WELCOME - **HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH** - LCMS
3715 Wabash Avenue, Granite City, IL 62040-3977 (**church office, 618-876-7568**)
The Rev. Alan Beuster, Pastor (618-570-4611)
www.hopelutherangc.org/Hopelutherangc@gmail.com

Sundays - Holy Communion, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School - Bible Study, 8:30 a.m.
4th Sunday in Lent March 19, 2023

HYMNS 398 – 411 – 851 – 699, 743, 420, 641 – 425

ORDER OF SERVICE Hymnal page 151 then proceed to the Kyrie, p. 152

RESPONSE: sing after the 1st Reading at pg. 156 Psalm 142; ♫ *tone C*

With my voice I cry out | to the Lord;
with my voice I plead for mercy | to the Lord.
I pour out my complaint be- | fore him;
I tell my trouble be- | fore him.
I cry to you, | O Lord;
I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the | living."
Attend to my cry, for I am brought | very low!
Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are too | strong for me!
Bring me out of prison, that I may give thanks | to your name!
The righteous will surround me, for you will deal bountifully | with me.

Altar Flowers — Pennekamp family — celebrating Travis' birthday and glory to God. ***Reader*** – Ken Halbe. ***Assisting*** — Seminarian Sean Sheppard. ***Crucifer*** – Travis Pennekamp. ***Altar Guild*** — Charlie Finck and Janette Barry. ***Field Worker –*** Seminarian Sean Sheppard. ***Acolyte*** — Sebastian Dauble. ***Organ*** — Elizabeth Meschke. ***Last wk*** – attnd, 46; offrg, $1,830.

***Greetings to our Guests*.** We are glad you have joined us in worship. We trust you will draw strength, peace, and hope as together we hear God's Word. It is truly our intent to welcome you and make you feel comfortable here in God's house. Since communion implies unity of faith *we do not practice open communion* but invite those not fully united with us to enter full membership in the Lutheran community **first before receiving** the Sacrament. Sit-down communion, front left.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES: Sundays – (children, teens, adults); 8:30 – 9:15 a.m.; Junior Confirmation following the Church Service; **Tuesdays** - 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Bible Study; and Third **Saturday** – Men's Breakfast Fellowship, 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. Bible study and Christian growth opportunities are for everyone all year.

PLEASE KNOW that private communion is always available. Please contact Pastor and appropriate arrangements will be made for this.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ST. JOHN as today they celebrate their 100th anniversary. We give thanks to God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon them.

OTHER WAYS WE ARE STAYING IN TOUCH. Facebook is our main method of communicating but there are other ways also. We continue to keep our website current: **www.hopelutherangc.org** with manuscripts of our sermons and bulletins.

THIS WEEK AT HOPE: Today following the service is **Junior Confirmation** and at 3:00 p.m. is the **Jericho Walk** at the Granite City Abortion Clinic**. Monday,** beginning at 11:30 a.m. is **We've Been There Group. Tuesday** at 10:00 a.m. is Bible Study and at 7:00 p.m. is **Alcoholics' Anonymous**. **Wednesday**, at both 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. is **Lenten Services** at Hope. **Thursday** Pastor will be in **Prison Ministry** from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Pastor will be continuing to be posting a **daily devotion** on **Hope's Facebook page.**

LOOKING AHEAD: Mid-week Lenten Services: 11:00 a.m. at Hope and for these last two 7:00 p.m. services, also at Hope as we are the host. Voters' Assembly is March 28. Holy Week Services begin Palm Sunday, April 2; with Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil being April 6, 7, and 8. Easter morning celebrations: 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service at Wilson Park, 8:30 a.m. breakfast here at Hope, and 9:30 a.m. Easter Celebration Service at Hope.

WE'VE BEEN THERE GROUP IS TOMORROW. We will meet at the church at 11:30 a.m. for lunch followed by an activity or program. A sign-up sheet is on the hallway bulletin board. It is not too late, please make plans to join us.

JERICHO WALK IS TODAY at 3:00 p.m. at the Granite City Abortion Facility. This will take place as part of the Forty Days For Life Mid-Point Rally. Prayers and a brief message will be given and then, all those desiring can join us in walking as desired, up to seven times, around the facility. This should be a very moving event where we witness and give glory to God for the life and blessings He gives to us.

IT'S TIME TO ORDER EASTER LILIES: Orders can be placed by using the envelopes available on the hallway bulletin board and turning them in to the church office. Cost is $12 per lily and can be taken following our 9:30 a.m. Easter Service.

OUR MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES CONTINUE. We once again will have an 11:00 a.m. service here at Hope and then be the host for the 7:00 p.m. evening service. You are invited to attend either or both of these services (they are completely different).

EASTER BREAKFAST AT HOPE: As the family of believers here at Hope, it is good that we get together for celebration and fellowship on Easter morning. To that end at 8:30 a.m. on Easter morning (between sunrise service in the park and our Easter celebration service), similar to last year, served family style, an Easter breakfast will be served in the fellowship hall. A sign-up sheet is on the hallway bulletin board. Cost is a free will donation only as desired.

PROPOSED MISSION AND VISION STATEMENT continues to be posted on the hallway bulletin board for your review, consideration, and any input you might have. It is planned for this to be presented and discussed and possibly approved at our March 28 Voters' Assembly.

VOTERS' ASSEMBLY IS THIS TUESDAY at 7:00 p.m. as each of you are important and a valuable part of Hope, we need your input and your being a part of decisions that are made. Everyone is welcome and invited to give input. If not already and desiring to also be a voting member, please see Pastor or any of our Board of Elders.

HAM AND CHEESE PROJECT COLLECTION CONTINUES. Recall last week it was mentioned that this formerly "sandwich project" has been moved from November to March to better accommodate local agency needs and our holiday collection scheduling. Once again today a collection can is in the narthex for donations to be made. If giving by check, please make payable to Social Ministry. Thank you for your support and help with this project that has always been a fixture at Hope.

THEME FOR THE DAY: One of the themes in both our Old Testament and Gospel readings is Jesus giving sight to the blind. Isaiah prophesies that the Lord will "lead the blind" and "turn darkness into light." In our Gospel reading, Jesus literally gives sight to a man born blind. Does not Jesus also shine light in our darkness and gives us sight to see? Today we will consider all this in a message entitled, "What Do You See?"