

# NEWS OF HOPE

Volume 19, Issue 9

May 2020

*...From Pastor Martin*

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Psalm 23:1

## An Ever Happy Life

Whenever God's Word is preached properly and purely, it creates as many good things and results as the prophet here gives it names. To those that hear it diligently and seriously – and they are the only ones whom our Lord acknowledges as His sheep – it is pleasant green grass, a cool draught, by which the sheep of the Lord are satisfied and refreshed. It keeps them in the paths of righteousness and preserves them from suffering misfortune and harm. And it is to them an ever happy life, in which food and drink and all kinds of joy and pleasure abound. In other words: these sheep of the Lord are not only instructed and guided, refreshed, strengthened, and comforted by God's Word, but they are also continuously kept on the right path, protected in body and soul in all kinds of distress, and finally they conquer and overcome all tribulation and sorrow, of which they must endure only as much as verse four mentions ("Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.") In short, they live in complete safety as those whom no sorrow can befall, because their Shepherd tends and protects them.

*365 Selected Readings From Martin Luther, Psalm by Psalm ©2017 Concordia Publishing House  
From Commentary on Psalm 23, (Luther's Works 12:148-149)*



**Sundays in the Sanctuary ...in the home...**

I wonder how face masks affect congregational singing. Some people I hear speaking very clearly through theirs, but with the masks that I made which have essentially 4 layers, Ken's voice sounds rather muffled. I confess that it's not a thought I like to contemplate. But, actually, I like it better than the alternative of not meeting together. It seems so wrong – and then I remember the steady prayer of the Church, "Thy will be done".

The path God sets before us doesn't always seem to take us the way we anticipated. 'Together' was what I'd hoped. It seemed amazing to learn that we worship together with the angels, and archangels, and all the company of heaven in their unending hymn of praise. But right now, we have almost as much longing to recall the Divine Service of the Word and Sacraments in our sanctuary at Hope. We thought that would be unending, too – at least while our cars had gas, and while we could manage to pull our bodies out of bed and get dressed to come together.

I don't usually cite Scripture in this column, but a bit of this passage (in bold) came to mind: **Isaiah 55:6-13**

- <sup>6</sup>*"Seek the LORD while he may be found;  
call upon him while he is near;*
- <sup>7</sup>*let the wicked forsake his way,  
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;  
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion  
on him,  
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.*
- <sup>8</sup>***For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways, declares the  
LORD.***
- <sup>9</sup>*For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.*
- <sup>10</sup>*"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven  
and do not return there but water the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,*
- <sup>11</sup>*so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
it shall not return to me empty,*

*but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.*

These words are so comforting when I'm confused. Not just that God has a plan, and that I'm not likely to have that same plan! But that His plan has a purpose, and that purpose will bear fruit.

I have to tell you that the last two verses of this passage are special to me because I sang them in when I was in college. So when I read them actually I hear joyful music declaring:

- <sup>12</sup>*"For you shall go out in joy  
and be led forth in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall break forth into singing,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.*
- <sup>13</sup>*Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;  
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;  
and it shall make a name for the LORD,  
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."*

Scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

While we wait, take advantage of the devotions Pastor is sending out through email. (If you aren't getting them, contact Pastor , leave a message on the church phone, to be put on the newsletter email list) . Remember that Pastor Wulf and Pastor Kerry are recording services on a weekly basis at hlutheran.org.

Don't forget you can go to Issues, Etc (issuesetc.org) and listen to their podcasts. There you will also find 'The Word of the Lord Endures Forever' which is a 15-minute daily Bible Study. Pastor Weedon is just finishing up Hebrews, so it should be a new book when you get this. Portals of Prayer is available at church, so you could pick one up there. And – are you missing the music? I encourage you to try lutheranpublicradio.org It's all Easter music right now! There aren't many places you can hear 'Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won' broadcast!

**AGNUS DAY**

THEY INVITE JESUS IN WITHOUT KNOWING IT'S HIM?



THEY WERE EXPRESSING NORMAL HOSPITALITY!



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## Lutheran Hour Ministries

### Sermon Schedule

#### 5/3 "Rescue, Test, Rest"

Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler**

God doesn't have to figure out something about you that He doesn't already know. He doesn't have to figure out if He loves you or if He's committed to you or if you're worth it. God's not testing you to figure something out about you He didn't already know. He's testing you so that you can figure out something about Him that you didn't know, so that you can figure out that you can trust Him." **(Exodus 16)**

#### 5/10 "Stand a Little Taller"

Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler**

When someone special pays you a visit, you stand a little taller in their presence. Dr. Michael Zeigler talks about dignity, humility, and life in the presence of God.

