

Hope For The Week

Some thoughts to give you hope this week ...

For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all shall be made alive. – 1st Corinthians 15:22

Over the past few weeks, we have heard some of the most memorable Gospel passages – The Good Shepherd and the Vine and the Branches, chiefly. They possess in them the overwhelming love God has for us and shone in the offering of His Son, our Savior, at Easter.

“Easter” by Edmund Spenser, 1595

MOST glorious Lord of Life! that, on this day,
Didst make Thy triumph over death and sin;
And, having harrowed hell, didst bring away
Captivity thence captive, us to win:
This joyous day, dear Lord, with joy begin;
And grant that we, for whom thou didst die,
Being with Thy dear blood clean washed from sin,
May live forever in felicity!
And that Thy love we weighing worthily,
May likewise love Thee for the same again;
And for Thy sake, that all like dear didst buy,
With love may one another entertain!
So let us love, dear Love, like as we ought,
—Love is the lesson which the Lord us taught.

This poem appears in Spenser’s sonnet cycle, “Amoretti,” as number LXVIII [68] of 89 sonnets.

Spenser [1552-1599] is considered one of the preeminent poets of the English language. He was born into the guild class, his father John being a cloth maker. His epic poem, *The Faerie Queene*, was written in six books [1590, 1596] in honor of Queen Elizabeth I and in celebration of the Tudor dynasty.

This week:

NATIONAL DAY of PRAYER

The annual National Day of Prayer is **Thursday May 6**. The local prayer activity takes place at **Noon that day at Ascension St John Hospital**, 12 Mile and Hoover.

Gather in the north parking lot. Then, either stay in your car or stand outside of it and join local clergy and other believers in this faith-filled, public expression of our gratitude to our God.

If you cannot join in this public demonstration, set aside time on that day to join in this nationwide chorus of prayer and praise.

For more info, visit www.nationaldayofprayer.org

The theme verse for the 2021 National Day of Prayer is ...

2nd Corinthians 13:7 – Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

This year:

LOCAL YEAR of PRAYER

A group of pastors from Warren and Center Line have begun an initiative to pray for these cities for an entire year. The clergy have divided the cities into 36, 1-square-mile zones. Hope is in Zone 5 – 13 to 14 Mile, Hoover to Schoenherr. If you are interested in participating in this prayer endeavor, contact the church office for details.

This week at Hope:

- Church Council meets on **May 4**.
- Macomb County Mobile Food Pantry here from 10a-Noon on **May 6**.