

PALM SUNDAY 2018

March 24-25

Hope Lutheran Church Selden, New York

Welcome to our Celebration!

We welcome all who join us for worship today. Some of you are “regular” worshippers and members of Hope. Some are “returnees” who are home for the holiday or visiting with members of Hope. Some of you are visitors with us for the very first time, perhaps even new to our community and seeking a church “home.” We welcome you all and thank God for your presence among us. Our church is here to share the good news of God’s reign among us, and we want to be faithful to God’s mission by inviting you to enter into a closer, growing relationship with the one who forgives our sins and reaches out to make us his own. Let us know how we can assist you in your spiritual journey.

GATHERING

The assembly gathers outside so that all may enter the church in a procession. Palm branches are distributed before the service begins. The presiding minister begins (repeated one or more times):

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Mark. . .
Glory to you, O Lord.

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethpage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, (Jesus) sent two of his disciples and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. “If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’” They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

“Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

The Gospel of Our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

BLESSING OF PALMS

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept.

We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way.

(We lift up the branches we are holding)

Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

PROCESSION *The assisting minister addresses the assembly.*

Let us go forth in peace, **in the name of Christ. Amen.**

For procession see special insert of songs

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

The assembly follows the ministers into the church singing

“All glory, laud, and honor” (#344)

Refrain

**All glory, laud, and honor to you, redeemer, king,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.**

You are the king of Israel and David's royal Son, now in the Lord's name coming, our King and Blessed One. **Refrain**

The company of angels are praising you on high; creation and all mortals in chorus make reply. **Refrain**

The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went. Our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present. **Refrain**

To you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise. To you, now high exalted, our melody we raise. **Refrain**

Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring, great author of all goodness, O good and gracious king. **Refrain**

The presiding minister concludes the procession

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest

HOLY WEEK AT HOPE:

Maundy Thursday

- **Noon and 7:30 p.m.**
Maundy Thursday Holy Communion Services
- **4-6 p.m.**
Individual Confession and Forgiveness with the pastor

Good Friday

- **7 a.m. All-Day Prayer Vigil** begins
- **10 a.m. Children's Stations of the Cross**
- **11 a.m.** Depart for Shrine
- **Noon Stations of the Cross** at Our Lady of the Island in Eastport.
- **3 p.m. The Stations of the Cross** at Hope
- **7:30 p.m.**

The Triumph of the Cross

Holy Saturday

- **Dusk (7:30 p.m.) The Great Vigil**

Easter Sunday

- **7:30, 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. Festival Services of Holy Communion**
- **7:00-11:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast** is served in All Saints' Hall. Please sign up.
- **Adults: \$7 and kids 12 & under \$5.**

ATTENTION PARENTS: STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR CHILDREN

On Good Friday, please bring your children at 10 a.m. to walk the **Stations of the Cross** using a special liturgy just for families.

“THE THREE DAYS” Maundy Thursday The “New Commandment” Day

The first of the Three Days at the heart of Holy Week is Maundy Thursday. The name comes from the New Commandment Jesus gave to his disciples, that they love one another as he loved them.



We worship at 12:30 p.m. and again at 7:30 p.m.

On this evening Jesus gathered with his disciples to share a holy meal, but before they ate, he surprised them by taking on the role of a

servant and washing the feet of each man.

At both services we confess our sins and receive our individual absolution. Then, after the Word is proclaimed, we will prepare for the Lord's Supper by having a special hand washing ritual as people come forward toward the altar for holy communion.

At the evening service, after we receive communion,

we end the service with the solemn ceremony of “Stripping of the Altar,” which symbolizes the way our Lord was treated by his enemies who sought to humiliate him by stripping his clothing from him.

As we leave the service in silence, we pause to reflect on how we can live out his new commandment, seeking God's strength to keep it in our own lives daily.

“THE THREE DAYS” Good Friday No Greater Love than this

The most solemn of the three days is Good Friday, the day our Lord laid down his life for us and for the world.

The church building opens up at 7 a.m. for a day-long Solemn Vigil. All day long, people come for prayer and reflection on the suffering and death of Jesus. Parents are encouraged to bring their children with them for the Prayer Vigil.

The solemn vigil is broken up twice during the day, at 10 a.m. and again at 3 p.m., and it ends at 7 pm.

