:45 – Youth Catechism Class		WEDNESDAY 7:00 pm Divine Service
		THURSDAY
		FRIDAY
		SATURDAY Pastor's Day Off