

**FOURTH SUNDAY  
IN LENT**

**MARCH 27, 2022**

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

**Missouri Synod**



**703 W 3<sup>RD</sup> Street  
Mercedes**

**Texas 78570**

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@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**

***Sunday***

**9:00 A.M.**

**Worship Service**

**10:30 a.m.**

**Adult Bible Class &  
Sunday School**

**Holy Communion:**

**1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**Website:**

**Misionemanuel.com**

**Office Hrs, M-F**

**8 am to 12 pm**

**CCLI # 2585510**



*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ,  
he is a new creation;  
old things have  
passed away;  
behold, all things  
have become new.*

*2 Corinthians 5:17*

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**MARCH 27, 2022**

**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** - Heavenly Father, You are the giver of all good gifts and have given me Your own Son to be my Savior and Redeemer. Deliver me from my sin and restore to me the joy of my salvation, that having received such mercy, I need not surrender to despair anymore; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, I pray. Amen.

**AS WE GATHER** - No parable more fully describes the profound character of God's mercy than the prodigal son and the waiting father. We are the rebels who begin to think we deserve our heavenly Father's kindness and who demand from Him what is not our right to claim. But instead of disowning us, He meets us with joy, welcomes us with His forgiveness, restores our tattered righteousness

with the robe of Christ's holiness, and sets His Table before us. This is what happens every Sunday as the Lord reclaims us from our sins, restores joy to our heavy hearts, reminds us of His baptismal promise, and feeds our body and soul with the body and blood of His Son. This is the source of our holy joy and this is the peace that passes all understanding.

## **DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR**

**PAGE 203**

### **WELCOME**

### **PRELUDE**

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

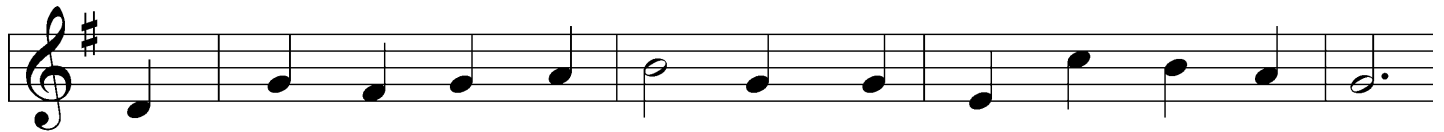
# OPENING HYMN

*Today Your Mercy Calls Us*

**LSB 915**



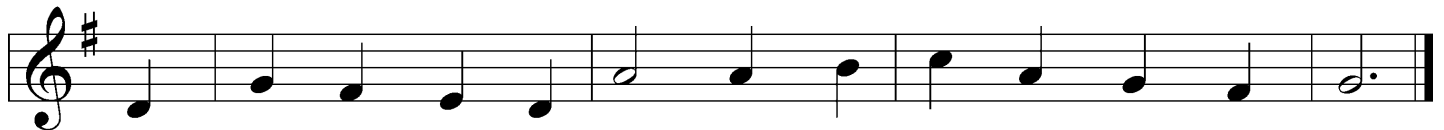
1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.  
2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in  
3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;  
4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,  
Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.  
His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.  
What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,  
The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,  
No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;  
When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,



Your pre - cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.  
A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.  
Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.  
We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

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*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 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.**

### **+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

**INTROIT** *Psalm 51:2-6; antiphon: v. 1*

P Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your loving-kindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions.

**C Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.**

P For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.

**C** Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight—that You may be found just when You speak, and blameless when You judge.

**P** Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me.

**C** Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, and in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom.

**P** Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your loving-kindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions.

## 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, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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*

## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DAY**

P The readings for the Fourth Sunday in Lent fill us with a cause for joy. From the prophet Isaiah comes the song of joy in the God who has become our Savior. In the Epistle, we are reminded that in Christ we are a whole new creation. In the familiar parable of the prodigal son, or, better named, the parable of the waiting father, we see the mercy of God that welcomes His wandering children back, forgives them of their sins, and restores them to be His own children again.

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**      *Isaiah 12:1-6*  
(Surely God is my Savior.)

