THIRD SUNDAY
AFTER EPIPHANY

**JANUARY 26, 2025** 

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Missouri Synod



703 W 3<sup>RD</sup> Street Mercedes, Tx 78570 956.565.1518 Immanuelmercedes @gmail.com

Website lutheranmercedes.com

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

> Sunday 9:00 A.M. Worship Service

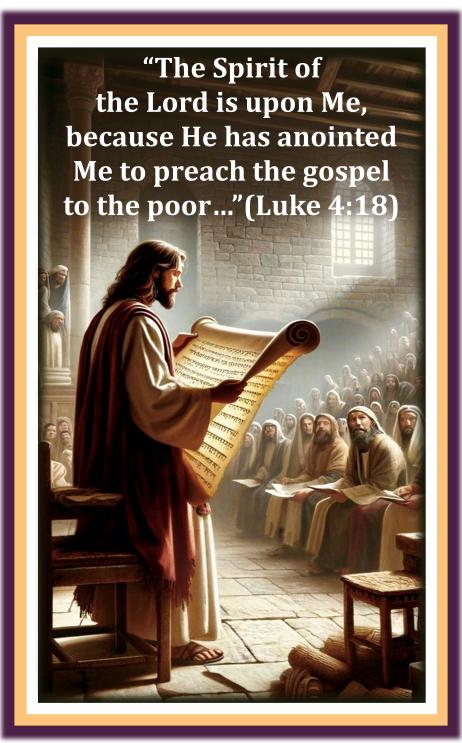
10:30 A.M. Adult Bible Class Sunday School

Holy Communion: Every Sunday

www.facebook.com/ Lutheranmercedes/

Website: Misionemanuel.com

Office Hrs, M-F 8:00 am to 12:00 pm CCLI # 2585510



#### THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

JANUARY 26, 2025

### 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.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated every Sunday at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as Christ our Lord says, He gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26-29). And through this sacrament, He strengthens us for new life in Him (Romans 8:10;1 Peter 2:4). Jesus personally invites weak sinners (Mark 9:24) who trust His words, "This is My body which is given for you… this cup is the new covenant in My blood which is shed for you" (Luke 22:19-20), to receive His blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation. (Romans 8:31-32).

Because "he who eats and drinks our Lord's body and blood in an unworthy manner drinks judgement to oneself" (1 Corinthians 11:29), and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith by those gathered at this altar (1 Cor.10:17;11:26), any who have not been instructed, or who hold a confession and church fellowship differing from that of this congregation, and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and desire to receive the Sacrament, should first arrange to speak with the pastor. For further study, see Matthew 10:32f.; 18:15–35; 26:26–29; Mark 14:22-26; Luke 22:14-20; Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Cor. 10:14-21;11:17–34.

A PRAYER UPON ENTERING CHURCH - O almighty and eternal Father, You defend me from error and join me into the unity of the one Body of Christ, the church, so that I might give witness to Your name. Help me to live out the unity of faith within the Body of peace through my life together under Your Word; through Jesus Christ, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**AS WE GATHER** - When Jesus unrolled the scroll, the people might have been expecting words from His mouth, but what they got was the Word made flesh, the Word that endures forever. It did not take long before they found reason to wonder. "Is this not Joseph's son?" The reality is that there are always those who look for reason to doubt or to reject but the Word is given to bring forth faith. The Word is given that by hearing we might believe, but wherever God's Word is spoken it is also a scandal and offense to the way we see ourselves and our salvation. Jesus has come to address us with the Word of Life so that by hearing we may believe and by believing we may see that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. The best appreciation for God's Word is faith.

#### WELCOME



#### INVOCATION

- P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

#### **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
  (Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination)

- 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.
- 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.
- Amen.

