

## Worship Outline

### GATHERING

Music to Prepare Us for Worship  
Gathering Songs  
Welcome 101, Connection Cards  
No Longer Strangers Prayer  
Meet Someone New  
Confession  
Greeting  
Prayer of the Day

### WORD

Acts 3:1-10  
Children's Sermon  
Sermon  
Song After Sermon  
Prayers of the People  
Offering  
Offering Music

### FEAST

Setting the Table  
Thanksgiving at the Table  
The Lord's Prayer  
Invitation to the Meal  
Communion  
Communion Songs  
Prayer after Communion

### SENDING

Purpose  
MILESTONES!  
Blessing  
Sending Song  
Music to Send You Out

April 10, 2016

River of HOPE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

*We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.*



**The One About Healing**

**It's the 3rd Sunday in the Easter Season.**

*All throughout the season of Easter we will wonder and pray together about how we go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.*

*Or, another way to put it: what do you do?*

*This isn't about bragging. It's about your life being shaped by Jesus. We are free to love and serve in our lives. What an incredible gift.*

**Welcome. We are so glad you are in worship at River of Hope today.**

**Come as you are.** Well, you're already here. We don't care what clothes you wear or what kind of shape your spiritual life is in. God meets you and loves you where you are.

**Where everybody knows your name?** We all wear name tags each week - not just the visitors. Even when we think we know everyone at River of Hope, it's simply not true. These name tags are our awkwardly friendly way to help us stick out our hand, say, "hello, you're new to me" and practice being the friendly church everyone swears we are. If we practice this awkward move here, we've got a shot at actually doing it in our everyday lives.

**We like kids.** No kidding. We think kids are leaders in worship and lives of faith. Just look around you.

**Nursery care.** Weeping and gnashing of teeth? There is a "cry room" available outside the worship area. The "Pray Ground," located in the worship space, is for those younger than kindergarten age.

**Communion.** You are welcome, without exception. If you are hungry and thirsty for unbounded grace, mercy, and forgiveness through Jesus Christ, you are welcome at Christ's table.

**Connection Cards.** For visitors and regulars to communicate. We won't use your info to bother you. We promise.

**Worship Style.** We are an intentional intergenerational community. "Sunday School" happens within worship! We sing hymns, we sing songs. We pray ancient words and words that are new to us. We actively practice faith during worship. Sometimes it's beautiful. Sometimes it's awkward. Sometimes it's both. It always "counts" as worship. Then we try it again next week. We are a pro-participation, anti-excellence community.

## We Prepare For Worship

**April River Guides:**  
Mike & Katie Weisenberger

**April 17th Scripture:**  
Acts 17:1-9, 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
To find daily readings go to <http://clergystuff.com/category/daily-devotions/>

**April 17th Singers:** Abby Thomson, Sara Nelson,  
Mike Weisenberger, Ruth Hamlow

## Today's Music:

**Gathering Songs:** "Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)" & "I Could Sing Of Your Love Forever"

**After Sermon:** "We Are Called"

**Offering:** "I Offer My Life"

**Communion Songs:** "Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup" & "Beautiful Savior"

**Sending Song:** "Mourning Into Dancing"



### River Team Schedule

**April- Nile**  
River guide:  
Mike & Katie Weisenberger  
320-234-7229  
weisenberger@mchsi.com

**May - Tigris**  
River guides:  
Russ & Jeannine Borgendale  
320-455-0052  
r\_j\_borgendale@hotmail.com

**June-Shenandoah/Amazon**  
River guides:  
Chris & Lisa Kraft  
320-234-7680  
320-583-6784  
clkraft123@hotmail.com  
Ruth Hamlow  
320-587-5045  
320-223-5859  
rhamlow@hutchtel.net

**July-Jordan/Nile**

**August-Tigris**

**September-Shenandoah**

**October - Amazon**

**November - Jordan**

**December - Nile**

## River Conditions

Dear Hopeful People,

Word is on the street - River of Hope is moving toward chartering. What does this mean? It means we'll officially be recognized as an congregation in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Indeed, we are recognized and indeed are already a church. After all, we are people, following Jesus. It's simply another step in becoming who we are. There is a constitution table helping to put into words who we are, how we've been living. We're wrestling with important questions. Yet the foundation is always this: we are called to follow Jesus. Jesus didn't tell us to form churches but to become disciples and to tell others about his love. Jesus showed us how to love through bread and wine. Jesus showed us how to love through the cross. That's what it's about, folks. Loving God and loving people. And River of Hope is a body of people trying to do just that. What does God have in store for our future? I know we'll be called to try new things, to go new places, to get more uncomfortable. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is disruptive after all. It dares to call you and me into a life of loving and service. It calls us to go out — the transformed life just might be your own!

