



Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

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

www.hopelutheranstl.org



WEEKLY NEWS ❖ December 4, 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 ❖

THE LORD COMES ON THE LAST DAY

The day on which our Lord returns will be a "great and awesome day" (Mal. 4:5). For He will come in a cloud with great power and glory. To the wicked and the proud, it will be a Day of judgment that will "set them ablaze" (Mal. 4:1). The signs preceding this Day will bring them fear and fainting. But to those who believe, who fear the name of the Lord, this Day is one to look forward to and rejoice in: "...straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near" (Luke 21:28). Christ our Redeemer is coming; the Sun of Righteousness will bring healing in His wings. Let us, then, give attention to the words of the Lord, which do not pass away. Let us "through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures" (Rom. 15:4) be strengthened in our hope by the Holy Spirit and watch diligently for Jesus' coming. Then, by God's grace, we shall escape all these things that will come to pass and stand before the Son of Man.

❖ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ❖

LO! HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING (LSB 336)

Charles Wesley saw that, according to Luther, music teaches the faith and imprints it strongly upon the heart. So he did in this hymn. The tune does what the text declares. As the music descends so the text confesses "...with clouds descending." As the congregation and musicians swell so we sing "Swell the triumph of His train, Alleluia..." The hymn primarily pictures through song the words of Revelation 1:7: "Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen." Some slight editing has taken place from Wesley's original which shows theological difference between the Methodists and Lutherans, "once for favored sinners slain," now reads "Once for every sinner slain." (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 50 in the front part of *Lutheran Service Book*.
- **PONDER** today's Hymn of the Day, LSB 336, "Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending"

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 ❖

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT - "Rejoice!" (December 11, 2022)

Old Testament: **Isaiah 40:1-11** — Prepare the way of the Lord...comfort my people.

Psalm: **Psalm 85** — "Lord, you have been favorable to Your land... You have forgiven the iniquity of Your people."

Epistle: **1 Corinthians 4:1-5** — He who judges is the Lord.

Holy Gospel: **Matthew 11:2-11** — John's question to Jesus from prison.



✧ PARISH NEWS AND NOTES ✧

FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR are placed to the praise and glory of God by David and Drusha Mussmann in honor of the birthday, Nov. 29, of their daughter, Christina Mussmann; and by the Hope Altar Guild in memory of their former members.

POINSETTIA PLANTS will be placed in the altar area during the Christmas season. If you wish to place a plant in honor or memory of someone, please pick up an envelope from the narthex or call Carol, 314-752-0525 or 314-691-3619, **before December 12**. Poinsettias are \$8.00 each and are yours to take home anytime during the Christmas season.

COME ONE, COME ALL TO DECORATE THE SANCTUARY FOR CHRISTMAS! Please join us at 11 a.m. on Saturday, December 17 to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. Many hands make light work!

THE GATEWAY RINGERS will present handbell music for the Christmas season at Hope Ev. Lutheran on Sunday, December 18 at 4:00 pm. Please come enjoy the music the Gateway Ringers will share with us!

MIASS will host a reception after the Gateway Bell Ringers service on Sunday, December 18. The committee is asking for help from the congregation to supply homemade Christmas cookies for the reception. If you can donate 1 dozen cookies, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex. Please bring your cookies that Sunday morning and leave them in the back cooking kitchen. We are looking to accumulate about 6 dozen total. Thanking you in advance for your help.

THE CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE: Just a reminder that today is the last day to take a gift card from the Christmas Giving Tree. Each card has suggestions for a family of Lydia’s House (a place that supports abused women and their children) or for the children of Our Little Haven (supporter of foster children). Please remember that all gifts must be returned to Hope Church by NEXT SUNDAY, December 11th, for distribution to the charities on Monday. Gifts are to be unwrapped and be sure to attach the gift card. Thank you for your participation and generosity. Hopefully we have helped to make someone’s Christmas just a bit merrier. If you have any questions, please call Marlane Truebe at 314-631-1218.

STEWARDSHIP BLURB FOR SUNDAY, December 4: **Romans 15:5 - “May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus.”** All of our good works are indeed granted to us from our heavenly Father. We live in complete dependence upon His grace and mercy. What do we have that we have not received as a gift from His hand? And knowing that, how can we not be thankful?

STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✧ November 13 - 26						
ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK Sunday: 75	FINANCIAL					
	November 13 - 26			Year to Date thru October		
		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
	Income:	\$19,842	\$11,235	Income:	\$286,394	\$240,778
	Expense:	\$27,108	\$10,999	Expense:	\$244,523	\$246,229
THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✧ December 4, 2022						
SCHEDULE		SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR OFFERINGS		WEEK'S CALENDAR		
9:00 – DIVINE SERVICE Live stream at www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl		2 nd Floor:		MONDAY		
10:15 – Coffee Hour		Early Childhood Sunday School		TUESDAY		
10:30 – Bible Study/ Sunday School		Basement:		WEDNESDAY		
11:30 – Schola Rehearsal		Primary – Junior High Sunday School		5:00 Kantorei rehearsal 5:30 Advent Soup Supper 6:30 Advent Evening Prayer		
NO Youth Catechism Class		Basement Auditorium:		THURSDAY		
		Romans – Daily Bread of the Soul Rev. Kevin Robson		FRIDAY		
				SATURDAY		
				Sunday School rehearsal 9:30-10:30		