#### FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

**FEBRUARY 2, 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

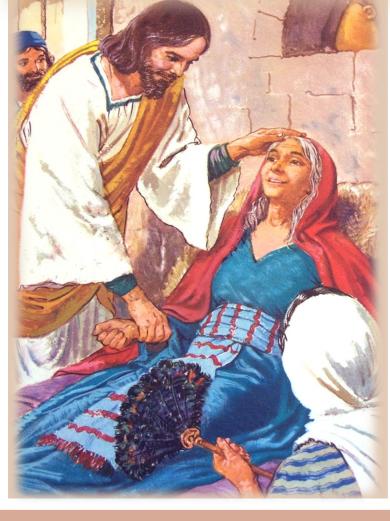
10:30 A.M. Adult Bible Class Sunday School

Holy Communion: Every Sunday

www.facebook.com/ Lutheranmercedes/

Website: Misionemanuel.com

Office Hrs, M-F 8:00 am to 12:00 pm CCLI # 2585510 So He stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. And immediately she arose and served them. (Luke 4:39)



#### FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY FEBRUARY 2, 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 Almighty God, You have raised up the faithful in every age and through their faithfulness have preserved the lineage and promise of Your own Son. Grant that I may be made worthy of my entrance into Your house through faith and be preserved in faithfulness of life and speech until my Savior presents me to the Father on high; through Jesus Christ, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.
- **AS WE GATHER** Although this day is about the purification of Mary according to the law and the presentation of Jesus as the firstborn of her womb, these are saving acts done on behalf of all of us. This is what Simeon acknowledges when he sings the Nunc Dimittis. Here is the promise of God kept in Christ for his salvation and for the redemption of the Gentiles. Here we see the face of God, the display of His mercy, and the glory long promised. We sing with Simeon in praise of our Savior, while acknowledging that in the Holy Sacrament we see our salvation every bit as much as Simeon saw it in the baby in his arms.

### **DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING THREE**

**PAGE 184** 

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

#### WELCOME

**OPENING HYMN** 

#### Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

LSB 435



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 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)

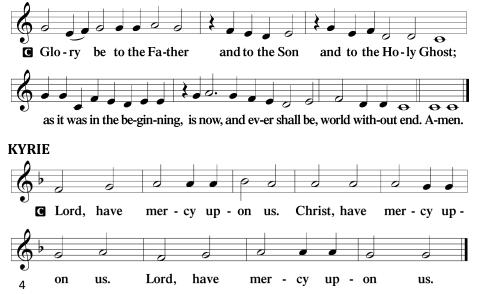
- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

### + SERVICE OF THE WORD +

### **INTROIT** *Psalm 48:1–3, 8; antiphon: v. 9*

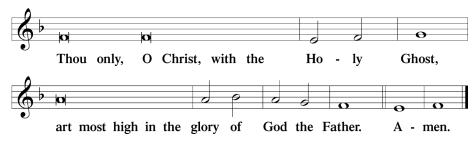
- P We have thought, O God, on Your lovingkindness, in the midst of Your temple.
- C Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in His holy mountain.
- P Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth, is Mount Zion on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.
- C God is in her palaces; He is known as her refuge.
- P As we have heard, so we have seen in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God: God will establish it forever.
- C We have thought, O God, on Your lovingkindness, in the midst of Your temple.

# **GLORIA PATRI**



#### **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**





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



P Almighty and ever-living God, as Your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple in the substance of our flesh, grant that we may be presented to You with pure and clean hearts; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Please sit

### **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Jeremiah 1:4-10, 17-19

4 Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying:

- 5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations."
- 6 Then said I:

"Ah, Lord God! Behold, I cannot speak, for I am a youth."

7 But the Lord said to me:

"Do not say, 'I am a youth,' for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and whatever I command you, you shall speak.

