

THIRD SUNDAY
IN LENT

MARCH 24, 2019
IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
Missouri Synod



703 W 3RD Street
Mercedes
Texas 78570
956.565.1518
Immanuelmercedes
@gmail.com

[https://
www.facebook.com/
LutheranMercedes/](https://www.facebook.com/LutheranMercedes/)

Rev. Ed Weber,
Pastor
956.463.1305
eweber10@aol.com
[Website
lutheranmercedes.
com](http://www.lutheranmercedes.com)

Sunday
9:00 AM
Worship Service

Adult Bible Class
Sunday School
10:00 a.m.

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

Website:
Misionemanuel.com

Office Hrs, M-F
8:00 am to 12:00 pm

CCLI # 2585510

THE BARREN FIG TREE



He came
looking
for fruit
but found none

Luke 13:6

**'Cut it down; why does it use
up the ground?' "But he
answered and said to
him, 'Sir, let it alone this year
also, until I dig around it and
fertilize it. 'And if it bears
fruit, well. But if not, after that
you can cut it down.'"**

(Luke 13:7-9)

**THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 24, 2019**

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 the 3x5 white cards located in the pew racks in front of you.

Next 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 - O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to me who has gone astray from Your ways and bring me again with a penitent heart and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

AS WE GATHER - Someone's always watching. At least it seems that way, doesn't it? In a world full of security cameras and alarm systems, there seem to be millions of ways to keep your property secure and guard your valuables from intruders who would seek to cause trouble. But what are your thoughts about having someone—an actual living, breathing person—to watch over you and your family at all times and in all places? Lest we think that a security detail like that is available only to the rich and the powerful, listen to what the Lord God said to Ezekiel: "Son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel" (Ezekiel 33:7). The entire house of God, which has been watched over by the prophets of old, is now under the authority and care of the Son of God and Son of Man, Jesus Christ. He is your ultimate watchman who guards and protects you from the threats of the evil thief who "comes only to steal and kill and destroy" (John 10:10). Place yourself under the watchful eye and merciful care of this watchman today! Watch Him, hear Him, and receive Him as He serves you in His Father's house and fills you with the life that He alone can provide.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

(A quiet time for prayer and meditation in preparation for worship)

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR

PAGE 203

OPENING HYMN

Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

LSB 563

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 Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

(John 20:19-23)

C **Amen.**

INTROIT *Psalm 5:4-8; antiphon: Psalm 1:6*

P For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

C **For You are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with You.**

P The boastful shall not stand before Your eyes; You hate all evildoers.

C **You destroy those who speak lies; the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.**

P But I, through the abundance of Your steadfast love, will enter Your house. I will bow down toward Your holy temple in the fear of You.

C **Lead me, O LORD, in Your righteousness because of my enemies; make Your way straight before me.**

ALL **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 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

KYRIE



☐ Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways. Bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 33:7-20

(The prophet serves as a watchman for the house of Israel.)

7 "So you, son of man: I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore you shall hear a word from My mouth and warn them for Me. 8 When I say to the wicked, 'O wicked man, you shall surely die!' and you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand. 9 Nevertheless if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul. 10 "Therefore you, O son of man, say to the house of Israel: 'Thus you say, "If our transgressions and our sins lie upon us, and we pine away in them, how can we then live?"' 11 Say to them: 'As I live,' says the Lord God, 'I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?' 12 "Therefore you, O son of man, say to the children of your people: 'The righteousness of the righteous man shall not deliver him in the day of his transgression; as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall because of it in the day that he turns from his wickedness; nor shall the righteous be able to live because of his righteousness in the day that he sins.' 13 When I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, but he trusts in his own righteousness and commits iniquity, none of his righteous works shall be remembered; but because of the iniquity that he has committed, he shall die. 14 Again, when I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' if he turns from his sin and does what is lawful and right, 15 if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has stolen, and walks in the statutes of life without committing iniquity, he shall surely live; he shall not die. 16 None of his sins which he has committed shall be remembered against him; he has done what is lawful and right; he shall surely live. 17 "Yet the children of your people say, 'The way of the Lord is not fair.' But it is their way which is not fair! 18 When the righteous turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, he shall die because of it. 19 But when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is lawful and right, he shall live because of it. 20 Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not fair.' O house of Israel, I will judge every one of you according to his own ways."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

PSALM *Psalm 85*

P LORD, You were favorable to Your land; You restored the fortunes of Jacob.

C You forgave the iniquity of Your people; You covered all their sin.

P You withdrew all Your wrath; You turned from Your hot anger.

C Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away Your indignation toward us!

P Will You be angry with us forever? Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?

C Will You not revive us again, that Your people may rejoice in You?

P Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us Your salvation.

C Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

P Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, that glory may dwell in our land.

C Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.

P Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky.

C Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

P Righteousness will go before Him and make His footsteps a way.

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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 10:1-13*

(Our faithful God provides the way of escape to help us endure our trials and temptations.)

1 Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, 2 all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, 3 all ate the same spiritual food, 4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. 5 But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. 6 Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. 7 And do not become idolaters as were some of them. As it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play." 8 Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell; 9 nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; 10 nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer. 11 Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. 12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. 13 No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL*Luke 13:1-9*

(Jesus warns us that we will all perish unless we repent.)

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

C Glory to You , O Lord.

