



Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

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WEEKLY NEWS ✠ September 10, 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 CRY OF FAITH: LORD, HAVE MERCY

The ten lepers cried out from a distance, *"Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"* (Luke 17:11-19). Their condition cut them off from God and others. So also do the works of the flesh cut us off from God and others. *"Those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God"* (Gal. 5:16-24). Thus we cry out with the lepers, *"Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy,"* eagerly seeking His good gifts. Jesus said to the lepers, *"Go and show yourselves to the priests."* And as they went, they were cleansed. So too, we walk by faith and not by sight, being confident of Jesus' help before we see any evidence of it, trusting that Jesus' cleansing words of forgiveness will restore us to wholeness in the resurrection. Let us be as the one leper who returned to the true High Priest to give Him thanks and glory. For Jesus bore our infirmities in His sacrifice at Calvary. His words are life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh (Prov. 4:10-23).

✠ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ✠

The Hymn of the Day, *"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"* (LSB 849), comes to us partially via the Sacred Harp hymnal and singing style. Sacred Harp singing is a style of singing that is indigenous to the Eastern United States, particularly Appalachia and New England. Sacred Harp hymnals make use of shape-note notation, basically symbols that represent the solfege syllables. The text is by Rev. Rusty Edwards, a recently retired pastor whose hymn texts are in use by over forty different denominations around the world.

✠ 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 119 in the front part of *Lutheran Service Book*.
- **PONDER** today's Hymn of the Day, LSB 849, *"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness."*

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 FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (September 17, 2023)

Old Testament: **1 Kings 17:8-16**—Prophet Elijah visits a widow's home and God provides for her.
Psalm: **Psalm 146**—"The Lord watches over the sojourners."
Epistle: **Galatians 5:25-6:10**—Life in the Spirit: restoring each other and doing good.
Holy Gospel: **Matthew 6:24-34**—Jesus teaches us not to worry but to trust God's providing hand.



✠ PARISH NEWS AND NOTES ✠

OPEN ALTAR VASES for Sunday, Sept 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.

TODAY BEINGS OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR 2023-2024 for 3-year-olds through 8th grade. We will meet in the lower level of the church for the joint opening with Adult Bible class. The students will then hear where to go and which teacher to meet in the Sunday School area.

DO YOU HAVE A LOVE FOR TEACHING CHILDREN GOD’S WORD? The Sunday School needs 2 more co-teachers. Contact Kay Shoemaker to volunteer to teach or ask questions. keshoemaker@gmail.com

THE CHURCH COUNCIL WOULD INVITE YOU TO ATTEND the Budget Town Hall Meeting scheduled for Sunday, September 24 immediately following bible class in the fellowship hall. This annual event allows for congregation input as the budget is being developed, prior to the budget being approved at the October 29 Voters Assembly meeting. The Board of Finance will make additional financial information available to the congregation by Sunday, September 17. We will present an update on the current financials and an overview of budget opportunities for the 2024 fiscal year. Again, the main purpose of the meeting is to receive input and guidance from the congregation on items that should be considered in the upcoming years. The Council finds this input extremely useful and makes the final budget approval much easier. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend.

STEWARDSHIP BLURB FOR SUNDAY, September 10: **Luke 17:18-19 – “Then Jesus answered ... ‘Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?’ And he said to him, ‘Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.’”** Faith and thanksgiving go together. How could they not go together? Our Lord gave Himself for us and we trust Him and His every Word. Once we have this faith, we want to say thank you – it’s only natural. Thus, our stewardship is a natural part of the Christian faith. We thank the Lord with our gifts which enable the church to reach more people with the Good News of Christ.

CHOIR RESUMES: Rehearsals for Kantorei (grades 3-8) will begin on Wednesday, October 4 and Schola (high school and up) BEGINS TODAY. Contact Kantor Janssen for more information. New members are always welcome to join.

KIDS HAVE QUESTIONS SERIES... Have your children or grandchildren ever asked you questions about Science & Faith; The Problem of Evil & Suffering; Sexuality & Identity; Heaven, Death & Dying; Relationships, Life Issues and Mental Health? Issues, Etc., a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL, has a series that can help you answer those questions. You can listen to the entire series on-demand at issuesetc.org/kidshavequestions.

STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✕ August					
ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK Sunday: 60	FINANCIAL				
	August		Year To Date through August		
	Actual	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted	
	Income:	\$30,251	\$29,264	Income:	\$255,278 \$234,127
	Expense:	\$25,988	\$25,251	Expense:	\$215,066 \$213,924

THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✕ September 10, 2023		
SCHEDULE	SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR OFFERINGS	WEEK’S CALENDAR
9:00 –DIVINE SERVICE Live stream at www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl	2nd Floor: Early Childhood Sunday School	MONDAY 7:00 – Board of Finance
10:15 – Coffee Hour	Basement: Primary – Junior High Sunday School	TUESDAY
10:30 – Bible Study/Sunday School fall kickoff	Basement Auditorium: Synod Update from the Chief Mission Officer Rev. Kevin Robson	WEDNESDAY 7:00 – Southampton Neighborhood Assoc.
11:30 – Schola Rehearsal		THURSDAY 6:00 – ThriVe Parent University
		FRIDAY
		SATURDAY Pastor’s Day Off