- 8 Do not be afraid of their faces, for I am with you to deliver you," says the Lord.
- 9 Then the Lord put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me: "Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.
- 10 See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out and to pull down, to destroy and to throw down, to build and to plant."
- 17 "Therefore prepare yourself and arise, and speak to them all that I command you. Do not be dismayed before their faces, lest I dismay you before them.
- 18 For behold, I have made you this day a fortified city and an iron pillar, and bronze walls against the whole land—against the kings of Judah, against its princes, against its priests, and against the people of the land.
- 19 They will fight against you, but they shall not prevail against you. For I am with you," says the Lord, "to deliver you."
- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God

# PSALM Psalm 71:1-11

- P In You, O Lord, I put my trust; let me never be put to shame.
- C Deliver me in Your righteousness, and cause me to escape; incline Your ear to me, and save me.
- P Be my strong refuge, to which I may resort continually; You have given the commandment to save me, for You are my rock and my fortress.
- C Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked, out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man.
- P For You are my hope, O Lord God; You are my trust from my youth.
- C By You I have been upheld from birth; You are He who took me out of my mother's womb. My praise shall be continually of You.
- P I have become as a wonder to many, but You are my strong refuge.
- C Let my mouth be filled with Your praise and with Your glory all the day.
- P Do not cast me off in the time of old age; do not forsake me when my strength fails.
- C For my enemies speak against me; and those who lie in wait for my life take counsel together,
- P Saying, "God has forsaken him; pursue and take him, for there is none to deliver him."

# **EPISTLE** 1 Corinthians 12:31b-13:13

31 And yet I show you a more excellent way.

13:1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. 2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

4 Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; 5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; 6 does not

rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

8 Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part. 10 But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.

11 When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. 12 For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.

13 And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

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

Please stand



HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 4:31-44

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



31 Then He went down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and was teaching them on the Sabbaths. 32 And they were astonished at His teaching, for His word was with authority. 33 Now in the synagogue there was a man who had a spirit of an unclean demon. And he cried out with a loud voice, 34 saying, "Let us alone! What have we to do with You, Jesus of Nazareth? Did You come to destroy us? I know who You are—the Holy One of God!" 35 But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be quiet, and come out of him!" And when the demon had thrown him in their midst, it came out of him and did not hurt him. 36 Then they were all amazed and spoke among themselves, saying, "What a word this is! For with authority and power He commands the unclean spirits, and they come out." 37 And the report about Him went out into every place in the surrounding region.

38 Now He arose from the synagogue and entered Simon's house. But Simon's wife's mother was sick with a high fever, and they made request of Him concerning her. 39 So He stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. And immediately she arose and served them. 40 When the sun was setting, all those who had any that were sick with various diseases brought them to Him; and He laid His hands on every one of them and healed them. 41 And demons also came out of many, crying out and saying, "You are the Christ, the Son of God!" And He, rebuking them, did not allow them to speak, for they knew that He was the Christ. 42 Now when it was day, He departed and went into a deserted place. And the crowd sought Him and came to Him, and tried to keep Him from leaving them; 43 but He said to them, "I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, because for this purpose I have been sent." 44 And He was preaching in the synagogues of Galilee.

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.





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SERMON

"Meet the Savior, Jesus of Nazareth!"

Luke 4:34-37

#### OFFERING

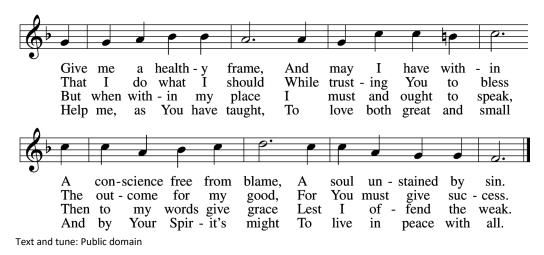
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**OFFERTORY** 

#### O God, My Faithful God

LSB 696 vs.1-4





# **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

"Peace be with you" [through use of American Sign Language]

# **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

P Knowing the faithfulness of God, let us come before Him in prayer for ourselves, for the church, and for all people as they have need.

Silence for prayer and meditation.

P Blessed Lord, we give You thanks for Joseph's watchful care over Jesus, for Mary's love for her Son, and for the faith of Simeon and Anna, who waited upon You to show them their Savior. Give us such watchful hearts, such love for Jesus, and such trust in Your Word, that we may wait upon Your will with joy and peace. Let us pray to the Lord.

