



Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

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

www.hopelutheranstl.org



WEEKLY NEWS ❖ February 5, 2023

❖ 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 ❖

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 hymn *Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying* (LSB 826) is well-known and loved within many LCMS congregations. However, its text by Daniel March is law oriented. This focus on the law even led to its recommendation to be excluded from the *Lutheran Book of Worship* in 1978. To address these concerns and retain a much-loved tune, the *Lutheran Service Book* hymnal committee approached Stephen Starke to pen new gospel focused stanzas. Rather than combine the two texts and create a long-winded hymn, they replaced the original first stanza with Starke's new stanzas, giving birth to our Hymn of the Day for Septuagesima, *Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling* (LSB 827). Stanza one, with its altering of "crying" to "calling" to avoid the confusion of having two hymns with the same title, is a paraphrase of Matthew 20 (today's Gospel). Stanza two paints a picture of workers joining the harvest throughout the day. Jesus' disciples joined in the spreading of the Gospel right away and many generations of the Church have labored throughout history. Today, as the harvest is getting ripe, His church is still laboring to bring in the final harvest. In stanza three we sing of God's Word growing faith in the heart and the final stanza encourages the Church to listen to His voice as we long for, *"the time [when] work shall cease,"* and we *"shall enjoy His Sabbath peace."*

❖ 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 12, 2023)

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 ✠

OPEN DATES for Altar Vases are February 12. Vases are \$25 each and are yours to take home after the service. Please call Carol, 314-691-3619, to reserve a date or place your name on the calendar in the narthex.

THE BOARD OF FINANCE IS HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE the newest member of the Hope staff: Mr. George Lluca. George began his employment with Hope as Manager of Properties on February 1. George is a member of Epiphany Lutheran Church and serves part-time as Manager of Property at Word of Life Lutheran School. His children also attended Hope Lutheran School. George comes highly recommended not only for his handy-man skills but also his dedication in serving the church. If you see George during the week, please introduce yourself and welcome him to Hope.

THIS AFTERNOON AT 4PM HOPE will host a hymn festival featuring the works of Lisa Clark, hymnwriter and author. Lisa is a St. Louis native, alum of Hope Lutheran school, and serves as Senior Editor at Concordia Publishing House. The hymn festival will feature hymn texts written as part of her Ph.D. studies at the University of Bristol, England. The festival will be led by organist Jacob Weber and the combined choirs of Hope and Ascension Lutheran churches.

HOPE MEMBER DEACONESS GRACE RAO has received a call to serve as Executive Director of A Place of Refuge in Milwaukee, Wisconsin (www.aplaceofrefuge.org). A Place of Refuge is a Gospel-focused service reaching out to women with the love of Christ with both words and actions and a Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS. Grace will be installed Sunday, February 19, 2023 at 4 pm at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 13445 Hampton Road, Brookfield, WI. We thank our Lord for His gracious provision for Grace and pray His blessing on her service.

STEWARDSHIP BLURB FOR SUNDAY, February 5: **Matthew 20:9 - “And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius.”** Behold the generosity of God! He gives out of His grace, not what we deserve to receive. Living a godly life means living in imitation of God – and surely one of the foundations of God’s being is His generosity.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN for the [2023 LCMS Life Conference](#), which will be held March 2-3 at the LCMS International Center in St. Louis and online. The conference will provide Lutherans with resources to faithfully proclaim what God’s Word teaches about life, health, marriage and family. Featured presenters will include Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, Deaconess Dr. Tiffany Manor, Timothy Goeglein, and Rev. Michael Salemink. Participants are invited to attend either in person or online. [In-person registration](#), which includes meals and snacks, is \$49 per person. [Online registration](#) (which can be used by an individual, couple, family or group) is \$29. Both in-person and online attendees will have access to recorded sessions for 60 days after the conference.

STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✠ January 8-21					
ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK Sunday: 78		FINANCIAL			
		January 8-21		Year ending 2022	
		Actual	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted
		Income: \$8,788	\$13,216	Income: \$347,118	\$288,938
		Expense: \$11,951	\$12,754	Expense: \$321,562	\$296,948
THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✠ February 5, 2023					
SCHEDULE	SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR OFFERINGS		WEEK’S CALENDAR		
9:00 – DIVINE SERVICE Live stream at www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl 10:15 – Coffee Hour 10:30 – Bible Study/ Sunday School 11:30 – Schola Rehearsal 11:30 – Youth Catechism Class 4:00 – Hymn Festival featuring works of Lisa Clark	2 nd Floor:		MONDAY		
	Early Childhood Sunday School		TUESDAY		
	Basement:		WEDNESDAY		
	Primary – Junior High Sunday School		5:00 Kantorei rehearsal		
	Basement Auditorium:		THURSDAY		
	Romans – Daily Bread for the Soul		6:00 – ThriVe Parent University		
		Pastor Randy Asburry	FRIDAY		
			SATURDAY		
			Pastor’s day off		