



Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

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WEEKLY NEWS ✠ August 20, 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 LIFTS UP THE LOWLY

"And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard" (Gen. 4:1-15). For unlike Abel, Cain's offering did not proceed from a heart that revered and trusted in the Lord. Thus, the lowly tax collector who prayed, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" was the one who went down to his house justified before God, not the respectable, outwardly righteous Pharisee who trusted in himself and his own good living (Luke 18:9-14). "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast" (Eph. 2:1-10). The one who penitently despairs of his own righteousness and relies completely on the atoning mercy of God in Christ is the one who is declared righteous. For Christ died for our sins and rose again the third day (1 Cor. 15:1-10). Therefore, "everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

✠ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ✠

OH, HOW GREAT IS YOUR COMPASSION (LSB 559). This text, dripping with the Gospel and reminders that we are saved through Christ's merit, was written by Johannes Olearius and translated into English by August Crull. Olearius (1617-1684) was the first in a long line of German Lutheran theologians. In musical circles, he is probably best known for two things. First, he assembled his *Geistliche Singe-Knust* in 1671, a seven-volume collection of 1,200+ hymns. A prolific poet, his hymns reflect the orthodoxy of Martin Luther. Secondly, he is well-known for his commentary on the entire Bible, published in 1681 in Leipzig, Germany. It is from his commentary and other devotional works that Johann Sebastian Bach found the texts for a number of his cantatas. Other well-known hymns by Olearius include: *Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People* (LSB 347) and *The Lord, My God, Be Praised* (LSB 794).

✠ 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 559, "Oh, How Great is Your Compassion."

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 ✠

THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (August 27, 2023) –

Old Testament: **Isaiah 29:17-24** – God restores His humbled people Israel.

Psalm: **Psalm 146** – "Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!"

Epistle: **2 Corinthians 3:4-11** – We are not sufficient of ourselves, but our sufficiency comes from Christ.

Holy Gospel: **Luke 18:9-14** – God justifies (saves; forgives) not the self-righteous Pharisee, but the humble, confessing tax-collector.



✠ PARISH NEWS AND NOTES ✠

OPEN ALTAR VASES for Sunday, August 27, Sept 3, 10, 17 and 24. Vases are \$25.00 each and are yours to take home after the service. If you wish to place flowers on one of these dates, take an envelope from the narthex and put your name on the flower calendar in the narthex, or call Carol, 314-691-3619 to make arrangements.

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, we will be honored to have Rev. Harrison Goodman, Content Executive for Higher Things, join us. Rev. Goodman will preach the Word of God in the Divine Service and share the mission of Higher Things content during the Bible Class hour. A special door offering will be taken after the service to support the work of Higher Things “to make the Gifts of Christ Jesus known to youth and young adults.”

THE BOARD OF FINANCE HAS PREPARED A MID-YEAR UPDATE based on June close so everyone is aware of the financial position of the congregation. Copies are available in the narthex. We are happy to share that income is tracking slightly ahead of schedule while expenses are right on target. For more details, please pick up a copy and let us know if you have any questions.

STEWARDSHIP BLURB FOR SUNDAY, August 20: **Luke 18:11-12 - “The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’”** The Pharisees got so much right, and so much wrong. It’s a good thing for this Pharisee to be faithful to his wife and faithful in his giving to the Lord’s work, but these things are worthless if they proceed from a prideful heart! After all, what do we have to be proud of? If we have followed the Lord’s ways, we have only done our duty. Better to be thankful (and amazed!) that the Lord has blessed us by making our giving part of His work!

CHOIR RESUMES IN SEPTEMBER. Rehearsals for Kantorei (grades 3-8) will begin on Wednesday, September 6 and Schola (high school and up) will begin on Sunday, September 10. Contact Kantor Janssen for more information. New members are always welcome to join.

ALL ARE INVITED TO THE CONCORDIA SEMINARY GUILD LUNCH on Friday, Sept. 8, 2023. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. in Koburg Hall with the luncheon beginning at noon. Program: KFUE: A Century of Christian Broadcasting *with* Rev. Douglas Griebenaw, KFUE Mission Advocate. **The cost is \$20 per person.** Deadline: August 25, 2023. Mail reservation with your check(s) made payable to Concordia Seminary Guild to: Mary Jane Autry, 2076 Henley Woods, Arnold, MO 63010

THERE IS A WAY TO DIRECTLY TAKE PART IN INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS, face to face, without leaving the United States. Each year 10,000 international students, some with families, study in St. Louis. At International Student Ministry we hope to share ourselves and in doing so share Jesus. Our first event is this Labor Day at Creve Coeur park with over 180 students expected. Won't you join us? This is true outreach! There are volunteer jobs for everyone. Call Sharon at 314-452-6406 or email ismstlouis@gmail.com.

STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✠ July 30-August 12					
ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK		FINANCIAL			
Sunday: 77		July 30-August 12		Year To Date through June	
		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
Income:		\$7,463	\$13,216	Income: \$187,933	\$175,599
Expense:		\$9,249	\$11,681	Expense: \$157,129	\$159,122

THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✠ August 20, 2023		
SCHEDULE	SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR OFFERINGS	WEEK’S CALENDAR
9:00 –DIVINE SERVICE Live stream at www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl	2nd Floor:	MONDAY
10:15 – Coffee Hour	Basement:	TUESDAY
10:30 – Bible Study/ Sunday School	Summer Sunday School	WEDNESDAY
	Basement Auditorium:	THURSDAY 6:00 – ThriVe Parent University
	Romans: Daily Bread for the Soul	FRIDAY
	Pastor Randy Asburry	SATURDAY Pastor’s Day Off