## IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the North American Lutheran Church 920 Fillmore Street – Whitewood, SD 57793 – 605-269-2104 immanuellutheranwhitewoodsd.com

Pastor David J. Baer – djbaer@rushmore.com – 605-722-6347

Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2024

**PRELUDE** 

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

LBW Page 193

- In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.
- P Father of mercies and God of all consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may attend to your Word, confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Redeemer.
- C Amen.
- P Let us make confession to God.
- **a** Almighty God, merciful Father:

I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you and for which I justly deserve your punishment.

But I am sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy.

For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ,

be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being; forgive my sins,

give me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen.

P Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. Through his Holy Spirit he cleanses us and gives us power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who called us out of darkness into the splendor of his light. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Q** Amen.

# \*HYMN, "Jesus, the Very Thought of You" LBW Hymn 316

1. Jesus, the very thought of you Fills us with sweet delight; But sweeter far your face to view And rest within your light.

Green Book

- 2. No voice can sing, no heart can frame,Nor can the mind recallA sweeter sound than your blest name,O Savior of us all!
- 3. O Hope of ev'ry contrite soul, O Joy of all the meek, How kind you are to those who fall! How good to those who seek!
  - 4. O Jesus, be our joy today; Help us to prize your love; Grant us at last to hear you say: "Come, share my home above."

Bernard of Clairvaux (1091-1153)

#### \*GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

2 Corinthians 13:14

## \*KYRIE, "Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless"

Hymn 111
Green Book

Lamb of God, pure and sinless,
Once on the cross an off'ring,
Patient, meek, though guiltless,
Forsaken in your suff'ring!
You died our guilt to banish
That none in sin need perish!
Grant us your mercy, O Jesus! Amen.

John 1:29 Nikolaus Decius (1485-1550)

#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- **P** Let us pray together . . .
- Eternal Lord, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your Word and obey it, so that we become instruments of your redeeming love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**



### CHILDREN'S SONG, "Jesus Loves Me"

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong: They are weak, but he is strong.

> Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He who died Heaven's gates to open wide. He will wash away my sin, Let his little child come in.

Anna Bartlett Warner (1824-1915)

## — WORD —

### FIRST READING, Ezekiel 33:7-11

"Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. When I say to the wicked, 'You wicked person, you will surely die,' and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

"Son of man, say to the Israelites, 'This is what you are saying: "Our offenses and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?" Say to them, 'As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?"

- L The Word of the Lord.
- **☑** Thanks be to God.

### **PSALM 85**

The psalm is sung responsively to Tone 3.



- L You have been gracious to your | land, O LORD,
- **2** You have restored the good for- | tune of Jacob.
- L You have forgiven the iniquity | of your people
- **And blotted out | all their sins.**
- L You have withdrawn | all your fury
- **And turned yourself from your wrathful | indignation.**
- L Restore us then, O | God our Savior;
- **■** Let your anger de- | part from us.
- L Will you be displeased with | us for ever?
- **☑** Will you prolong your anger from | age to age?
- L Will you not give us | life again,
- **□** That your people may re- | joice in you?
- L Show us your mer- | cy, O LORD,
- **And grant us | your salvation.**
- L I will listen to what the LORD | God is saying,
- **G** For he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their | hearts to him.
- L Truly, his salvation is very near to | those who fear him,
- **⚠** That his glory may dwell | in our land.
- L Mercy and truth have | met together;
- **©** Righteousness and peace have | kissed each other.
- L Truth shall spring up | from the earth,
- **And righteousness shall look | down from heaven.**
- L The LORD will indeed | grant prosperity,
- **And our land will | yield its increase.**
- L Righteousness shall | go before him,
- **And peace shall be a pathway | for his feet.**

(BCP / LBW)

### **SECOND READING, 1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. They all ate the same spiritual food and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry." We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did — and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. We should not test Christ, as some of them did — and were killed by snakes. And do not grumble, as some of them did — and were killed by the destroying angel.

These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come. So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. (NIV)

■ The Word of the Lord. ■ Thanks be to God.

# \*HYMN, "Glory Be to Jesus" (v. 1)

LBW Hymn 95

Green Book

Glory be to Jesus, Who, in bitter pains, Poured for me the lifeblood From his sacred veins.

18th Century Italian Hymn

### \*GOSPEL, Luke 13:1-9

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 13th chapter.

