



Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

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WEEKLY NEWS ❖ November 21, 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. 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 ❖

BY FAITH WE ARE PREPARED FOR CHRIST'S RETURN

"The day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night" (1 Thess. 5:1-11). The arrival of the bridegroom will be sudden and unexpected. Therefore you are to be watchful and ready like the five wise virgins. "For you know neither the day nor the hour" when the Son of Man is to return. (Matt. 25:1-13). The lamps are the Word of Christ. The oil in the lamps is the Holy Spirit, who works through the Word to create and sustain the flame of faith in Christ. The foolish are those who do not give proper attention to the working of the Holy Spirit in baptism, preaching, and the supper, and so their faith does not endure. The wise, however, are those who diligently attend to these gifts of the Spirit, and who therefore have an abundance of oil. The flame of faith endures to the end. By God's grace they are received into the eternal wedding feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, the new heavens and the new earth created by the Lord for the joy of His people (Is. 65:17-25).

❖ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ❖

WAKE, AWAKE, FOR NIGHT IS FLYING (LSB 516)

"Wake, Awake, for Night," written by the Lutheran Pastor Phillip Nicolai (1599), is referred to as the King of the Chorales. Outside of its outstanding confession concerning the coming Christ it entails some beautiful hidden gems. Each verse is written in the shape of a chalice, alluding to the Christ and the host of heaven we now participate with in the Lord's Supper. The German original contains three initials at the beginning of each verse - vs. 1 - W, 2 - Z, and 3 - G. These belonged to Count Wilhelm Ernst a student of Nicolai's who died a year before. Its specific occasion for writing was a horrible plague that claimed thousands with as many as thirty people being buried each day. Their committals were said to be in Nicolai's view from his office window. Thus it serves as a comfort to the dying and their families, causing it to be appropriately heard not only at weddings but also funerals. It is based primarily on Matthew 25, the parable of the wise and foolish virgins. Earlier translations both in *TLH* and *LW* missed the reference to the Lord's Supper in verse two (Das Abendmahl). *LSB* has rightly restored it. The hymn makes the text seen to its hearers and from leads one from the beckoning of the Word of God to the Supper to full participation with Christ and all the saints in heaven. (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 149 in the front part of *Lutheran Service Book*.
- **PONDER** today's Hymn of the Day, "Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying"

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 ❖

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT - "To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul" (November 28, 2021)

- Old Testament: **Jeremiah 23:5-8**—God promises to send a King known as "The Lord Our Righteousness."
- Psalm: **Psalm 24**—"The earth is the LORD's, and all it's fullness." "The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory."
- Epistle: **Romans 13:8-14**—Our salvation is nearer now. Therefore, let us live life soberly and watchfully.
- Holy Gospel: **Matthew 21:1-9**—Our King comes humble and riding on a donkey. He comes to save us by dying on a cross!

✠ PARISH NEWS AND NOTES ✠

THIS MORNING WE RECEIVE AND WELCOME new members to our Hope family! The Serina family – Rev. Dr. Richard, Christina, John, Emma, Brendan, Cosette, and James – transfers in from Christ the King Lutheran Church, Ringwood, NJ. We also welcome Shiyi Zhang, law student at Washington University, through the rite of Confirmation. Give thanks to the Lord, for He does all things well!

OPEN ALTAR FLOWER DATES are Sunday, December 5, 12, and 19. Vases are \$21 each and are yours to take home after the service. You can take an envelope by the calendar to put your payment in or call Carol, 752-0525 or 691-3619 to reserve a date.

THE GIVING TREE: Christmas seems far away, but in fact it is only a little over a month until December 25. The Giving Tree charities will again be Our Little Haven, which supports foster children (www.ourlittlehaven.org) and Lydia’s House, which supports abused women and their children (www.lydiashouse.org). A Christmas tree will be in the narthex beginning Thanksgiving Day. Cards will be on the tree with names and gift suggestions. Please take a card or two, shop and bring the gifts back to Hope Church by Sunday, December 12. Gifts are to be left unwrapped, so mothers have the pleasure of wrapping them. Be sure to attach the card to your gift and feel free to include wrapping paper.

CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF NEW AMERICANS WOULD LIKE TO HELP YOU WITH CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS! A baby tab blanket, a pretty purse, an oven mitt...now is a great time to support and encourage our Afghan ladies by [ordering handmade items](#) for family and friends. They will serve as a daily reminder to pray for our refugee sisters and their families. With the assistance of great volunteers who come like manna from Heaven and helpful translation apps, our Afghan ladies sew every Wednesday. There is lots of talking and laughing as the women acquire a skill, earn some money, learn English, socialize, and discuss life in St. Louis. Of greatest importance is the time of sharing the story of God’s love by using the Jesus Film in their own language. See [our catalog of sewing items and order blank](#) by opening this link online. Email, call, or text to order items! A Catalog and order forms are in the coffee hour area in the basement also for you to shop this morning! For more details, contact carolbuckman316@gmail.com or (314) 517-8513.

STEWARDSHIP BLURB FOR SUNDAY, November 21: 1 Thessalonians 5:8 – “But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.” Our salvation is secure in Christ. He has done it all to save us. Therefore, our hope is secure, and our faith in Him is certain. And what goes with faith and hope? Love. Our good works of love flow forth from the certainty of our faith. Our giving back to the Lord’s work comes from what He has first given us.

EQUIPPING THE PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS... 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: A Lutheran Response to 21st Century Culture, The Hymn “We Praise You, O God,” The Advent Season, Peter Confesses Jesus as the Christ 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, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✠ October

ATTENDANCE	FINANCIAL			
	October		Year to date in October	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
Sunday: 101	Income: \$21,964	\$24,320	Income: \$232,160	\$243,216
	Expense: \$30,896	\$23,360	Expense: \$221,455	\$242,606

THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✠ November 21, 2021

SCHEDULE	SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR OFFERINGS	WEEK’S CALENDAR
9:00 – DIVINE SERVICE Live stream at www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl	2nd Floor: Early Childhood Sunday School	MONDAY
10:15 – Coffee Hour	Basement: Primary – Junior High Sunday School	TUESDAY
10:30 – Bible Study/ Sunday School	Basement Auditorium: “Contend for the Faith: 2 Peter & Jude”	WEDNESDAY NO Kantorei rehearsal
11:45 – Schola rehearsal Youth Catechism Class	Pastor Asbury	THURSDAY 9:30 Thanksgiving Day Matins
		FRIDAY Church Office Closed
		SATURDAY Pastor’s Day Off