FIFTH SUNDAY
IN LENT
MARCH 26, 2023
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH
Missouri Synod



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

Website: lutheranmercedes. com

Sunday 9:00 A.M. Worship Service

10:30 a.m.

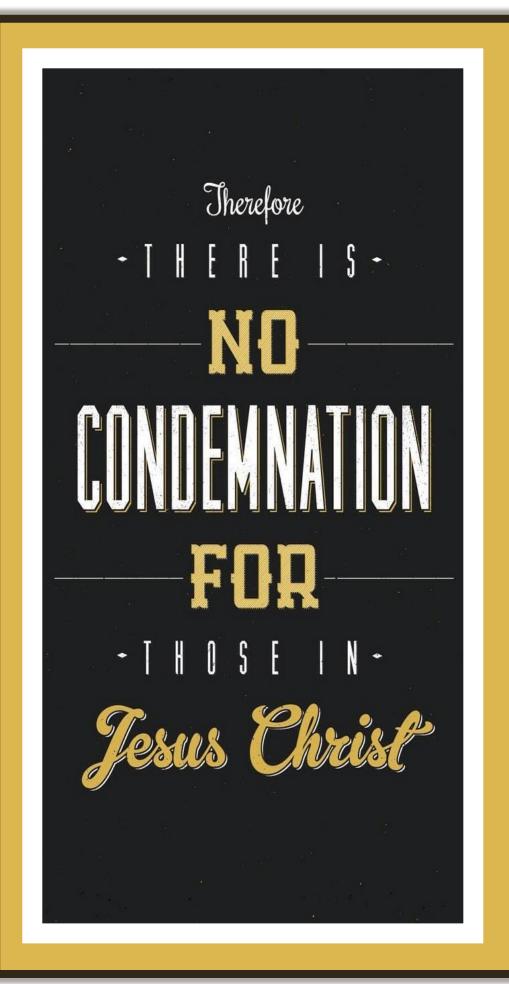
Adult Bible Class & Sunday School

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

Website:

Misionemanuel.com

Office Hrs, M-F 8 am to 12 pm CCLI # 2585510



FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT MARCH 26, 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.

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 Holy Spirit, You are a gift and a blessing. You call me from death and despair to faith and faithfulness and assure of resurrection and life in Christ, who has brought about my atonement. Enlighten my heart that I may rejoice in the power and blessing of Your presence in and among us. This I ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with You and the Father are one God, world without end. Amen.
- AS WE GATHER Each Sunday in Lent brings us closer to Holy Week and closer to the foot of the cross. In a sense, we are annual pilgrims traveling on the way of and to the cross. Each year is slightly different from the one that has come before on that cross way. According to the liturgical year in the Church, we are closer today to the death of Christ and His glorious resurrection than we were a week ago. And, according to our earthly lives, we are drawing closer to our own individual death and resurrection. Along this way, we intersect with the cross, which serves as a sign for our lives at all times. May we each be blessed in our pilgrimage!

WELCOME

PRELUDE

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

OPENING HYMN

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

LSB 686



- 1 Come, Thou Fount of ev 'ry bless ing, Tune my heart to 2 Here I raise my Eb en e zer, Hith er by Thy
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt or Dai ly I'm con -
- 4 Oh, that day when freed from sin ning, I shall see Thy



sing Thy grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev er ceas - ing, help I've come; And Ι hope, by Thy good plea - sure, now like Let strained to be; that grace a Clothed then the blood - washed lin - en, love ly face; in



praise. Call for songs of loud - est While the hope of ar - rive Safe - ly to at home. Je sus sought me when a Bind my wan-d'ring heart Thee: wan - der. Lord. I to Prone to How I'll sing Thy won-drous grace! Come, my Lord, no long - er



Fills with and love. glo heart joy Teach ry my me Wan - d'ring from fold the of God: He, strang - er, to Here's my feel it; Prone to leave the God Ι love. Take ran - som'd soul Send Thine tar my a - way; ry;



a - dore Thee; May I still Thy good-ness prove. to pre - cious blood. me from dan - ger, In - ter-posed His res - cue and seal Seal it for Thy courts a - bove. take it, an - gels soon car - ry Me to realms of end - less to

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,
- 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 116:1–4, 8; antiphon: v. 15*

- P Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.
- C I love the Lord, because He has heard my voice and my supplications.
- P Because He has inclined His ear to me, therefore I will call upon Him as long as I live.

- C The pains of death surrounded me, and the pangs of Sheol laid hold of me; I found trouble and sorrow.
- P Then I called upon the name of the Lord: "O Lord, I implore You, deliver my soul!"
- C For You have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, and my feet from falling.
- 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 Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.

KYRIE



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

SALUTATION

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And with your spirit.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; 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 Ezekiel 37:1–14

(Life is restored in the valley of the dry bones.)

1 The hand of the Lord came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones. 2 Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open Continue on next page 5

valley; and indeed they were very dry. 3 And He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

So I answered, "O Lord God, You know."

