



# Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

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



## WEEKLY NEWS ✠ March 19, 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 ✠

#### THE LORD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE

The Lord provided bread from heaven for His people in the wilderness (Ex. 16:2-21). Now He who is Himself the living bread from heaven miraculously provides bread for the five thousand (John 6:1-15). This takes place near the time of the Passover, after a great multitude had followed Jesus across the sea, and when He went up on a mountain. Seen in this way, Jesus is our new and greater Moses, who releases us from the bondage of Mount Sinai and makes us free children of the promise (Gal. 4:21-31). Five loaves become twelve baskets—that is, the five books of Moses find their goal and fulfillment in Christ, whose people continue steadfastly in the doctrine and fellowship of the twelve apostles, and in the breaking and receiving of the bread of life, which is the body of Christ together with His precious blood, and in the prayers (Acts 2:41-47). So it is that God's people *"shall not hunger or thirst"* (Is. 49:8-13). For He abundantly provides for us in both body and soul.

### ✠ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ✠

#### JESUS, PRICELESS TREASURE – LSB 743

Johann Franck's hymn is a love song from the bride (church) to her Lord Jesus Christ! This is not as easy to see in English as in the original German which includes this line: God's Lamb, my Bridegroom. Jesus is the priceless Bridegroom, pleasure, friend, and Lamb who has ransomed us, not with gold or silver, but with his precious blood (1 Peter 1:18-19). Jesus defends his bride against all evils of body and soul, especially that accuser Satan. Christians also can also decry fear and death. The world and its treasures hold no sway over those who, in faith, rely on Christ. Faithful Christians, members of the bride of Christ (Ephesians 5:22-33), do not fear leaving this evil world, for then they will dwell forever before the face of their Bridegroom, their priceless Treasure, in heaven. (from [logia.org](http://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 132 in the front part of *Lutheran Service Book*.
- **PONDER** today's Hymn of the Day, *LSB 743, "Jesus, Priceless Treasure"*

**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 ✠

#### FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT (March 26, 2023)

*Jesus is our Great High Priest who sacrifices Himself for us.*

Old Testament: **Genesis 22:1-14**—God tests Abraham and foreshadows the sacrifice of His own Son, Jesus the Christ.

Psalm: **Psalm 43**—"Vindicate me, O God."

Epistle: **Hebrews 9:11-15**—The blood of Christ cleanses us from sin.

Holy Gospel: **John 8:42-59**—Jesus says, "Before Abraham was, I AM"—equating Himself with God.



✂ PARISH NEWS AND NOTES ✂

EASTER LILIES will be used on Easter Sunday in the altar area. If you wish to place a plant in honor or memory of someone, please pick up an envelope from the narthex or call Carol, 314-752-0525/314-691-3619, by March 27. Lilies are \$9.00 each and are yours to take home after the service on Easter.

HELP WANTED: Are you interested in resurrecting Hope’s Easter Breakfast? This year, we will celebrate Easter on Sunday, April 9. We are looking for people to coordinate and pitch in to bring back this great way to celebrate our Lord’s Resurrection and enjoy our fellowship in Him. If you are interested, please contact Kevin Robson ASAP (in person or 314-604-4281 or [kevin.robson@lcms.org](mailto:kevin.robson@lcms.org)).

HELP TAKE OUR CONGREGATIONAL PLANNING TO THE NEXT LEVEL. All congregation members are welcomed to join us here at Hope on Saturday, March 25, 8:30 am to noon. The “Serving in God’s Mission” planning initiative has resulted in our congregation’s adoption – at our January Voters Assembly meeting – of Purpose and Mission statements, as well as seven Planning Categories: Worship and Music, Spiritual Care, Witness and Outreach, Education, Life Together, Stewardship and Facilities. Our next step is to further develop and expand Vision statements and SMART Goals for each of these seven categories. This work has already begun, but it’s time to finish the job so that our Church Council can really “take the ball and run with it.” No advance preparation needed for this Saturday, March 25 session; come as you are and help us to think through our future together, under God’s grace and timing.

STEWARDSHIP BLURB FOR SUNDAY, March 19: John 6:5 – “Jesus said to Philip, ‘Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?’” Of course Jesus knows the answer to that question – He knows how He means to care for His people. The Lord provided, and He still provides. This knowledge frees us for generosity without fear.

KFUO Radio, the broadcast voice of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on **KFUO.org** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. Find programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: @KFUOradio on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

TICKETS ON SALE NOW! Join us in supporting Lutheran Students. You are invited to the LESA 19<sup>th</sup> Annual “A Night for Kids” Dinner and Auction. An evening of cocktails, dinner, silent auction and fellowship to benefit area Lutheran elementary school students. Saturday, April 15, 2023 at 6 PM. Orlando’s Event Center, 2050 Dorsett Village, Maryland Heights, MO 63043. Purchase tickets by March 31 at [info@lesastl.org](mailto:info@lesastl.org).

STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✂ February 19 – March 4					
ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK Sunday: TBD	FINANCIAL				
	February 19 – March 4			Year ending 2022	
		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
	Income:	\$9,272	\$14,228	Income:	\$347,118      \$288,938
	Expense:	\$9,001	\$12,408	Expense:	\$321,562      \$296,948

THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✂ March 19, 2023		
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>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor:  Early Childhood Sunday School	MONDAY
10:15 – Coffee Hour	Basement:	TUESDAY
10:30 – Bible Study/ Sunday School	Primary – Junior High Sunday School	WEDNESDAY 5:00 Kantorei rehearsal 7:00 Lent Evening Prayer
11:30 –Schola Rehearsal	Basement Auditorium:	THURSDAY 6:00 – ThriVe Parent University
11:30 –Youth Catechism Class	Romans— Daily Bread for the Soul Pastor Randy Asburry	FRIDAY
		SATURDAY Pastor’s day off