



Hope Ev. Lutheran Church

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WEEKLY NEWS ✠ March 31, 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 ✠

CHRIST'S RESURRECTION MEANS THAT WE WILL ONE DAY BE RAISED

"Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed" (1 Cor. 5:7). By the shed blood of Christ, the Lamb of God, eternal death has passed over us. Now we pass with Christ through death into life everlasting. For Christ the crucified One is risen! The stone has been rolled away from the tomb, revealing that the tomb could not hold Him (Mark 16:1-8). Now our Redeemer lives eternally to save us from sin and Satan and the grave, and we can live in the sure hope of our own bodily resurrection with Christ. *"After my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God"* (Job 19:26). Feasting on the living Christ, who is our meat and drink indeed, we boldly say: *"O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting? ... But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ"* (1 Cor. 15:54-55, 57).

✠ THE MUSIC FOR TODAY ✠

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, alleluia!

Today we join Christians all around the world in celebrating the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Easter is one of the "barn burners" of the church year, musically speaking. We celebrate this morning with brass, organ, and plenty of congregational singing. With the end of the Lenten season, we once again join in singing "This is the Feast of Victory" and "Alleluia!" During the season of Easter, we substitute the simple Alleluia & Verse with the traditional Sequence Hymn, *Christ is Arisen* (LSB 459), complete with the choral chants and congregational exclamation of "Alleluia!" The Hymn of the Day, *Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands* (LSB 458), is a completely Lutheran take on Easter. Written by Martin Luther, with a tune edited by Lutheran Kantor Johann Walter, we sing not only the happy part of the Easter story, but also the suffering...which is why the resurrection has such meaning for us!

✠ 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 458, "Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands"

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 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (April 7, 2024)

As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the Word (Quasimodo Geniti).

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| Old Testament: | Ezekiel 37:1-14 — Ezekiel sees the valley of dry bones. |
| Psalms: | Psalm 33 — "By the word of the Lord the heavens were made" |
| Epistle: | 1 John 5:4-10 — Jesus, the water and the blood. |
| Holy Gospel: | John 20:19-31 — Jesus institutes Holy Absolution. |



✠ 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 *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 EASTER BANNERS AND THEIR MEANING: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Our Easter banners burst forth with the joyful colors of white and gold—white for Christ’s righteousness, given us through His death and resurrection, and gold for our resurrected King Jesus, who gives us His victory. Our Savior is the victorious Lamb, who was slain, bearing the standard of the cross, the sign of our salvation. The name of our Savior is shown in the symbol IHS (the first three Greek letters of the name Jesus), a shortened way of writing “Jesus Christ.” Truly, He has saved His people from sin and death! *“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”* (Rev. 5:12).

STEWARDSHIP BLURB FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 31: **John 20:1 – “Now on the first day of the week ...”** All is made new by the resurrection of Jesus! Even the day of worship has transitioned from the Old Testament’s Sabbath (Saturday) to the Lord’s Day of the New Testament (Sunday). For the Lord has made all things new: In rising from the dead as the new Adam, He has begun a new week for a new creation. We are also made new in Him – a new heart, a new life, new desires, a new outlook toward God. All this comes from our risen Lord’s grace. Especially after the sort of year we’ve had since last Easter, it sure is good news to hear that the Lord makes all things start afresh!

✠ STEWARDSHIP AT HOPE ✠		
ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK Sunday: 87	FINANCIAL ✠ March 10 - 23	
	March 10 - 23	Year to Date through Feb. 2024
	<u>Actual</u> <u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>Budgeted</u>
	Income: \$12,781 \$13,139	Income: \$61,866 \$58,170
	Expense: \$20,724 \$13,316	Expense: \$64,616 \$52,970
THIS WEEK AT HOPE ✠ March 31, 2024		
SCHEDULE	SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR OFFERINGS	WEEK’S CALENDAR
9:00 – DIVINE SERVICE Live stream at www.facebook.com/hopelutheranstl	2nd Floor: Early Childhood Sunday School	MONDAY Church Office Closed
10:15 – Coffee Hour	Basement: Primary – Junior High Sunday School	TUESDAY
10:30 – NO Bible Study/Sunday School	Basement Auditorium: Luther’s Large Catechism Pastor Asburry	WEDNESDAY 5:00 Kantorei rehearsal
11:30 – NO Schola Rehearsal		THURSDAY 6:00 Thrive Parent University
		FRIDAY
		SATURDAY Pastor’s day off