1 There were present at that season some who told Him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. 2 And Jesus answered and said to them, "Do you suppose that these Galileans were worse sinners than all other Galileans, because they suffered such things? 3 I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish. 4 Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them, do you think that they were worse sinners than all other men who dwelt in Jerusalem? 5 I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish." 6 He also spoke this parable: "A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. 7 Then he said to the keeper of his vineyard, 'Look, for three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree and find none. Cut it down; why does it use up the ground?' 8 But he answered and said to him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and fertilize it. 9 And if it bears fruit, well. But if not, after that you can cut it down.' "

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.**APOSTLES CREED****All I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY*My Song Is Love Unknown***LSB 430****SERMON "Jesus' Unwavering Love to the Loveless so That None Would Perish"**

(Luke 13:5)

OFFERTORY*Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways***LSB 707****OFFERING****SHARING OF THE PEACE****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.

Gracious Father, we give You thanks and praise for sending Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, into this world to bear our sins and be our Savior. Under His watchful eye, we live as Your children, protected from all danger and guarded in heart and mind. Hear now the prayers we bring before Your throne of grace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C watch over us and hear our prayer.

P In Your great love for all who dwell in Your house, You appoint pastors, teachers, and other servants of Your Word who call us to repentance and faith. Grant that as we are confronted with the reality of our sin through the preaching of Your Law, and as we are comforted with the reality of Your forgiveness through the preaching of Your Gospel, we daily turn to You with hearts of worship and obedience. Lord, in Your mercy,

C watch over us and hear our prayer.

P O Lord, Your eye is always on Your creation. Grant that our land be fruitful because of Your faithfulness. Bless all those who labor as You give us strength for the fulfillment of our daily callings. Guide the members of our government and all those who lay down their lives to guard and defend us that we be protected from the threats of our adversaries and give thanks to You for Your constant care. Lord, in Your mercy,

C watch over us and hear our prayer.

P Healer of the broken, work mightily in the lives of all who experience hardships in their health, [including . . .]. Grant that all who ask for healing mercies lift up their eyes to You, the watchman for our bodies and souls, and find peace in knowing that Your face is shining upon them. Lord, in Your mercy,

C watch over us and hear our prayer.

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

C Amen.

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

All 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.

BENEDICAMUS

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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.
C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer

LSB 918

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2. Copyright © 2018
Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
.....



*You are joyously invited to attend
the Installation Service of
Rev. Christopher D. Richardson
Sunday, March 31st, 2019
at 4:30 p.m.
St. John Lutheran Church
San Benito, TX*



Sundays Lent Themes

March 10, 2019

"God's Unconditional, Unswerving Love and Truth Defeat the Devil's Conditional Lies" (Luke 4:6).

March 17, 2019

"Jesus' Unrelenting Love for All Sinners! How Deep, How Broad, How High!" (Luke 13:34)

March 24, 2019

"Jesus' Unwavering Love to the Loveless so That None Would Perish" (Luke 13:5)

March 31, 2019

"God's Unbridled, Prodigal Love for the Lost Sinner" (Luke 15:20)

April 7, 2019

"The Father's Unsparing Love for All Mankind" (Luke 20:13)

April 14, 2019

"Jesus' Uncomplaining Love in Betrayal O Wondrous Love What Have You Done!" (Luke 22:27)

	3/10/2019		
Sunday Worship		63	
Plate:			\$ 333.00
Envelopes:			\$ 2,352.00
	Total:		\$ 2,685.00
Bible Class:	26		\$ 30.00



Due Date: March 31, 2019
 Please consider directing your dollars to
 Immanuel Lutheran School.
 Call: 800-847-4836
 or
 log on to **Thrivent.com**
 and log on to My Thrivent.

Save the Dates

1. The annual **Basketsfull Walk-A-Thon** will take place on Saturday, April 6, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. at the Civic Center.
2. **Rodeo Bible Camp** April 6, 2019, Livestock Show Fairgrounds, Mercedes, TX
 Payne Auto Group Arena, 3rd Grade-High School, 2 PM-7 PM, **FREE**
3. **LWML Spring Rally**, Sunday, April 7, 2019, St. John Lutheran, San Benito, TX
 All ladies invited (Pastors Welcome Too!) Come See What LWML is All About!
 Spaghetti Supper to be Served
 2:30 Registration in the Church
 3 PM Event Begins
 Guest Speaker, TX District LWML President, Debbie Curry

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 22nd	Game Night	5:00 p.m.
April 18th	Maundy Thursday Service	6:00 p.m.
April 19th	Good Friday Service	7:00 p.m.
April 21st	Easter Sunrise Devotion	7:00 a.m.
April 21st	Easter Breakfast	8:00 a.m.
April 21st	Easter Service	9:00 a.m.
April 26th	Game Night	5:00 p.m.



LENTEN *Schedule*

Wednesdays, starting at 5 p.m. with a Soup Supper followed by Lenten Worship Service at 6:00 p.m.

2019 Lenten Service Series: A LENT TO REMEMBER

LENTEN MIDWEEK 1 March 6th **Ash Wednesday**
A Lent to Remember: **Remember Dust**

LENTEN MIDWEEK 2 March 13th
A Lent to Remember: **Remember Wondrous Works**

LENTEN MIDWEEK 3 March 20th
A Lent to Remember: **Remember Jesus' Words**

LENTEN MIDWEEK 4 March 27th
A Lent to Remember: **Remember the Covenant**

LENTEN MIDWEEK 5 April 3rd
A Lent to Remember: **Remember Sins No More**

LENTEN MIDWEEK 6 April 10th
A Lent to Remember: **Remember Steadfast Love**

Maundy Thursday April 18th **Holy Communion**
Remembrance of Me

Good Friday April 19th
Remember Me