#### + SERVICE OF THE WORD +

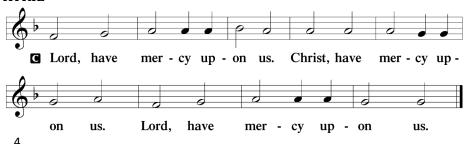
#### INTROIT Psalm 102:18-22: antiphon: v. 13

- You will arise and have mercy on Zion; for the time to favor her, yes, the set time, has come.
- This will be written for the generation to come, that a people vet to be created may praise the Lord.
- For He looked down from the height of His sanctuary; from heaven the Lord viewed the P
- **C** P To hear the groaning of the prisoner, to release those appointed to death,
- To declare the name of the Lord in Zion, and His praise in Jerusalem, When the peoples are gathered together, and the kingdoms, to serve the Lord.
- You will arise and have mercy on Zion; for the time to favor her, ves, the set time. has come.

#### GLORIA PATRI

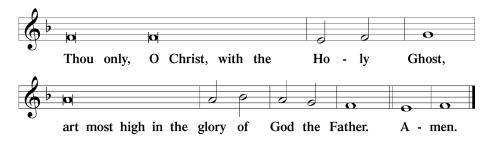


#### KYRIE



#### **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**





#### **SALUTATION and PRAYER OF THE DAY**



P Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Please sit

#### **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10* 

(They taught the Word of the Lord clearly so that the people might understand.)

1 Now all the people gathered together as one man in the open square that was in front of the Water Gate; and they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded Israel. 2 So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly of men and women and all who could hear with understanding on the first day of the seventh month. 3 Then he read from it in the open square that was in front of the Water Gate from morning until midday, before the men and women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law.

5 And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the

people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. 6 And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God.

Then all the people answered, "Amen, Amen!" while lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.

- 8 So they read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God; and they gave the sense, and helped them to understand the reading.
- 9 And Nehemiah, who was the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn nor weep." For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the Law.
- 10 Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to those for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord. Do not sorrow, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."
- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God

### **PSALM** *Psalm 19; antiphon: v. 14*

- P Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.
- C The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork.
- P Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge.
- C There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard.
- P Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun.
- C Which is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoices like a strong man to run its race.
- P Its rising is from one end of heaven, and its circuit to the other end; and there is nothing hidden from its heat.
- C The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;
- P The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;
- C The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.
- P More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.
- C Moreover by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward.
- P Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults.
- C Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and I shall be innocent of great transgression.
- P Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.

### **EPISTLE** 1 Corinthians 12:12–31a

(Though individually members, we are all one Body in Christ.)

12 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For in fact the body is not one member but many.

15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? 16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? 18 But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. 19 And if they were all one member, where would the body be?

20 But now indeed there are many members, yet one body. 21 And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." 22 No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. 23 And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unpresentable parts have greater modesty, 24 but our presentable parts have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that part which lacks it, 25 that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. 26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. 28 And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? 30 Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? 31 But earnestly desire the best gifts.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

## C Thanks be to God.

Please stand



#### HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 4:16-30

(Jesus opens a scroll to read and fulfills its words in His person and work.)

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



16 So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. 17 And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:

- "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed;
- To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."

20 Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. 21 And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." 22 So all bore witness to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth. And they said, "Is this not Joseph's son?" 23 He said to them, "You will surely say this proverb to Me, 'Physician, heal yourself! Whatever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in Your country.' " 24 Then He said, "Assuredly, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own country. 25 But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a great famine throughout all the land; 26 but to none of them was Elijah sent except to Zarephath, in the region of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. 27 And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian."