- 1 And in that day you will say:  
“O Lord, I will praise You;  
Though You were angry with me,  
Your anger is turned away, and You comfort me.  
2 Behold, God is my salvation,  
I will trust and not be afraid;  
‘For Yah, the Lord, is my strength and song;  
He also has become my salvation.’ ”
- 3 Therefore with joy you will draw water  
From the wells of salvation.
- 4 And in that day you will say:  
“Praise the Lord, call upon His name;  
Declare His deeds among the peoples,  
Make mention that His name is exalted.  
5 Sing to the Lord,  
For He has done excellent things;  
This is known in all the earth.  
6 Cry out and shout, O inhabitant of Zion,

*[CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE]* 7

For great is the Holy One of Israel in your midst!”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**      *Psalm 32; antiphon: v. 11*

P Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous; and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

**C Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.**

P Blessed is the man to whom the Lord does not impute iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

**C When I kept silent, my bones grew old through my groaning all the day long.**

P For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my vitality was turned into the drought of summer.

**C I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,” and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P For this cause everyone who is godly shall pray to You in a time when You may be found; surely in a flood of great waters they shall not come near him.

**C You are my hiding place; You shall preserve me from trouble; You shall surround me with songs of deliverance.**

P I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye.

**C Do not be like the horse or like the mule, which have no understanding, which must be harnessed with bit and bridle, else they will not come near you.**

P Many sorrows shall be to the wicked; but he who trusts in the Lord, mercy shall surround him.



P Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous; and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

**EPISTLE**                      *2 Corinthians 5:14–21*

*(If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.)*

14 For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; 15 and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again. 16 Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. 18 Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. 20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. 21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

**HOLY GOSPEL**                      *Luke 15:1–3, 11b–32*

*(My son was dead and now he is alive again.)*

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

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

1 Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Him

to hear Him. 2 And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, "This Man receives sinners and eats with them." 3 So He spoke this parable to them, saying:

11 "A certain man had two sons. 12 And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood. 13 And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. 14 But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. 15 Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. 16 And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything.

17 "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! 18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, 19 and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants."' "

20 "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. 21 And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. 23 And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; 24 for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry.

25 “Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. 27 And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.’

28 “But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. 29 So he answered and said to his father, ‘Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. 30 But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.’

31 “And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. 32 It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.’ ”

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.

*Please sit*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose Thee* **LSB 573**



1 Lord, 'tis not that I did choose Thee; That, I know, could  
2 It was grace in Christ that called me, Taught my dark - ened  
3 Praise the God of all cre - a - tion; Praise the Fa - ther's



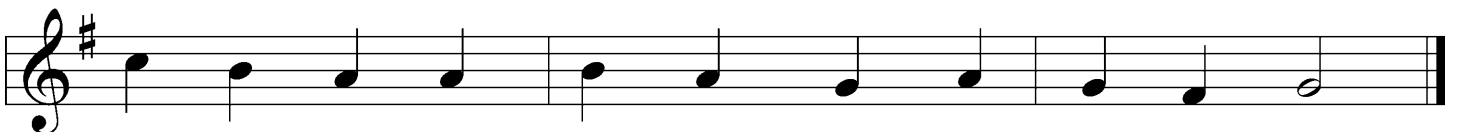
nev - er be; For this heart would still re - fuse Thee Had Thy  
heart and mind; Else the world had yet en - thrall'd me, To Thy  
bound - less love. Praise the Lamb, our ex - pi - a - tion, Priest and



grace not cho - sen me. Thou hast from the sin that stained me  
heav'n - ly glo - ries blind. Now I wor - ship none a - bove Thee;  
King en - throned a - bove. Praise the Spir - it of sal - va - tion,



Washed and cleansed and set me free And un - to this  
For Thy grace a - lone I thirst, Know - ing well that,  
Him by whom our spir - its live. Un - di - vid - ed



end or - dained me, That I ev - er live to Thee.  
if I love Thee, Thou, O Lord, didst love me first.  
ad - o - ra - tion To the great Je - ho - vah give.

**SERMON**     *"God's done it all, for all, and that includes you!"*

(2 Corinthians 5:18)

**OFFERING**

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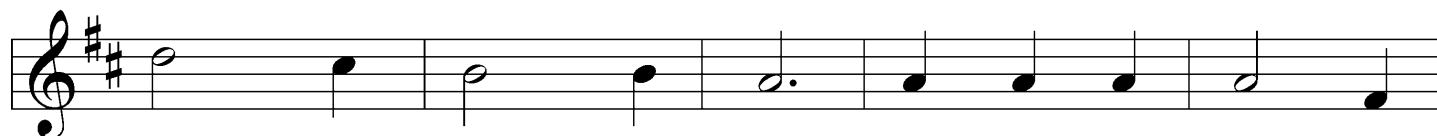
**OFFERTORY**

*God Loved the World So That He Gave*

**LSB 571; vv. 1, 4, 6**



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly  
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in  
sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.



