

**FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER
EPIPHANY**

FEBRUARY 5, 2023

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

Missouri Synod



**703 W 3RD Street
Mercedes**

Texas 78570

956.565.1518

**Immanuelmercedes
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**Rev. Ed Weber, Pastor
956.463.1305**

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Website:

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



**1 Corinthians
2:9,10**

9. But as it is written, Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which GOD has prepared for them that love Him.



10. But GOD has revealed them to us by His Spirit: for the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of GOD.

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
FEBRUARY 5, 2023

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 - Gracious God, by Your light of grace shining in my heart and enlightened by the cross of my Savior, Jesus Christ, inspire in me a faith that is alive and glorifies You in all I say and do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

AS WE GATHER - The Epiphany season continues to illuminate the miracle of Christmas shining its light forward to the goal and purpose of Christ's coming to us in the flesh. That purpose is the salvation of the world through the forgiveness of our sins. That forgiveness can and will happen only through the sacrifice on Christ's cross. As often as we Christians have heard this Gospel and

believe it, however, the more often we tend to forget that this knowledge, this faith, remains a hidden mystery to the world, which ignores, rejects, or explains away “Jesus Christ and Him crucified.” Many really don’t get it! Yet, here through the Divine Word and Sacraments, God the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, enlightens minds and hearts to a spiritual epiphany.

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR

PAGE 203

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Spirit of God

No Eye has Seen

Paul Baloche

(A quiet time for prayer and meditation)

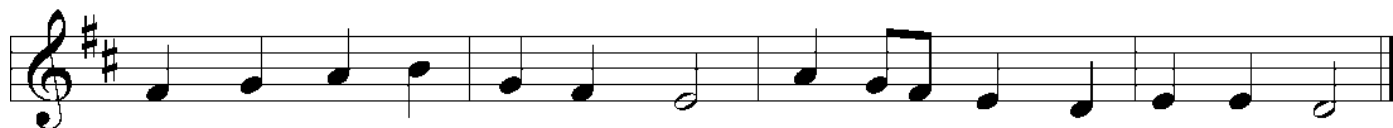
OPENING HYMN

Holy Spirit, Light Divine

LSB 496



1 Ho - ly Spir - it, light di - vine, Shine up - on this heart of mine;
2 Let me see my Sav - ior's face, Let me all His beau - ties trace;
3 Ho - ly Spir - it, pow'r di - vine, Cleanse this guilt - y heart of mine;
4 Ho - ly Spir - it, joy di - vine, Cheer this sad - dened heart of mine;
5 Ho - ly Spir - it, all di - vine, Dwell with - in this heart of mine;



Chase the shades of night a - way, Turn the dark - ness in - to day.
Show those glo - rious truths to me Which are on - ly known to Thee.
In Thy mer - cy pit - y me, From sin's bond - age set me free.
Yield a sa - cred, set - tled peace, Let it grow and still in - crease.
Cast down ev - 'ry i - dol throne, Reign su - preme, and reign a - lone.

Public domain

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 119:9-16; antiphon: v. 12*

P Blessed are You, O Lord! Teach me Your statutes.

C How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word.

P With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments!

C Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You.

P Blessed are You, O Lord! Teach me Your statutes.

C With my lips I have declared all the judgments of Your mouth.

P I have rejoiced in the way of Your testimonies, as much as in all riches.

C I will meditate on Your precepts, and contemplate Your ways.

P I will delight myself in Your statutes; I will not forget Your word.

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 Blessed are You, O Lord! Teach me Your statutes.

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;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



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.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



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,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



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—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

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 58:3-9a*

(True fasting, true faith)

3 'Why have we fasted,' they say, 'and You have not seen? Why have we afflicted our souls, and You take no notice?' "In fact, in the day of your fast you find pleasure, and exploit all your laborers. 4 Indeed you fast for strife and debate, and to strike with the fist of wickedness. You will not fast as you do this day, to make your voice heard on high. 5 Is it a fast that I have chosen, a day for a man to afflict his soul? Is it to bow down his head like a bulrush, and to spread out sackcloth and ashes? Would you call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the Lord? 6 "Is this not the fast that I have chosen: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke? 7 Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; when you see the naked, that you cover him, and not hide yourself from your own flesh? 8 Then your light shall break forth like the morning, your healing shall spring forth speedily, and your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. 9 Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; You shall cry, and He will say, 'Here I am.'

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalm 112:1-9; antiphon: v. 4*

P Unto the upright there arises light in the darkness; He is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.

C Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who delights greatly in His commandments.

P His descendants will be mighty on earth; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

C Wealth and riches will be in his house, and his righteousness endures forever.

P Unto the upright there arises light in the darkness; He is gracious,

CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE 7

and full of compassion, and righteous.

C A good man deals graciously and lends; he will guide his affairs with discretion.