### C Lord, have mercy.

P Gracious God, we thank You for the faithfulness of Hannah and those who in every generation have loved Your Word and served You. Keep, we pray, those who lead us in Synod and District, our pastor, all church workers, and those preparing for church work vocations. Guard them in Your Word that by their faithfulness we may be blessed and encouraged in faith and life in Christ. Let us pray to the Lord.

# C Lord, have mercy.

P Heavenly Father, make us ready like Simeon to depart and be with You, and keep us faithful as Anna in the days that You give us, that whether we live or die, we may rejoice that we belong to You and have seen our salvation in Christ Jesus. Let us pray to the Lord.

# C Lord, have mercy.

P Mighty Lord, we live in a world of danger and temptation. Grant us the blessing of good and faithful leaders who will hear and heed Your Word and good government so that the causes of justice and mercy may be accomplished among us. Let us pray to the Lord.

# C Lord, have mercy.

P Faithful Lord, You gave to Hannah the child of promise, and to Mary and Joseph You entrusted the care of Your own Son. Bless all husbands and wives, parents and children, (Continue on next page) 11 that our homes may be places of blessing and love and preserve the sacred character of life, especially for the aged and the unborn. Let us pray to the Lord.

# C Lord, have mercy.

P Merciful Father, behold in love those who suffer afflictions of body or mind and those whose hearts are weighed low with grief. Grant them a strong and sturdy faith in the days of their trial and deliver them from their troubles according to Your mercy. [Hear us especially for . . .] Let us pray to the Lord.

# C Lord, have mercy.

P Gracious Lord, You give food for the body and for the soul. Grant that we may feast upon Your Word by faith and with our lips taste Your goodness in the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, that what we here receive we may keep in holy hearts and lives. Let us pray to the Lord.

# C Lord, have mercy.

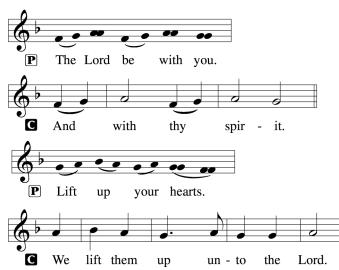
P Giving Lord, from You and to You are all things. Grant us to be wise and faithful stewards of all Your gifts, and fill us with generosity so that we may support the work of Your kingdom with tithes and offerings and care for the poor and the needy in love. Let us pray to the Lord.

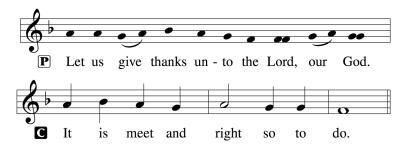
### C Lord, have mercy.

- P These and whatsoever things we should ask, we beg You to grant us for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.
- C Amen.

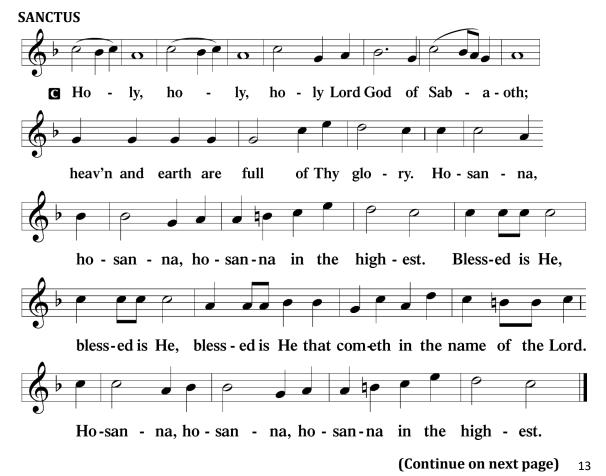
# + SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

### 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, who, sharing Your eternal splendor, was presented on this day in Your temple in the substance of our human flesh and revealed by the Spirit as the glory of Israel and the light of all peoples. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



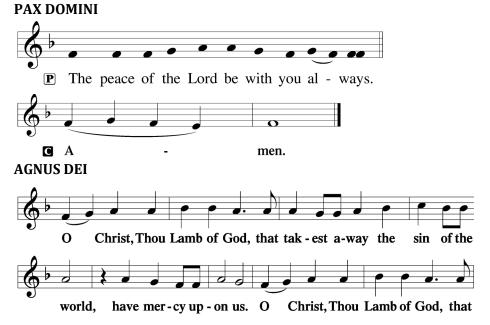
### LORD'S PRAYER (Matthew 6:9–13)

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."



