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.
7th Sunday after Pentecost July 16, 2023

HYMNS 686 – 577 – 894 – 621, 512, 790, 655 – 921

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

RESPONSE: sing after the 1st Reading at pg. 156 Psalm 65; ♫ *tone B*

Praise is due to you, O God, in | Zion,
and to you shall vows | be performed.
By awesome deeds you answer us with righteousness, O God of our sal- | vation,
the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the | farthest seas;
You visit the earth and water it; you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of | water;
you provide their grain, for so you have pre- | pared it.
The pastures of the wilderness | overflow,
The hills gird them- | selves with joy.
the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck them- | selves with grain,
they shout and sing together | for joy.

Reader — Marlene Pennekamp. ***Assisting*** — Phil Lamm. ***Crucifer*** – Travis Pennekamp. ***Altar Guild*** — Sandy Jessee and Janette Barry. ***Organ*** — Barbara Rattel. ***Last wk*** – attnd, 48 offrg, $2,215.

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: Monday, at 11:30 a.m. is **We've Been There Group. Tuesday** at 10:00 a.m. will be **Bible Study** and 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. in **Prison Ministry. Saturday** beginning at 9:00 a.m. will be **VBS Clean-up and Preparation.** Pastor will continue to be posting a **daily devotion** on **Hope's Facebook page**.

LOOKING AHEAD: Vacation Bible School will take place on July 24-28. Hope's Fall Sale will be September 30.

WE'VE BEEN THERE GROUP TOMORROW: 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. In the past these events have been 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.

VBS CLEAN-UP AND PREPARATION NEXT SATURDAY. There are some jobs that need to be done as we make final preparations for VBS. Similar as to Spring Clean-up Day, we are inviting everyone to join in helping. Many hands will make the tasks go easier and quicker. We will meet at the church next Saturday beginning at 9:00 a.m. Just bring yourself, we'll review tasks needing to be done (mostly cleaning) and see where you are able to help.

VBS ONE WEEK AWAY: It is not too late for children to still make plans to join us. Our theme is "Heroes of the Old Testament." Activities include Bible Stories, cooking classes, crafts, songs, and games. If you know of any children entering kindergarten through sixth grade, we would love to have them in VBS. Please invite them to join us. 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.

WELCOME BARBARA RATTEL. Barbara is taking the place of Elizabeth Meschke and will be with us on a part-time basis. Today is her first Sunday with us. Please extend a warm Hope welcome to her. And thank you, Barbara, for your contributing to our worship services and using your musical talents in service to our King.

THEME FOR THE DAY: Our Gospel reading today includes Jesus teaching us in the Parable of the Sower. This is a parable that most of us are probably very familiar with. But normally we look at it from the perspective of others. That is, we need to "sow the seed" or proclaim God's Word and how others receive it determines which of the four soil conditions that exist. But today we want to change the perspective and personalize it. That is, we sow the seed by how much we are in God's Word and how we receive that Word determines our soil type. Today we will consider all this in a message entitled, "Planting Your Garden."