4 Again He said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! 5 Thus says the Lord God to these bones: "Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live. 6 I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am the Lord." '" 7 So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone. 8 Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but there was no breath in them.

9 Also He said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, 'Thus says the Lord God: "Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." ' " 10 So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.

11 Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!' 12 Therefore prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God: "Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. 13 Then you shall know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. 14 I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken it and performed it," says the Lord.'"

- This is the Word of the Lord. P
- \mathbf{C} Thanks be to God.

Psalm 130; antiphon: v. 7 **PSALM**

- O Israel, hope in the Lord; for with the Lord there is mercy, P and with Him is abundant redemption.
- Out of the depths I have cried to You, O Lord; C
- P Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.
- If You, Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who \mathbf{C} could stand?
- P But there is forgiveness with You, that You may be feared.
- I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I do \mathbf{C} hope.
- My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for P the morning—yes, more than those who watch for the morning.
- O Israel, hope in the Lord; for with the Lord there \mathbf{C} is mercy, and with Him is abundant redemption.
- And He shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities. P
- Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy \mathbf{C} Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen
- O Israel, hope in the Lord; for with the Lord there is mercy, P and with Him is abundant redemption.

EPISTLE Romans 8:1-11

(Life in the Spirit through Christ)

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and

death. 3 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, 4 that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. 8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. 10 And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

HOLY GOSPEL John 11:1–45 (46–53)

(The sign of the raising of Lazarus from the dead)

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.
- C Glory to You, O Lord.

1 Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. 2 It was that Mary who anointed the Lord with fragrant oil and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick. 3 Therefore the sisters sent to

Him, saying, "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick." 4 When Jesus heard that, He said, "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

5 Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. 6 So, when He heard that he was sick, He stayed two more days in the place where He was. 7 Then after this He said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again."

8 The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, lately the Jews sought to stone You, and are You going there again?"

- 9 Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. 10 But if one walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." 11 These things He said, and after that He said to them, "Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up."
- 12 Then His disciples said, "Lord, if he sleeps he will get well." 13 However, Jesus spoke of his death, but they thought that He was speaking about taking rest in sleep.
- 14 Then Jesus said to them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. 15 And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, that you may believe. Nevertheless let us go to him."
- 16 Then Thomas, who is called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him."
- 17 So when Jesus came, He found that he had already been in the tomb four days. 18 Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles away. 19 And many of the Jews had joined the women around Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother.
- 20 Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met Him, but Mary was sitting in the house. 21 Now

Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. 22 But even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You."

23 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

24 Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. 26 And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

27 She said to Him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

28 And when she had said these things, she went her way and secretly called Mary her sister, saying, "The Teacher has come and is calling for you." 29 As soon as she heard that, she arose quickly and came to Him. 30 Now Jesus had not yet come into the town, but was in the place where Martha met Him. 31 Then the Jews who were with her in the house, and comforting her, when they saw that Mary rose up quickly and went out, followed her, saying, "She is going to the tomb to weep there." 32 Then, when Mary came where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."

33 Therefore, when Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her weeping, He groaned in the spirit and was troubled. 34 And He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see."

35 Jesus wept. 36 Then the Jews said, "See how He loved him!" 37 And some of them said, "Could not this Man, who opened the eyes of the blind, also have kept this man from dying?"

38 Then Jesus, again groaning in Himself, came to the tomb. It

was a cave, and a stone lay against it. 39 Jesus said, "Take away the stone."

Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days." 40 Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?" 41 Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. 42 And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said this, that they may believe that You sent Me." 43 Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!" 44 And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Loose him, and let him go."

45 Then many of the Jews who had come to Mary, and had seen the things Jesus did, believed in Him.

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

Apostles' Creed

C 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.

Continue on next page

HYMN OF THE DAY

If God Himself Be for Me LSB 724; vs. 1-4



not fear - ful Of

SERMON

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In

Him

I

am

"No condemnation for those in Christ, who walk according to the Spirit!" (Romans 8:1)

God's great Judg-ment Day.

OFFERING



SHARING OF THE PEACE "Peace be with you" (John 20:21)

[using American Sign Language]

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Jesus Christ and for all people according to their needs.

 We pray for all Christians around the world that, as people united in faith, we may witness to the Good News that is ours in Christ Jesus, our Redeemer. We beseech You, O Lord,
- C hear us for Your mercy's sake.
- P We pray for all nations of the earth, that in all places on earth there may be times of peace. We pray for people in

lands where there has been upset and strife. And we pray for our own nation that it may know safety and the people may be joyful in their daily lives. We beseech You, O Lord,

- C hear us for Your mercy's sake.
- P We pray for all those whose labor serves us, especially those in the military, our police personnel, medical workers, and all those whose efforts support the common good. We beseech You, O Lord,
- C hear us for Your mercy's sake.
- P We pray for the special concerns on our hearts today, including health and family needs, bringing to You our joys, our sorrows, and our hopes, [including . . .]. We beseech You, O Lord,
- C hear us for Your mercy's sake.
- P In this time of prayer, we remember all those who have completed their earthly journeys in faith and now rest from their labors. Lord, inspire us by the witness of the faithful from all generations that we may complete our earthly journeys with confidence in Your gracious promises as they did in their lifetimes. We beseech You, O Lord,
- C hear us for Your mercy's sake.
- P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend 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

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



3 Holy Spirit, ever working Through the Church's ministry; Quick'ning, strength'ning, and absolving, Setting captive sinners free; Holy Spirit, ever binding Age to age and soul to soul In communion never ending, You we worship and extol.

