



Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

5218 Neosho St, St. Louis, MO 63109 • 314-352-0014

www.hopelutheranstl.org



WEEKLY NEWS ❖ December 3, 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 JESUS COMES IN HUMILITY TO REDEEM US

The new Church Year begins by focusing on the humble coming of our Lord. *"Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey"* (Matt. 21:5). Even as He was born in a lowly manger, so Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a beast of burden. For He bears the sin of the world. He is the Son of David riding to His enthronement on the cross, where He shows Himself to be *"The LORD is our Righteousness"* (Jer. 23:5-6). Our Lord still comes in great humility to deliver His righteousness to us in the Word and Sacraments. Before receiving Christ's body and blood, we also sing, *"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"* (Matt. 21:9) And as we receive the Sacrament, we set our hearts on His return in glory, for *"our salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed"* (Rom. 13:11).

❖ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ❖

Happy New Year! Today we welcome the new church year, and the beginning of Advent. We hear of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on the first Palm Sunday, foreshadowing his second Triumphant Entry when he returns on the last day. Our Hymn of the Day, *Savior of the Nations, Come* (LSB 332) was written by Ambrose of Milan (the father of Latin hymnody). Ambrose's hymns are characterized by their simplicity and were written for congregational use. The tune NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND, is adapted from a plainsong melody that accompanied the original Latin text.

❖ 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 24 in the front part of *Lutheran Service Book*.
- **PONDER** today's Hymn of the Day, LSB 332, "Savior of the Nations, Come"

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 ❖

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT - *"People of Zion"* (December 10, 2023)

Old Testament: **Malachi 4:1-6**—The great and dreadful day of the Lord.

Psalm: **Psalm 50**—"The Mighty One, God the LORD, has spoken and called the earth from the rising of the sun to its going down."

Epistle: **Romans 15:4-13**—The God of patience, comfort, and hope.

Holy Gospel: **Luke 21:25-36**—Your redemption draws near.



✠ PARISH NEWS AND NOTES ✠

NEW ADVENT BANNERS AND WHAT THEY MEAN: Our new blue banners point to Jesus as the coming King. The Root of Jesse banner, with a live shoot arising from the root, comes from Isaiah 11:10, “In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples – of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.” Jesus descended from the line of Jesse and his son, David. In the second banner the door is partially open to reveal the Chi Rho (XP) symbol with a crown for the coming King. Jesus said, “I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture” (John 10:9). The Chi Rho symbol is taken from the first two letters of the Greek word “Christos” – ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ.

OPEN ALTAR VASES for Sunday, December 10 and 17. 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.

POINSETTIA PLANTS will be placed in the altar area during the Christmas season. If you wish to place a plant in honor or memory of someone, please pick up an envelope from the narthex or call Carol, 314-691-3619, by December 17. Poinsettias are \$8.00 each and are yours to take home anytime during the Christmas season.

THANK YOU to everyone who has made commitments and contributions to Hope’s “Renewing for Life and Hope” ministry enhancement campaign! Currently, pledges amount to \$318,000. Combined with the \$202,000 already in the Basement Fund we now have about \$520,000 for the basement renovation project—about 75% of the \$700,000 goal. Commitments can still be made! First Gifts Sunday will be December 3. Please be sure to attend. Special envelopes for contributions by check are available in the narthex and church office and can be mailed to you upon request. Please add “Renewing for Life and Hope” in the memo line for proper recording of your contributions. Online options are available through the church website www.hopelutheranstl.org/giving and at <https://www.vancopayments.com>. Sign into the Vanco app and search for “Hope Ev. Lutheran Church”. Use the drop-down list to access Renewing For Life And Hope.

LCMS CONGREGATIONS are invited to submit nominations for President of Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN, through December. The Board of Elders, with the Church Council, will present a list of nominees at a special Voters Assembly meeting scheduled for Sunday, December 10, to be held in the sanctuary immediately following the service. For more information on the process and required qualifications visit the Presidential Search link at ctsfw.edu.

STEWARDSHIP BLURB FOR SUNDAY, December 3: **Jeremiah 23:6 – “And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’”** Jesus is our righteousness, our justification, our all. In Jesus, we are forgiven and receive every blessing from the Father. This knowledge sets us free to live as children of the heavenly Father without fear. Freed from the supposed need to justify ourselves, we can do good works for the *right* reason: to thank God and to serve our neighbor.

SACRED MUSIC FOR THE ADVENT SEASON... “Savior of the Nations, Come,” “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry,” “Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending,” “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding,” “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” You can listen to sacred music for the Advent season 24/7 at lutheranpublicradio.org, TuneIn, Amazon Echo, Google Home, Apple HomePod and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✠ November 12-25					
ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK Sunday: 82		FINANCIAL			
		November 12-25		Year To Date through October	
		Actual	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted
		Income: \$11,751	\$13,657	Income: \$329,580	\$292,663
		Expense: \$13,789	\$12,007	Expense: \$290,711	\$268,050
THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✠ December 3, 2023					
SCHEDULE	SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR OFFERINGS		WEEK’S CALENDAR		
9:00 -DIVINE SERVICE Live stream at www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl 10:15 – Coffee Hour 10:30 – Bible Study/Sunday School 11:30 – Schola Rehearsal	2 nd Floor:		MONDAY		
	Early Childhood Sunday School		TUESDAY		
	Basement:		WEDNESDAY		
	Primary – Junior High Sunday School		5:00 Kantorei rehearsal 7:00 Advent Evening Prayer		
	Basement Auditorium:		THURSDAY		
		Luther’s Large Catechism Pastor Asburry	FRIDAY		
			SATURDAY		
			Pastor’s day off		