



Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

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WEEKLY NEWS ✠ March 10, 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 ✠

THE LORD FEEDS HIS PEOPLE

The Lord provided bread from heaven for His people in the wilderness (Ex. 16:2–21). Now He who is Himself the living bread from heaven miraculously provides bread for the five thousand (John 6:1–15). This takes place near the time of the Passover, after a great multitude had followed Jesus across the sea, and when He went up on a mountain. Seen in this way, Jesus is our new and greater Moses, who releases us from the bondage of Mount Sinai and makes us free children of the promise (Gal. 4:21–31). Five loaves become twelve baskets—that is, the five books of Moses find their goal and fulfillment in Christ, whose people continue steadfastly in the doctrine and fellowship of the twelve apostles, and in the breaking and receiving of the bread of life, which is the body of Christ together with His precious blood, and in the prayers (Acts 2:41–47). So it is that God's people *"shall not hunger or thirst"* (Is. 49:8–13). For He abundantly provides for us in both body and soul.

✠ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ✠

JESUS, PRICELESS TREASURE – LSB 743

Johann Franck's hymn is a love song from the bride (church) to her Lord Jesus Christ! This is not as easy to see in English as in the original German which includes this line: God's Lamb, my Bridegroom. Jesus is the priceless Bridegroom, pleasure, friend, and Lamb who has ransomed us, not with gold or silver, but with his precious blood (1 Peter 1:18–19). Jesus defends his bride against all evils of body and soul, especially that accuser Satan. Christians also can also defy fear and death. The world and its treasures hold no sway over those who, in faith, rely on Christ. Faithful Christians, members of the bride of Christ (Ephesians 5:22–33), do not fear leaving this evil world, for then they will dwell forever before the face of their Bridegroom, their priceless Treasure, in heaven. (from logia.org)

✠ 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 132 in the front part of *Lutheran Service Book*.
- *PONDER* today's Hymn of the Day, LSB 743, "Jesus, Priceless Treasure"

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 ✠

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT (March 17, 2024)

Jesus is our Great High Priest who sacrifices Himself for us.

Old Testament: **Genesis 22:1–14**—God tests Abraham and foreshadows the sacrifice of His own Son, Jesus the Christ.

Psalm: **Psalm 43**—"Vindicate me, O God."

Epistle: **Hebrews 9:11–15**—The blood of Christ cleanses us from sin.

Holy Gospel: **John 8:42–59**—Jesus says, "Before Abraham was, I AM"—equating Himself with God.



✧ PARISH NEWS AND NOTES ✧

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.

CALLING ALL MEN AND BOYS OF HOPE We’re at it again after a successful initial meet-up this past January! You are cordially invited to join Elders and Pastor for a time of devotion, friendly conversation and LUNCH here at church on Saturday, April 27, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. (We might also “scratch a competitive itch” for fun.) Single or married, father or son – please mark your calendars now and send an RSVP email to our Elders Chairman, Kevin Robson, at kevindrobson@gmail.com with names and number attending.

APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS from the “Roschke-Stohlmann Lutheran Vocations and Education Fund” are now being accepted. Scholarships shall be granted based on motivation, financial and scholarship needs of the applicant as evaluated by the Board of Finance. Scholarships shall be awarded in the following order of priority: 1. Seminary training; 2. Pre-seminary training; 3. Full-time rostered church work training (teacher, DCE, DCO, Deaconess, etc.); 4. Lutheran elementary education; 5. Lutheran high school education. Application must be received by **Monday, April 8, 2024**. Contact the church office for a copy of the application.

THE BOARD OF FINANCE has prepared a year-end summary for fiscal year 2023, available in the narthex. Please pick up a copy and let us know if you have any questions.

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).

ST. LOUIS METRO SINGERS WILL PRESENT A CONCERT at Hope Ev. Lutheran church on Sunday, March 17 at 3:00 pm. St Louis Metro Singers is a non-profit community chorus with an active concert schedule and performs as part of the *Music in a Sacred Space* series. A free-will offering will be collected and a reception will follow in the church auditorium.

STEWARDSHIP BLURB FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 10: **John 6:8-9 - “One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, ‘There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?’”** The disciples focus on the numbers – so little for so much! But the Lord’s grace will not be limited by the narrow vision of His disciples. The Lord has a plan to use even the little for His work of greatness. So let us be faithful even in the little and watch the Lord use it for His great works!

✧ STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✧						
ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK Sunday: 90	FINANCIAL ✧ February 18– March 2, 2024					
	Feb. 18-March 2, 2024			2023		
		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
	Income:	\$19,329	\$13,912	Income:	\$405,947	\$351,201
	Expense:	\$13,851	\$12,862	Expense:	\$391,195	\$342,766
THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✧ March 10, 2024						
SCHEDULE		SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR OFFERINGS		WEEK’S CALENDAR		
9:00 – DIVINE SERVICE Live stream at www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl		2 nd Floor: Early Childhood Sunday School		MONDAY		
10:15 – Coffee Hour		Basement:		TUESDAY		
10:30 – Bible Study/Sunday School		Primary – Junior High Sunday School		WEDNESDAY 5:00 Kantorei rehearsal 7:00 Lent Evening Prayer		
11:30 – Schola Rehearsal		Basement Auditorium: Luther’s Large Catechism Pastor Asburry		THURSDAY 6:00 Thrive Parent University		
				FRIDAY		
				SATURDAY Pastor’s day off		