



**Preparation for Worship:**

Give us courageous and righteous hearts, O God, so that our thoughts and actions may be pure and pleasing to you.

*\*Please stand as you are able* **Bold** Items read in unison

**GATHERING** We come together to worship God

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation/Call to Worship: **As for me, I will always**

**have hope; I will praise you more and more. My mouth will tell of your righteous deeds, of your saving acts all day long.** (Psalm 71:14-15)

Opening Prayer

Message from the Past – written by Pastor J. Schmierer for 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

\* Opening Hymn – *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* . . . . . Red **#50**

Confession of Sin: **Almighty God, Heavenly Father, today we give You thanks for establishing and preserving our congregation by Your hand of mercy.**

**Thank you for the labor of all Your faithful saints who have served You here in the past and continue to serve You today. Forgive us for all the times in our history when we have failed to serve You as we should. In Your grace and mercy, continue to bless us with all the gifts of Your Holy Spirit, so that we can, with reverence and love, serve You. In Jesus' holy name we pray, Amen.**

Declaration of Grace

Prayers of the Church (P: Lord in Your mercy C: **Hear our prayer.**)

Message from the Past – written by Pastor Erwin Groth, 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Special Music: Hymn – *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* . . . . . Red **#600**

Verses 1 & 4 – Hope Lutheran Church Youth

Verse 2 – Women Verse 3 – Men

Everyone sings all the refrains!

**WORD** We seek guidance from God's Word

Acts 5:30-42 Old Testament

1 Peter 1:3-9 Epistle

\* John 15:9-17 \* Gospel

\* Apostles' Creed: **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit; born of the virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from where He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the Holy Christian Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\* Gloria Patri: (sung, p. 4) **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.**

\*Offertory (sung, p. 33 for melody) **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence: and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation: and uphold me with Your free Spirit.**

Children's Sermon

Message from the Past – from the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary book

Hymn – *I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord* . . . . . Red **#296**

Psalm 71:5-18 Sermon Text

Sermon: *Lasting Hope* - Pastor Jason Holt, AFLC Presidential Ministry Associate

**SENDING** We go out to live in & share God's Word

\* Closing Hymn – *Lord of All Hopefulness* . . . . . Red **#558**

\* Lord's Prayer: **Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

\* Benediction & Doxology: (sung, p. 24 for melody) **Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise Him, all crea-tures here be-low; Praise Him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host: Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.**

\* Dismissal L: Go in Peace, and Serve the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

**The Joy of the Resurrection**

We Christians simply cannot get over the reality of the Resurrection. For us, the fact that God raised Christ from the dead proves that Christ's way alone is God's answer to the sins and horrors of the world. The truths Christ taught when he walked on earth stand solid and irrefutable. The light he brought is the only light that never goes out, for it is the eternal light of God's glory. Christ's life is the clearest example of how God intends for us to live. His way is the way that makes the most sense for our lives on this earth. The saints throughout history have shown that again and again.

The hope Christ offers is the only true and lasting hope. Ultimately, it is our assurance that life can be good and joy-filled for all. Consider the words St. Paul wrote to the church at Rome and apply them to your own life: "Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his" (Romans 6:4-5, NRSV).

If that is not a tremendous cause for abiding joy, then what is?

**This Week in the Parish - April 19 - 26**

MONDAY Newsletter Deadline!  
TUESDAY 7:00 pm Joint WMF board meeting at First American  
WEDNESDAY 3:45 pm Confirmation at First American  
SUNDAY 9:00 am Worship at First American w/Holy Communion,  
Confirmation Sunday, Noisy Offering for  
Lutheran Ambassador Magazine  
9:30 am Hope Sunday School  
10:15 am First American Sunday School  
10:45 am Worship at Hope

**Rejoicing in your presence & gifts – April 12, 2026**

**First American:** General—\$1015. Benevolence—\$20. Sunday School—\$32.  
Budget per Sunday—\$2068.

**Welcome!** The warmest of welcomes to one and all. Lift up your hearts unto the Lord. Reach out in loving acceptance to those around you. We are all children of the heavenly King. Please be sure to introduce yourself to Pastor Barry and sign our guest register as you leave.

