



Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

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WEEKLY NEWS ✠ March 24, 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 ✠

"Behold, your King is coming to you . . . humble and mounted on a donkey" (Zech. 9:9-12; Mt. 21:1-9). Our Lord rides in this humble fashion because He is entering Jerusalem to humble Himself even to the point of death on a cross (Phil. 2:5-11). His kingly crown will not be made of gold but of thorns, the sign of sin's curse. For His royal reign is displayed in bearing this curse for His people, saving us from our enemies by sacrificing His own life. The sinless One takes the place of the sinner so that the sinner can be freed and bear the name "Barabbas," "son of the Father" (Matthew 26 and 27). It is at the name of this exalted Savior, Jesus, that we bow in humble faith. With the centurion who declared, *"Truly this was the Son of God!"* (Mt. 27:54), we are also given to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father (Phil. 2:11).

✠ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ✠

This Sunday, our celebration of Palm Sunday, is a mixture of emotions. We begin celebrating Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem with the crowds in the streets (Matthew 21, John 12). Our opening hymn, *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* (LSB 443), echoes those shouts of celebration and makes for a joyous beginning. Through the service we turn our minds from that triumphal entry to the path toward the cross. Our closing hymn, *Ride On, Ride On in Majesty* (LSB 441) wraps up all the emotions nicely. Stanza one begins, "Hark! All the tribes hosanna cry." The stanzas continue, outlining the emotional rollercoaster that is Holy Week. Finally, stanza five ends with the Resurrection promise, "Then take, O God, Thy power and reign." We know how the story ends, and it ends in our salvation through Jesus' death on the cross, defeat of sin, death, and the devil, resurrection, and ascension into heaven.

✠ 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 118 in the front part of *Lutheran Service Book*.
- *PONDER* today's Hymn of the Day, LSB 442, "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

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 RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD – EASTER SUNDAY (March 31, 2024)

Jesus rises victorious from the dead!

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| Old Testament: | Isaiah 25:6-9 —God will swallow up death forever. |
| Psalm: | Psalm 118 —"Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!" |
| Epistle: | 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 —Witnesses of the Resurrection. |
| Holy Gospel: | John 20:1-18 —The Resurrection of Jesus! |



✧ PARISH NEWS AND NOTES ✧

A HYMN FESTIVAL will be held at Hope on Sunday, April 14 at 3:00 pm. This year’s guest organist is Dr. Sam Eatherton, who will be joined by the Schola Cantorum and Kantorei. Together they will lead the gathered assembly in hymnody outlining the church year. Dr. Eatherton is the newly called Kantor for Concordia Seminary and is currently serving at Trinity Lutheran Church and School in Sheboygan, WI. A reception will be held after the hymn festival as we close out the 2023-24 *Music in a Sacred Space* season.

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.

NEW PASSIONTIDE-GOOD FRIDAY BANNERS AND THEIR MEANING: The stark colors remind us of the depth of our sin (black) and Christ’s righteousness (white) which entirely covers that sin. The cross and nails reveal how Jesus suffered to save us from sin and death. The IC XC on the cross is a Greek abbreviation of the name Jesus Christ. The crown of thorns and the crown on the cross reveal the paradox that Jesus’s shame and suffering are the glory of God and our salvation. “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified” (John 12:23). As we enter Passiontide and journey toward Good Friday, let us fix our eyes on our crucified Lord and His love for us, which won our salvation.

STEWARDSHIP BLURB FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 24: **Zechariah 9:9 – “Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”** No king ever rode to war like this. But no king had ever come to wage battle by dying. In His Passion, our Lord Jesus gives everything He has and is; He does this to bring us from death to life, to make us His own people, and show us an example of self-giving love that we should follow.

✧ STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✧					
ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK Sunday: 89			FINANCIAL ✧ March 3 – 16, 2024		
			March 3-16		Year to Date through Feb. 2024
			Actual	Budgeted	Actual Budgeted
Income:			\$14,950	\$13,139	Income: \$61,866 \$58,170
Expense:			\$20,045	\$13,316	Expense: \$64,616 \$52,970

THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✧ March 24, 2024		
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	2nd Floor: Early Childhood Sunday School	MONDAY
	Basement: Primary – Junior High Sunday School	TUESDAY
	Basement Auditorium: Luther’s Large Catechism Pastor Asburry	WEDNESDAY 5:00 Kantorei rehearsal 6:30 Schola rehearsal
		THURSDAY 7:00 Holy Thursday Divine Service
		FRIDAY 7:00 Good Friday Divine Service
		SATURDAY 7:00 Easter Vigil choir rehearsal 8:00 Easter Vigil Divine Service