



Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

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WEEKLY NEWS ✠ February 12, 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 ✠

WORD ALONE

The Sower sows the seed of His Word (Luke 8:4-15). This Word is living and powerful (Heb. 4:9-13) to conceive new life in those who hear it. But the planting of Christ is attacked by the devil, the world, and the flesh. Satan snatches the Word away from hard hearts. The riches and pleasures of this life choke off faith. Shallow and emotional belief withers in time of temptation and trouble. But see how Christ bears this attack for us! Christ's cross was planted in the hard and rocky soil of Golgotha. A crown of thorns was placed upon His head. Satan and His demons hellishly hounded and devoured Him. Yet, through His dying and rising again, He destroyed these enemies of ours. Jesus is Himself the Seed which fell to the ground and died in order that it might sprout forth to new life and produce much grain. In Him, the weak are strong (2 Cor. 11:19-12:9). He is the Word of the Father which does not return void (Is. 55:10-13) but yields a harvest hundredfold.

✠ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ✠

By Scripture Alone. From today's Gospel reading of the Parable of the Sower we learn how important it is to be well fed – well fed in the Word of God, so that we might grow in good soil and yield much fruit. All our hymns today focus on this idea, the idea of being in the Word. From Martin Luther's Reformation hymn, *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Your Word*, to Martin Franzmann's twentieth century hymn, *Thy Strong Word*, we are constantly reminded of our vocation as God's children. The first four stanzas of *Thy Strong Word* retell salvation's story, tracing history from creation to God's redeeming sacrifice on the cross. The final two stanzas are our response, including a prayer that God would "give us lips to sing Thy glory, tongues thy mercy to proclaim."

✠ 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 84 in the front part of *Lutheran Service Book*.
- *PONDER* today's Hymn of the Day, *LSB 823, "May God Bestow on Us His Grace"*

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 ✠

QUINQUAGESIMA ("50 Days" – until Easter) (February 19, 2023)

The Lord Jesus is on His way up to Jerusalem.

Old Testament: **1 Samuel 16:1-13** – God anoints David to be king of Israel.

Psalm: **Psalm 146** – "I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being."

Epistle: **1 Corinthians 13:1-13** – The greatest of these is love – love in the Christian life.

Holy Gospel: **Luke 18:31-43** – Jesus heals the blind man – that we may see Him on His way to Jerusalem.



✠ PARISH NEWS AND NOTES ✠

TODAY we say “Farewell and Godspeed” to Chad and Alicia Rolland, and their children Miriam, Micah, and Lydia. We thank our Lord Jesus for their partnership in the Gospel here at Hope and pray His blessing as they move to Geneva, Iowa.

THE BOARD OF FINANCE IS HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE the newest member of the Hope staff: Mr. George Lluka. 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.

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 12: **Luke 8:11 - “The seed is the word of God.”** It all starts with the Word. “In the beginning ... the Word was with God” (John 1:1). “He saved us by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit” (Titus 3:5). “The word of our God will stand forever” (Is. 40:8). We never outgrow our need to hear the Word of God. We never achieve such greatness that we don’t need the blessings of God’s Word. Rather, the Christian life is one of always striving to conform our lives to God’s Word by living out the truth of our Baptism: that we are God’s children by the power of his Word.

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.

LUTHERAN RESALE SHOP - We have two requests: We need many willing volunteers for our semi-annual change over on Monday, March 13th at 10 am. We will be offering \$10 off any merchandise that day to our wonderful volunteers. Bring your lunch and stay as long as you are able. Bring a friend for an enjoyable day. Our marking room is almost empty!! We need donations! So, if you are Spring cleaning, think of us. You can donate any day from 10 am to 3 pm. We are a non-profit with all our profits going to Lutheran Family and Children's Services and Lutheran Senior Services. We are at 6701 W. Florissant, 63136. Questions? Call 314-389-9970.

| STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✠ January | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|----------|---|-----------|
| ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK Sunday: 95 | FINANCIAL | | | |
| | January | | Year ending 2022 | |
| | Actual | Budgeted | Actual | Budgeted |
| | Income: \$39,376 | \$29,263 | Income: \$347,118 | \$288,938 |
| | Expense: \$13,044 | \$28,242 | Expense: \$321,562 | \$296,948 |
| THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✠ February 12, 2023 | | | | |
| SCHEDULE | SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR OFFERINGS | | WEEK’S CALENDAR | |
| 9:00 – DIVINE SERVICE Live stream at www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl | 2 nd Floor: | | MONDAY 7:00 – Board of Elders | |
| 10:15 – Coffee Hour | Early Childhood Sunday School | | TUESDAY | |
| 10:30 – Bible Study/ Sunday School | Basement: | | WEDNESDAY NO Kantorei rehearsal | |
| 11:30 – Schola Rehearsal | Primary – Junior High Sunday School | | THURSDAY 6:00 – ThriVe Parent University | |
| 11:30 – Youth Catechism Class | Basement Auditorium: | | FRIDAY | |
| | Romans – Daily Bread for the Soul | | | |
| | Pastor Randy Asburry | | | |

SATURDAY

Pastor's day off