

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2023—10:15am

We celebrate the Lord's Supper today! Please prepare yourselves using these questions as a guide:

- Have I been baptized in the Name of the Triune God, Father, Son & Holy Spirit?
- Do I believe that I am a sinful being without hope for eternal life except in mercy of Jesus Christ?
- Do I believe in Jesus as My Savior?
- Do I believe that Jesus Christ is personally present in communion with His body and blood to forgive my sins, as the Bible teaches?
- Do I desire and strive by the power of the Holy Spirit to live a God-pleasing life?

As you come to the Lord's Supper you are affirming with each communicant that Jesus is your Lord and Savior, and that the Lutheran Church's confession of Jesus Christ and His Supper is your confession as well.

White grape juice is now available in the center of the communion tray for those who cannot partake of alcohol. Gluten free wafers available upon request during distribution.

Prelude "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley" *Hand Bells*

Welcome: Pastor Dan

Please note that in the hymnal whenever we see a small triangle next to a hymn verse, that triangle means the Trinity is proclaimed in that verse and we are to stand for that verse.

Call to Worship from Psalm 116

Pastor: Trusting in the Word of Life given in our baptism, we are gathered together today in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit!

All: Amen

Pastor: I love the Lord, for he heard my voice He heard my cry for mercy.

All: Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on Him as long as I live.

A Time for Praise *(Please rise as you are able)*

Hymn: "In Christ Alone"

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fulness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

“Great is the Lord”

Chorus

Great is the Lord, He is holy and just,
By His power we trust in His love.
Great is the Lord, He is faithful and true
By His mercy He proves He is love.

Great is the Lord, and worthy of glory,
Great is the Lord, and worthy of praise.
Great is the Lord, Now lift up your voice,
Now lift up your voice: Great is the Lord
Chorus

Great are You, Lord, and worthy of glory,
Great are You, Lord, and worthy of praise.
Great are You, Lord, I lift up my voice,
I lift up my voice; Great are You, Lord
Chorus

Words and Music by Michael W. Smith and Deborah D. Smith

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Pastor: Let us pray
We thank You Lord that You have loved us with an everlasting love and have chosen us to be Your people. What You decree is always best; You are always good. Bless our time of worship this morning. In Your precious name.
Please be seated

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: Our God is wise—what He plans is best and what He does is good. His plan is that none should perish, but all live in His Kingdom forever. He gives us the reconciliation through His Son Jesus Christ, who gave His life for us that we might live. In Jesus then, we find the way back to God, for in Jesus there is forgiveness from all that we have done wrong. Let us now confess our sins and receive God’s forgiveness.

People: **O Lord, I confess that I have not lived as Your child. My actions, words and thoughts prove my sinful nature. I forget You are my Father; I conveniently choose to walk another way when You send me to be Your witness; so often I think it is by my power that I live and have what I own, even my faith. Forgive me Lord! Bring me back to You through Jesus. I can no longer stand the distance between us and I hunger for Your tender touch, Your loving mercy and grace.**

Pastor: *We pause for a quiet moment of private prayer and confession*
Dear friends in Christ, once we were enemies of God, but now we are children of the Lord. Rejoice! God has forgiven you all your sins and shortcomings because of Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross; the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

All: **Amen.**

Children’s Message Song: “Jesus Loves the Little Children”

Jesus loves the little children,
All the children of the world.
Ev’ry Color, ev’ry race,
All are covered by His grace
Jesus love the little children of the world

Jesus cares for all the children,
All the children of the world.
Ev'ry child in ev'ry land,
Jesus holds them in His hand.
Jesus cares for all the children of the world
C.H. Woolston Adapt. Dorothy N. Schultz George F. Root

Children's Message:

Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 42:14-21

(To be read by Bill Anton)

¹⁴ For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant.

¹⁵ I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools.

¹⁶ And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them.

¹⁷ They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods."

¹⁸ Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see!

¹⁹ Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the LORD?

²⁰ He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear.

²¹ The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please rise as you are able for the reading of our Gospel Lesson

The Gospel

Pastor: The Holy Gospel is written in the 9th chapter of St. John beginning at the 1st verse.

People: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹ As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth.

² And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

³ Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him.

⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work.

⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

⁶ Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud⁷ and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.

¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes.

¹⁵ So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see."

¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them.

¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

³⁴ They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

³⁶ He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?"

³⁷ Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you."

³⁸ He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. ³⁹ Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

The Apostles Creed

All: 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, died and was buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He will 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 life everlasting. Amen.

Message Song: "Thy Word"

Refrain:

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet

And a light unto my path.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet

And a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,

Still you're there right beside me.

Nothing will I fear as long as you are near.

Please be near me to the end.

I will not forget your love for me, and yet

My heart forever is wandering.

Jesus, be my guide and hold me to your side.

I will love You to the end.

Refrain

By Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith

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Sermon: "Why God?" *John 9:1-7* *Pastor Dan*

The Offerings are gathered

Prayers for the Church

The Prayers

Peace & comfort for the family of Wilda Persinger, friend of Sandy Goode

Healing from emergency surgery for Richard Seedroff

Safe travels for Julia, daughter of Deb Haver

Blessings for Tom & Wilma Meyferth and keep them safe, by son, Donald Meyferth

The Lord's Prayer *(Please rise)*

All: 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.

(Please help us keep our attendance numbers accurate by filling out the attendance cards and giving to Ushers at communion.)