**(Exodus 18)**

#### 5/17 "Words Matter"

Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler**

Words matter. People matter. You matter to God, and He will stop at nothing to get your attention. **(Exodus 19)**

#### 5/24 "Life After Rescue"

Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler**

**(Exodus 20)**

#### 5/31 "TBD"

Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler**

## LWML MISSION GRANT FOR MAY

### Ministry in Motion at Trinity in Mobile, AL Trinity Lutheran Church, Mobile, Alabama

**\$58,000**



at

Preschoolers LaTerry Kennedy and Angelina McKenzie pray the beginning of school day at Trinity Lutheran School. LCMS photo.



Teacher Jonathan Clausell reads to his class. LCMS photo

Trinity Lutheran School, modeled after the ministry of Rosa J. Young, has remained a stronghold of Christ centered education in a community dealing with inter-generational poverty and the challenges of urban living. Today Trinity serves 200 students from infants through fifth grade, and reaches another 45 students daily from four public schools through its afterschool program and Good News Bible Club. Daily prayer, chapel, and devotions help children, many from unchurched homes, develop spiritually in knowing God loves them. Grant funds are needed to purchase a handicapped accessible church bus for school children, elders, neighbors, and church members to participate in church and school ministries.

*The Ladies' Book Study will be finishing up the current book on Prayer by mid-May. We'll email an announcement if we decide to commit to another 6-week themed study in this Lutheran Spirituality series. There are 6 in the series, and we studied the one on the Cross last spring. We 'meet' on Thursday evenings via Zoom, at this point.*

### The Lutheran Hour

Station	City, State	Freq	Band	Day	Time
KLCB	Libby, MT	1230	AM	Sun	8:30 AM
<b>KTBI</b>	<b>Spokane, WA</b>	<b>810</b>	<b>AM</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>
<b>KTRW</b>	<b>Spokane, WA</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>AM</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>
<b>KTRW</b>	<b>Spokane, WA</b>	<b>96.5</b>	<b>FM</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>
KSPO	Yakima, WA	106.5	FM	Sun	8:00 AM

Here's a link to a new Bible Study from LWML they are offering through facebook.

Entitled 'Overflowing Abundance' and led by Donna Snow, *it begins April 28<sup>th</sup>*, and this link (or, more likely, you'll have to enter this in the search line to link up) should take you to the place you can sign up. I copied and pasted it, and it worked for me.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/3162728340485153/>

## MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

5/1 Bill Link  
Jim & Sheri Queen  
Ann Winkler  
5/2 Erika Bowden  
5/10 Ryoko French  
Bonnie Torske  
5/11 Will & Debbie Toth  
5/13 Reilly Teilborg  
5/14 Gary & My Schmitt  
5/16 Allen Cook  
5/17 Hayley Link  
5/19 Gene & Carol Gahl  
5/20 Calvin Gale  
5/21 John Hacking  
Bob Hacking  
5/23 Sarah Jones  
5/24 Craig Beal  
Shannon Behm



## Notes from Pastor Wulf:

If anybody wants a bulletin, a Portals of Prayer, hymnal or toilet paper, please call the church and leave a message for Pastor Wulf.

Sunday's sermon is available on Facebook (Hope Lutheran Church-Mo Synod) or on our website at [hlutheran.org](http://hlutheran.org) Contact Pastor Wulf for user name and password if necessary.

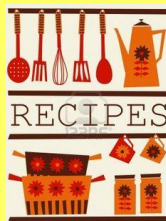
Hymnals are still available for \$20 right now (regularly \$25.99) from CPH.

Please let Pastor Wulf know if you are a Thrivent member. We may be in more need of action cards this year.

Thank you to everybody who has mailed in your offering. Pastor is picking up the mail every day, and it is greatly appreciated.

**\*\*If anyone needs face masks, let Pastor know. \*\***

What have you been cooking?  
This is a GREAT time to  
Gather Hope Lutheran Church's  
FAMILY RECIPES



To submit a recipe by email, use the subject  
'Hope Recipes'  
and email to: [Torske82@gmail.com](mailto:Torske82@gmail.com)

*(You may also mail them, or call Pastor and bring them to church if you prefer.)*

Don't pass this opportunity to make this the  
best recipe collection EVER!

*Help us put this together for  
presentation and sale by the Fall!*



**Hope Lutheran Church**  
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**(509) 924-1630**