

**FOURTH SUNDAY  
AFTER EPIPHANY**

**JANUARY 28, 2024**

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

**Missouri Synod**



**703 W 3<sup>RD</sup> Street  
Mercedes  
Texas 78570  
956.565.1518**

**Immanuelmercedes  
@gmail.com**

**[https://www.facebook.com/  
LutheranMercedes/](https://www.facebook.com/LutheranMercedes/)**

**Rev. Ed Weber, Pastor  
956.463.1305  
eweber10@aol.com**

**Website:  
lutheranmercedes.  
com**

***Sunday***

**9:00 A.M.**

**Worship Service**

**10:30 a.m.**

**Adult Bible Class &  
Sunday School**

**Holy Communion:**

**1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**Website:**

**Misionemanuel.com**

**Office Hrs, M-F  
8 am to 12 pm  
CCLI # 2585510**



**“But Jesus rebuked him,  
saying, ‘Be quiet, and  
come out of him!’  
And when the  
unclean spirit had  
convulsed him and cried  
out with a loud voice, he  
came out of him. Then they  
were all amazed...”**

**(Mark 1:25-27)**

**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**  
**JANUARY 28, 2024**

**WELCOME to IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all our visitors this morning. It is our hope that you will benefit by your worship here with us, and that you will return again soon. We would greatly appreciate it if everyone would fill out an Attendance/Communion card so that we can keep track of our attendance. They are located in the pew racks in front of you.

Next week we celebrate Holy Communion. We teach that in the receiving of the Lord's Supper each person receives the real presence of the Body and Blood of Christ for the forgiveness of their sins. If you are not a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and desire to partake of Communion, please ask to speak with Pastor Weber or one of the elders prior to the service.

**A Prayer Upon Entering Church** - Heavenly Father, I rejoice that You have sent to me Your Son to be my Brother and to take my place in suffering that I might be saved. Deliver me from my sinful flesh, the devil, and the temptation of the world that my heart may be focused upon Christ and delivered from every evil; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**AS WE GATHER** - In a world where there is nothing new under the sun, we still run to anything that appears to be new. When Jesus taught in the synagogue, the hearers heard a man speak with the authority of the author of the Scriptures. They were surprised and even more surprised when His Word was not simply theoretical but silenced an unclean spirit and relieved the man of this demon. In their amazement, they could not help but tell the story to any who would listen. Yet even as Jesus' fame spread, so did opposition to His teaching and preaching.

# WELCOME

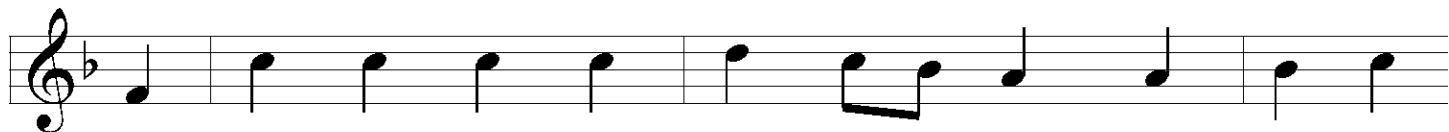
## PRELUDE "Great Indeed Are Your Works, Oh Lord" by Savrau Goswami

(A quiet time for prayer and meditation in preparation for worship)

## OPENING HYMN

*The People That in Darkness Sat*

LSB 412



1 The peo - ple that in dark - ness sat A glo - rious  
2 To hail Thee, Sun of Righ - teous - ness, The gath - 'ring  
3 To us a Child of hope is born, To us a  
4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Ev - er -



light have seen; The light has shined on them who long In  
na - tions come; They joy as when the reap - ers bear Their  
Son is giv'n, And on His shoul - der ev - er rests All  
last - ing Lord, The Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, The



shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.  
har - vest trea - sures home, Their har - vest trea - sures home.  
pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.  
God by all a - dored, The God by all a - dored.

5 His righteous government and pow'r

Shall over all extend;

On judgment and on justice based,

His reign shall have no end,

His reign shall have no end.

△6 Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,

And make us Thine alone,

Who with the Father ever art

And Holy Spirit, one,

And Holy Spirit, one.