28 So all those in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, 29 and rose up and thrust Him out of the city; and they led Him to the brow of the hill on which their city was built, that they might throw Him down over the cliff. 30 Then passing through the midst of them. He went His way.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



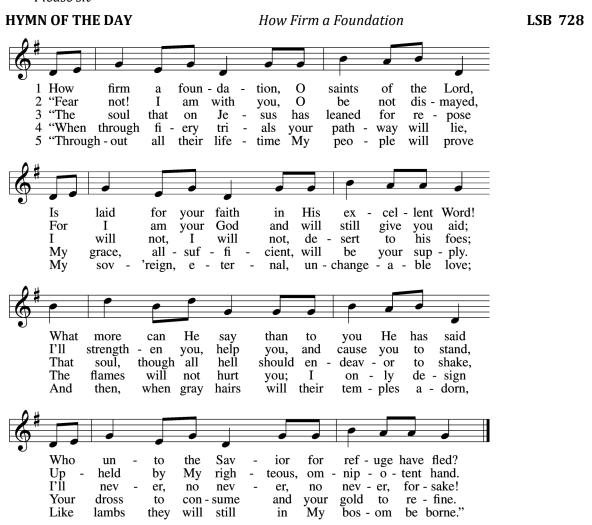
#### NICENE CREED

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



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SERMON

"Fulfilled in your hearing"

Luke 4:21

**OFFERING** 



SHARING OF THE PEACE "Peace be with you" [through use of American Sign Language]

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- Let us pray to the Lord for His church, for all Christians, and for everyone as they have P need.
  - Silence for prayer and meditation.
- God of mercy, You have made known to us Your Word, and from that Word we have come to know Jesus. Guard our unity in Christ, and give us the Holy Spirit, that we may work together in peace. Lord, in Your mercy,
- $\mathbf{C}$ hear our prayer.
- Send down upon Your church, Your Body, the grace of Your Holy Spirit that we may be united in faith and in the confession of Your name. Keep us from thinking too highly of ourselves than we ought. Give strength, wisdom, and understanding to those who confess your name. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Hear the prayers of those who cry out to You in any need or want and daily and richly supply Your people with all they need for this body and life. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer. C

P Give ear to Your people and to those who govern in every place, that we may enjoy the blessing of good government and good leaders and so reflect this gift by faithful stewardship of Your gifts and good citizenship wherever we live. Lord, in Your mercy,

### C hear our prayer.

P Lift up those who have been brought low by illness, affliction, a troubled heart or mind, or grief over the loss of those whom they love, that Your grace may support, defend, and heal them in the day of trouble. [Hear us especially for . . .] Lord, in Your mercy,

## C hear our prayer.

P By the power of Your Holy Spirit, bring us to repentance and faith that no sin may prove harmful to us and we may be strengthened and nourished in faith by this Holy Communion with the body and blood of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

## C hear our prayer.

P Though we have every treasure of this moment, without Your grace we live in poverty of life and spirit. Grant to us eyes to see, ears to hear, and a grateful heart to give thanks to You for all Your kindness to us, and inspire us to be faithful in tithes and offerings and generous to those in need. Lord, in Your mercy,

## C hear our prayer.

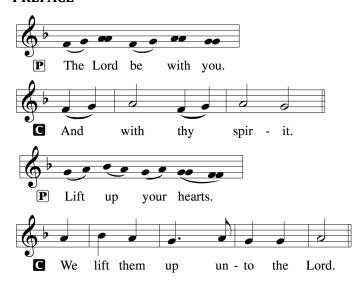
Additional petitions may be included here.

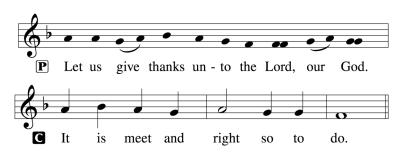
P As You are one, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, make us one people on earth, united in the confession of Your name, until that day when every barrier and division shall be overcome and Your church on earth and Your church in heaven shall be one forevermore; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray.

