

Immanuel Lutheran Church


P.O. Box 5326

Kansas City, Missouri 64131

www.immanuelcmskcmo.org

ImmanuelLCMS42@gmail.com

 facebook.com/immanuelcms

 [immanuelcms42](https://www.instagram.com/immanuelcms42)



Third Sunday of Easter May 4, 2025



AS WE GATHER

“I am Jesus” Changes Everything

Was there a more dramatic conversion story than with Saul of Damascus? Even the one who orchestrated the persecution and martyrdom of the first Christians surrenders to the power of Christ and His resurrection. Without Christ, all his knowledge of the Old Testament was incomplete, but in Christ, he is born anew by Baptism and the Spirit. Instead of turning his world upside down, at last Paul has his life right side up. We may not have experienced the drama of the Damascus road, but our lives have been set right in Christ fully and finally. Knowing Christ and the power of His resurrection means that all things have been made new and right with the Lord, for the living of this life and for the assurance of eternal life.

WELCOME & BIRTHDAY BLESSING 5/5 Luetta Buchholz; 5/7 Linda Dunn

♪ **Thanks for our friends who celebrate
And God's rich blessings contemplate.
Praise for another year on earth.
Praise to the Lord who gives us birth. Amen.**

✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN “With High Delight Let Us Unite” #483

Please stand as you are able.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 30:5, 8*

Pastor: To You, O Lord, I cry,

People: **and to the Lord I plead for mercy.**

Pastor: For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime.

People: **Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.**

Pastor: Let us confess our sins before God and in the presence of one another.

People: **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

KYRIE

Pastor: Lord, have mercy on us.

People: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

Pastor: Christ, have mercy on us.

People: **Christ, have mercy on us.**

Pastor: Lord, have mercy on us and grant us Your peace.

People: **Lord, have mercy on us and grant us Your peace.**
Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE *pew hymnal 204*

♪To God on high be glory; And peace to all the earth;
Good-will from God in heaven; Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing;
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.

To You, O sole-be-gotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior; You take our sins a-way.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heart-felt cry,
Where You in Pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high.

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever; Be worshipped and adored.
You with the Holy Spirit; A-lone are Lord Most High;
In God the Father's glory; "A-men"! our glad re-ply.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Merciful Father, in Your great love You bestowed forgiveness upon Saul, and by Your Spirit, You brought him to faith in Your Son. Grant that we, too, may be rescued from unbelief and, by Your grace, be granted the favor of Your friendship and redemption to believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior, and to serve His purpose in all that we do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST READING Acts 9:1-22 (*"Saul, why are you persecuting Me?"*)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE Revelation 5:1-14 (*"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain."*)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

VERSE Romans 6:9; Luke 24:32

Pastor: Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;

People: death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia.

Pastor: Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road,

People: while He opened to us the Scriptures? Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL John 21:1-19

(After directing the disciples to a great catch of fish, Jesus asks Peter if he loves Him

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 21st chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

The Gospel is read.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED *(found on the last page of your pew hymnal)*

Please be seated.

HYMN "Come, Follow Me,' the Savior Spake" #688

SERMON Rev. Croucher

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Emboldened by Your mercy, we come before You, O Lord, with the prayers and petitions of our hearts and with confidence in Your good and gracious will to answer our prayers.

Blessed Lord, You forgave Peter his betrayal and appointed him to feed Your sheep. Forgive our sins, restore us to Your service, and bless all that we do that it may be to Your glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: By Your grace, O Lord, You turned Saul from an enemy of Your kingdom into Your servant and sent him as an apostle to the Gentiles. Turn the hearts of our own rebellion, and by Your Spirit wear down our resistance to Your Word, that we also may be bold witnesses to Your mercy. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: As You have willed, O Lord, Your Son established the church. Continue to set apart pastors to feed the people of Your pasture upon the food of Your Word and Sacraments. Bless all church workers that their service may be fruitful and faithful. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: By Your power, O Lord, You order the nations of the earth and hold our leaders accountable for justice, for the promotion of virtue, and for peace. Bless us with good and honest leaders who will hear and heed Your voice that we may live peaceful and quiet lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: According to Your will, O Lord, You heal the sick. Hear us on behalf of all who suffer any ill of body or mind and grant them strength for the day and keep them in Your grace to everlasting life. We pray especially for Liz, Myron, Betty, Karla, Pastor Koenig and Debbie. Guard us against despair and keep us in the day of trouble. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: By Your grace, O Lord, You have named us as Your own in the baptismal water and joined us to Christ's death and resurrection. Grant that by Your grace we may live holy, upright, and godly lives, displaying in our life and conduct the goodness of Your love and mercy. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: As Your Son has granted, O Lord, we come to His Table there to receive the fruits of His redeeming work in this communion upon His body and blood. Nourish us for faithfulness in this life, and by this Holy Communion nurture in us the grace to keep us to everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: By Your love You have provided us with a great company of witnesses through time and history and encouraged us through their witness. Deliver the grieving from their sorrows and bring us all together with Your servant Paul to behold You face to face in the life that death cannot overcome. Lord, in Your mercy.

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Please be seated.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

Please stand as you are able.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is good and right that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty God, everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who died our death to sin that we might rise in the power of His own resurrection and thus be restored to You for now and for all eternity. Having in remembrance all that He accomplished by His death and resurrection and desiring to be fed and nourished upon the food of His flesh and blood, we join with angels and archangels and all the company of the saints in light, evermore praising Your name and singing their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

pew hymnal #208

♪ **Ho-ly; ho-ly, ho-ly Lord God of Sab-a-oth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name
Sing hosanna in the highest sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Holy Lord, mighty God, everlasting Father, from You and to You are all things. In Your goodness You made all things, and You created us for Your glory. When sin kept us from fulfilling Your purpose, You spoke the promise of our redemption to be fulfilled when Your own Son would be incarnate of the virgin Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit and redeem us by His own suffering and death. Gathered according to His Word to receive the fruits of His death that gives us life, grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may receive worthily in faith this Holy Communion.

People: **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen**

AGNUS DEI

pew hymnal #210

♪ **O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

Please stand as you are able.

NUNC DIMITTIS

pew hymnal #211

**♪ O Lord, now let Your servant, depart in heav'nly peace.
For I have seen the glory of Your redeeming grace;
A light to lead the Gentiles unto Your holy hill;
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father, all glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning, is now shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding through all eternity.**

POST COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. We give You thanks, O Lord, that You have rescued us from our rebellion and redeemed us from sin and its death. Grant us grace that we may keep in holy hearts and live out in holy lives what we have here received in the Word of the Gospel and the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, and preserve us in this faith even to life everlasting; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

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.**

HYMN "Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise" #680

POSTLUDE