*Please stand*

## INVOCATION

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

C **Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*(We take a moment of silence to reflect on our sin and our need for the Savior.)*

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

## + SERVICE OF THE WORD +

**INTROIT**      *Psalm 32:1–2, 5–7; antiphon: v. 10*

P Many sorrows shall be to the wicked; but he who trusts in the Lord, mercy shall surround him.

C **Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.**

P Blessed is the man to whom the Lord does not impute iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

**C** I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

**P** For this cause everyone who is godly shall pray to You in a time when You may be found; surely in a flood of great waters they shall not come near him.

**C** You are my hiding place; You shall preserve me from trouble; You shall surround me with songs of deliverance.

**P** Many sorrows shall be to the wicked; but he who trusts in the Lord, mercy shall surround him.

## KYRIE



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

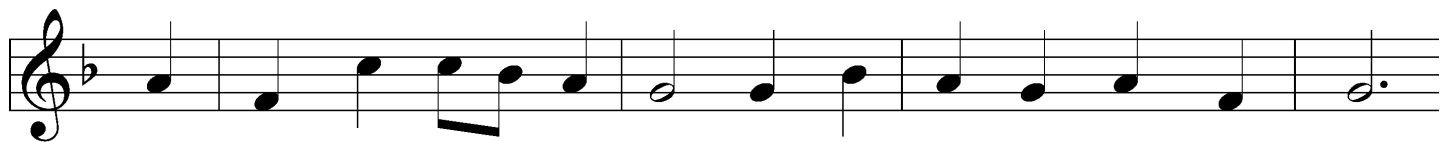
## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.

2 To You, O sole-begotten,  
The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior,

You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus;  
Receive our heartfelt cry,  
Where You in pow'r are seated  
At God's right hand on high—

3 For You alone are holy;  
You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever,  
Be worshiped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit  
Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father's glory.  
"Amen!" our glad reply.

### **SALUTATION**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with your spirit.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** Let us pray. Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Please sit*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Deuteronomy 18:15–20*

*(God will raise up a prophet.)*

15 "The Lord your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear, 16 according to all you desired of the Lord your God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God, nor let me see this great fire anymore, lest I die.'

17 “And the Lord said to me: ‘What they have spoken is good. 18 I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him. 19 And it shall be that whoever will not hear My words, which He speaks in My name, I will require it of him. 20 But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.’

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**        *Psalm 111; antiphon: v. 3*

P His work is honorable and glorious, and His righteousness endures forever.

**C Praise the Lord! I will praise the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright and in the congregation.**

P The works of the Lord are great, studied by all who have pleasure in them.

**C His work is honorable and glorious, and His righteousness endures forever.**

P He has made His wonderful works to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

**C He has given food to those who fear Him; He will ever be mindful of His covenant.**

P He has declared to His people the power of His works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.

**C The works of His hands are verity and justice; all His precepts are sure.**

P They stand fast forever and ever, and are done in truth and uprightness.

**C He has sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever: holy and awesome is His name.**

P The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever.

*(Continue on next page)* 7

**C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now, and will be forever. Amen**

**P** His work is honorable and glorious, and His righteousness endures forever.

**EPISTLE** *1 Corinthians 8:1–13*

(Knowledge puffs up but love builds up.)

1 Now concerning things offered to idols: We know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love edifies. 2 And if anyone thinks that he knows anything, he knows nothing yet as he ought to know. 3 But if anyone loves God, this one is known by Him.

4 Therefore concerning the eating of things offered to idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is no other God but one. 5 For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as there are many gods and many lords), 6 yet for us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live.

7 However, there is not in everyone that knowledge; for some, with consciousness of the idol, until now eat it as a thing offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. 8 But food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse.

9 But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. 10 For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols? 11 And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? 12 But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. 13 Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**



*Please stand*

## ALLELUIA and VERSE



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



**C** These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 1:21-28*

(The people are astonished at the authority of Jesus' teaching and His power over unclean spirits.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

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

21 Then they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath He entered the synagogue and taught. 22 And they were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

23 Now there was a man in their synagogue with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, 24 saying, "Let us alone! What have we to do with You, Jesus of Nazareth? Did You come to destroy us? I know who You are—the Holy One of God!"

25 But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be quiet, and come out of him!" 26 And when the unclean spirit had convulsed him and cried out with a loud voice, he came out of him. 27 Then they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is

*(Continue on next page)* 9

this? What new doctrine is this? For with authority He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him.” 28 And immediately His fame spread throughout all the region around Galilee.

