

Immanuel Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 5326

Kansas City, MO 64131

www.immanuelcms.com

ImmanuelLCMS42@gmail.com

 facebook.com/immanuelcms

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



The Fifth Sunday in Lent April 6, 2025



A New Thing in This Old World

As We Gather

There is a hymn that refers to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, calling it an “old, old story” (“I Love to Tell the Story” by Arabella Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911). The fact that God’s plan of salvation began thousands of years ago, and that the Bible is the record of events in ancient history, does not mean that old equals irrelevant. Today, God says through His prophet Isaiah, “Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old” (Isaiah 43:18). But before you throw away your old Bible, your old catechism, or your old hymnal, listen up! “Behold, I am doing a new thing; . . . do you not perceive it?” (v. 19). In the pattern of the exodus of old and the deliverance from the Babylonian captivity of old, and as “the old rugged cross” of Christ made His resurrection from the dead possible, the “new thing” of God’s doing today is all about freeing you from the slavery of sin, death, boredom, worry, and fear; re-creating you “that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness” (explanation of the Second Article of the Apostles’ Creed, Small Catechism); renewing your life today by the forgiveness of your sins and in the sure and certain hope of new bodies for old in the new creation that awaits, as that old hymn concludes,

And when in scenes of glory I sing the new, new song,
'Twill be the old, old story That I have loved so long.
I love to tell the story; 'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story Of Jesus and His love.

PRELUDE AND WELCOME

HYMN "Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings" #782

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.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Isaiah 43:1; Psalm 126:3*

Pastor: But now thus says the Lord, He who created you, . . . "Fear not, for I have redeemed you;

People: **I have called you by name, you are Mine."**

Pastor: The Lord has done great things for us;

People: **we are glad.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *pew hymnal page184-202*

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

People: ♪ **Amen.**

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: ♪ **who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

People: ♪ **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,

People: **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.**

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I by virtue of my office as an 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: ♪ **A---men.**

✂ WORD ✂

INTROIT

♪ **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen**

KYRIE

♪ **Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us, Lord
have mercy upon us.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

♪ **Glory be to God on high; and on earth peace good will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we
glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory.**

**O Lord God, heavenly King. God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou
that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou
that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy
upon us.**

**For Thou only are holy; Thou only art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the
glory of God the Father. A-men.**

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: ♪ **And with thy spirit.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have delivered Your chosen people of old from all manner of captivity of body and soul. According to Your promise, make us to be Your chosen people today, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for Your own possession, that we may proclaim Your praises to one another and to the world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: ♪ **A--men.**

Please be seated.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 43:16-21
("Behold, I am doing a new thing.")

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE Philippians 3:8-14 *(Righteousness through faith in Christ)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

VERSE *Luke 20:17b*

Pastor: The stone that the builders rejected

People: has become the cornerstone.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 20:9-20 *(The parable of the wicked tenants.)*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 20th chapter.

People: ♪ Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

The Gospel is read.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord

People: ♪ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

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

Please be seated.

HYMN "My Song Is Love Unknown" #430

SERMON Pr. Mark Croucher

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY

♪ **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. A-men.**

Please be seated.

OFFERING *“When I Survey The Wondrous Cross” arranged by Stan Pethel*

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

O God, our Creator and Redeemer, we give thanks to You for Your whole world of nature and that You continue to sustain it in summer and winter, in seedtime and harvest, through times of trouble and in times of peace. We pray for peace continually that we may attend to Your Word and worship and proclaim Your majesty. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We give You thanks especially for our redemption from sin and everlasting death. Though even as You count us as Your redeemed people, still we struggle to be faithful. In Your mercy, You remain true to Your promises and continue to provide the everlasting invitation, salvation, and healing through the forgiveness of sins for the sake of Christ. Bless and empower Your whole church on earth with steadfast faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for all those in the authority of government, that they may be guided in the way of truth and justice, providing for the peace and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray also for all who are ill, the hungry, those in bondage, and all who travel. Grant that the prayers of all who turn to You in their need graciously come before You, especially Liz, Myron, Betty, Karla and Deborah, so that they may receive Your help, provision, and comfort. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty and eternal God, we adore You as the God and Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus, and with the whole church on earth and all the hosts of heaven we ascribe to You honor and blessing, thanksgiving and praise. For all Your works of

mercy of old, we praise You. For Your gifts of deliverance, renewal of life and hope, and the promise of eternal life through the cross and resurrection of Your Son, we praise You. Hear us for His sake, living and reigning with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

pew hymnal age 194

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: ♪ **And with thy spirit.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: ♪ **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

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

People: ♪ **It is meet and right so to do.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by whose death, burial, and resurrection from the dead He now enables the faithful to walk in newness of life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

♪ **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!**

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: 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.

People: ♪ **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

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

People: ♪ **A---men.**

AGNUS DEI

♪ **O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us, O Christ Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A---men.**

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION *"My Faith Looks Up to Thee," arranged by Stan Pethel*

Please stand as you are able.

NUNC DIMITTIS

♪ **Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou has prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

Pastor: O give thanks unto the Lord for He is good.

People: ♪ **And His mercy endureth forever.**

Pastor: We give You thanks, almighty God, that You have made us Your own people, a new creation in Jesus Christ, our Lord. By His body and blood You have strengthened our faith, thus enabling us to tell forth Your praises. Enlighten our paths and guide our steps that we may live according to Your gracious will in faithfulness to You and love for one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: ♪ **A--men.**

SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: ♪ **And with thy spirit.**

Pastor: Bless we 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 lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you
peace.

People: 🎵 **Amen, amen, a--men.**

HYMN “Christ, the Life of All the Living” #420

POSTLUDE “*Prelude in G minor*” *J.S. Bach*

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THE MESSENGER

April 6, 2025

WELCOME! Dear guest, we pray that your worship with us is as spiritually enriching for you as your presence is encouraging to us. We invite you to sign our guest book in the foyer and “Like” us on Facebook or follow us on Instagram. Please leave your email address if you would like periodic updates from Immanuel. Most importantly, come back and worship with us again next Sunday.

SERVING US TODAY: Rev. Mark Croucher
Linda Rayburn, Organist
Carl Reque, Clarinet

IN OUR PRAYERS: Liz Kraft, Myron Kimber, Betty Peuster, Karla Kass, Deborah Carter, and Pastor Cliff Koenig

LAST SUNDAY’S ATTENDANCE: 16

THE LUTHERAN HOUR theme for next Sunday, April 13th is **"In the Middle"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler In Jesus, God showed up smack in the middle of life with forgiveness, love, and a promise never to leave us. (John 19:18) Listen online at <https://www.lutheranhour.org>.