

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)
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"Sharing Hope In The Joy Of Christ"

Sundays - Holy Communion, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School - Bible Study, 8:30 a.m.
7th Sunday of Easter May 21, 2023

HYMNS 493 – 856 – 617 – 623, 653, 730, 724 – 525

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

RESPONSE: sing after the 1st Reading at pg. 156 Psalm 47; ♪ tone C

Clap your hands, all | peoples!

Shout to God with loud | songs of joy!

**God has gone up | with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of a | trumpet.**

Sing praises to God, sing | praises!

Sing praises to our King, sing | praises!

For God is the King of | all the earth;

sing praises | with a psalm!

God reigns over the | nations;

God sits on his | holy throne.

Reader – Jim Pennekamp. *Assisting* — Seminarian Sean Sheppard. *Crucifer* – Travis Pennekamp. *Altar Guild* — Charlie Finck and Janette Barry. *Field Worker* – Seminarian Sean Sheppard. *Acolyte* — Isaac Beatty. *Organ* — Elizabeth Meschke. *Last wk* – atnd, 59; offrg, \$2,145.

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.

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** meeting with the Board of Elders. **Tuesday** at 10:00 a.m. is Bible Study and at 7:00 p.m. is both **Alcoholics' Anonymous** and **Voters' Assembly**. **Thursday** Pastor will be in **Sidewalk Ministry** from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and **Prison Ministry** from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. Pastor will continue to be posting a **daily devotion** on **Hope's Facebook page**.

LOOKING AHEAD: Next Sunday, May 28 is Pentecost and Junior Confirmation with a reception and luncheon to follow the service. Vacation Bible School is July 24-28.

VOTERS' ASSEMBLY IS THIS TUESDAY beginning at 7:00 p.m. A great opportunity for involvement and awareness of the business of your church. Agenda items at this meeting will include election of officers for the coming church year. Everyone is invited to attend and give input; and if interested in becoming a voting member, please see Pastor or any of our Board of Elders.

JUNIOR CONFIRMATION IS NEXT SUNDAY. Following the service there will be a reception and luncheon in the fellowship hall for our confirmands (Isaac Beatty and Abby Loehr). The entire congregation is invited to this. A sign-up sheet is on the hallway bulletin board. Let's join together in giving a warm welcome to these young people as they enter into communicant membership here at Hope.

SIGNING OF LETTER TO U.S. STEEL. As U.S. Steel has made the decision to close the Granite City steel plant, the city of Granite City and the mayor's office is petitioning them to consider, and to do everything possible, to maintain operation here in our city. As part of that we are serving as one of the collection points for signatures to add support to their request. Once again today, a petition is available on the round table outside the church office should you wish to sign. Our signatures will be grouped with all the others to be sent to U.S. Steel. This is provided as an opportunity if this is something you wish to do.

DID YOU KNOW LAST THURSDAY WAS ASCENSION DAY? Forty days after Easter our Lord ascended into heaven "to prepare a place for us." And He will return to take us to be with Him. We reflect and rejoice in what this all means for us. While it was last Thursday, the Psalm that we chant today is a reflection of this and is associated with Ascension Day.

DEACONESS CALL FOR MAY ITZCOVITCH: Last Thursday (May 18), at Fort Wayne Seminary, IN, May officially received her call into full time ministry at Grace Lutheran Church in St. Petersburg, FL. It has been a long five year journey to be at this point. Congratulations to May and thank you to our Lord for His direction and providing; and to you, members of Hope, for your support provided. We rejoice that May's continued service is an extension of our ministry here at Hope.

THANK YOU AND GOD'S BLESSINGS TO THE SHEPPARD'S. Today will be Sean and Fiona and Seamus' last Sunday with us. They will now be moving back to Michigan in a "hold pattern" for a few weeks and then to Florida for Sean to begin his vicarage. May God continue to lead Seminarian Sheppard in the plans and ways He has for him and his family.

THEME FOR THE DAY: Our Gospel reading for today from John chapter seventeen is a portion of Jesus' High Priestly Prayer. Have you ever wondered about or wanted to listen in on Jesus' prayers? Well, today we are given this opportunity. And a portion of His prayer is for His disciples and us! Today we want to consider the words of Jesus' prayer in a message entitled, "Unity In Action."