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.

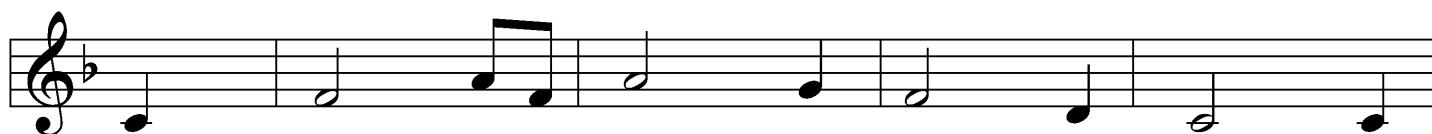
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the 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.

*Please sit*

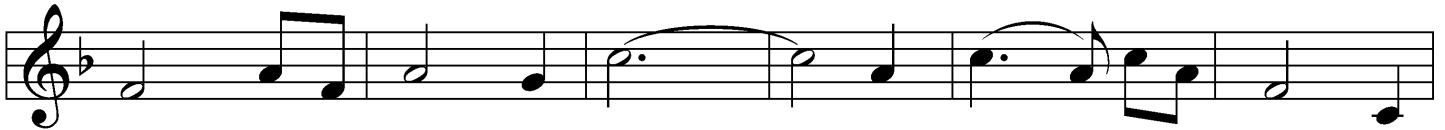
HYMN OF THE DAY

*Amazing Grace*

LSB 744



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That  
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And  
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but  
 Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and  
 have al - read - y come; His grace has brought me  
 mor - tal life shall cease, A - maz - ing grace shall  
 shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to



now am found, Was blind but now I see!  
 por - tion be As long as life en - dures.  
 safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.  
 then pre - vail In heav - en's joy and peace.  
 sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

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**SERMON** *“Astonished and amazed, but believing?”* (Mark 1:25-28)

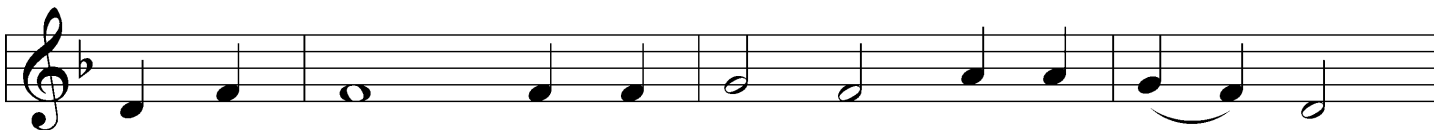
**OFFERING**

*Please stand*

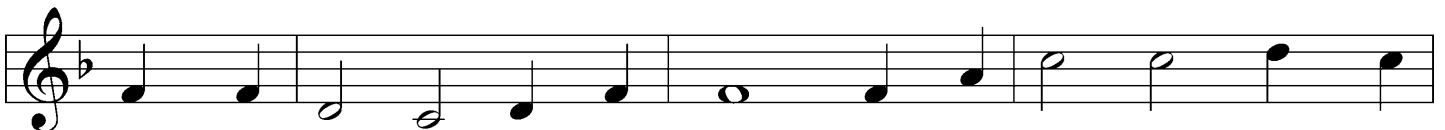
**OFFERTORY** *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness* **LSB 849**



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing



storms, and feed-ing thou-sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.

2 Praise the One who blessed the children  
With a strong, yet gentle, word;  
Praise the One who drove out demons  
With the piercing, two-edged sword.  
Praise the One who brings cool water  
To the desert's burning sand;  
From this Well comes living water,  
Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

3 Let us praise the Word Incarnate,  
Christ, who suffered in our place.  
Jesus died and rose victorious  
That we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness,  
Seeing what our God has done;  
Let us praise the true Redeemer,  
Praise the One who makes us one.

