



# Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

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



## WEEKLY NEWS ✠ October 22, 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 INVITES US TO HIS WEDDING FEAST TO RECEIVE ABUNDANT RIGHTEOUSNESS. The Holy Spirit sounds forth the Gospel call: "See, I have prepared my dinner ... Come to the wedding feast" (Matt. 22:1-14). But many reject this invitation in favor of worldly pursuits. And so the call goes out to others, both the good and the bad. For the wedding invitation is not based on the qualifications of those invited but on the basis of the merits and work of Christ. The feast is free: "He who has no money, come, buy and eat ... delight yourselves in rich food." (Is. 55:1-9). Those rejecting the Spirit's work shall experience God's wrath and judgment. Those who are not clothed in Christ's righteousness shall be cast into outer darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Let us therefore seek the Lord while He may be found, for He will have mercy upon us. Let us redeem the time, being filled with the Spirit, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ (Eph 5:15-21).

### ✠ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ✠

TODAY'S HYMN OF THE DAY IS *We Are Called to Stand Together* (LSB 828), written by Martin Leckebusch and sung to Henry Gerike's tune *Ascended Triumph* (which we use on Ascension Day each year). Leckebusch is an Oxford trained mathematician who currently works in IT and writes hymns as a hobby. This text reminds us that our voices extend beyond just the *here and now* and includes all those who have gone before us. This hymn also clearly states our pursuit of truth and the sharing of this truth with all who are around us. This hymn is a great example of contemporary music in the church; the author, the composer, and the arranger are all living today and currently serving the church.

### ✠ 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 27 in the front part of *Lutheran Service Book*.
- PONDER today's Hymn of the Day, "We Are Called to Stand Together"

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 FESTIVAL OF REFORMATION (October 29, 2023) – THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL

First Reading: **Revelation 14:6-7** – An angel proclaims the eternal gospel.

Psalm: **Psalm 46** – "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Second Reading: **Romans 3:21-28** – God's righteousness comes by Christ's death and resurrection and is received through faith.

Holy Gospel: **John 8:31-36** – "If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."



✂ PARISH NEWS AND NOTES ✂

OPEN ALTAR VASES for Sunday, October 29 and November 5, 12, 19 and 26. 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.

THERE WILL BE A PRAYER SERVICE ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28<sup>TH</sup> AT 10:00 A.M. to pray for our Renewing in Hope capital campaign. Pastor Asburry will be leading the service.

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. 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

SANCTUS WINDS – The inaugural concert of the Sanctus Winds, a community band performing sacred and traditional repertoire, will be at 4:00 pm on November 5 at Peace Lutheran at 737 Barracksview Rd in South County. The theme is “Life Eternal,” giving thanks for the saints who have gone before us and anticipating the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ. No tickets are required. The ensemble is founded and directed by our own Kantor Janssen.

THE INSPIRE PHASE OF OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN BEGINS TODAY. 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 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.

STEWARDSHIP BLURB FOR SUNDAY, October 22: **Isaiah 55:2 – “Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?”** What Isaiah says here is reminiscent of what Jesus says about putting our earthly wealth in places “where moth and rust destroy” (Matt. 6:19). Where we put the money God has given us to manage says a lot about how we actually view life. What do your spending priorities say about what you think is truly important in life?

STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✂ September					
ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK Sunday: 93	FINANCIAL				
	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 22, 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>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Floor:</i>  Early Childhood Sunday School	MONDAY
10:15 – Coffee Hour	<i>Basement:</i>  Primary – Junior High Sunday School	TUESDAY
10:30 – Bible Study/Sunday School	<i>Basement Auditorium:</i> Luther’s Large Catechism Pastor Asburry	WEDNESDAY 5:00 Kantorei practice
11:30 – Schola Rehearsal		THURSDAY 6:00 – ThriVe Parent University
		FRIDAY
		SATURDAY Pastor’s Day Off