

**Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Fourth Sunday in Lent**

March 30, 2025

10:00 a.m.

***THE VISION STATEMENT FOR IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH***

*As the body of Christ, renewed by the Holy Spirit as a living community of believers, we are committed to sharing the love of Christ and the good news of salvation.*

*We build relationships with others in the **Community Around Us**, while nurturing the **Community Among Us**, so all may know of and grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior.*

***Building on Christ, Equipping for the Future***

The Five-fold function of the Church: **Worship, Education, Fellowship, Service, and Evangelism**

**WELCOME VISITORS!**

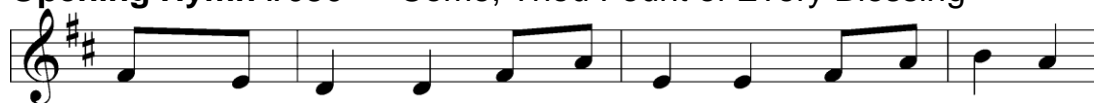
The Immanuel Lutheran congregation is pleased that you have joined us today. If you have no church home, we invite you to make your home among us.

## ORGAN PRELUDE ~

## “I Will Sing My Maker’s Praises”

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

### Opening Hymn #686 – “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”



1 Come, Thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Tune my heart to  
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by Thy  
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con -  
4 Oh, that day when freed from sin - ning, I shall see Thy



sing Thy grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,  
help I've come; And I hope, by Thy good plea - sure,  
strained to be; Let that grace now like a fet - ter  
love - ly face; Clothed then in the blood - washed lin - en,



Call for songs of loud - est praise. While the hope of end - less  
Safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a  
Bind my wan - d'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wan - der, Lord, I  
How I'll sing Thy won - drous grace! Come, my Lord, no long - er



glo - ry Fills my heart with joy and love, Teach me  
strang - er, Wan - d'ring from the fold of God; He, to  
feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my  
tar - ry; Take my ran - som'd soul a - way; Send Thine



ev - er to a - dore Thee; May I still Thy good - ness prove.  
res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.  
heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.  
an - gels soon to car - ry Me to realms of end - less day.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–90, alt.

Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg

Text and tune: Public domain

## Divine Service, Setting Four

### Confession and Absolution

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

**P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Psalm 51:2-6; antiphon: v. 1*



(Chanted by all)

*Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;\**  
*according to your abundant mercy blot out my trans- | gressions.*

*Wash me thoroughly from my in- | iquity,\**  
*and cleanse me | from my sin!*

*For I know my trans- | gressions,\**  
*and my sin is ever be- | fore me.*

*Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight,\**  
*so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your | judgment.*

*Behold, I was brought forth in in- | iquity,\**  
*and in sin did my mother con- | ceive me.*

*Behold, you delight in truth in the inward | being,\**

and you teach me wisdom in the | secret heart.  
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**  
 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;\*  
 according to your abundant mercy blot out my trans- | gressions.

## Kyrie



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

**A** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**A** Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 12:1-6*

<sup>1</sup>You will say in that day:

“I will give thanks to you, O LORD,  
 for though you were angry with me,  
 your anger turned away,  
 that you might comfort me.

<sup>2</sup>“Behold, God is my salvation;  
 I will trust, and will not be afraid;  
 for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,  
 and he has become my salvation.”

<sup>3</sup>With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. <sup>4</sup>And you will say in that day:

“Give thanks to the LORD,  
 call upon his name,  
 make known his deeds among the peoples,

proclaim that his name is exalted.

<sup>5</sup>“Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;  
let this be made known in all the earth.

<sup>6</sup>Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Hebrews 12:2*



*[O come, let us fix our eyes on] | Jesus,\*  
the founder and perfecter | of our faith,  
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despis- | ing the shame,\*  
and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.*

## Epistle

*2 Corinthians 5:16-21*

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. <sup>17</sup>Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

<sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

<sup>20</sup>Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Stand

## Holy Gospel

*Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: . . .

“There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. <sup>14</sup>And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup>And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup>“But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.”’” <sup>20</sup>And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. <sup>24</sup>For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>“Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. <sup>27</sup>And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ <sup>28</sup>But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, <sup>29</sup>but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ <sup>31</sup>And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Apostles' Creed

**C** 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 the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

*Sit*

**Hymn of the Day #571 – “God Loved the World So that He Gave”**



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly  
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made  
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with  
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in  
flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in  
sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the  
sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.  
Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

6 Glory to God the Father, Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To You, O blessèd Trinity,  
Be praise now and eternally!

Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opffer, c. 1778, Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.  
Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93  
Text and tune: Public domain

**Sermon**

**VOLUNTARY ~**

**“I Heard the Voice of Jesus”  
Eugene Englert (1931-2024)**

## Offering

(We join with Christians all over the world in worshipping God through the giving of our financial resources. If you are a first-time visitor, you are our guest and we do not expect you to give an offering. For members and friends, the ministry of this congregation is completely dependent upon your generous giving. Our offering is a significant act of worship.)

*Stand*

## Offertory



**C** Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

## Prayer of the Church

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*Brief silence*

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love. Give us a proper knowledge of the evil we have done in Your sight. Move us to confess our offenses against You, and justify us with Your holy absolution. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father of mercy, remember Your baptized children who have left Your household and departed from the faith. Call them to repentance according to Your gracious will. Remember parents, grandparents and all who mourn their departure. Sustain them in faithful patience to wait and pray. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**



Almighty God, in Christ You reconciled the world to Yourself. Watch over our nation and all whom You have placed in authority. Give them wisdom and prudence, that Your people might live in peace and freely make known the message of reconciliation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, hear our prayers for all who cry out to You for mercy, healing and help [*including \_\_\_\_\_*]. Deliver them according to Your will and, as You have made them a new creation in Christ, keep them mindful of the day when sorrow and sickness will be no more. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **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.**

### ***Announcements***

### **Benediction**

**☩** 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.

**☩ Amen.**

## Recessional Hymn # 725– “Children of the Heavenly Father”



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly  
 2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His  
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the  
 4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in  
 ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He  
 Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He  
 chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.  
 spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.  
 show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.  
 sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958

Tune: Lofsånger och andeliga visor, 1873, Sweden

Text: Public domain

Tune: Public domain

### ORGAN POSTLUDE ~

### “Prelude in F Minor” BWV 534

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

### Those Serving Today:

Pastor	Rev. Charles Minetree
Officiant	
Liturgist	Denise Waicker
Lay Reader	Roland Obedekah
Director of Music	Muriel Hopkins
Altar Guild	

### Birthdays This Week:

3 Bruce Greensfelder  
 Yassah Kemezee  
 5 Christopher Minetree

## This Week at Immanuel:

Sunday	March 30	9:00 am 10:00 am Post worship	Sunday school, ages 3-12 Worship Adult Bible Study
Wednesday	April 2	12:10 pm 1:00 pm <b>6:00 pm</b>	Midweek Lent service Soup Lunch <b>Special Council meeting</b>
Thursday	April 3	7:00 pm	Choir practice

*A donation to our Cemetery Fund in memory of Bill Hermann was received from Melvin and Sharon Manson*

*A donation to our Cemetery Fund in memory of Jean Heemann was received from Rick and Sharon Kruelle*

## Ministry Notes

**Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>**, Board of Lay Ministry meeting, after worship



### Easter Trumpets

Donations are being sought for our wonderful trumpeters on Easter Sunday. This is not included in our budget and is solely supported by donations. Please mark the donation as being for the "Easter Trumpets."

### Easter Egg Hunt Candy

Donations are being accepted for candy to fill plastic easter eggs. These candies should be individually wrapped. They should not contain peanuts. If you would like to make a donation, see Emalee Smith.

**Lutheran Mission Society in need of clothing – children, all sizes and men's larger sizes.** Please bring to Compassion Place HQ, 601 Hammonds Lane.

**Wednesday Lunch Bible Class.** Will be meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays following Midweek Lent Service and the soup lunch. Next class is Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at about 1:00 pm.

***SAVE THE DATE, Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, Flea market (rain date, Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>)***

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

- Jeffrey Goeller, who is ill
- Anthony Summers, who is ill
- Dottie Friant, recovering from flu
- Rosemarie Wilson, the daughter of Filleseta James, for return of strength in her left leg
- For peace in Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, and Russia
- Bonnie and Joe Castrilli as she cares for her husband who has dementia
- Joseph Woah-tee missing, and whereabouts unknown