At 10 a.m. a Stations of the Cross devotional will be for children and parents. At 11 a.m. a group will gather to carpool to the Shrine of **Our Lady of the Island** for a similar devotional walk, and at 3 p.m. we observe the Stations of the Cross here using a traditional format to guide

our prayers as we recall our Lord's journey to Golgotha, his death on the cross, and his burial.

At the evening service, at 7:30 p.m., we focus on the triumph of the cross with a reading of the Passion and choral music. During the service people bring crosses from home for a blessing.

Good Friday is the only day when Holy Communion is not celebrated.

“THE THREE DAYS” — Holy Saturday — Reaffirming our Baptism

The only service we have on Holy Saturday begins outdoors at dusk (approximately 7:30 p.m.).

We begin by lighting the New Fire and we enter the darkened church with lit candles to hear the re-telling of some of the Mighty Acts of God as recorded in the Holy Scriptures.



Following the readings, we join together in the joyful act of dressing the church for the celebration of the resurrection of our Lord on Sunday morning, transforming the barren space by the addition of flowers, special paraments, and banners.

We then gather at the font to renew our baptismal vows and reaffirm our baptismal

relationship with God. The climax of this celebration is the return of the Alleluias as we hear the Word proclaimed once more and gather for the first Easter celebration of Holy Communion anticipating the fuller gatherings which follow on Easter morning.

We encourage families to join us for this unforgettable worship experience on the night before Easter Sunday.

CELEBRATE CHRIST'S RESURRECTION

Easter is called the "Queen of Feasts" by Christians. It is the chief event in the story of God's love for all His creation.

On this day all faithful Christians gather to celebrate the good news of Christ's resurrection and experience his presence among us in the blessed sacrament of Holy Communion.

At Hope, our celebration begins outdoors at dusk on Holy Saturday with the Great Vigil of Easter. We hear the great biblical stories of God's love retold, we reaffirm the

covenant of baptism, we get to decorate God's house, and we share in holy communion together.

On **Easter Morning** we have three services at 7:30, 9:30 and 11:15 a.m.

Our traditional Easter Breakfast runs all morning in All Saints' Hall beginning at 7:30 a.m. Tickets are on sale in advance, but they can also be purchased at the door. Proceeds will help our teens go to the 2018 ELCA National Youth Gathering.

OUR CHILDREN'S EASTER MUSICAL

On **Saturday, April 14** at the **5:00 p.m. service** Hope's children will present a musical called **"IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF JESUS."**

This special program is part of an ongoing series of Children's plays and musicals we perform each year.

Many of the children also take part in our August 21-25 **Drama Camp**. Everyone is welcome.

THE CENTER FOR EVANGELICAL MISSION

SEEDS OF HOPE: A CONVERSATIONAL APPROACH TO TRANSFORMATION

*This event for lay leaders and pastors will be led by Canon Dr. Robin Greenwood will be held the week of **April 24-28, 2018** at Grace Lutheran Church, Malverne. Obtain a brochure from our church office.*

HOLY LAND TRIP THIS NOVEMBER

A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land is planned for this year, from November 27-December 6. The cost, just \$3,399 includes air fare, first-class hotels, breakfast and dinner daily, a professional tour guide, all fees for admission to special sites, and all taxes and fees.

There are still a few openings available, but a \$400 deposit is needed to reserve a place.

ANNUAL EASTER TITHE OFFERING

On Easter Sunday we will also receive our **Annual Easter Tithe Offering**, an offering where all members are asked to give a "one time" offering of 10% of a week's income as a gift to God.

If you have never adopted the biblical practice of tithing, this is a great opportunity to find out for yourself what it is like to give so generously. Accept the challenge to take part in this spiritual act. It may change your life forever.

VISION 2030 HOPE'S ANNUAL MEETING MAY 20th

A dinner for Adults and Children at 4 p.m. The meeting will be held from 4:40-6:30 p.m.

Our Council believes that the future of our church lies in our ability to engage our younger members in planning and working together for a common future for themselves, their families, and our greater community.

We especially encourage our families with young children to take part in our conversations about the theme: **"Vision 2030."**

We want to begin sharing our thoughts and dreams for the future of this ministry at Hope.

Special Kids' Activities are being planned for all children who come.

SUMMER CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

4 Week-long Summer Day Camp(s)

July 16- August 10 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Full days and half-days of indoor and outdoor fun activities, crafts, and games for children ages 3 and up for a modest fee.