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DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace as you serve the Lord!
- C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Sermon Notes:	
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MEMORY VERSE for the Week

This week's memory verse: *Ephesians 1:7*

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.

From the Pastor's Desk

Portals of Prayer April to June 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.

March Activities

March 28th - Ladies' Potluck Dinner/Bible Study @ 6:00p.m.

March 29th - **Mid-week 6 Lenten Service** 5:00 p.m. Soup Supper 6:00 p.m. Lenten Service

April Activities

April 2, 2023 Sunday of the Passion (Palm Sunday) (1st Sunday, Holy Communion) 9:00 a.m.

Apríl 6, 2023 **Maundy Thursday (Holy Communion)** 6:00 p.m. Hís Body and Blood for You - Matthew 26:26-29 (Pastor Goetz)

Apríl 7, 2023 **Good Fríday** 6:00 p.m. Jesus for Barabbas - John 18:38b-40 (Pastor Weber)

April 9, 2023 - **Easter Sunrise** 7:30 a.m. Jesus' Tomb for Our Tomb - John 20:1-18 (Pastor Goetz)

April 9, 2023 **Easter Day (Holy Communion)** 9:00 a.m. Jesus' Tomb for Our Tomb - Matthew 28:1-10 (Pastor Weber)

3/8/2023

Mid-week 4 Service 41

Plate: \$ 130.00

Envelopes: \$ 165.00

Total: \$ 295.00

3/12/2023

Sunday Worship 66

Plate \$ 292.00

Envelopes \$ 2,368.00

Donation: \$ 450.00

Total: \$ 3,110.00

Bible Class: 22 \$ 22.00

3/15/2023

Mid-week 4 Service 36

Plate: \$ 122.00

Envelopes: \$118.00

Total: \$ 240.00

3/19/2023

Sunday Worship 65

Plate \$ 488.00

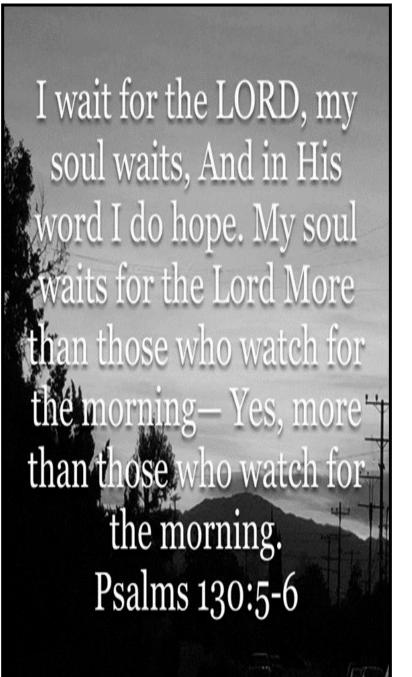
Envelopes \$ 833.00

Donation: \$ 20.00

(School Donation \$ 500.00)

Total: \$ 1,341.00

Bible Class: 26 \$ 22.00



Sunday of the Passion Readings:

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 118:19-29 or Psalm 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Matthew 26:1-27:66 or Matt. 27:11-66

or John 12:20-43

Jesus Christ Is the Resurrection and the Life

The illness and death of Lazarus happened "that the Son of God may be glorified through it" (John 11:4). Jesus' miracle of raising Lazarus prompted His arrest and crucifixion, whereby He would die "for the nation" and gather "into one the children of God who are scattered abroad" (John 11:51–52). As He called Lazarus from the tomb and commanded others to "unbind him, and let him go" (John 11:44), Jesus also calls us and releases us from the bondage of sin and death. We would not "submit to God's law," nor could we "please God" (Rom. 8:7–8), but "he condemned sin" in His own flesh so "that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us" (Rom. 8:3–4). Now through the Gospel, "the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells" in us (Rom. 8:11). His Word breathes His Spirit into our mortal flesh, animating us with His own life. As His ministers preach according to His divine command, the Lord Jesus calls us from the grave into the good land that He gives us (Ezek. 37:12, 14).

	Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule		
	March Sunday Servants	April Sunday Servant	
Elder:	Dan Wehling	Ken Eilers	
Altar Guild:	D. Jackson/L. Marchant	Billie Jo Neuhaus	
Music:	Doris Pickering		
This Week	Fifth Sunday in Lent		
Usher:	Dan Wehling		
Sunday:	Worship Service	9:00 am	
	Sunday School & Adult Bib	ole Study 10:30 am	
Next Week	Sunday of the Passion (Palm Sunday)		
Usher:	Earl Neuhaus		
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship	Service 9:00 am	
	Sunday School & Adult Bib	ole Study 10:30 am	