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
"Sharing Hope In The Joy Of Christ"

Sundays - Holy Communion, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School - Bible Study, 8:30 a.m.
6th Sunday after Pentecost July 9, 2023

HYMNS 524 – 699 – 725 – 763, 711, 707, 724 – 698

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

RESPONSE: sing after the 1st Reading at pg. 156 Psalm 145; ♫ *tone B*

Great is the Lord, and greatly | to be praised,
and his greatness is un- | searchable.
The Lord is | good to all,
and his mercy is over all that | he has made.
Your kingdom is an everlasting | kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all gener- | ations.
The Lord is faithful in | all his words
and kind in | all his works.
The Lord upholds all who are | falling
and raises up all who are | bowed down.

Altar Flowers — Sandy Jessee — in memory of Walter and Kay Finke. ***Reader*** — Jim Pennekamp. ***Assisting*** — Ken Halbe. ***Crucifer*** – Travis Pennekamp. ***Altar Guild*** — Sandy Jessee and Janette Barry. ***Organ*** — Jackie Tieman. ***Last wk*** – attnd, 42; offrg, $4,247.

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. We are called by God to be disciples of Jesus Christ. Centered in Word and Sacrament, and receiving the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we live the Christian life by faith.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES: Sundays − (children, teens, adults); 8:30 − 9:15 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study; **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.

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.

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

THIS WEEK AT HOPE: Tuesday there will be **no Bible Study** but at 7:00 p.m. is **Alcoholics' Anonymous** meeting here at Hope. **Thursday** Pastor will be in **Sidewalk Ministry** from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. Pastor will be in **Prison Ministry. Saturday** will be **Men's Breakfast Fellowship** from 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. Pastor will continue to be posting a **daily devotion** on **Hope's Facebook page**.

LOOKING AHEAD: We've Been There Group July 17. Vacation Bible School will take place on July 24-28. Hope's Fall Sale will be September 30.

WE'VE BEEN THERE GROUP JULY 17: We will meet at the church at 11:30 a.m. for lunch followed by a "Minnie Pearl Tribute Show." This will be an impersonation show put on by Laverne Taylor of Waterloo, IL. When these type events have been done in the past they have been fun and very well received. As always, this event is open to all members of Hope and their friends. A sign-up sheet is on the hallway bulletin board.

SOCIAL MINISTRY'S JULY PROJECT CONTINUES. New socks and underwear are continuing to be collected for needy children as they prepare to go back to school. Cash donations can also be given to any member of our Social Ministry Committee for them to purchase the supplies. All children's sizes (K-H.S.) are needed and your donations are greatly appreciated. They can be placed in the box by the rear church doors.

THE JOY AND GROWTH OF BEING IN GOD'S WORD. We have a God that does not leave us speculating but comes to us and gives us His Word. His Word that created us, recreated us (from sin) as His children, and sustains and increases our faith. An all-powerful God over all the universe and your eternal home – why would we not want to listen and learn from what He has to say to us? Encouragement is again given to please, please take every opportunity you can to be in God's Word. Many Bible studies are offered as well as sources for daily devotions. Let's together grow in faith and fellowship this summer.

OUR VBS THEME THIS YEAR is "Heroes of the Old Testament." As we have well begun preparations for this, a bulletin board has been put up in the basement using **HERO** as a acronym. **H**elping others. **E**ncourage others. **R**espect everyone. **O**bey God's commands. Let's all join in the spirit and intent of VBS this year. And you are invited to stroll down in the basement as the month progresses and we continue getting ready for VBS.

VBS REGISTRATION: If you know of any students entering kindergarten through sixth grade, we would love to have them in VBS. Please invite them to join us to learn Bible Stories and participate in cooking class, crafts, songs, and games. Questions – please see Diane Signall. VBS is July 24 – 28, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. each day with breakfast available at 9:00 a.m. each day.

THEME FOR THE DAY: Are you heavy burdened and weary? Do you need rest? I think we all do. Well, in the second part of our Gospel reading for today Jesus offers to us that rest. But what do we have to do to have that rest? The first part of our Gospel reading answers that question. Today we will consider all this in a message entitled, "A Yoke That Lightens The Load."