P Surely he will never be shaken; the righteous will be in everlasting remembrance.

C He will not be afraid of evil tidings; his heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

P His heart is established; he will not be afraid, until he sees his desire upon his enemies.

C He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever; His horn will be exalted with honor.

P Unto the upright there arises light in the darkness; He is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 2:1-16*

(God's wisdom revealed by the Spirit)

1 And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. 2 For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. 3 I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. 4 And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

6 However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. 7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory, 8 which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

9 But as it is written:

“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”

10 But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. 11 For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. 15 But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. 16 For "who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 5:13-20*
(The fulfillment of the Law)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

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

13 "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. 14 "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. 17 "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. 18 For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. 19 Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be

CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE ⁹

called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

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

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

LSB 650



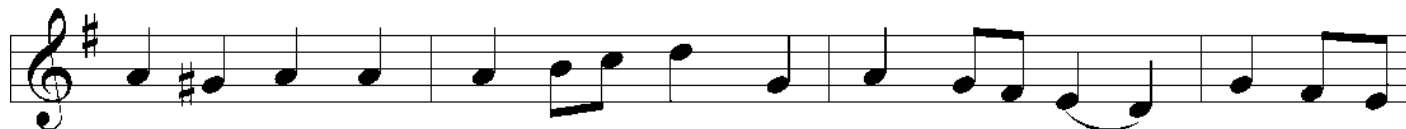
1 Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er dwell - ing In the ho - liest
2 Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er liv - ing As the Church's
3 Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er work - ing Through the Church's



realms of light; Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er brood - ing
ver - y life; Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er striv - ing
min - is - try; Quick - 'ning, strength - 'ning, and ab - solv - ing,



O'er a world of gloom and night; Ho - ly Spir - it,
Through us in a cease - less strife; Ho - ly Spir - it,
Set - ting cap - tive sin - ners free; Ho - ly Spir - it,



ev - er rais - ing Those of earth to thrones on high; Liv - ing,
ev - er form - ing In the Church the mind of Christ: You we
ev - er bind - ing Age to age and soul to soul In com -



life - im - part - ing Spir - it, You we praise and mag - ni - fy.
praise with end - less wor - ship For Your gifts and fruits un - priced.
mu - nion nev - er end - ing, You we wor - ship and ex - tol.

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SERMON *“God, the Holy Spirit has revealed the mystery of His salvation to you!”* (1 Corinthians 2: 10)

OFFERING

Please stand

OFFERTORY

I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus

LSB 729



1 I am trust-ing Thee, Lord Je - sus, Trust - ing on - ly Thee;
2 I am trust-ing Thee for par - don; At Thy feet I bow,
3 I am trust-ing Thee for cleans - ing In the crim - son flood;
4 I am trust-ing Thee to guide me; Thou a - lone shalt lead,



Trust - ing Thee for full sal - va - tion, Great and free.
For Thy grace and ten - der mer - cy Trust - ing now.
Trust - ing Thee to make me ho - ly By Thy blood.
Ev - 'ry day and hour sup - ply - ing All my need.

- 5 I am trusting Thee for power;
Thine can never fail.
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me
Must prevail.
- 6 I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus;
Never let me fall.
I am trusting Thee forever
And for all.

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SHARING OF THE PEACE *“Peace be with you” (John 20:21)*
(Sharing through ASL (American Sign Language))

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Almighty God, we give You thanks for Your liberating Word made known especially in the light shining through the glorious cross of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Grant that Your Word enlighten our hearts and minds now that we may keep it and bring forth the fruits of faith in all that we say and do. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P By Your light of life, rule and govern Your whole Church throughout the world that all those who proclaim Your truth be preserved in

the pure doctrine of Your saving Word and that faith and love be strengthened and increased in all Your people. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Bless our country and all who are in authority. Let Your glory dwell in our land that mercy and truth, righteousness and peace may abound everywhere. We commend to You the care of our schools so that our children grow in useful knowledge and Christian virtue, bringing forth wholesome fruits of life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Comfort all who are in trouble, sickness, anguish, or any other adversity. Grant courage and strength to all who suffer for Your name's sake. In every time of trouble, show Yourself a very present help, the Savior of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Accept, we pray, our bodies and souls, hearts and minds, all our talents and powers, together with the offerings we bring before You as our humble service. Help us to prepare for the world to come, doing the work You have given us to do while it is day before the night comes when no one can work. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

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

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 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; 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



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



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



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

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

C 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."

P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He 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.

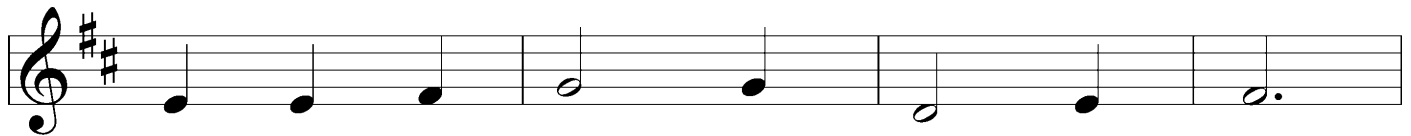
AGNUS DEI



1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
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.

