# FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

**FEBRUARY 4, 2024** 

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Missouri Synod



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

<u>Website:</u> lutheranmercedes.com

> Sunday 9:00 AM Worship Service

> > 10:30 AM

Adult Bible Class Sunday School

Holy Communion: 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday

www.facebook.com/lutheranmercedes/

Website: Misionemanuel.com

Office Hrs, M-F 8 am to 12 pm

CCLI # 2585510



"But Simon's wife's mother lay sick with a fever, and they told Him about her at once. So He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and immediately the fever left her. And she served them."

(Mark 1:31-32)

# FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY FEBRUARY 4, 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.

This 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 Merciful Lord, You have granted me a new identity and life in Christ, my Lord. Keep me, I pray, in this faith and life in Christ that I may know with confidence I belong to You and live secure in this knowledge both now and forevermore; through Jesus Christ, my Lord, whom with You and the Holy Spirit, are one God, one Lord, now and forever. Amen.
- **AS WE GATHER** Living at a time when it seems the Church is under attack, we might long for a time when everyone was looking for Jesus. Whether they know or realize it, the world is looking for Jesus, that is, for an answer to sin, fear, loneliness, pain, and death. Jesus is that answer. For this reason, our Lord had to continue to preach at the next town and the next. For this reason, we continue to proclaim the unchanging Gospel year in and year out, for it is the only Gospel by which any can be saved. May the Lord grant us zeal for His house and His kingdom!

#### **WELCOME**

#### **PRELUDE**

#### How Great is Our God

(A quiet time for prayer and meditation)



Text and tune: Public domain

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## **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,
- 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 13:3–5; antiphon: v. 6* 

- P I will sing to the Lord, because He has dealt bountifully with me.
- C Consider and hear me, O Lord my God; enlighten my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death;
- P Lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed against him"; lest those who trouble me rejoice when I am moved.
- C But I have trusted in Your mercy; my heart shall rejoice in

#### Your salvation.

P I will sing to the Lord, because He has dealt bountifully with me.

#### **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; 2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth! O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King. Where You in pow'r are seat-ed 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. O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; 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** *Isaiah 40:21–31*

(He brings us out and calls us by name.)

21 Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? 22 It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in. 23 He brings the princes to nothing; He makes the judges of the earth useless. 24 Scarcely shall they be planted, scarcely shall they be sown, scarcely shall their stock take root in the earth, when He will also blow on them, and they will wither, and the whirlwind will take them away like stubble. 25 "To whom then will you liken Me, or to whom shall I be equal?" says the Holy One. 26 Lift up your eyes on high, and see who has created these things, who brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name, by the greatness of His might and the strength of His power; not one is missing. 27 Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel: "My way is hidden from the Lord, and my just claim is passed over by my God"? 28 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, neither

faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable. 29 He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength. 30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, 31 But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.
- **PSALM** Psalm 147:1–11; antiphon: v. 5 (He heals the broken and binds up their wounds.)
- P Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite.
- C Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and praise is beautiful.
- P The Lord builds up Jerusalem; He gathers together the outcasts of Israel.
- C He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.
- P He counts the number of the stars; He calls them all by name.
- C Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite.
- P The Lord lifts up the humble; He casts the wicked down to the ground.
- C Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; sing praises on the harp to our God,
- P Who covers the heavens with clouds, who prepares rain for the earth, who makes grass to grow on the mountains.
- C He gives to the beast its food, and to the young ravens that cry.
- P He does not delight in the strength of the horse; He takes no pleasure in the legs of a man.
- C The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear Him, in those who hope in His mercy.
- P Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite.

#### **EPISTLE**

1 Corinthians 9:16–27 (I do it all for the sake of the Gospel.)

16 For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the gospel! 17 For if I do this willingly, I have a reward; but if against my will, I have been entrusted with a stewardship. 18 What is my reward then? That when I preach the gospel, I may present the gospel of Christ without charge, that I may not abuse my authority in the gospel.

19 For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more; 20 and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law, that I might win those who are under the law; 21 to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those who are without law; 22 to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. 23 Now this I do for the gospel's sake, that I may be partaker of it with you.

24 Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. 25 And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. 26 Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. 27 But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.

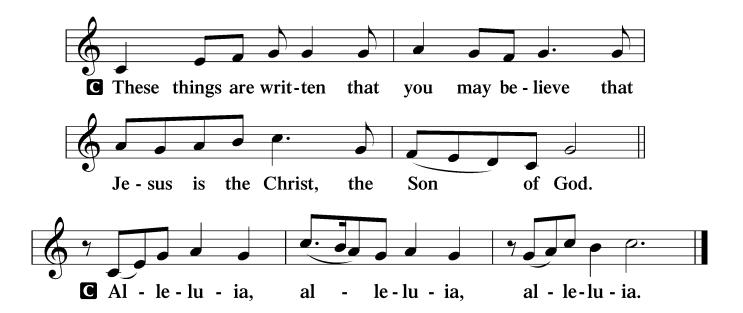
P This is the Word of the Lord.

