

Immanuel Lutheran Church

March 12, 2023

3rd Sunday in Lent



PRELUDE / GATHERING BELL / ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK AT CHURCH: MARCH 12 – MARCH 19

Sunday	Coffee Hour: Men's Group	9:30 AM
	Worship/Sunday School.....	10:30 AM
Monday	Men's Bible Study (Fireside Room)	8:00 AM
	Senior Meals Registration Deadline	9:00 AM
Tuesday	Senior Meals	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
	Chimers	5:30 PM
Wednesday	Soup Supper	6:00 PM
	Choir.....	6:30 PM
Friday	OFFICE CLOSED	
Sunday	Coffee Hour: WELCA.....	9:30 AM
	Worship/Holy Communion/Sunday School.....	10:30 AM

IN OUR PRAYERS: Dale Olsen, Vickie Hanson, Greg Sather, Bob Berg, Ruth Gullicksrud, Ramona Hanson, Joanne Brion, Edna Lopez, Peyton Danovski, Janet Cole, Jon Olson, Jeanette Berg, Mark Hanson, Ronnie Bjorgo, and Ron & Char Myhers.

SENIOR MEALS: Meals are served every Tuesday from 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM. Catered by Sweet Temptations. Reservations are required at least 24 hours in advance by calling 715-695-3511. Ages 60+. This week's menu: Corned Beef & Cabbage, Boiled Potatoes, Rutabagas, Carrots, and a Shamrock Cookie. Please call **BEFORE 9:00 AM** on Monday to reserve your spot.

SAVE THE DATE – KIDS NIGHT OUT: We are hosting a Kids Night Out on Friday, May 12 with the Luther Park Bible Camp Counselors at Immanuel from 6:30 PM until 10:00 PM for kids in grades K-6. