

+ **THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER / SERVICE OF LIGHT** +

Holy Saturday, Anticipation of the Resurrection of Our Lord
April 8, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

The congregation gathers at the paschal fire brazier. The pastor leads in the invocation, instruction about the significance of the Vigil, and dedication of the new light. Individual candles are lighted. Offerings will be collected in the narthex. The following response is repeated during the entrance procession.

The light | of Christ. **Thanks be | to God.** ♪ *sing like the cantor's verse*

EASTER PROCLAMATION: "Rejoice...the praises of all God's faithful people"

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is truly...now and forever. **Amen.** *then extinguish individual candles; sit*

THE SERVICE OF READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS / SILENCE / PRAYER ...**Thanks be to God.**

Genesis 1:1-2:3: The Creation

Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13: The Flood

Exodus 14:10-15:1: Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea

Job 19:20-27: Job Confesses the Redeemer

Daniel 3:1-30: The Fiery Furnace

Having recalled several of God's past mighty acts of deliverance and promises made for Old Israel, we move to the Gospel Age, and from darkness to light, in joyous celebration of mankind's greatest deliverance by the resurrected Lord Jesus. We now stand.

EASTER ACCLAMATION Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

HYMN OF PRAISE / GLORIA ♪ **p. 154** *bell, lights; undraping, altar candles*

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY ...**And also with you.**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

EPISTLE READING 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 ...**Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL VERSE ♪ *stand; music from hymnal p. 156*

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL John 20:1-18 **Glory to You, O Lord.**

after Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN #464

HOMILY: *Light Breaks the Darkness*

SERVICE OF HOLY BAPTISM

Please follow the *Rite of Confirmation* in hymnal **pages 272-274** to serve as the affirmation of your own baptism into Christ.

Then Holy Absolution and the Baptismal Blessing are pronounced for all.

SERVICE OF PRAYER

PRAYER LITANY *see insert; kneel, or sit*

HYMN #483

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

COMMUNION SERVICE **page 160** & COMMUNION HYMNS
#469, 741, 478

CONCLUSION & DISMISSAL HYMN **#490** *silent prayer; leave candles at exit.*

Since communion implies unity of faith we invite those not yet fully united with us to enter full membership in the Lutheran community first before receiving the Sacrament. Newcomers and inquirers are sincerely encouraged to come forward for a blessing and invited to learn more about what we believe and confess.

May God's Spirit lead us into the light and joy of Christ that penetrates the darkness of sin, death, and hell. Thank you to all who assisted this evening. Wilson Park Easter Sunrise, 6:30 a.m. Easter breakfast at Hope 8:30 a.m. The Resurrection of our Lord Easter Service 9:30 a.m.

Welcome **HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH** LCMS

3715 Wabash Avenue, Granite City, Illinois 62040-3977 (876-7568)

Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m. www.hopelutherangc.org The Rev. Alan Beuster, Pastor