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**SHARING OF THE PEACE**      *"Peace be with you"*      *(John 20:21)*  
*[using American Sign Language]*

## **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.  
Father of love, You rescued Your fallen people with the sufferings and death of Christ, Your Son, our Brother in flesh. Guide us to know and rejoice in His salvation and to proclaim this Gospel with boldness to our brothers and sisters. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Father of mercy, Your compassion has rescued us from the powers of evil and set us free. Guide us to use this liberty to serve others as Christ has served us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Father of grace, You have provided us with the new life of Holy Baptism and granted us faith by the power of the Spirit. Keep us in this faith that we may be preserved from evil and delivered from all our enemies to everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Father of truth, You have given us Your Word that we might know the truth. Provide for us good and honest leaders who will heed the voice of Your Word and protect us from violence so that we may lead peaceful and godly lives without fear. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Father of comfort, You have borne in Your Son all our wounds. According to Your will, deliver all who are sick, who suffer, who are troubled in mind, and those near death that they may be preserved in faith in the day of trouble (to Your Almighty strength and comfort we commend...). Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Father of hope, You have ended the reign of death by the resurrection of Your Son. Deliver us from death and grant Your peace to the dying and Your comfort to those who grieve. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Father of courage, You have promised to grant us all things needful for this body and life even as You have provided eternal life to us in Christ. Help us always to pray with confidence in Your mercy, knowing that Your every answer is for our eternal good. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

*Additional petitions may be inserted here.*

P All these things for which we have prayed and all other things we need, we pray You to grant us in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

**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.

## BENEDICAMUS

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION

*Numbers 6:24-26*

**P** The LORD bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.

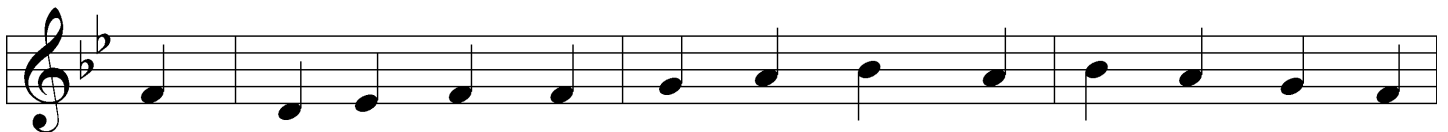
**C** Amen.

*Please sit*

## SENDING HYMN

*O God of God, O Light of Light*

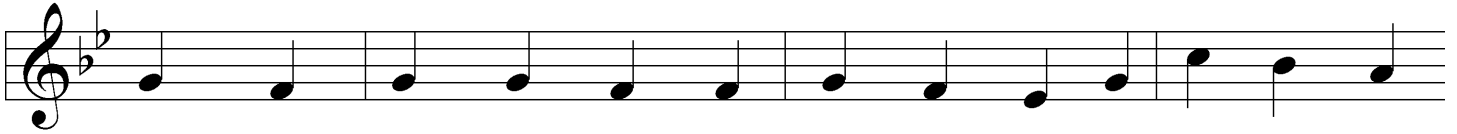
**LSB 810**



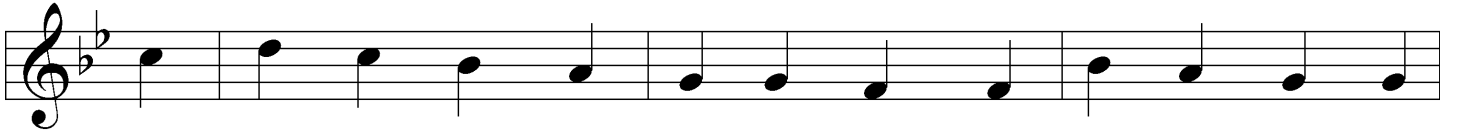
1 O God of God, O Light of Light, O Prince of Peace and  
2 For deep in proph-ets' sa-cred page, And grand in po-ets'  
3 That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death so steeped in  
4 Then raise to Christ a might-y song, And shout His name, His



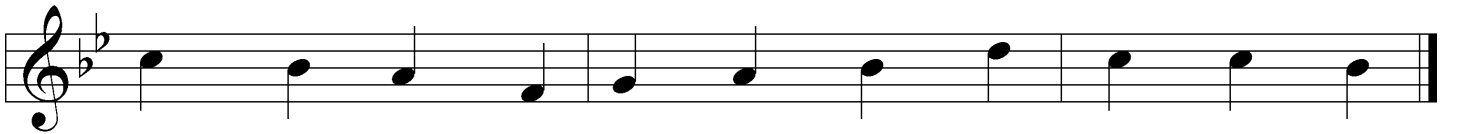
King of kings: To You in heav-en's glo-ry bright The song of  
wing-ed word, Slow-ly in type, from age to age The na-tions  
hate and scorn—These all are past, and now a-bove He reigns, our  
mer-cies tell! Sing, heav'n-ly host, your praise pro-long, And all on



praise for - ev - er rings. To Him who sits up - on the throne,  
 saw their com - ing Lord; Till through the deep Ju - de - an night  
 King once crowned with thorn. Lift up your heads, O might - y gates!  
 earth, your an - them swell! All hail, O Lamb for sin - ners slain!