## C Amen.

#### + SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

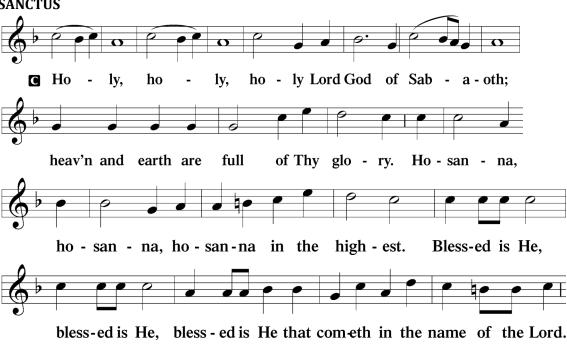
#### **PREFACE**





P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

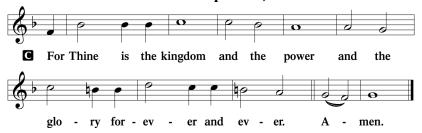




Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

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

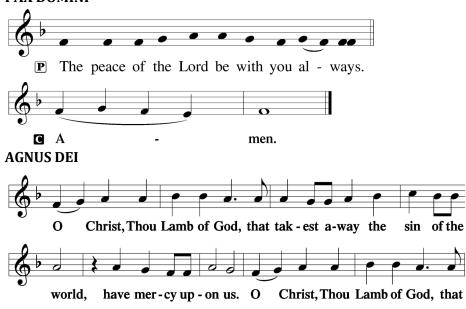
C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

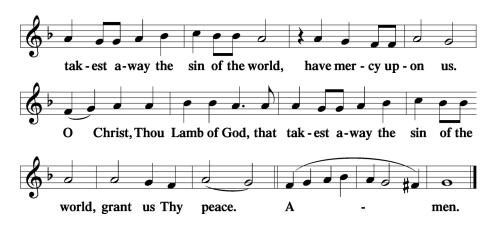


#### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

- 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





Please sit

#### DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

#### SILENT PRAYER before COMMUNING

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

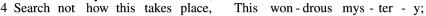
#### COMMUNION HYMN

## Your Table I Approach

LSB 628



- 2 Lord. I con-fess my sins
- And mourn their wretch-ed bands;
- bod y and Your blood,
- Once slain and shed for me,





un - re - pen-tant heart Prove hurt - ful to Let not an me there. con-trite heart is sure to find For - give-ness at Your hands. at Your ta - ble, Lord, In blest re - al - i - ty. God can ac - com-plish vast - ly more Than what we think could be.

5 O grant, most blessèd Lord, That earth and hell combined May not about this sacrament Raise doubt within my mind.

Oh, may I never fail 6 To thank You day and night For Your true body and true blood, O God, my peace and light.

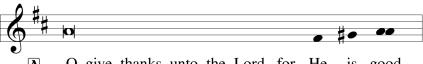
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#### Please stand

#### **NUNC DIMITTIS**



### **THANKSGIVING**



O give thanks unto the Lord, for He  $\mathbf{A}$ 



P Let us pray. Lord of heaven and earth, You are one Lord, and in unity You have delivered Your people from sin and its death to belong to You and to live under You in Your kingdom forevermore. What You have united as a people gathered around Your Word and Sacraments and what we confess before the world, we pray You to bless and prosper until all Your work in us is brought to completion; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## **BENEDICAMUS**



P The Lord be with you



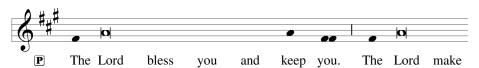
• And with thy spir - it.



A Bless we the Lord.



#### BENEDICTION





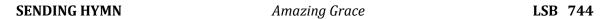
His face shine upon you and be gra-cious un - to you.

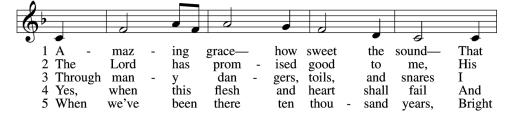


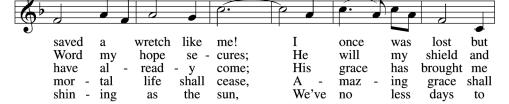
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.



