

THE IMMANUEL HERALD

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
5701 LOCH RAVEN BOULEVARD
BALTIMORE, MD 21239

Visit Immanuel's website www.immanuellutheran.org

FEBRUARY 2023

DIVINE SERVICE AT IMMANUEL: In addition to the in-person services, all Services are live streamed also. The live stream is available at the following Youtube link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqkp9bt5FmMFDmfW0QNplUw/videos>

DIVINE SERVICE AT IMMANUEL

February 5

Isaiah 58:3–9a

Psalms 112:1–9

1 Corinthians 2:1–12 (13–16)

Matthew 5:13–20

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Your light will break forth like the dawn.

“Light dawns in the darkness for the upright.”

My message was with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power.

“You are the salt of the earth . . . the light of the world.”

To know God intellectually, merely to exercise a fasting ritual without faith, can be devoid of purpose. But through the Holy Spirit, the wisdom of God is made known to us in our hearts and minds. Then acts of mercy for those enmeshed in poverty, wickedness, and hunger season the world with God’s graciousness and righteousness. In these moments, God’s favor is made known, light shines, good works are done, and God alone is glorified.

February 12

Deuteronomy 30:15–20

Psalms 119:1–8

1 Corinthians 3:1–9

Matthew 5:21–37

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Love the Lord your God; walk in His ways.

“Blessed are those whose way is blameless.”

“You are God’s field, God’s building.”

Jesus explains the Law.

Obedience to the commandments of God beget abundant life! Yet, in our flesh we struggle; jealousy dilutes trust; anger suppresses joy; foolishness prevents reconciliation. The list is endless! It seems like our every gesture wars against the good commandments of God. Our life ultimately needs to be grounded in the abundant care of Jesus. He alone gives growth, nourishes life, and fortifies us with the ability to speak unwavering truth concerning the counsels of God!

February 19

Exodus 24:8–18

Psalms 2:6–12

2 Peter 1:16–21

Matthew 17:1–9

The Transfiguration of Our Lord

Moses goes up on Mount Sinai.

“You are My Son; today I have begotten You.”

“We were eyewitnesses of His majesty.”

Jesus is transfigured on the mountaintop.

God reveals His majesty to Moses in flame, shrouded in a mysterious cloud, ultimately preparing Moses to receive the Law of God. Peter, James, and John also bear witness to Jesus’ majesty on the Mount of Transfiguration. But of paramount importance is not just the glorious appearance of Jesus but the revelation of something more sure—His prophetic Word. This is the very Word that demands our listening, inspires our believing, and confirms our confessions.

February 22

Joel 2:12–19

Psalm 51:1–13 (14–19)

2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

Ash Wednesday

“Return to the Lord your God.”

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your loving-kindness.

“Be reconciled to God. . . . Now is the day of salvation.”

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Great paradox defines the confession of the Church. Christ is sinless yet becomes sin. We are guilty yet declared innocent. We are dying yet we live. We are punished yet we are not killed. Repentance is that intersection of faith—knowing that we deserve death but are gifted with life. Broken and restored hearts are grounded in the treasure of Christ’s forgiveness, which reveals the mercy of God. “Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful” (Joel 2:13).

February 26

Genesis 3:1–21

Psalm 32:1–7

Romans 5:12–19

Matthew 4:1–11

First Sunday in Lent

The fall of humankind

“Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven.”

One act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all.

Jesus is tempted by Satan in the desert.

The Lord Jesus crushes Satan and his wily deceptions. The demise of Adam and Eve shrouds creation with turmoil, sin, and death. One man’s disobedience wrought destruction. Christ’s obedience reaps justification. His sole abundant grace obliterates the gruesome consequence of one man’s trespass. In all things, Jesus contends against Satan and triumphs. Jesus combats countless temptations and strips evil deception of its sway. Jesus casts out Satan completely, remaining steadfast as our Lord, God, and Savior.

Ministry Notes

This year our Wednesday Lent services will be catechetical in nature. We will examine the 10 Commandments in our preparation to walk with Christ to the Cross. On Ash Wednesday will examine the First Commandment. We will then proceed each Wednesday as follows: Commandments 2 and 3, Commandments 4 and 6, Commandments 5 and 7, Commandment 8, and Commandments 9 and 10. Our Wednesday Lent Services begin on February 22nd through March 29th. Services will be held at 12:10 pm and 7:00 pm. Holy Communion will be celebrated on Ash Wednesday with the imputation of Ashes.

Board of Lay Ministry meeting February 12, following service. All members invited to participate.

Voters Meeting Set for Sunday, February 26

The winter Voters Assembly will take place on Sunday, February 26 in the sanctuary immediately following the worship service. The primary agenda items will be a 2022 Ministry Report which provides information on ministry activities here at Immanuel over the past twelve months and the presentation of the 2023 Budget. We will also hear a special Missionary Report from Pastor Witt detailing his recent activities and sharing some exciting new plans for the coming year. Please put this date on

your calendar now and plan to join us for this important meeting.

SAVE THE DATE, SATURDAY, MARCH 25, LRIA Community Bingo Fundraiser. Doors open at 1 pm. Details available on our website immanuellutheran.org.