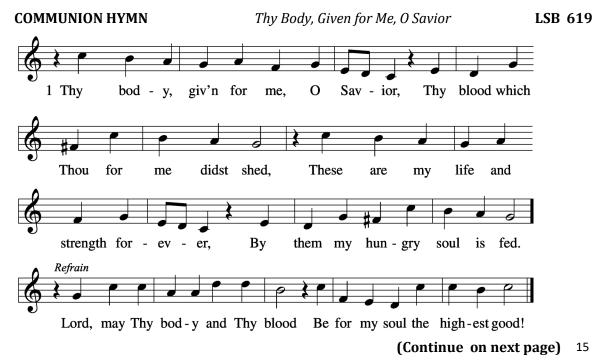


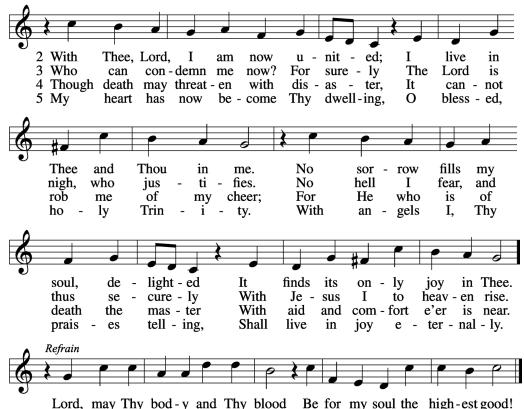
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### **DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

#### SILENT PRAYER before COMMUNING

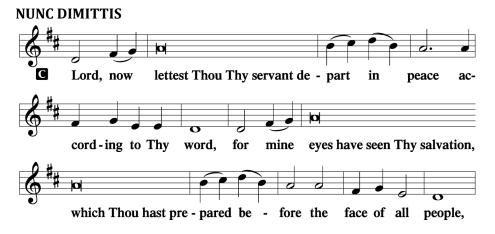
Heavenly Father, in my Holy Baptism you have called me to be Your own possession. Prepare my heart to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all my sins. Strengthen my faith, increase my love and hope, and assure me a place at Your heavenly table, where I will eat eternal 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.

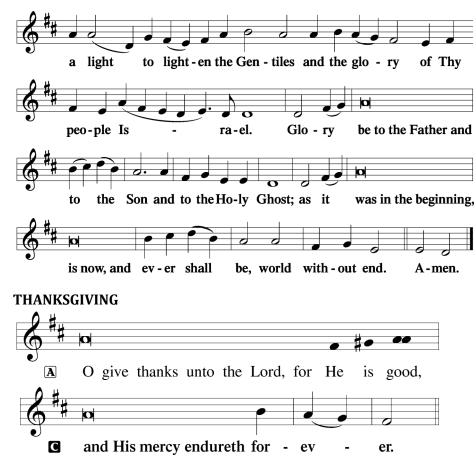




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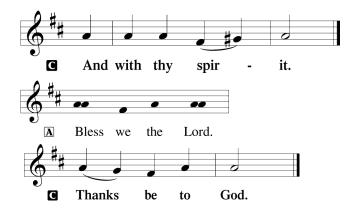




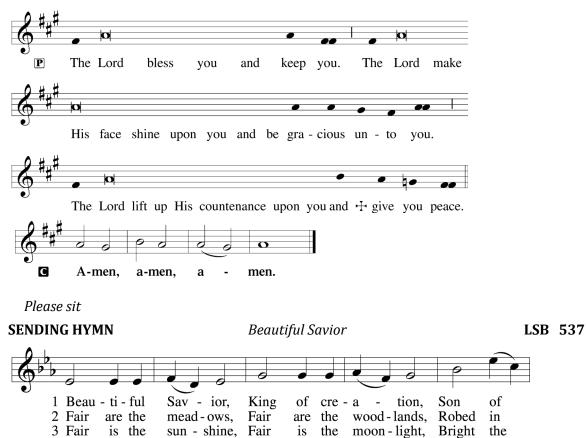
P Let us pray. Send Your Holy Spirit upon Your people, O Lord, that we who have heard Your Word may keep it in holy hearts and that we who have participated in the communion of Your Son's body and blood may be sanctified and preserved with all Your saints and come to eternal blessedness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.