## Glory to you, O Lord.

P Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. Jesus answered, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them — do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, 'For three years now I've been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?'

"Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down."

(NIV)

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON** 

Pastor David J. Baer



I will hoe around it and manure it, then perhaps it will bear fruit.

## \*HYMN, "My Heart Is Longing"

### LBW Hymn 326

Green Book

1. My heart is longing to praise my Savior, And glorify his name in song and prayer; For he has shown me his wondrous favor And offered me all heav'n with him to share.

- 2. O blessed Jesus, what you have given, Through dying on the cross in bitter pain, Has filled my heart with the peace of heaven; My winter's gone and spring is mine again.
- 3. O Christian friends, let our song ascending Give honor, praise to him who set us free! Our tribulations may seem unending; But soon with him we shall forever be.
  - 4. Soon we are home and shall stand before him; What matter then that we have suffered here? Then he shall crown us, while we adore him; So death and all our pains will disappear.
- 5. To you, O Savior, our adoration Shall rise forever for your precious blood Which blotted out all the accusation Of sin and guilt which once against us stood.
  - 6. What blessed joy overflows my spirit, Because your wondrous grace to me was giv'n! Complete your work, that I may inherit Eternal life at last with you in heav'n!

Princess Eugenie of Sweden (1830-1889) Lars Oftedal (1838-1900) Norwegian Folk Tune



We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made;
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son

he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Response:

- **P** Lord, in your mercy,
- **G** Hear our prayer.

## — SACRAMENT —

### OFFERING OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

## \*OFFERTORY, "Create in Me a Clean Heart" WOV Hymn 732

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Blue Book

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

Psalm 51:10-12

### \*GREAT THANKSGIVING (Sung)

LBW Page 88

**P** The Lord be with you.

Green Book

- And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **Q** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **Q** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

### \*SEASONAL PREFACE

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on the tree of the cross gave salvation to all, that, where death began, there life might be restored, and that he, who by a tree once overcame, might by a tree be overcome. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### \*SANCTUS (Sung)

LBW Page 89

Green Book

**G** Holy, holy, holy Lord,

Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Isaiah 6:3. Matthew 21:9

#### \*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new testament in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24 Luke 22:19-20: 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

#### \*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,

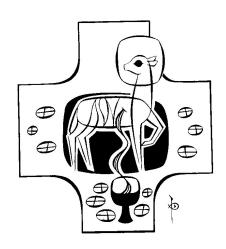
forever and ever. Amen.

Matthew 6:9-13

## **COMMUNION**

All baptized Christians who trust that Jesus is true to his promise—giving his body and blood with the bread and wine for you for the forgiveness of your sins—are welcome to receive the Lord's Supper with us. White grape juice is available in the center of each tray for those who are unable to receive wine for health reasons. During the distribution of Holy Communion, the congregation sings:

"Lamb of God"	LBW Hymn 103
"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"	LBW Hymn 104
"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"	LBW Hymn 327
"I Lay My Sins on Jesus"	LBW Hymn 305



#### LAMB OF GOD

LBW Hymn 103

Green Book

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! Amen.

John 1:29

Braunschweig Church Order 1528

## HYMN, "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

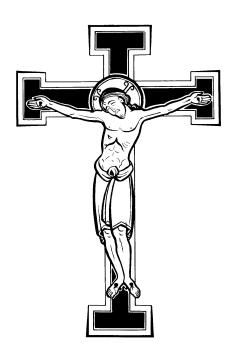
LBW Hymn 104

Green Book

1. In the cross of Christ I glory, Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of sacred story Gathers round its head sublime.

- 2. When the woes of life o'ertake me, Hopes deceive, and fears annoy, Never shall the cross forsake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.
- 3. When the sun of bliss is beaming Light and love upon my way, From the cross the radiance streaming Adds more luster to the day.
  - 4. Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, By the cross are sanctified; Peace is there that knows no measure, Joys that through all time abide.

John Bowring (1792-1872)



## HYMN, "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

LBW Hymn 327

Green Book

1. Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee; Let the water and the blood, From thy riven side which flowed, Be of sin the double cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

> 2. Not the labors of my hands Can fulfill thy law's demands; Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow, All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and thou alone.

3. Nothing in my hand I bring; Simply to thy cross I cling. Naked, come to thee for dress; Helpless, look to thee for grace; Foul, I to the fountain fly; Wash me, Savior, or I die.

4. While I draw this fleeting breath, When mine eyelids close in death, When I soar to worlds unknown, See thee on thy judgment throne, Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee.

Augustus M. Toplady (1740-1778)

My Heart Is Longing, Words  $\mathbb O$  1933 Augsburg Publishing House. Reprinted and podcast with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733558. All rights reserved.

Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless, Words © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship / Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted and podcast with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733558. All rights reserved.

Holy Communion text and music, confession and forgiveness, prayer of the day, psalm and psalm tone are reprinted from *Lutheran Book of Worship Ministers Edition*, copyright © 1978. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress License #84243189.

## \*HYMN, "I Lay My Sins on Jesus"

LBW Hymn 305

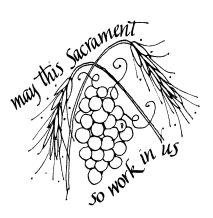
Green Book

1. I lay my sins on Jesus,
The spotless Lamb of God;
He bears them all and frees us
From the accursed load.
I bring my guilt to Jesus
To wash my crimson stains
Clean in his blood most precious
Till not a spot remains.

2. I lay my wants on Jesus; All fullness dwells in him; He heals all my diseases; My soul he does redeem. I lay my griefs on Jesus, My burdens and my cares; He from them all releases; He all my sorrows shares.

3. I rest my soul on Jesus, This weary soul of mine; His right hand me embraces; I on his breast recline. I love the name of Jesus, Immanuel, Christ, the Lord; Like fragrance on the breezes His name abroad is poured.

Horatius Bonar (1808-1889)



### \*COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his holy and precious blood strengthen and keep you in true faith unto life everlasting.

Amen.

#### \*COMMUNION RESPONSE

O Jesus, blessed Lord, to you My heartfelt thanks and praise are due; You have so lovingly bestowed On me your body and your blood.

> Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth has come to me today! My Savior dwells within my soul And makes my wounded spirit whole!

> > Thomas Kingo (1634-1703)

**Tune: 245** 

#### \*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

▶ Lord God, in a wonderful Sacrament you have left us a memorial of your suffering and death. May this Sacrament of your body and blood so work in us that the way we live will proclaim the redemption you have brought; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

#### \*BENEDICTION

**P** 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.

Numbers 6:24-26

### \*DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- **G** Thanks be to God.

## \*HYMN, "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" Tune: 439

1. There's a wideness in God's mercy, Like the wideness of the sea; There's a kindness in his justice Which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth's sorrows Are more felt than up in heav'n. There is no place where earth's failings Have such kindly judgment giv'n.

- 2. There is welcome for the sinner, And a promised grace made good; There is mercy with the Savior; There is healing in his blood. There is grace enough for thousands Of new worlds as great as this; There is room for fresh creations In that upper home of bliss.
- 3. For the love of God is broader Than the measures of our mind; And the heart of the eternal Is most wonderfully kind. There is plentiful redemption In the blood that has been shed; There is joy for all the members In the sorrows of the head.
  - 4. 'Tis not all we owe to Jesus; It is something more than all: Greater good because of evil, Larger mercy through the fall. If our love were but more simple, We should take him at his word; And our lives would be all sunshine In the sweetness of our Lord.

Frederick William Faber (1814-1863)

#### PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK:

Alex and family

Lenae Ebel

Gail Hemeyer

Felicity Kramer

Claire and Maxine Ripley

Don Dubbe

Bruce Flagstad

Shelley Iverson

Connie Nicholas

Violet Rost

Treonna Solbie Guyla Baer Sturgeon

Paul Swisher Vic Uttke
Carletta and Steve Vasknetz Anne Vossler
Jack Wanstedt Bryan Westberg

David Arnio (brother of Chris Burleson)

Cherry Bieber (friend of Jon and Shelley Iverson)
Jody Blevins (daughter of Claire and Maxine Ripley)
Ella Boerger (granddaughter of Rita Shewmake)

Bryce Christensen (brother in-law of Claudia Christensen)

Marla Ebel (sister of Rita Shewmake)

Kris Eide (sister of Ardith Petersen and Lois Rath)

Melanie Erickson (sister of Brenda Rath)

Ellen Fiechtner (mother of Ardith Petersen and Lois Rath)