A message from William (nephew of Lola Barnes) and Melinda Staton.

Thank you for all your heartfelt prayers, thoughts, cards, and good wishes as I still recover from my heart transplant surgery.

CHURCH FLOWERS

If you would like a special arrangement, the procedure is to call Denise Waicker at (443) 981-0019 or Denisewaicker@mac.com. Denise needs to know the date you select and the statement you want to include so that she can order the flowers for that Sunday. The cost depends on your selection. Pay by cash or check (make payable to *Denise Waicker*) and give to Denise Waicker in person or mail checks via the postal service.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

-Heavenly Father, we pray that You be glorified through the effort of our *'Til All Have Heard* Ministry. Guide us and Pastor Witt as we seek and pursue avenues to declare that Your Kingdom is coming clearly and powerfully. Give us the opportunity to plant, water, and harvest for Your Kingdom according to Your will, and grant patience to wait on Your timing and purposes. Lord, in Your mercy/Let us pray to the Lord

- The end of war, and peace for Ukraine
- John Rebstock with kidney failure and diabetes
- Elaine Schwab's brother-in-law who has been diagnosed with cancer
- Ray Will who is recovering from surgery
- John Pickering, who has a broken arm
- Rosemarie Wilson, the daughter of Filleseta James, for return of strength in her left leg
- Deborah Thomas and her family
- Bill Hermann, now recuperating at home.
- Joseph Woah-tee missing, and whereabouts unknown

Birthdays:

- 2 Charles Libby
- 3 Nnenna Ibenana
- 9 Kristin Beatty
- 10 Emalee Smith
- 15 John Pickering
ReNay Royster
Phyllis Rebstock
- 17 Pastor Minetree
- 21 Phoebe Clark
- 25 Wendie Wegner
- 26 Carl Harvey
Ray Will
- 27** Joyce Marani

CHURCH VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

	Altar Guild	Lay Reader	Liturgist	Communion Assistant
February 5 February 12	Rita Alcarese/Nina Ward	Carolyn Henn Mary Ruble		
February 19 February 26	Elaine Schwab/ Phyllis Rebstock	Roland Obedekah Ray Spitznas		

February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 7 pm Choir practice	3	4
5 9 am Adult Bible Study 10 am Worship & Holy Communion 12 pm Christ Congregation Eritrean	6	7	8	9 7 pm Choir practice	10	11 10 am Compassion Center 10 am Wings
12 9 am Adult Bible Study 10 am Worship & Holy Communion 11 am Board of Lay Ministry meeting 12 pm Christ Congregation Eritrean	13	14	15	16 7 pm Choir practice	17	18 10 am Wings
19 9 am Adult Bible Study 10 am Worship & Holy Communion 12 pm Christ Congregation Eritrean	20	21	22 Ash Wednesday Noon, 7 pm services	23 7 pm Choir practice	24	25 10 am Compassion Center
26 First Sunday in Lent 9 am Adult Bible Study 10 am Worship & Holy Communion 11 pm Voter's Assembly meeting 12 pm Christ Congregation Eritrean	27	28				

The Baltimore Bulletin Insert

February 2023

*Events of area LCMS churches, entities, and Recognized Service Organizations
Deadline for March edition: February 20th*

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesdays, February 26 – March 29

Not every church has a Midweek Lenten Service, but they are a great Lenten piety of seeking God with a humble and repentant spirit. Here's where you may find yourself in Lenten worship, with or without soup:

12:00 noon (soup after)	Immanuel, Baltimore
7:00 p.m. (soup before)	Immanuel, Baltimore
7:00 p.m.	Redeemer, Irvington

65TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION *Berea Lutheran, Belair Edison*
Sat. Feb. 11, 4-7p. Come celebrate the history of Berea and great fellowship. Triumph Missionary Church 2200 E. Oliver St. 21213. [This is the "old Berea" church building on the corner of Oliver and Collington – ed.] More info. BereaLutheran2999@gmail.com or 410.732.5160.

FOOD PANTRY *Bethlehem Lutheran, Baltimore*
Feb. 4, 10a -12noon, *Food pantry* open for those who would like to pick up a bag of food.

**When you
go, say you
saw it in
The
Baltimore
Bulletin
Insert!**

READING HELP *Bethlehem Lutheran, Baltimore*
Feb.4, from 11:00-11:45a. Volunteers (retired teachers and a reading specialist) will work with children and youth to develop their reading skills. Parents are asked to remain on site. Pastor will be available for any that want to participate in discussion, prayer or Bible study. Enter by the downstairs entrance off of the parking lot.

LWML PRAYER SERVICE AND BREAKFAST *Our Savior, Laurel*
Saturday, March 4, 8:30a-12n, Registration fee \$5.00. Donations will be for New Hope Church and School in Liberia. Register at clmacon@aol.com by February 28. 13611 Laurel-Bowie Rd.

This insert only happens because your church submits items.
A service of The Wyneken Project, appreciating the fellowship we share.
Submit your event to Secretary@MartiniLutheran.org
For locations of churches see LCMS.org > *Locators & Directories*