

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.
2nd Sunday in Advent December 10, 2023

HYMNS 346 – 344 – 725 – 623, 543, 575, 566 – 733

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

RESPONSE: sing after the 1st Reading at pg. 205 Psalm 80; ♪ tone C

**Lord, you were favorable | to your land;
you restored the fortunes of | Jacob.
You forgave the iniquity of your | people;
you covered | all their sin.
You withdrew | all your wrath;
you turned from your hot | anger.
Restore us again, O God of our sal- | vation,
and put away your indignation | toward us!
Steadfast love and faith- | fullness meet;
righteousness and peace kiss each | other.
Faithfulness springs up | from the ground,
and righteousness looks down | from the sky.**

Reader – Ken Halbe. **Assisting** – Ken Halbe. **Crucifer** – Travis Pennekamp. **Altar Guild** – Sandy Jessee and Linda Widel. **Organ** – Barbara Rattelmuller. **Last wk** – atnd, 45; offrg, \$3,860.

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 before receiving the Sacrament. We are called 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. You can view live or any time later our church services and daily devotions by going to: **HopeLutheranChurch GraniteCity,IL-Posts/Facebook**. We also continue to keep our website current: **www.hopelutherangc.org** with information, upcoming events, and manuscripts of our sermons and bulletins. CD audio recordings of each of our services are also available. Arrangements can be made for private communion or a home visit by contacting Pastor.

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN. Following our service next Sunday there will be a time of greeting one another and seeing Santa Claus. It is always fun for all ages to meet Santa; but parents and grandparents – what a great opportunity to have children in church with you.

COLLECTION OF ITEMS ENDS TODAY. In order to get distribution of donations made in a timely manner, collection of items ends today. Thank you to all who were able to help in any way with the collection of toys, mittens and hats, coats, and food and monetary items for those who could use a little assistance with the holidays. If you would still like to make some "last minute donations" for any of these items, please see Sandy Beuster.

NEED HELP WITH THE HOLIDAYS? The holidays should be a joyous time; but, unfortunately they can be stressful. Please know that help is available as needed for either one time or recurring needs from our Care Committee; perhaps help getting to church, shopping, home decorating, or just someone to talk to. Please contact Wanda Wuehler (618-920-1929), Sandy Townzen (618-304-8692), or Pastor as needs arise.

PLEASE JOIN US NEW YEAR'S EVE. Looking for something simple and low key? Please join us. We will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. A meal will be provided and everyone is invited to bring a snack to share and any games you want to play. You can come and go as you desire, and usually activities close down before 10:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet is on the hallway bulletin board for planning purposes only.

THEME FOR THE DAY: It has been said that you have to go through John the Baptist to get to Jesus (tongue in cheek). That is, John the Baptist is the forerunner of Jesus, and the second Sunday of Advent on our way to Christmas always discusses the ministry of John the Baptist. This year, of course, is no exception. This morning we will concentrate on how John looks to adjust our course and focus a little so it is directly at Jesus. Today we will consider all this in a message entitled, "Redirection Toward Jesus."



THIS WEEK AT HOPE: Today following the service is **Junior Confirmation**. Monday at 11:30 a.m. is **BUNKO** and leaving from the church at 3:45p.m. is **Caroling** at Century Drive Nursing and Rehab Center. **Tuesday** at 10:00 a.m. is **Bible Study** and at 3:30 p.m. is **Alcoholics' Anonymous**. **Wednesday** at 11:00 a.m. is **Advent Service at Hope** and at 7:00 p.m. is **Joint Advent Service at Concordia**. **Thursday** at 9:00 a.m. is **Christmas Pageant Practice**, at 10:00 a.m. is **Bell Choir Practice**; also from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Pastor will be in **Sidewalk Ministry** and from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in **Prison Ministry**. **daily devotion on Hope's Facebook page.**

LOOKING AHEAD: Hope's Christmas Dinner is December 17. We've Been There Group Christmas Party is December 18. December 31 will again be Hopes New Year's Eve Party.

JOIN US FOR MID-WEEK ADVENT SERVICES. This Wednesday we will have our second mid-week Advent Service at 11:00 a.m. here at Hope and at 7:00 p.m. a joint service with the other two Granite City Lutheran Churches at Concordia.

OUR HOPE CHRISTMAS DINNER IS NEXT SUNDAY beginning at 4:00 p.m. Please join us. Everyone is invited to provide a covered dish for sharing; and turkey, dressing, and mashed potatoes/gravy will be supplied (as of the writing of this bulletin, 2 turkey bakers are still needed). A sign-up sheet is on the hallway bulletin board. Good food, fellowship, and even some singing of Christmas songs. A great way to usher in Christmas with your Church family.

PLANS FOR CHRISTMAS SERVICES. As Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year, we will have three services that day. We will have our regular 9:30 a.m. worship service and then Christmas Eve Candlelight Services at 7:00 and 11:00 p.m. Our Christmas Day Service will be at 9:30 a.m. At our 9:30 a.m. Service on Christmas Eve we will have our Christmas Pageant as a part of the service.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING TOMORROW. We will meet at the church at 3:45 to join members of the Social Ministry Committee as they will be delivering cookies to Century Drive Nursing and Rehab Center from 4:00-5:00 p.m. During this time we will be able to spread Christmas joy and sing Christmas carols to the residents. Please join us. It may be one of the few times this holiday season that Christmas joy is extended to the residents at the Nursing and Rehab Center. A sign-up sheet is on the hallway bulletin board.

BUNKO IS TOMORROW. Lunch will be provided at 11:30 a.m. followed by the fun and laughter of BUNKO. It is not too late to join them. A sign-up sheet is on the hallway bulletin board.

BELL CHOIR HAS STARTED. It is not too late to join them. It is not necessary that you be able to read music. If interested, please see Jackie or Nichol Tieman.

POINSETTIA ORDERS ARE NOW BEING TAKEN. Cost is \$13.00. Please fill out the envelope from the hallway bulletin board and leave your order in the church office. Following our Christmas services they will be available to you.