6 Glory to God the Father, Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To You, O blessed Trinity,  
Be praise now and eternally!

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**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

*"Peace be with you"*

(John 20:21)

*[using American Sign Language]*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

P As prodigals, we come into the arms of our heavenly Father, waiting even more for us to pray than we are to petition His mercy.

*Continued on next page* 13

Heavenly Father, we have all been one with Adam in the rebellion of our stubborn wills and in suffering the consequences of sin with its death. Grant us grace that we may return to You with humble hearts and rejoice in Your forgiveness so that our hearts may be at peace and we may be rescued from our guilt, shame, and despair. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Blessed Lord, in Baptism You made us anew, raising up from the water a new person, created in Christ Jesus for good works. Give us the will and desire to do what is good, right, and pleasing in Your sight. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Mighty God, deliver the nations from violence and war, and teach us generosity, compassion, and the path of peace. Bless our president, Congress, governor, legislature, and all who make, administer, and judge Your laws. Bless also those who labor for peace and justice even at the peril of their own lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Merciful God, deliver us from rebellion and bitterness that we not only find a home in Your mercy but show forth Your grace, forgiveness, and joy to all those around us. Bless the missionary and church planter as they bring Your saving Word to those who have not heard it and plant congregations for Your people to gather around Your Word and Table. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Compassionate Father, You know our needs even before we ask but still we cry to You on behalf of all the sick and those who suffer, [especially . . .]. Give them healing in

accordance with Your will, grace to endure their affliction, and peace in the hour of death. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P O Blessed Lord, Your mercies are daily new and with fresh goodness You replenish the earth. Give us wisdom to use well all Your resources, and grant us giving hearts that we share with those in need all that You have given in abundance. Receive also these tithes and offerings, signs of our faith and symbols of our thanksgiving. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

*Additional petitions may be inserted here.*

P O Lord, remembering the faithful who have gone before us, we ask You to keep us by Your grace through the days to come, that we not be lost to You again but kept in faith now until the day of the resurrection of the dead, when we shall join the saints in glory in Your presence forevermore; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray.

**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*

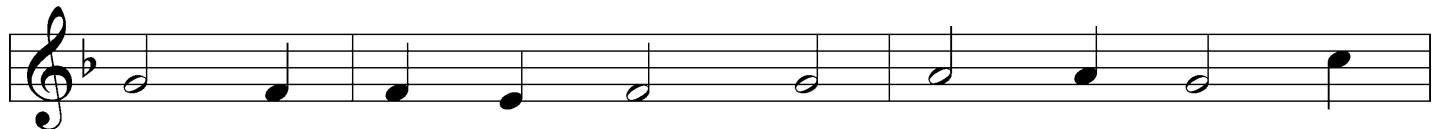
**P** The LORD bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.

**C** **Amen.**

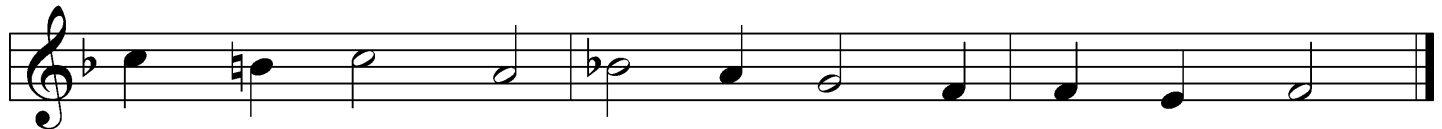
*Please sit*

**SENDING HYMN***The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace***LSB 580**

1 The Gos - pel shows the Fa - ther's grace, Who sent His  
 2 It sets the Lamb be - fore our eyes, Who made the a -  
 3 It brings the Sav - ior's righ - teous - ness To robe our  
 4 It is the pow'r of God to save From sin and



Son to save our race, Pro - claims how Je - sus  
 ton - ing sac - ri - fice, And calls the souls with  
 souls in roy - al dress; From all our guilt it  
 Sa - tan and the grave; It works the faith which



lived and died That we might thus be jus - ti - fied.  
 guilt op - pressed To come and find e - ter - nal rest.  
 brings re - lease And gives the trou - bled con - science peace.  
 firm - ly clings To all the trea - sures which it brings.