The Lamb once slain but raised a - gain, Be all the glo - ry  
 Rang out the song, "Good - will to men!" Sung once by first - born  
 So sang that host be - yond our ken. Lift up your heads, your  
 For - ev - er let the song as - cend! Wor - thy the Lamb, en -



He has won, All thanks and praise! A - men, a - men.  
 sons of light, It ech - oes now, "Good - will!" A - men.  
 King a - waits. We lift them up. A - men, a - men.  
 throned to reign, All glo - ry, pow'r! A - men, a - men.

Text and tune: Public domain

## DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord!

**C** Thanks be to God!

## POSTLUDE





## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Portals of Prayer-January to March 2024 are available in the Narthex or office.*

*Adult Bible Class/Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.  
Rev. Weber will be leading the class.*

### February Activities

*Immanuel Lutheran School  
Valentine's Day Dinner*

*Friday, February 9, 2024 - from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.*

*\$10.00 per Ticket*

*( buy from students or call the school, 565-3208)*

*Menu: Spaghetti with Meatballs, Salad, Garlic bread,  
Dessert, & Drink*

*(Take-out from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. - without drink)*

*Youth Confirmation Class*

*Thursdays @ 6:00 p.m. in Social Hall*

*Men's Steak Dinner/Bible Study*


*Thursday, February 22, 2024 @6:00 p.m.*

*(Sign-up Sheet will be placed on church door later)*

# **Bunk Bed Fundraiser**

**\$4,800.00**

*(Raised to Date)*



The fear of the Lord  
is the beginning of  
wisdom: a good  
understanding have  
all they that do his  
commandments:  
his praise endureth  
for ever.

Psalm 111:10 KJV

## MEMORY VERSE OF THE WEEK

**This week's memory verse:**      *Isaiah 30:15*

*For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, "In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength."*

**1/21/2024**

<b>Sunday Worship</b>	<b>65</b>	
Plate:		\$.00
Envelopes:		\$.00
Memorial:		.
Donation:		
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$.00</b>
<b>Bible Class:</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>\$ 35.00</b>

**Available later**

### **FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

**Readings:**

*Isaiah 40:21-31*  
*Psalm 147:1-11*  
*1 Corinthians 9:16-27*  
*Mark 1:29-39*

## Our Lord Jesus Christ, True God in the Flesh, Cleanses Our Consciences from Sin

As He promised, the Lord our God has raised up “a prophet” like Moses, namely Jesus, our brother in the flesh. “To him you shall listen,” because the Word of the Lord is “in his mouth” (Deut. 18:15–18). Indeed, He is more than a prophet and more than a scribe of the Scriptures; He is the incarnate Word, and He speaks “a new teaching with authority” (Mark 1:22, 27). He enters “the synagogue” of His Church and provides true Sabbath rest, using His authority to silence and cast out “even the unclean spirits” (Mark 1:21–27). By His Word of the cross, He removes the accusations of the Law and of the devil, and He cleanses our consciences before God the Father, “from whom are all things and for whom we exist.” Hence, we are now set free from bondage and commended to God by the one Lord, Jesus Christ, “through whom are all things and through whom we exist” (1 Cor. 8:6). Therefore, use your freedom to care for your brothers and sisters, neither causing them to stumble nor wounding their consciences (1 Cor. 8:9–12), but cleansing and strengthening them with the Gospel.

<b>Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule</b>		
	<b>January Sunday Servants</b>	<b>February Sunday Servants</b>
Elder:	Don Vogel	Earl Neuhaus
Altar Guild:	BJ Neuhaus/M. Weber	S. Wehling/R. Cisneros/M. Perez
Music:	Doris Pickering	
<b>This Week</b>	<i>Fourth Sunday after Epiphany</i>	
Usher:	Dan Wehling	
Sunday:	Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am
<b>Next Week</b>	<i>Fifth Sunday after Epiphany</i>	
Usher:	Earl Neuhaus	
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am