



# Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

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

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



## WEEKLY NEWS ✠ January 31, 2021

### ✠ 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 ✠

#### GRACE ALONE

The people of Israel contended with the Lord in the wilderness (Ex. 17:1-7). They were dissatisfied with His provision. In the same way, the first laborers in the vineyard complained against the landowner for the wage he provided them (Matt. 20:1-16). They charged him with being unfair, but in reality he was being generous. For the Lord does not wish to deal with us on the basis of what we deserve but on the basis of His abounding grace in Christ. The first—those who rely on their own merits—will be last. "For they were overthrown in the wilderness" (1 Cor. 10:5). But the last, those who rely on Christ, will be first. For Christ is the Rock (1 Cor. 9:24-10:5). He is the One who was struck and from whose side blood and water flowed that we may be cleansed of our sin.

### ✠ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ✠

The great "Solas" of the Reformation. By Grace Alone. By Scripture Alone. By Faith Alone. Today we hear all about God's grace. The idea of grace permeates our Lutheran tradition. We cannot earn God's grace, but yet we receive it through the means of grace. Few hymns surpass the hymn, *By Grace I'm Saved*, on the subject of grace. Originally written with ten stanzas, the six contained in *Lutheran Service Book*, outline this idea of grace. Coupled with the tune O DASS ICH TAUSEND, we cannot help but be filled with joy at our unmerited reception of God's grace. The hymn *Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling*, illustrates for us the undeserved gifts we receive from our heavenly Father.

### ✠ 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 95 in the front part of *Lutheran Service Book*.
- *PONDER* today's Hymn of the Day, LSB 555, "Salvation unto Us Has Come"

*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 ✠

SEXAGESIMA ("About 60 Days" - until Easter) (February 7, 2021)

*God sows His Word on various "soils" throughout the world...*

Old Testament: **Isaiah 55:10-13**—God's Word accomplishes its purpose.

Psalms: **Psalm 84** - "Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise!"

Epistle: **2 Corinthians 11:19-12:9**—St Paul boasts in his infirmities.

Holy Gospel: **Luke 8:4-15**—God, the Sower, sows the seed of His Word.

✠ 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](#).

FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR are placed to the praise and glory of God in loving memory of the birthday, February 2, of Olin Spyers, husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, placed by his family.

OPEN ALTAR FLOWER DATES are February 7 and 14. Vases are \$21 each and are yours to take home after the service. There is a 2021 flower calendar in the narthex that if you would like to put flowers on the altar on a particular Sunday sign up on the calendar and take an envelope by the calendar to put your payment in. You can also call Carol, 752-0525 or 691-3619 to reserve a date.

GIVING OPPORTUNITY: Please join together in serving our neighbors by collecting items for Humanitri, an organization in St. Louis that helps the homeless acquire stability (Humanitri.org). A list of suggested items is in the narthex. You can place your items in a box located in the narthex starting January 17. We will collect through February 7.

LUTHERAN WITNESS subscription renewal (or take out a new subscription!) time is here. The *Lutheran Witness* is a magazine that informs us as to what others are doing for the Lord. A yearly subscription is \$15.96. You can put your check in the specific envelope in your Tithing packet, make check payable to Hope Lutheran Church. If you no longer wish to receive an existing subscription, please notify the church office.

STEWARDSHIP BLURB FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 31: **1 Corinthians 9:25 - "Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable."** Self-control is a fruit of the Spirit, for the desires of the flesh are at war with the desires of the Spirit. We have received the new life in Christ by His grace. Now He calls us to follow Him deliberately, with self-control and with intention.

THIS WEEK ON KFUEO AM850 & [kfuo.org](#), dive into a curious theological topic on Cross Defense (2/1 at 2:00 p.m.), learn how our Lutheran Confessions intersect our vocations on Concord Matters (2/2 at 2:00 p.m.), and study Mark 4-6 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m.). Find these programs on demand at [kfuo.org](#) or wherever you get your podcasts.

**STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✠ January 10-23**

**ATTENDANCE**  
Sunday: 83

**FINANCIAL**

January 10-23		Year End 2020	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	
Income:	\$10,462	\$10,983	Income: \$281,717
Expense:	\$9,990	\$10,549	Expense: \$253,915
			\$282,918

**THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✠ JANUARY 31, 2021**

**SCHEDULE**

9:00 - DIVINE SERVICE  
Live stream at  
[www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl](http://www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl)  
10:15 - SPECIAL VOTERS  
ASSEMBLY MEETING  
10:30 - Sunday School/Bible Study  
11:45 - Youth Catechism Class

**SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR OFFERINGS**

*Nursery:*  
2nd Floor -  
*Sanctuary:*  
"On Holy Ground:  
Why We Do What We Do in  
Worship"  
Pastor Randy Asburry

**WEEK'S CALENDAR**

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY  
7:00 pm - Divine Service

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY  
Pastor's Day Off