



# Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

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



## WEEKLY NEWS ✠ October 15, 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 ✠

*JESUS' INCARNATION SECURES FOR US LIFE, FORGIVENESS, AND HEALING*

The Lord does not require us to ascend to Him; in mercy He descends to us (Gen. 28:10-17). The ladder in Jacob's dream was not for climbing; it was the means by which the Lord came to bless Jacob. This event finds its fulfillment in Christ who descended from His throne to save and bless us. By His incarnation He is the eternal bridge between heaven and earth. *"The Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"* (Matt. 9:1-8). The Lord was present in the flesh to absolve the paralytic. Jesus also healed and restored this man's body. *"For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation"* (Small Catechism). The Lord still has power on earth to forgive sins. In holy absolution He raises up the new man (Eph. 4:22-28) and bestows the healing medicine which will bring about our resurrection on the Last Day. Thus we say with Jacob, *"This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!"* (Gen. 28:17)

### ✠ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ✠

*LORD, THEE I LOVE WITH ALL MY HEART (LSB 708)*

Martin Schalling's hymn is one of the most loved among confessional Lutherans today because it places the Christian's praise squarely in the midst of the struggle between the Spirit and the flesh that rages on in us. Jesus teaches us the greatest commandment, which is to love God with all our heart. How can we do this? Only through faith in Christ, and not by our natural powers. There is nothing greater than the first commandment. It contains all theology in it, and Schalling does a masterful job showing how a Christian should meditate on this commandment.

### ✠ 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, "Lord, Thee I Love With All My Heart"

**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 TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (October 22, 2023)*

Old Testament: **Isaiah 55:1-9**—God's ways are higher than ours—He gives a rich feast of salvation.

Psalm: **Psalm 27:1-9**—"Your face, Lord, do I seek."

Epistle: **Ephesians 5:15-21**—Walking as wise people, singing God's Word, thanking God, and submitting to one another.

Holy Gospel: **Matthew 22:1-14**—God's invitation to the wedding feast of His Son.



✧ PARISH NEWS AND NOTES ✧

FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR are placed to the praise and glory of God by Joyce Yancey in memory of her husbands, John W. Bishop and William Yancey, on their birthdays, and to the glory of God by the Hope Altar Guild in loving memory of their former members.

HOPE’S NEXT REGULAR VOTERS ASSEMBLY MEETING WILL BE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, following Sunday School, starting at 11:45 AM. Packets of information are available in the narthex. Two important pieces of business will be brought for approval: 2024 Budget and the Gross Family Memorial Fund. Detailed information on both are available. The packets also include a tentative agenda, meeting minutes (VA, Council, Board of Finance, and Elders) and current financial information. Please take time to read these materials before the meeting. We appreciate your attendance as we support the ongoing work of the congregation. – Church Council

KANTOR IS LOOKING FOR HOST HOMES to host students and chaperones for the choir from Seward, NE when they perform their Hymn Festival at Hope on Friday, October 20. Hosting is easy! Got an air mattress and some space on the living room floor? Perfect! Can you make some eggs or pancakes for their breakfast? Wonderful! We are looking for 10-12 homes to host groups of 3 students and 1 chaperone. Email Kantor at [mjanssen@hopelutheranatl.org](mailto:mjanssen@hopelutheranatl.org) to host.

THE INSPIRE PHASE OF OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN will begin on Sunday, October 22. Pastor will be giving special campaign emphasis during his bible classes. We will hear a brief, personal example of an overcome challenge every week or so at the close of Divine Service. Reverend Eric Kennaugh, our Lutheran Church Extension Fund consultant, will preach during the Divine Service on Sunday, November 5. The Inspire cycle will conclude with a prayer walk on Sunday, November 12. Please be sure to visit the Hope website for updates, information, and to submit your campaign questions.

SERVING IN GOD’S MISSION UPDATE: Hope is continuing to build ministry plans that closely reflect our established mission and vision statements. A Smart Goal planning workshop will take place here at church on Saturday, November 4, 10:00 am to noon, addressing opportunities in a number of Hope’s ministry areas. For those Hope members who have already expressed interest in participating, you’ll receive additional emailed information in coming days about the specifics of this workshop and RSVP information. If you’re interested in participating (and we’d love to have you!) and have not yet “signed on” to this SGM effort, please let Kevin Robson ([kevindrobson@gmail.com](mailto:kevindrobson@gmail.com)) know and he’ll connect you to one of our congregation’s planning groups.

BACKYARD ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE FOR ALL AGES TODAY at 2:00 pm at the home of Nathan and Caroline Maichel, 3212 Hilvin Drive, St. Louis, MO 63129. No experience necessary, all dances will be taught.

STEWARDSHIP BLURB FOR SUNDAY, October 15: **Ephesians 4:24 – “Put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.”** We have a new identity in Christ. Our old identity was in Adam; we were sinners, enemies of God, destined for death and destruction. But in Christ, we have a new identity: we are forgiven, the children of God, cleansed, destined for life everlasting. These two identities continue to struggle as we exist in this fallen world. So St. Paul encourages us to “put on the new self” – to consciously cling to Christ in faith and claim our new identity in Him. Coming to the Lord’s House, faithfully supporting the ministry, praying and reading Scripture daily – these are the works of the new self.

STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✧ September					
ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK			FINANCIAL		
Sunday: 110			September	Year To Date through September	
			<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>Budgeted</u>
Income:			\$41,030	\$29,272	Income: \$296,477   \$263,399
Expense:			\$49,060	\$25,868	Expense: \$264,126   \$239,729

THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✧ October 15, 2023		
SCHEDULE	SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR OFFERINGS	WEEK’S CALENDAR
9:00 –DIVINE SERVICE Live stream at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/hopelutheranatl">www.facebook.com/hopelutheranatl</a>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Floor:</b> Early Childhood Sunday School	MONDAY 7:00 Campaign Forum meeting
10:15 – Coffee Hour	<b>Basement:</b> Primary – Junior High Sunday School	TUESDAY
10:30 – Bible Study/Sunday School	<b>Basement Auditorium:</b> Campaign Launch: Forum	WEDNESDAY 5:00 Kantorei practice
11:30 – Schola Rehearsal		THURSDAY 6:00 – ThriVe Parent University
		FRIDAY