THE DISTRIBUTION *Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord* LSB 637



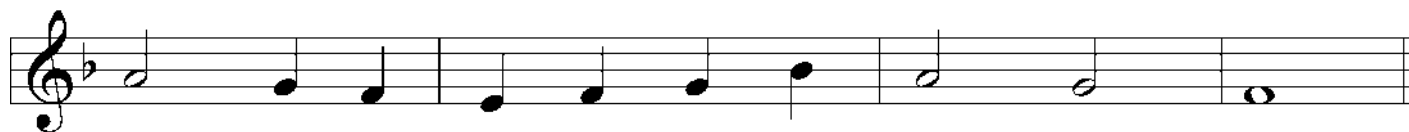
1 Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord,
2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
3 Come for - ward then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,



And drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured;
To all be - liev - ers life e - ter - nal yields;
And take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.



Of - fered was He for great - est and for least,
With heav'n - ly bread He makes the hun - gry whole,
O Lord, our hearts with grate - ful thanks en - dow



Him - self the vic - tim and Him - self the priest.
Gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

Please stand

NUNC DIMITTIS



C 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.

2 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

P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; 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

Lift High the Cross

LSB 837

Refrain



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim Till



all the world a - dore His sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Cap - tain trod,

2 Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,

3 All new - born sol - diers of the Cru - ci - fied

4 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,

Refrain



Our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
The hosts of God in con - qu'ring ranks com - bine.
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.
As Thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to Thee.

5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. *Refrain*

6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

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DISMISSAL

P Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

From Pastor's Desk

Portals of Prayer for January to March 2023 are available in the Narthex or office.

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

FEBRUARY Activities

Elders' Meeting

Tuesday, February 7, 2023 @ 9:00 a.m.

Immanuel Lutheran School Valentine's Dinner

*Saturday, February 11, 2023 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Social Hall
Menu: Pasta (chicken alfredo penne), salad, garlic bread, dessert, and tea
Tickets are \$10.00 per ticket and may be purchased from the students or at the office.*

Ladies' Dinner/Bible Study

Thursday, February 16, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 22, 2023

Soup Supper @ 5:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Service @ 6:00 p.m.

Men's Steak Dinner and Bible Study

Thursday, February 23, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.

Memory Verse Challenge

The LCMS invites everyone to join together in memorizing a verse each week.

This week's memory verse: ***2 Timothy 2:13***

If we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.



Biblical Substitutes

February 22, 2023 (Ash Wednesday)

A Ram for Isaac - Genesis 22:1-14

March 1, 2023

A Lamb for Captive Israel - Exodus 12:21-31

March 8, 2023

A Goat for Israel's Sin (Yom Kippur) - Leviticus 16:5-22

March 15, 2023

Achan for Israel - Joshua 7:19-26

March 22, 2023

A Man of Sorrows for All - Isaiah 53:1-12

March 29, 2023

Jonah for his Shipmates - Jonah 1:1-16

April 6, 2023 (Maundy Thursday) 6:00 p.m.

His Body and Blood for You - Matthew 26:26-29

April 7, 2023 (Good Friday) 6:00 p.m.

