



Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

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WEEKLY NEWS ✠ February 18, 2024

✠ 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 DOES BATTLE IN OUR PLACE

In the Garden, man exalts himself to be a god in place of God (Gen. 3:1–21). He succumbs to the temptation of the devil, and eating of the forbidden fruit, he receives death. But in the sin-cursed wilderness, God humbles Himself to become man in place of man (Mt. 4:1–11). He does not eat but fasts and bears the onslaughts of the devil for us that we may be restored to life. Jesus stands as David in our place to do battle against the Goliath, Satan (1 Samuel 17:40–51). Though outwardly Jesus appears weak, yet He comes in the name of the Lord of hosts. He draws from the five smooth stones of the books of Moses and slings the Word of God. The stone sinks into the forehead, and the enemy falls. In Christ we are victorious over the devil. Let us therefore not receive the grace of God in vain (2 Cor. 6:1–10), but seeing that we have a great High Priest, let us come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain help in time of need (Heb. 4:14–16).

✠ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ✠

With the beginning on Lent we show restraint in which portions of the liturgy we sing. You will notice that the *Hymn of Praise* and *Alleluia Verse* are omitted during the Lenten season. With the beginning of Lent/Eastertide we also move into a different musical setting of the Divine Service. During this season we make use of Divine Service Setting Two from *Lutheran Service Book*. This morning we also sing the Litany. Traditionally used on the first Sundays of Lent and Advent, this expanded prayer serves as a way to remind us of the penitential nature of both seasons.

✠ 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 32 in the front part of *Lutheran Service Book*.
- **PONDER** today's Hymn of the Day, *LSB 656, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"*

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 LENT (February 25, 2024)

Jesus praises the persistent faith of a Canaanite (Gentile) woman.

Old Testament: **Genesis 32:22-32** — Jacob wrestles with God.

Psalm: **Psalm 121** — "I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord..."

Epistle: **1 Thessalonians 4:1-7** — God calls us to be holy.

Holy Gospel: **Matthew 15:21-28** — The Canaanite woman's "great faith."



✧ PARISH NEWS AND NOTES ✧

TODAY THE BASEMENT COMMITTEE INVITES YOU to attend a town hall presentation on the basement renovation design during the Bible Class hour (10:30-11:30 AM). The architect has new images to show based on the feedback received over the past several months. The Building Committee will also provide an update on the capital campaign, and the process of moving the project toward voters’ approval in the coming months. We are excited to see you there!

EASTER LILIES will adorn the altar area on Easter Sunday. 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 **March 17**. Lilies are \$9.00 each and are yours to take home after the service on Easter.

SANCTUS WINDS will present a concert this afternoon at 4:00 pm at Peace Lutheran Church (737 Barracksview). Music will reflect the Lenten season and provide opportunity for meditation. Sanctus Winds, directed by Matthew Janssen, is a community wind band performing sacred concerts.

NEW LENT BANNERS AND THEIR MEANING: During the season of Lent, we turn our focus to the cross of Christ, recognizing our sinful human frailty and desperate need for a Savior. Just as God provided immediate, temporal salvation to the snake-bitten Israelites who looked at the *Serpent on a Pole*, He provides everlasting salvation to repentant sinners who look to the crucified Christ in faith (Numbers 21, John 3:14). The *Sacramental Flood* banner reminds us how we receive, at the altar, the forgiveness and life that freely flow from the cross of Christ (John 6:53).

TODAY YOU ARE INVITED TO “The Ashes Go on Singing” – A Hymn Festival on the Hymns of Martin Luther at 3 p.m. in the Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus on the campus of Concordia Seminary. Led by the St. Louis Lutheran Chorale, *Laudamus*, this hymn festival will celebrate five centuries of singing the hymns of Martin Luther. Peter Reske, senior editor of music/worship at Concordia Publishing House, will provide narration. The festival also will be livestreamed at csl.edu/live.

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE FOR ALL AGES at Hope Lutheran Church on Friday, February 23rd at 7:00 pm. No experience necessary, all dances will be taught. The dance will be called by Ruth Temme. Sign up to bring a snack, dessert, or drink to share. Admission is free, but limited to 60 people. RSVP and Questions: Contact Nicholas Weber, n@nicholasedwinweber.com

DOES YOUR CHILD ENJOY SHOOTING HOOPS? Love creating and drawing? Want to try a new sport like football or field hockey? LuSo Summer Camp offers a variety of athletic and enrichment activities with morning and afternoon sessions available. Register today at LSlancers.org/summer

STEWARDSHIP BLURB FOR SUNDAY, February 18: **Matthew 4:4 - “But he answered, ‘It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”** What good are all the things of this world (food, drink, house, home, wealth, etc.) if we lose the things of God? What’s more important? How should our priorities be arranged?

✧ STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✧					
ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK		FINANCIAL ✧ January 2024			
Sunday: 93		January 2024		2023	
		Actual	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted
Income:		\$25,693	\$29,085	Income: \$405,947	\$351,201
Expense:		\$30,145	\$26,485	Expense: \$391,195	\$342,766
THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✧ February 18, 2024					
SCHEDULE	SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR OFFERINGS		WEEK’S CALENDAR		
9:00 – DIVINE SERVICE Live stream at www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl	2 nd Floor:		MONDAY		
10:15 – Coffee Hour	Early Childhood Sunday School		TUESDAY		
10:30 – Bible Study/Sunday School	Basement:		WEDNESDAY		
11:30 – Schola Rehearsal	Primary – Junior High Sunday School		5:00 Kantorei rehearsal 7:00 Lent Evening Prayer		
	Basement Auditorium:		THURSDAY		
	Luther’s Large Catechism		6:00 Thrive Parent University		
	Pastor Asburry		FRIDAY		
			SATURDAY		
			Pastor’s day off		