#### C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

## **ALLELUIA and VERSE**





**HOLY GOSPEL** 

Mark 1:29-39

(Everyone was looking for Jesus.)

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

## C Glory to You, O Lord.

29 Now as soon as they had come out of the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. 30 But Simon's wife's mother lay sick with a fever, and they told Him about her at once. 31 So He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and immediately the fever left her. And she served them.

32 At evening, when the sun had set, they brought to Him all who were sick and those who were demon-possessed. 33 And the whole city was gathered together at the door. 34 Then He healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and He did not allow the demons to speak, because they knew Him.

35 Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a solitary place; and there

He prayed. 36 And Simon and those who were with Him searched for Him. 37 When they found Him, they said to Him, "Everyone is looking for You."

38 But He said to them, "Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also, because for this purpose I have come forth." 39 And He was preaching in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and casting out demons.

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

#### **NICENE CREED**

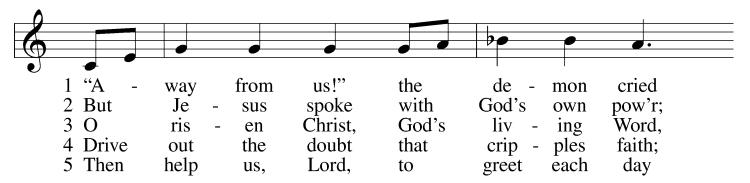
All I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please sit.

**HYMN OF THE DAY** "Away from Us!" the Demon Cried LSB 541





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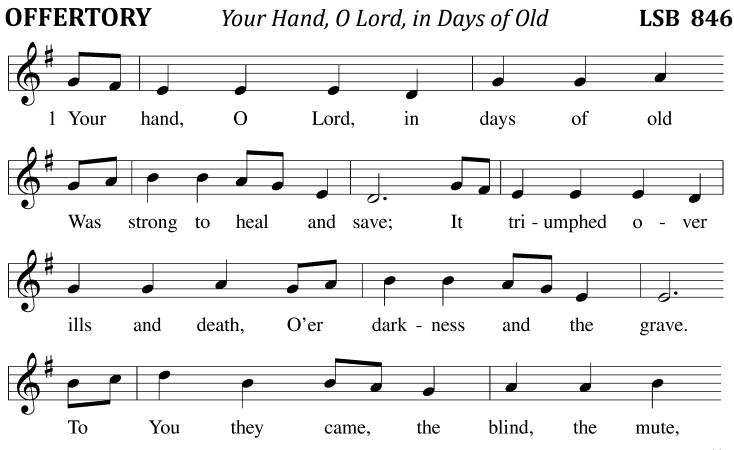
## **SERMON**

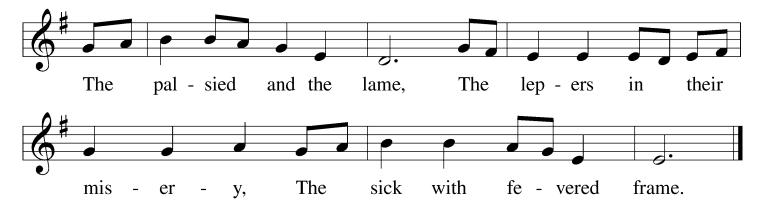
# "The Healer of all humanity's misery"

(Mark 1:32-39)

#### **OFFERING**

Please stand





- 2 Your touch then, Lord, brought life and health, Gave speech and strength and sight; And youth renewed and frenzy calmed Revealed You, Lord of light. And now, O Lord, be near to bless, Almighty as before, In crowded street, by beds of pain, As by Gennes'ret's shore.
- 3 O be our great deliv'rer still, The Lord of life and death: Restore and quicken, soothe and bless, With Your life-giving breath. To hands that work and eyes that see Give wisdom's healing pow'r That whole and sick and weak and strong May praise You evermore.

  Text: Public domain

**SHARING OF THE PEACE** "Peace be with you" (John 20:21) (Sharing through ASL (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. Lord God of mercy, You showed Your great love for us by sending Your Son to save and redeem us. Give to Your Church courage to proclaim with boldness this Gospel to all people by all means. Lord, in Your mercy,

# C hear our prayer.

P Lord God of power, You hold all things in Your hand. Raise up good and honest leaders who will defend our liberty and inspire our service, following the wisdom of Your Word in the cause of justice and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

# C hear our prayer.

P Lord God of unity, by Your Spirit, You join us together in Holy Baptism, gather us as one for Holy Communion, and build up our faith by the power of the Spirit. Strengthen the unity of the Church in doctrine and practice. Raise up faithful pastors and church workers to build us up in this holy faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

# C hear our prayer.

P Lord God of healing, You give strength to the weak and sustain the weary in the time of trouble. Deliver the sick by Your grace. Lord, in Your mercy,

# C hear our prayer.

P Lord God of peace, You give hope to the weary and comfort to those troubled in mind. Give hope to those who despair, comfort to those in pain, and courage to those who grow faint, that we may finish the race and receive the crown of everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,

## C hear our prayer.

P Lord God of grace, You give us a place at the Table of Your Son and the gift of this communion in His body and blood. Help us to receive with faith this Holy Sacrament that we may also receive all the fruits of His life, death, and resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,

# C hear our prayer.

P Lord God of truth, You have given us life that we may treasure Your mercy and manifest in words and deeds Your goodness and love to the world. With our songs of praise, accept the tithes and offerings we bring with our gratitude and praise. Lord, in Your mercy,

# C hear our prayer.

Additional petitions may be inserted here.

P Gracious Lord, with confidence in Your mercy we come before You with the prayers and petitions of Your Church, praying You to provide for us all things as are good, wholesome, and beneficial and to keep from us all things as are harmful, that we may be preserved from evil and kept to everlasting life through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

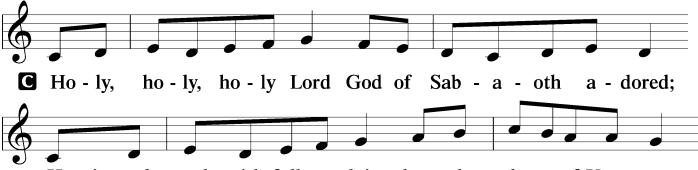
#### C Amen.

#### +SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

#### **PREFACE**

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And with your spirit.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- P It is truly good, 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; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. 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**



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



#### LORD'S PRAYER

(*Matthew 6:9–13*)

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.

#### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

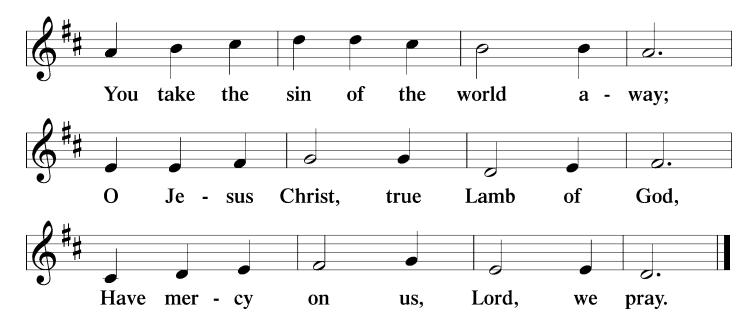
- P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He P had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### Pax Domini

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

### **AGNUS DEI**





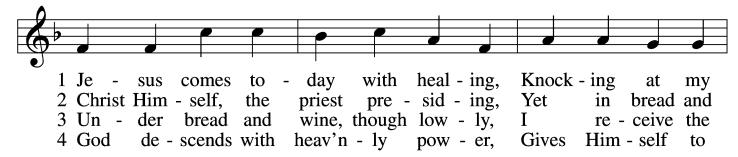
2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

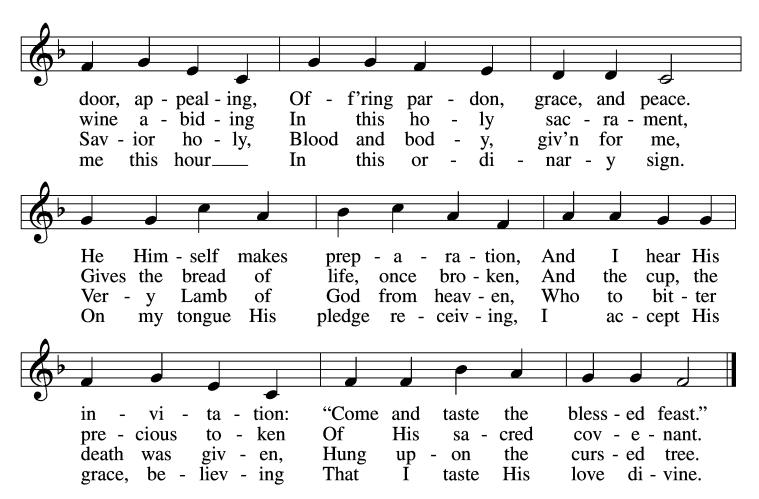
## Please sit

#### SILENT PRAYER before COMMUNING

Heavenly Father, in my Holy Baptism you have called me to be Your own possession. Prepare my heart to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all my sins. Strengthen my faith, increase my love and hope, and assure me a place at Your heavenly table, where I will eat eternal manna and drink of the river of the water of life freely, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

**COMMUNION HYMN** Jesus Comes Today with Healing LSB 620





- 5 Let me praise God's boundless favor, Whose own feast of love I savor, Bidden by His gracious call. Wedding garments He provides me, With a robe of white He hides me, Fits me for the royal hall.
- 6 Now have I found consolation, Comfort in my tribulation, Balm to heal the troubled soul. God, my shield from ev'ry terror, Cleanses me from sin and error, Makes my wounded spirit whole.

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#### **NUNC DIMITTIS**



# **POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

P Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to

forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### C 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

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

LSB 394



- 1 Songs of thank ful ness and praise, Je sus, Lord, to Thee we raise, 2 Man i fest at Jor-dan's stream, Proph-et, Priest, and King su-preme;
- Man i fest ed by the star To the sa ges from a far,

And at Ca - na wed - ding guest In Thy God-head man - i - fest;



Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem: Man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, Chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;



An - thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest. An - thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.



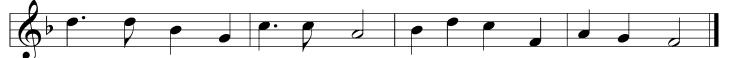
- 3 Man i fest in mak-ing whole Pal sied limbs and faint ing soul;
- 4 Sun and moon shall dark-ened be, Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;
- 5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Pres ent in Thy ho ly Word—



Man - i - fest in val - iant fight, Quell-ing all the dev - il's might; Christ will then like light - ning shine, All will see His glo-rious sign; Grace to im - i - tate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;



Man - i - fest in gra-cious will, Ev - er bring-ing good from ill; All will then the trum - pet hear, All will see the Judge ap - pear; That we might be-come like Thee At Thy great e - piph - a - ny



An - thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest. Thou by all wilt be con-fessed, God in man made man - i - fest. And may praise Thee, ev - er blest, God in man made man - i - fest.

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#### **DISMISSAL**

- P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
- C Thanks be to God!

## **POSTLUDE**

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Sermon Notes			
	Cpiphany		
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#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Portals of Prayer** for 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)



**\$4,500.00** (Raised to Date)

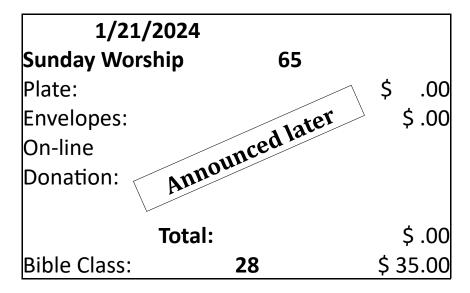
## **Mercedes Baskets Full (Pantry)**

There is a basket in the entrance for donations to the food pantry.

# Memory Verse Challenge

This week's memory verse: **Philippians 2:5-11** 

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



## The Son of God, Christ Jesus, Makes Us a New Creation

The Lord alone "is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth" (Is. 40:28). He "sits above the circle of the earth" and "stretches out the heavens like a curtain" (Is. 40:22). Yet, His almighty power is demonstrated chiefly by His mercy and compassion. "He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength" (Is. 40:29). The only begotten Son of the Father, the very Word by whom all things were made, becomes flesh and takes all the poverty and weakness of our sin and death upon Himself, bearing it in His body to the cross. As He dies for us there, He also raises us up, a new creation, in His resurrection from the dead. Thus, by the preaching of this Word, He heals "many who were sick with various diseases," and He casts out "many demons" (Mark 1:34, 39). And His preaching continues through those whom He has sent, who are "entrusted with a stewardship" to "preach the gospel" (1 Cor. 9:16–17). Thus, we are set free by the Word of Christ, and we exercise our freedom in loving service to others.

1/28/2024			
<b>Sunday Wors</b>	hip	83	
Plate:		•	\$ .00
Envelopes:	/1	later	\$ .00
On-line	incel		
Donation:	innounced		
	Total:		\$ .00
Bible Class:	22		\$ 34.00

# The Transfiguration of Our Lord Readings:

2 Kings 2:1-12 or Exodus 34:29-35 Psalm 50:1-6 2 Corinthians 3:12-13 (14-18); 4:1-6 Mark 9:2-9

	Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule		
	February Sunday Servants:		
Elder:	Earl Neuhaus		
Altar Guild:	Suzanne Wehling/Rose Ann Cisneros/Maribel Perez		
Music:	Doris Pickering		
This Week	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany		
Usher:	Earl Neuhaus		
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 am	
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am	
Next Week	The Transfiguration of Our Lord		
Usher:	Ken Eilers		
Sunday:	Worship Service	9:00 am	
24	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am	