



# Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

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



## WEEKLY NEWS ❖ February 27, 2022

### ❖ 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 ❖

#### FAITH ALONE

The seeing are blind, while the one who is blind can see (Luke 18:31-43). Jesus tells the twelve that He is going up to Jerusalem to suffer and die and rise again, but they cannot understand or grasp what He is saying. The meaning of His words is hidden from their sight. However, as Jesus makes His way up to Jerusalem, a blind man calls out to Him for mercy. This blind man sees that Jesus is the Messiah, the Savior, for he calls Him "Son of David." Indeed, Jesus is the Lord's anointed, the keeper of sheep (1 Sam. 16:1-13) who goes to lay down His life for the sheep. He is the incarnate love of the Father who suffers long and is kind, who is not puffed up, who never fails us (1 Cor. 13:1-13). Jesus opens the eyes of the blind (Is. 35:3-7) to see Him not according to outward appearances of lowliness, but according to His heart of mercy and compassion. Those who behold Him thus by faith follow Him to the cross through death into life.

### ❖ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ❖

In 1986, Lutheran pastor Rusty Edwards (b. 1955) opened his Bible with the intention of creating a Bible study on the actual life and unique ministry of Jesus: What on earth did Jesus really do? As I prayed, studied, and thanked God for the life of Jesus, I began to write down some of his works. The list grew longer. Suddenly, I gazed down at the list and the list looked almost like a hymn. (Rusty Edwards, "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness," *CrossAccent* 15, no. 2 [2007]: 39) Edwards then set aside the Bible study and composed "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness," a celebration of the marvelous works of the incarnate Son of God. This hymn is deeply descriptive of the life and works of Jesus. It is filled with biblical imagery. Yet Jesus is not explicitly mentioned by name until the third stanza. The hymn begins by celebrating the freedom that is brought by the "light" (John 1:4-9) who breaks the darkness. Out of that light comes freedom and all its benefits (described in st. 1). Read John 8:34-36. In the second stanza humanity (the children), the spiritual realm (demons), and the whole of creation (burning sand) are made whole by the one who is "living water." Read John 4:7-15. The hymn concludes with the explicit identification of "the One" as the incarnate Word. We have been moved from table (Communion) to font (Baptism), and now the hymn concludes with a focus on the grace that table and font bring. Edwards saves the best for last. Read John 3:16-17. (taken from *The Word in Song*)

### ❖ 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 146 in the front part of *Lutheran Service Book*.
- **PONDER** today's Hymn of the Day, *LSB* 849, "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

**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 LENT (March 6, 2022)

*Jesus is tempted as we are, and thus He is the way out of our sin.*

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|----------------|---|
| Old Testament: | <b>Genesis 3:1-21</b> – The Fall into sin (our need for a Savior).              |
| Psalm:         | <b>Psalm 32</b> – "You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble" |
| Epistle:       | <b>2 Corinthians 6:1-10</b> – Now is the day of God's salvation.                |
| Holy Gospel:   | <b>Matthew 4:1-11</b> – The Temptation of Jesus.                                |



## ✠ PARISH NEWS AND NOTES ✠

**ALTAR FLOWER DATES** – A flower calendar for the year is in the church narthex. If you would like to place flowers at the altar on a particular date, write your name on the calendar by the date. Each vase is \$25, you can place one or both vases. The flowers are yours to take home after the service. If questions, call Carol at 314-752-0525 or 314-691-3619. Flowers are not placed on the altar during Lent.

**PASTOR ASBURY WILL BE ON VACATION MARCH 3-8.** Please contact the church office if you are in need of pastoral care.

**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 **Sunday, March 20, 2022**. Contact the church office for a copy of the application.

**TODAY** at 3:00 PM, Zion Lutheran Church in Mascoutah, IL, 101 S. Railway Street, will host a Hymn Festival featuring the musical works of Carl Schalk. Dr. Mark Bender will give commentaries on the musical selections. No tickets are needed and the Hymn Festival is free.

**STEWARDSHIP BLURB FOR SUNDAY, February 27: Luke 18:35 – “As he drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging.”** Who is not a beggar? All that we have is a gift of God. We are all beggars before Him. Knowing this can leave us with nothing but thankfulness in our hearts. And this thankful acknowledgment of all the Lord’s gifts is also what forms the basis of our own generous giving.

**PREMIER CONFERENCE FOR LUTHERAN LAITY...** You’re invited to attend the 2022 Issues, Etc. “Making the Case” Conference Friday, June 24 and Saturday, June 25 at Concordia University Chicago. Speakers include: Bryan Wolfmueller, Will Weedon, Dr. Paivi Rasanen, Dr. Albert Mohler, Dr. Joel Biermann, Bill Barr and Chris Rosebrough. Early-bird registration is \$135 and includes three meals. Reduced room rates, including on-campus dorms, are available. For more information, visit [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org) or call (618) 223-8385.

**CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE AM850 & [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org):** We usher in the season of Lent with our first Midweek recital and worship service on 3/2 at 11:00 a.m., study Luke 12-13 on Sharper Iron’s “The Beloved Physician’s Orderly Account” (weekdays at 8:00 a.m.), and study Matthew 18-20 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m.). Find your favorite programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org), on the KFUE Radio app, or on your favorite podcasting app.

STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✠ January 30 - February 12					
ATTENDANCE		FINANCIAL			
Sunday: 90		January 30 – February 12		2022	
		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
Income:		\$10,070	\$11,871	Income:	\$45,524 \$24,074
Expense:		\$11,402	\$11,604	Expense:	\$20,679 \$23,531

THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✠ February 27, 2022		
SCHEDULE	SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR OFFERINGS	WEEK’S CALENDAR
9:00 – DIVINE SERVICE Live stream at <a href="http://www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl">www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl</a>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Floor:</b> Early Childhood Sunday School	MONDAY
10:15 – Coffee Hour	<b>Basement:</b> Primary – Junior High Sunday School	TUESDAY
10:30 – Bible Study/ Sunday School	<b>Basement Auditorium:</b> Hymn of the Day Study: “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness” (LSB 849) Pastor Asbury	WEDNESDAY Ash Wednesday 5:00 Kantorei Rehearsal 7:00 Divine Service with Imposition of Ashes
11:45 – Schola rehearsal		THURSDAY
11:45 – Youth Catechism Class		FRIDAY
		SATURDAY Pastor’s Day Off