



# Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

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## WEEKLY NEWS ❖ November 15, 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 ❖

#### RENDER TO GOD THE THINGS OF GOD

When confronted with the civic duty of paying taxes, our Lord Jesus, Wisdom incarnate, walked "in the way of righteousness, in the paths of justice" (Prov. 8:20) and discerned that wisdom "is better than jewels" and "better than gold, even fine gold" (Prov. 8:11, 19). When we set our minds on earthly things, such as wealth and passing glory, our "end is destruction" (Phil. 3:19). However, our humble and prudent Lord has rendered "to God the things that are God's" (Matt. 22:21), namely, perfect fear, love, and trust, as well as the complete sacrifice for our sin. In so doing, He also rendered to Caesar the things of honor and justice, submitting to the law of the land that put Him on the cross. The true "riches and honor are with [Him]," because "enduring wealth and righteousness" (Prov. 8:18) are found in our heavenly citizenship from which "we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ." He "will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself" (Phil. 3:20-21).

### ❖ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ❖

The first stanza of the hymn *Who Trusts in God a Strong Abode* (LSB 714) first appeared in 1572 in a collection of songs for family devotions by Joachim Magdeburg. Magdeburg was the pastor in Erfurt, Germany and died in 1587. Jesus Christ stood at the heart of Magdeburg's theology. This hymn presents his trust that Christ not only forgives sins but also provides protection in the face of the fears, weaknesses, enemies, and tribulations that afflict believers. This was something Magdeburg learned from Martin Luther's lectures and preaching while he studied in Wittenberg. The second and third stanzas are by an unknown author. Expanding on Magdeburg's stanza, the battle between God and Satan provide affirmation of the God's protection for His people.

### ❖ 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 111 in the front part of *Lutheran Service Book*.
- **PONDER** today's Hymn of the Day, "Who Trusts in God A Strong Abode"

**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 ❖

**LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR** (November 22, 2020)

- Old Testament: **Isaiah 65:17-25** – Isaiah proclaims and pictures the "new heavens and new earth."  
 Psalm: **Psalm 149** – "Let Israel be glad in his Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!"  
 Epistle: **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11** – The Lord will come like a thief in the night; therefore, we soberly watch for His return to save us.  
 Holy Gospel: **Matthew 25:1-13** – The kingdom is like ten virgins – five were unprepared for the Bridegroom and five were prepared.



✠ 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](#).

OPEN ALTAR FLOWER DATES ARE: Sunday, November 22. Vases are \$21 each and are yours after the last service. Please call Carol, 752-0525, to reserve a date.

COPIES OF THE MINUTES OF THE 11/1/2020 VOTERS ASSEMBLY, including a report from the treasurer, are available in the narthex for all who would like a copy.

THE CHURCH IS WANTING TO SEND CARE PACKAGES to the military we are praying for but we need their addresses to do that. If you have or know the address for the following, please call the church office, 352-0014, and give them their address. Looking for: Rick Bernsten; Ryan Berkel; Jacob Shubert; and Keith Woodcock.

GIVING TREE: Though Christmas seems far away in fact it is only a little over one month until December 25. With this in mind, a "Giving Tree" will be set up in our church narthex Sunday, November 22. Cards on the tree will have a name and a gift suggestion. Please take a card or two, shop and bring the gifts back to Hope Church by December 13. Gifts are not to be wrapped, as they are given to the mothers who wrap them and give them to their children on Christmas. Two charities have been selected for this year: Our Little Haven which supports foster children ([www.ourlittlehaven.org](http://www.ourlittlehaven.org)) and Lydia's House which supports abused women and their children ([www.lydiashouse.org](http://www.lydiashouse.org)).

STEWARDSHIP BLURB FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15: **Philippians 3:19 - "Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things."** There is danger in setting our minds on earthly things, serving mammon, and caring more for our bodily comfort than our spiritual well-being. God does not tell us to be faithful and generous in our stewardship of the things of this earth to ruin our fun. Rather, He tells us to give generously to teach us how to make sure the things of this world do not lay a hold of our hearts.

THEOLOGY FOR WHITE COLLAR, BLUE COLLAR & CLERICAL COLLAR... 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: Church Paraments & Vestments; Original Sin; The Passover; The Lord's Supper 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](http://issuesetc.org), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

**STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✠ October, 2020**

**ATTENDANCE**

Sunday: 63  
Wednesday: 13

**FINANCIAL**

	October		Year-to-Date	
	Actual	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted
Income:	\$26,731.57	\$23,576	\$231,683.50	\$235,767
Expense:	\$25,356.52	\$23,570	\$211,932.34	\$235,769

**THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✠ November 15, 2020**

**SCHEDULE**

9:00 DIVINE SERVICE  
Live stream at  
[www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl](http://www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl)  
10:30 – Sunday School/Bible Study  
*Youth Catechism Class moved to Tuesday afternoon via Zoom.*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR OFFERINGS**

**Nursery:**  
2nd Floor –  
**Sanctuary:**  
Bible Class  
*Pastor Kevin Robson*

**WEEK'S CALENDAR**

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY  
7:00 pm Divine Service

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY  
*Pastor's Day Off*