The season of Easter is the perfect time to ponder just how it is you will show love - what new way will you try to live out this calling? What new place, what new people will you dare to love?

I'll see you out there, always in hope.

Pastor Laura

## G.I.F.T. Worship

### GENERATIONS IN FAITH TOGETHER.



River of Hope practices worship together with all generations, believing that faith and life are connected in a meaningful way when we worship together.

G.I.F.T. Worship is River of Hope's version of Sunday School for all ages. And it prepares us to go out into our lives, knowing Jesus Christ is transforming us and the world.

## Invite

**TODAY! Bread Auction** River of Hope is holding a bread auction from 12-2 pm. There will be loaves to sample and bid on. Homemade chili/soup will also be served. Funds benefit Hunger Free McLeod and RoH youth summer trips.

**Crow River Conference W/ELCA Spring Gathering Sat.** Apr. 23. "Lessons from Lefse". Registration at 8 am at Evangelical Lutheran Church, Cokato. In-kind offering will be fleece blankets & LWR kits. Contact Betty Brandt at 320-587-9655 or [cookingbetty@gmail.com](mailto:cookingbetty@gmail.com) for more info.

**Voices of Hope** is the "instant" Adult Choir for people age 13 - 100. We rehearse before worship (at 9:45) and perform on the same Sunday! You are welcome! **We will be singing again May 22.**

**riverKIDS** is a choir for kids grades 1-6. They will be singing for the last time this spring on Sunday May 8. Rehearsal will be Wed. May 4 from 7-7:30 pm at the HEC.

**High Schoolers:** learn about homelessness in Hutchinson & around the state. Wed. night, Apr. 20, come to Faith Lutheran at 6:30 pm for a Hutchinson-Wide event led by Bev Bonte from Common Cup & Dr. Leitch, a professor from Gustavus. Then you will sleep in Library Square Friday night, Apr. 22, & finish with a service project Saturday morning. Interested? Contact Ron Johnson to get yourself signed up! A \$5 donation to Common Cup is suggested.

## Connect

**55+Diners** will meet April 21, 5:30 pm at Bonfire Bar & Grill. It's always a good time, good fellowship & good food. Sign up at worship or contact Rachel Stearns at 320-583-3793 or [rfstearns72@gmail.com](mailto:rfstearns72@gmail.com). RSVP by April 19.

**Financial Giving: 4/3/2016**  
**Worship attendance:** 72  
**In-Worship Offering:** \$967.00  
**Children's Offering:** \$.05  
**Auto Deposits 3/27 - 4/2:** \$1,300.00

**NEW! FundingFactory!** We are recycling toner & ink jet cartridges to raise money for youth summer camps. Drop off your cartridges at the office or in the box at worship. For more info: [www.fundingfactory.com/goal/riverofhope](http://www.fundingfactory.com/goal/riverofhope).

**Pancake Breakfast** Sun. Apr. 17, 9 am-1 pm at the Hutchinson Elks Lodge. Sponsored by the Masonic Temple Lodge. All proceeds & matching funds from the Masons is going to the McLeod Alliance for Victims of Domestic Violence.

**Constitution Team** has been formed to help River of Hope become a chartered congregation of the ELCA. The goal is to be accepted at the Synod Assembly, June 10, 2016. The team asks for your prayers as well as your input. In the mean time, put these dates on your calendar:

- **May 15** is Pentecost (it's the day we celebrate what the Holy Spirit does) and also **Riverpalooza** where you will have the opportunity to **see the River of Hope constitution and exercise your vote!**
- **June 10** Synod Assembly at Gustavus in St. Peter, MN. Come to represent River of Hope on this joyful day.
- **Summer Date TBD: Celebration worship** for River of Hope's continued life as a vibrant and growing church.

**Team Members** invite your comments & feedback:

Pastor Linda Pedersen, Chair, [dlpeders@msn.com](mailto:dlpeders@msn.com) 507-328-9911  
Pastor Laura Aase, [laura@riverofhopehutchinson.org](mailto:laura@riverofhopehutchinson.org) 320-583-8005

Ruth Hamlow, [rhamlow@hutchtel.net](mailto:rhamlow@hutchtel.net) 320-587-5045  
Jim Schaefer, [jimbo101948@hotmail.com](mailto:jimbo101948@hotmail.com) 320-587-3883  
Jill Springer, [jillspringer5@hotmail.com](mailto:jillspringer5@hotmail.com) 303-913-3828  
Rachel Stearns, [rfstearns72@gmail.com](mailto:rfstearns72@gmail.com) 320-583-3793.