Please sit









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### DISMISSAL

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

## **POSTLUDE**



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Portals of Prayer** for <u>January to March 2025</u> are available in the Narthex or office.

Join us for **Sunday School and Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Rev. Goetz is leading the class.

## January Activities

Family Confirmation Class, Thursdays @ 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Quarterly 4 Voters' Meeting Monday, January 27th, 2025 7:00 p.m.

# Men's Steak Night/Bible Study

Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. (Sign-up Sheet is posted on the church door.)

## Annual LWML Retreat 2025

"Stronger than Fiction: Sharing Faith in Story" by Sarah Baughman South Texas Retreat Registration Form Mid Coast, Coastal Bend, North Alamo, Rio Grande Valley Zones March 7 - 8, 2025 Spiritual Retreat Center, Victoria, Texas,

## Deadline Feb. 10, 2025

Registration Fee: \$100 March 8 Saturday only \$75

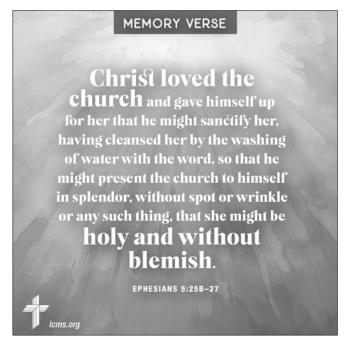
## Register and pay by mail with check made out to LWML - Mid Coast Zone:

Ronda Hartman 41243 Delma Road Hempstead, TX 77445 Phone: 713-569-8943

\* Complete Registration Form (including this info); is available in the Narthex

## Memory Verse Challenge:

This week's





Sermon Notes		
	Behold	
	I make	
	all things  → New+	
	Revelation 21:5	
	May God bless you this New Year!	



### 1/18/2025 Polka Fest Donations: \$ 533.00 Thrivent Grant: \$ 250.00 Total: \$ 783.00 - \$ 585.00 \$ 198.00 Expenditures

Total:

## The Lord Is Manifested as Our Savior through the Preaching of the Gospel

When Jesus opens His mouth to preach, gracious words flow from His lips. The Scriptures are, indeed, fulfilled in your hearing (Luke 4:21–22). For Christ was anointed by the Spirit of the Lord "to proclaim good news to the poor," "to proclaim liberty to the captives" and "to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor" (Luke 4:18–19). By this proclamation, Christ releases His people from captivity and gathers them to Himself in His Church. So it was when the Lord released His people from Babylon and returned them to Jerusalem. "Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people," sanctified the whole congregation by the reading and preaching of the Law (Neh. 8:8–9). As the people then were urged to "eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready" (Neh. 8:10), so are you anointed by the Spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ to share in His feast and to serve the fellow members of His Body with His good gifts, "giving greater honor to the part that lacked it" (1 Cor. 12:12, 24).

1/19/	2025			
Sunday Wors	ship	67		
Plate:			\$	579.00
Envelopes:		\$ 2	,618.00	
Envelopes-O	ther:			
Donation: <b>Ba</b>	seball Field		\$	75.00
Memorial:				
On line				
	Total:		\$ 3	,272.00
Bible Class:	29			\$ 28.00

## Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Jeremiah 1:4-10 (17-19)
Psalm 71:1-6 (7-11)
1 Corinthians 12:31b-13:13
Luke 4:31-44

	7 - 3:33			
	Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule			
	January Sunday Servants:	February Sunday Servants:		
Elder:	Don Vogel	Earl Neuhaus		
Altar Guild:	BJ Neuhaus/M Weber	S Wheling/RA Cisneros/M Perez		
Music:	Doris Pickering			
This Week	Third Sunday after Epiphany			
Usher:	Dan Wehling			
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Serv	vice 9:00 am		
	Sunday School & Adult Bible St	udy 10:30 am		
Next Week	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany			
Usher:	Earl Neuhaus			
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Serv	vice 9:00 am		
	Sunday School & Adult Bible St	udy 10:30 am		