Prayer in our corporate worship service is very important. To maintain a current prayer list, requests for non-members will be in the bulletin for three weeks. For additional time, please send an update to Pastor Barry. New additions will be underlined, and those scheduled to come off will be in italics.

**Health Needs of our Members:** Mike Fechner. Allan Hale. Dawsyn Johnston. Bob Kurtz. Robert Kurtz. Norma Mogck. Sue Neumeister.

**Health Needs:** *Mike Brezina* (Tripp Community). Gary Frank (friend of Mike & Lila Fechner). *Richard Jones* (father of Melissa Schmidt). *Mike Kumm* (brother of Tammy Ziegler). *Karalin Lyons* (cousin of Katy Brock). *Harper Roth* (Parkston Community).

**Birthdays:** 20 John Brenner. 23 Idella Bietz.

**AFLC Churches:** Redeemer Free Lutheran, Ontonagon, MI; Faith Free Lutheran, Minneapolis, MN; Ebenezer Lutheran, Northwood, ND.

**Mission:** Human Services Center in Yankton.

**Prayer for military personnel:**

Andrew Hanson: Hope member. Stationed in Kentucky; Army.  
Austin Lien: nephew of Glenn & Tammy Ziegler. Stationed in Washington; Navy  
Dalton Fischer: brother of Malorie Walz. Stationed in Germany. National Guard.

**Tripp-Delmont Parish + Association of Free Lutheran Churches**  
Pastor Barry Nelson

**First American Lutheran Church**  
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## Today's Readings

April 19, 2026

Third Sunday of Easter

### First Lesson

### Acts 2:36-41

[Peter addressed the crowd:] <sup>36</sup> “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.” <sup>37</sup> When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” <sup>38</sup> Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.” <sup>40</sup> With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” <sup>41</sup> Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

### Epistle

### 1 Peter 1:14-21

<sup>14</sup> As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. <sup>15</sup> But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; <sup>16</sup> for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.” <sup>17</sup> Since you call on a Father who judges each person’s work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. <sup>18</sup> For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. <sup>20</sup> He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. <sup>21</sup> Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

*Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. Congregation: **Thanks be to God.***

Lessons – April 26, 2026 First Lesson – Acts 2:42-47 Psalm 23  
Epistle – 1 Peter 2:19-25 Gospel – John 10:1-10

### \* Gospel

### \* John 15:9-17

<sup>9</sup> “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup> My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command. <sup>15</sup> I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. <sup>17</sup> This is my command: Love each other.

*\* Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord. \* C: **Praise to You, O Christ.***

### Sermon Text

### Psalm 71:5-18

<sup>5</sup> For you have been my hope, Sovereign Lord,  
my confidence since my youth.  
<sup>6</sup> From birth I have relied on you; you brought me forth from my mother’s  
womb. I will ever praise you.  
<sup>7</sup> I have become a sign to many; you are my strong refuge.  
<sup>8</sup> My mouth is filled with your praise,  
declaring your splendor all day long.  
<sup>9</sup> Do not cast me away when I am old;  
do not forsake me when my strength is gone.  
<sup>10</sup> For my enemies speak against me;  
those who wait to kill me conspire together.  
<sup>11</sup> They say, “God has forsaken him;  
pursue him and seize him, for no one will rescue him.”  
<sup>12</sup> Do not be far from me, my God;  
come quickly, God, to help me.  
<sup>13</sup> May my accusers perish in shame;  
may those who want to harm me be covered with scorn and disgrace.  
<sup>14</sup> As for me, I will always have hope;  
I will praise you more and more.  
<sup>15</sup> My mouth will tell of your righteous deeds, of your saving acts all day  
long—though I know not how to relate them all.  
<sup>16</sup> I will come and proclaim your mighty acts, Sovereign Lord;  
I will proclaim your righteous deeds, yours alone.  
<sup>17</sup> Since my youth, God, you have taught me,  
and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds.  
<sup>18</sup> Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God,  
till I declare your power to the next generation,  
your mighty acts to all who are to come.

# Hope Lutheran Church

1928



Can you spot the differences from 1928 to 2026?

The painting to the right of the altar is in German:

Glaube Liebe Hoffnung

Believe Love Hope

Founded in April of 1901

Golden Jubilee – Sunday, April 22, 1951

Diamond Jubilee – 1976

Centennial – April 21-22, 2001