5 It bears to all the tidings glad  
 And bids their hearts no more be sad;  
 The weary, burdened souls it cheers  
 And banishes their guilty fears.

6 May we in faith its message learn  
 Nor thanklessly its blessings spurn;  
 May we in faith its truth confess

16 And praise the Lord, our righteousness.



## DISMISSAL

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

## POSTLUDE

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### **RGV Zone LWML Spring Rally**

Saturday, April 2, 2022

St. Paul Lutheran Church

300 Pecan Blvd., McAllen, TX

Registration @10:30 a.m. & Program @ 11:00 a.m.

Guest Speaker: Barbara Lane Geistfeld, D.V.M. from Lutheran for Life

Our In Gathering will be the Rainbow Room.

Immanuel, Mercedes will be in charge of 5 year to 10 year olds.

Please read the following email from the Rainbow Room.

Thank you so much for reaching out! We are always in need of items for our kiddos. We can always use new clothing for children ages between newborn to 17 yrs. old. Also on our list of needs are diapers sizes 4, 5, and 6, baby wipes, baby bottles, children's shampoo. Also items for teens like body spray, hair brushes, hair products, nail polish, deodorants, etc. I hope this helps. If you have any questions please reach out. Thanks again and THANK YOU Liz for mentioning the Rainbow Rooms to this wonderful organization!

So please spread the word!

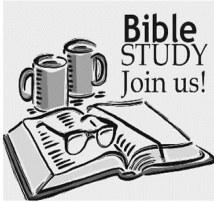
In His service always,

Dawn

*From Pastor's Desk*

*Portals of Prayer*

*January to March 2022 are available in the Narthex or office.*



*Adult Bible Class/Sunday School  
at 10:30 a.m.*

*Rev. Goetz is leading the class.*

*Mid-week 5, Wednesday, March 30th*

*"Crowd Shouting Crucify Hime" (Matthew 27:15-26)*

*Soup Supper @ 5:00 p.m.*

*Service @ 6:00 p.m. by Rev. Goetz*

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

**This week's memory verse:      *Zephaniah 3:17***

*The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his*

**Sermon Notes:**

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3/16/2022

**Mid-Week 3 Service            34**

Plate:                                    \$ 100.00

Envelopes:                            \$ 38.00

Donation:

**Total:                                    \$ 138.00**



***Announcements***

Direct your ***Thrivent Choice Dollars*** today!

**Due Date:**    March 31, 2022

Please consider directing your dollars to Immanuel Lutheran School.

Call: 800-847-4836

or

log on to Thrivent.com

*The Soup Supper Sign-up Sheet is located on the kitchen counter in the Social Hall.*

**3/20/2022**

**Sunday Worship            56**

Plate:                                    \$ 435.00

Envelopes:                            \$ 2,433.00

Donation:

**Total:                                    \$ 2,868.00**

**Bible Class:            29                                    \$ 21.00**

***Fifth Sunday in Lent***  
***Readings:***

*Isaiah 43:16-21*

*Psalm 126*

*Philippians 3:(4b-7) 8-14*

*Luke 20:9-20*

## Jesus Christ Has Reconciled Us to the Father

God the Father has opened His heart to us in love. While we were “still a long way off,” He saw us and “felt compassion” (Luke 15:20). Therefore, He gave His only begotten Son for us, making “him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Cor. 5:21). By the ministry of reconciliation, He runs to us, embraces us in mercy and clothes us with His glory as beloved sons in Christ Jesus. And so we give thanks unto the Lord our God, who has taken away our sins and turned His anger from us (Is. 12:1). Because He has become our salvation, our strength and our song, we “will trust, and will not be afraid” (Is. 12:2).

<b>Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule</b>		
	<b>March Sunday Servants:</b>	<b>April Sunday Servants:</b>
Elder:	Dan Wehling	Ken Eilers
Altar Guild:	D. Jackson & L. Marchant	BJ Neuhaus & M Perez
Music:	JoAnne Schroeder	
<b>This Week</b>	<i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i>	
Usher:	Dan Wehling	
Sunday:	Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am
<b>Next Week</b>	<i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i>	
Usher:	Earl Neuhaus	
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am