Jesus for Barabbas - Matthew 27:15-26

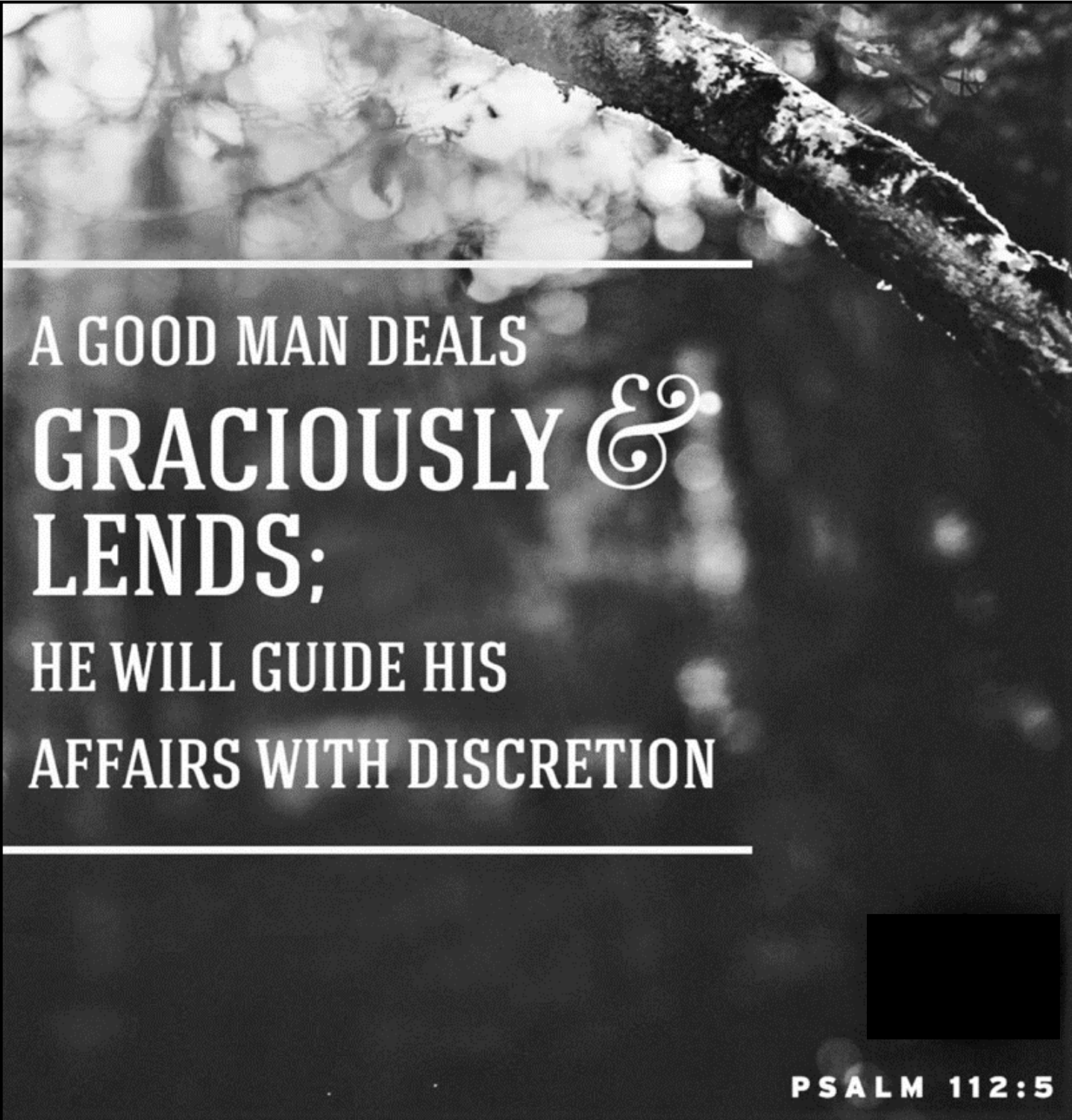
April 9, 2023 (Easter) 9:00 a.m.

Jesus' Tomb for Ours - Matthew 28:1-10

Wednesdays, Feb. 22nd through March 29th

5:00 p.m. Soup Supper

6:00 p.m. Mid-Week Lenten Service



A GOOD MAN DEALS
GRACIOUSLY &
LENDS;
HE WILL GUIDE HIS
AFFAIRS WITH DISCRETION

PSALM 112:5

The Righteousness of Christ

Jesus warns that “unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 5:20), but He also calls His imperfect people “the salt of the earth” and “the light of the world” (Matt. 5:13, 14). That’s because the Lord Jesus came not to abolish the Law or the prophets, “but to fulfill them” (Matt. 5:17) in perfect faith and love. Since He does and teaches all of God’s commandments, He is “called great in the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 5:19). God manifests His “demonstration of the Spirit and of power” in “Jesus Christ and him crucified” (1 Cor. 2:2-4), and through the preaching of the Gospel He gives His “secret and hidden wisdom” (1 Cor. 2:7). Christ gives this perfect righteousness to His people, and it leads them to true fasting, which is “to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free” (Is. 58:6) and “to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house” (Is. 58:7).

1/29/2023	<i>Sixth Sunday after Epiphany</i>																		
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Sunday Worship</td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">62</td> <td style="width: 60%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Plate:</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 480.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Envelopes:</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 1,295.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Donations:</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Total:</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 1,775.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bible Class:</td> <td style="text-align: center;">26</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 27.00</td> </tr> </table>	Sunday Worship	62		Plate:		\$ 480.00	Envelopes:		\$ 1,295.00	Donations:			Total:		\$ 1,775.00	Bible Class:	26	\$ 27.00	<p><i>Readings:</i></p> <p><i>Deuteronomy 30:15-20</i></p> <p><i>Psalms 119:1-8</i></p> <p><i>1 Corinthians 3:1-9</i></p> <p><i>Matthew 5:21-37</i></p>
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Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule		
February Sunday Servants		
Elder:	Earl Neuhaus	
Altar Guild:	Suzanne Wehling	
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	Sixth Sunday after Epiphany	
Usher:	Ken Eilers	
Sunday:	Worship Service	9:00 am
24	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am