The Lord's Supper is Celebrated

Pastor: The Consecration of the Bread and Wine

All: "Eat This Bread"

Eat this bread, drink this cup,
Come to Me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in Me and you will not thirst

Repeat

Written by Jacques Berthier Published by Gia Publication

(Distribution is continuous style. Please come to the communion rail and kneel or stand. As a place at the communion rail becomes open, please come forward and take that spot. After receiving the bread and the wine and you feel comfortable, please dismiss yourself to return to your seat; the post communion blessing will be given to all at the end.)

Welcome to the Table of the Lord

Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

The Benedicamus and Benediction

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People: Amen.

Closing Hymn: "All the People said Amen"

Chorus:

And all the people said amen whoa
And all the people said amen
Give thanks to the Lord for His love never ends
And all the people said amen

Verse:

You are not alone if you are lonely
When you feel afraid you're not the only
We are all the same in need of mercy
To be forgiven and be free
It's all you got to lean on
But thank God it's all you need

Chorus

And all the people said amen

Our Vision:

Pastor: As a reminder of the reason why we exist as a church let us speak our vision statement together.

All: Through Word and Sacrament ministry, we share the love, joy and peace of Jesus Christ among ourselves and with those around us.

Pastor: Our worship has ended, our service now begins. Let us go in peace.

All: And serve the Lord

Altar flowers are placed to the glory of God

Services will be live-streamed and a recording of service will be posted by the end of the day. You may watch these on Facebook, YouTube or go to website under Worship or scroll down on home page and find the latest services.

Please keep the church office updated on prayers that have been asked to be kept on indefinitely, military and ones for continued healing or cancer treatments.

Continued Prayers

Peace & comfort for the family of Leonard Wurl, father-in-law of Joseph Abiera

Peace, strength & comfort for all the victims of Hurricane Ian, who have lost loved ones or their home and belongings and are still going thru a lot.

We pray to God our Lord for our Hispanic Ministry in Immanuel and that through the Holy Spirit he will give us guidance to share the Gospel with new families.

Employment for those struggling to find a job

Healing or Good Test Results

Marina Abiera

Wilda Persinger, friend of Sandy Goode

Adam, nephew of Ray & Beth Kelp

Sherry Mielens, sister of Judy Black

Julie Ryden

Don Case

Battling with Cancer or Serious Illness

Lora Swarr, friend of Nancy Trathowen

Kathi Dillon, sister of Kim Blomquist

Justin, son of neighbor of Kim Blomquist

Andrew Hynick, father of Aaron Hynick

Victoria Hage, friend of Cindy Szczesny

Alan Conklin, friend of Cindy Szczesny

Karen, friend of Sandy Goode

Chris DeVito, sister of Patty Shawver

Stacey Chamberlain with ALS and husband David and family, friends of Kim Blomquist

Rusty Cotterman, friend of Ed Clarke

Tammy Smith, friend of Danielle Farnsworth

Lou Mercaldo & family, as he is suffering with dementia, grandfather of Carolyn Clarke

Donald Crouse as he has dementia, brother-in-law of Joan Crouse

Kidney transplant for Charles, grandfather of Immanuel student

Don Monahan, brother-in-law of Cathy Wilson

David, son-in-law of Nancy Christianson

Nancy Schild, (non-Hodgkins Lymphoma) former teacher of ILS and member of ILC

Lee, father of Ashlee Garrett

Rich Richards

Barbara LaVere
Yvonne Lenzen, grandmother of Grace Sierra
Cathy Nichols with terminal cancer, mother of Cathy Wilson
David, brother of Larry Habeck
Don Swisher, step-father of Larry Habeck
Tracy, cousin of Jacquelyn Hahn
Lisa Steinbrueck, niece of the Steinbrueck's
Tom Meyferth

PRAYERS FOR THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY

Safety for... and strength for families:

Kincaide Green, stationed at Lackland AFB in San Antonio, TX
Robert Lowry
Joshua Littrel, stationed at Ft. Campbell, KY with the 101st Airborne/Air Assault Division, 3rd Brigade "Rakkasans
Luke Buchholz, Navy, grandson of Ann Donahue, stationed at Norfolk, VA
Matthew Reikowski as he is deployed on the Carl S. Vinson
Logan Crouse, US Army, great-nephew of Joan Crouse, stationed at Ft. Campbell in NC
Samuel Drake, Captain stationed at Holloman AFB in Alamogordo, NM, son of Kerry Drake
Cpl. Xander Ritter, USMC, stationed at Camp Pendleton, CA
Gavin Mattson, para-rescue man, stationed in the Panhandle of FL, grandson of Edith Mattson
Jeremy Brockmeier (USMC) & family, stationed at Camp Pendleton in CA, son of Jerry and Janice Brockmeier

ALSO, FOR ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS

PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILIES

Sunday: Don Case
Monday: Diane Cherry
Tuesday: Mike & Jenny Childers
Wed: Nancy Christianson
Thurs: Ed & Carolyn Clarke, Piper, Aliana, Ava
Friday: Jeff & Lori Cole, Andrew
Saturday: Tommy & Elizabeth Combs, Ainsley, Asher

PRAYERS FOR OUR SCHOOL STUDENTS & FAMILIES

Sunday: Cameron Carpenter
Monday: Aaden Carranza
Tuesday: Kaydence Carter
Wed: Isabella & Maxwell Castro
Thurs: Aarnika Chaluvadi
Friday: Kailey Charles
Saturday: John Clapp

**PRAYER FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY
IN LENT**

Heavenly Father, Your Son came not to be served but to serve. As we follow in His steps, give us wisdom, patience, and courage to minister in His name to all who suffer and are in need; for the love of Him who laid down His life for us, Your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.