Ronnie Fischer (brother of Judy Haiwick)

The Fischer family (friends of Jon and Shelley Iverson) Ernie Griner (11-year-old friend of Meta Halverson)

Martina Ham (mother of Diane Kunz)

Ella Henry (friend of Bob and Linda Grams)

Colleen and Dave Hudson (daughter and son-in-law of Cleo Miller)

Ike Iverson (father of Jon Iverson)

Coleen Iverson-Routh (sister of Jon Iverson)

Steve Kampfe (son of Garland and Kathy Kampfe)

Al Kones (brother-in-law of Ardith Petersen and Lois Rath)

Callie Kvanvig (great niece of Ray Follum)

Pastor Amy Little (NALC General Secretary, friend of Pastor David)

Lois Meyer (sister-in-law of Midge Hemeyer)

Michael and Jan Meyer (brother and sister-in-law of Midge Hemeyer)

Caren Miller (sister of Maxine Ripley) Mitch Palmer (friend of Paul Swisher)

Nancy Phillips (friend of Bob and Linda Grams) Nancy Porter (friend of Bill and Chris Burleson)

Roy Riley (grandson of Carol Vercoe) Tim Ripley (friend of Paul Swisher)

Melani Roewe (sister of Derek Besler)

Pastor Amy Schifrin (friend of Pastor David Baer)

Carreen Smith (sister of Mimi Swisher)

Jeremy Sundby (nephew of Claire and Maxine Ripley)

Jess Teigen (friend of Amelia Knutson) Ryan Thomas (cousin of Mary Tracy)

Xayne Vroman (great grandson of Cindy and Harold Davis)

Chris Waythomas (friend of Rita Shewmake) Jane White and family (friend of Mary Tracy)

Traci Westberg (daughter-in-law of Tony and Alona Westberg)

Robert Zuhr (brother-in-law of Chris Burleson)

THE 1,700<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY of the Nicene Creed is this year. The Council of Nicaea met in the city of Nicaea (now known as Iznik, Turkey) from May through July in A.D. 325 and adopted the creed to clarify orthodox Christian teaching and combat false teaching. An ecumenical council is a worldwide meeting of Church leaders. Additions were made to the creed to bring it to its current form by the Council of Constantinople (now Istanbul, Turkey) in A.D. 381.

A SPRING STYLE SHOW featuring local businesses will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 5, at the United Methodist Church in Sturgis. The event is a fund-raiser for the Monument Health Sturgis Auxiliary. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 5-12.

A HOLY WEEK CANTATA will be presented at 7 p.m. on Sunday, April 13, and Tuesday, April 15, at Grace Lutheran Church in Sturgis. The theme of this year's cantata is "Blessed: A Holy Week Journey through the Beatitudes." The cantata is sponsored by the Sturgis Area Arts Council and features singers from area churches. Some singers from Immanuel are participating in the cantata.

**A WOMEN'S TEA** is planned for 1:30 p.m. Saturday, April 26, at Immanuel. This year's tea will focus on the Biblical story of Eve. The event is free. Spread the word and invite women you know to our annual women's tea.

WE ARE PRAYING for the Zhuang people, an unreached people group in China, this year. There is a flier on the table in the library social room that explains more about this people and has some specific prayer suggestions.

**ONLINE WORSHIP:** We stream our Sunday worship service on the internet for those who are unable to gather with us for worship. You can join the service live at 9 a.m. on Sunday or watch the recording of the service at a later time. Links to the service are on our website: *immanuellutheranwhitewoodsd.com*. The bulletin is posted to the website prior to the live broadcast.

**A PRAYER LIST** is printed in the bulletin each week. If you have any additions to the list or corrections, please let Pastor David know.

**MEMBERS OF THRIVENT** may be able to designate Thrivent Choice Dollars to a ministry of their choice. Please consider Immanuel and our mission partners as you direct them. You may direct Thrivent Choice Dollars online at *www.thrivent.com* or by calling 1-800-847-4836. Thrivent Choice Dollars from 2024 must be directed by March 31.

**NALC DISASTER RESPONSE** is responding to recent hurricanes and other disasters. You can learn more about current NALC Disaster Response efforts or give online at *www.thenalc.org*. You may also designate a gift for NALC Disaster Response through the offering or mail your gift to 2113 Harwood Road, Suite 309; PMB 409; Bedford, TX 76021-4703.

THOSE OVER AGE 70½ have the opportunity to take tax-free distributions from their IRAs for direct gifts to churches and other non-profit organizations. This is a significant tax benefit. Talk to your tax advisor, IRA custodian, or Pastor David for more information about Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD).

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** is tentatively scheduled for July 20-24. Please let Pastor David know if you are willing to help with VBS this year or if you have a conflict with those dates.

**2025 NALC CONVOCATION** will be held Aug. 6-8 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. If you are interested in representing Immanuel at the Convocation, please talk to Pastor David.

**OUR MISSION OF THE MONTH** is Pastor Valery Hryhoryk, an NALC global worker in Belarus. Belarus has one of the most repressive governments in Eastern Europe and ministry there is very difficult. Belarus Lutheran Missionary Fellowship reaches out with the Gospel through a variety of means that include music ministry, children's ministry, youth and young adult ministry, serving the poor and needy, and more. We support this ministry through Awakening Lives to World Missions (ALWM). You can learn more about Pastor Valery's ministry and ALWM at <a href="https://www.alwm.org/belarus">www.alwm.org/belarus</a>. Mission of the Month highlights one of the ministries supported through your regular giving to Immanuel.

### THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL:

**Today** 9:00 a.m. — Worship

10:00 a.m. — Coffee Fellowship 10:25 a.m. — Adult Sunday School

**Monday** 7:00 a.m. — Men's Group

**Wednesday** 4:10 p.m. — Confirmation

4:30 p.m. — Kids Club

6:30 p.m. — Lenten Service 7:15 p.m. — Light Supper

Next Sunday 9:00 a.m. — Worship

10:00 a.m. — Coffee Fellowship 10:25 a.m. — Adult Sunday School

WE ARE COLLECTING items for Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits during Lent. These kits help those throughout the world who are displaced from their homes by wars, disasters or violence. Items included in the kits are toothbrushes, nail clippers, bars of soap (4-5 oz.), sturdy combs, and light-weight bath-sized towels (52 x 27 maximum, dark color recommended). We will be assembling the LWR kits on Palm Sunday (April 13). Help make a difference for someone in need by bringing items for the kits.

**A MEN'S GROUP** meets at 7 a.m. on Mondays at the church. They are currently studying the Gospel of Mark. All men are welcome. Talk to Mark Tracy or Jon Iverson for more information.

**SERVICE TEAM #2** is looking for volunteers to help with serving during April. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the library social room.

**DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR LENT** from the North American Lutheran Church are available online. You can request a daily email or text message or read or listen to them online. You also can listen to the devotions through the NALC podcast or on Facebook. To access the devotions or for more information go to *thenalc.org/lent*.

**WELCOME TO ALL** who are worshiping with us today. We especially welcome our visitors. If you are unfamiliar with our worship, one of our members will gladly assist you. Visitors, please be sure to sign the guest register in the narthex. We hope that you will worship with us again soon.

**ALL ARE INVITED** to stay for a time of fellowship following worship. Baked goods, donuts, coffee, and juice are available. An offering is received to cover expenses.

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL** meets at 10:25 a.m. on Sundays in the library social room. "The Truth Project" is the focus of our Adult Sunday School class this year. The Truth Project is a video curriculum that teaches a Christian worldview.



**MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES** are at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday of Lent. Our midweek services this year focus on the Ten Commandments. A light supper is served following the Lenten services.

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED** to help with serving the light supper following our Wednesday night Lenten services. Hosts are not expected to provide food. The church will provide soup for the suppers. Supper hosts are asked to serve the light supper following the Lenten service and help clean up afterward.

**WHITEWOOD KIDS CLUB** — our Wednesday night children's ministry — meets from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. each week. Kids Club is designed for children Age 4 through Grade 5. For more information about Kids Club, talk to Brit Porterfield or Pastor David.

**A SOUP SUPPER** is being held 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. today at the Sturgis Community Center. This is a fund-raiser for youth projects by the Sturgis Kiwanis Club. Several members of Immanuel are in Kiwanis. All you can eat soup for \$10.

**A BAKED POTATO FEED** is being held 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, March 24, at the Sturgis Community Center. This is a fundraiser for the Sturgis Alliance of Churches to help those in need.