## Disciple

**Food & Financial Offering**  
In addition to your Simply Giving or putting money in the plate (thank you!) consider these other ways to give back during worship:  
**Offering can** - \$ for House of Grace  
**Picnic Basket** - HHS Reach Program, breakfast foods

**GET INTO THE BIBLE!**  
(No experience necessary)

- ♦ **What's the Word?** w/ Pastor Laura. 2nd Tuesday of each month from 7-8 pm at the office.
- ♦ **Men's Bible Study** 1st & 3rd Wednesday at 9 am at Dunn Bros. Get a free Bible if you don't have one. Call or email Dave Pedersen at 302-328-9911 [dlpeders@msn.com](mailto:dlpeders@msn.com).
- ♦ **Women of Hope** 1st Wednesday at 9:30 am at Andy Koenig's: 885 Otter St. SW.

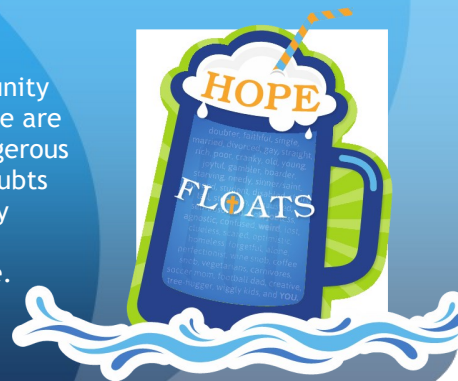
## We Go Out

**Sunday, April 17, 12-3 pm:** Hutchinson is rallying around Carter Renner, a young boy who has cancer. River of Hope was asked to hand out Hope Floats. Contact Chanda Kropp to help give away Hope Floats.

**Seeds of Hope Ministry** (Family of Christ in Chanhassen) is inviting current juniors in high school, college students and adults to join them this summer on a life-changing experience as they travel to El Salvador July 7<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>. If you know of anyone interested in this unique adventure of faith, service and self-discovery, please have them contact our trip leaders: Pastor Kristie [\(952\)934-5659](tel:9529345659), Mark Laven [\(952\) 937-0479](tel:9529370479) or Chanda Kropp [chandakropp@hotmail.com](mailto:chandakropp@hotmail.com).

# River of Hope Lutheran Church

We are the ELCA church in town. We are a purposely intergenerational community who is following Jesus out of the building and into the world where we live. We are learners (disciples) and practice-ers. Worship is a safe place to practice a dangerous gospel. And, believe us, it takes practice. Your questions, critical thinking, doubts and imperfect lives are welcome here. In fact, no matter your status in society (divorced, never-been-to-church, gay, straight, old, young, cranky, liberal, conservative, questioning, allergic-to-church, snarky) you'll be welcomed here. Then you'll be sent out, to live your life, transformed by Jesus Christ. And we believe, through the love of Jesus, you'll help to transform other lives.



**IF YOU KEEP UP WITH BRANDS,  
THEN YOU SHOULD KNOW WE  
ARE PART OF THE  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN  
CHURCH IN AMERICA (ELCA).  
WE'RE PRETTY PLEASED  
ABOUT THIS.**

***Our purpose as a church:***

*We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.*

***Our Guiding Principles:***

*(Disciple = learner)*

*God is God and we are not.*

*We are called to grow together as disciples: to forgive, to teach, to love.*

*Disciples are inspired by the Holy Spirit to take risks.*

*Disciples seek God's justice.*

*Disciples serve with no strings attached.*

*Disciples invite and welcome through loving acceptance.*

*We meet you where you are.*

~ April 2016 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
10 Worship 10:30 riverKIDS sing Bread Auction 12-2	11 Staff Meeting 12:00  Parish Personnel 3 pm RoH Office	12 What's the Word? w/ Pastor Laura 7 pm RoH Office	13	14	15 Pastor Laura's Sabbath	16
17 Worship 10:30  Carter Renner Benefit 12-3	18 Staff Meeting 12:00	19	20 Men's Bible Study 9 am Dunn Bros.	21 55+ Diners	22 Pastor Laura's Sabbath	23 Crow River Conf. Spring Gathering

**Worship**

Sundays at 10:30am  
Hutchinson Event Center  
1005 Hwy 15 S. Plaza 15  
Hutchinson, MN 55350

**Office Hours**

Mon-Fri 9am-2pm  
Pam's Hours M-W-F 9am-2pm  
16 Washington Avenue W, Suite 100  
Hutchinson, MN 55350  
320.587.4414  
RoH Cell 320.583.8005

**Staff**

Laura Aase, Pastor & Mission Developer  
pastor@riverofhopehutchinson.org  
Jim Nelson, Worship & Music Curator  
music@riverofhopehutchinson.org  
Pam Johnson, Office Administrator

Scan this code to make your financial gift to River of Hope.