#### **BENEDICTION**



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Sav - ior,

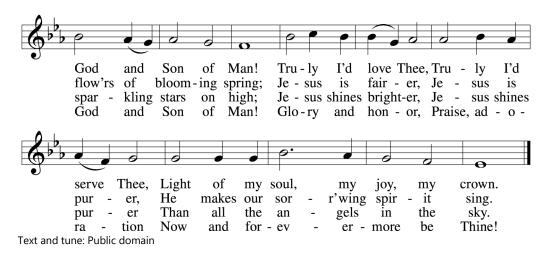
Lord

of the

na - tions,

Son

of



#### DISMISSAL

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

#### POSTLUDE

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men. Colossians 3:23

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# 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.

# February Activities

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

**Elders' Meeting** Tuesday, February 4th, 2025 9:00 a.m.

**Pastors' Círcuít Meeting** Tuesday, February 11th, 2025 9:00 a.m.

Men's Steak Níght/Bíble Study Tuesday, February 25th, 2025 6:00 p.m.

# <u>March Activities</u>

# Begins; Lent Season

Ash Wednesday Service March 5th, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m. with Soup Supper @ 5:00 p.m.

Annual LWML Retreat 2025 South Texas Retreat Míd Coast, Coastal Bend, North Alamo, Río Grande Valley Zones March 7 - 8, 2025 <u>Spírítual Retreat Center, Víctoría, Texas</u>,

\* Complete Registration Form (and info): is available in the Narthex

1 John 1:7

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

#### Psalm 71:17-19

God, you have taught me from my youth. Until now, I have declared your wondrous works. Yes, even when I am old and gray-haired, God, don't forsake me, until I have declared your strength to the next generation, your might to everyone who is to come. Your righteousness also, God, reaches to the heavens; you have done great things. God, who is like you?

Sermon Notes		
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# God Gives the Gift of a Child to Destroy Death

The Lord opened the barren womb of Hannah and gave her the gift of the son for whom she prayed, and in grateful response she presented and gave the child, Samuel, to the Lord's service. "As long as he lives, he is lent to the Lord" (1 Sam. 1:28). So, too, did Mary and Joseph present the Child promised from the fall, born of a virgin's womb. The true offering wasn't the turtledoves or young pigeons. It was the Child they carried. This Child has come to "destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery" (Heb. 2:14b–15). Set free by His advent in our flesh and the promise of what He would do "in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people" (Heb. 2:17b), Simeon and Anna rejoiced. We also rejoice, for we, too, can face death unafraid and "depart in peace" (Luke 2:29) when our time comes.

1/26/2025 Sunday Worship	87		
Plate:	\$ 1,021.00	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany	
Envelopes:	\$ 1,533.00	Tijen Sunday ajter Derphany	
Envelopes-Other:	÷ 1,353.00	Isaiah 6:1–8 (9–13)	
Donation: Cemetery	/ Fund \$ 300.00	Psalm 138	
Memorial:			
On line		1 Corinthians 14:12b–20	
Tota	al: \$ 2,854.00	Luke 5:1–11	
Bible Class: 23	\$ 27.00		
	Bi-Weekly Church Ac	tivity Schedule	
	February Sunday Serv		
Elder:	Earl Neuhaus		
Altar Guild:	Suzanne Wehling/Rose Ann Cisneros/Maribel Perez		
Music:	Doris Pickering/Pam Terral		
This Week	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany		
Usher:	Earl Neuhaus		
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service 9:00 am		
	Sunday School & Adu	lt Bible Study 10:30 am	
Next Week	Fifth Sunday after Epiph	any	
Usher:	Ken Eilers		
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service 9:00 am		
Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 am			