Registration forms can be found in the Fellowship Hall. **Register NOW!**

Vacation Bible School August 13-17

Rolling River Rampage
Our Vacation Bible School will be held the week of **August 13-17** for children ages 3-12 from 9:30- 12:30. Volunteers will be needed for this program. Registration is open NOW!

For more information you can email Melissa Itara at jazmomma05@aol.com or call the church office.

Drama Camp August 20-24

Hope's Drama Camp will be **August 20-24** from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. with a performance of the play on Friday evening at 7 p.m. Drama Camp is for ages 3 through 5th Grade. We have fun all week re-hearsing songs, lines, making scenery, costumes and games and food. Register NOW!

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY AND THE OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY IN 2020

Reservations are already being made for the July, 2020 Peconic Conference pilgrimage to Italy ending at the Passion Play in Oberammergau. This trip is open to all interested persons, but space is limited on the tour bus.

This trip will begin in Rome, then move to Florence and Venice before ending in Germany at the famous Oberammergau Passion Play which is performed every ten years at a special open air theater in the small village.

People coming from other parts of the country can join the trip and make special connecting flight arrangements.

Pick up a brochure today.

HOPE'S FIFTH ANNUAL SPRING FAIR

SATURDAY, JUNE 9th

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

We will have many vendor tables, lucky number drawings, food, games, a children's Bouncy House, live entertainment, and several community and church exhibits and displays.

For information about renting a space for a table, please send an e-mail to **Melissa Itara at jazmomma05@aol.com** or call her at 631-987-4464.

If you want to help out on Fair Day, sign up. Groups and individuals interested in donating gift baskets or items for a gift basket can contact Lisa Spinazzola at **lcs828@outlook.com**.

Come out and enjoy the day with all your neighbors.

Hope Lutheran Church

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 Fax: 631-732-8369
 E-mail: hopenlutheran@msn.com

Which Way, Lord? A Course for Adults

Exploring Your Life's Purpose in the Journeys of Paul

The life and travels of the apostle Paul can help us find

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Five sessions on Monday Evenings from 7-9 pm
 and Wednesday afternoons from 1-2 pm

Starting the week of April 9th

Sign up Now to order your book— just \$10

HOPE'S MINISTRY TEAM

Dr. Richard O. Hill
Pastor
 631-331-5131

Dee Hecker *Synod Deacon*
 516-316-5254

Joyce Stahl *Director of Music*
 631-698-6616

Carol Hoffman *ANS Teacher*
 631-736-4456

Melissa Itara, *ANS Teacher Assistant*
 631-987-4464

John Kelly *Food Pantry*
 631-698-3192

Barbara Bussing *Assistant*

Barbara Nugent - *Church Secretary*
 631-588-8121

Donna Haller *Youth Coordinator and Sexton*
 631-846-7305

Linda Favale, *Bookkeeper*
 631-732-5006

Ed Gildersleeve, Carol Wolff,
 Richard Wolff
Congregational Deacons

Our Church is all over the World Wide Web

OUR CHURCH WEB SITE

Our church has a web site that is found on the web.

Check it out at:

www.hopenluth.com

SERMONS ON INTERNET

Every Sunday's message can be viewed on Facebook, our blog, and on our website.

Join our **Hope Lutheran Church Selden** Facebook Group to access messages.

LIVESTREAMED SERVICES

You can now join our worship services online each weekend. Just join the Hope Lutheran Church Facebook Group and

"friend" Pastor Richard O. Hill to receive notification of live worship services.

ANCHOR NOTES

Another communication we use regularly is an e-letter that Pastor Hill sends out almost every week called "Anchor Notes." This newsletter provides "news" about coming activities and stories about recent events as well as photos that you can copy and reprint.

If you want to get added to the e-letter mailing list, send a note to

hopenlutheran@msn.com or write directly to Pastor Hill at his email address:

rohilla@optonline.net

Friends and relatives who want

to stay in touch with our church, regardless of where they live, can receive this also.

THE "BLOG" (WEB LOG)

Pastor Hill also posts his messages on the our church's web log (Blog).

They are found at **www.hopespastor.blogspot.com**

HOPE'S SCOUTING PROGRAMS

Do you know that Hope sponsors a local Cub Scout pack and Boy Scout Troop? Several boys from our congregation take part in these programs and benefit greatly from them. Call the church office for more information about scouting.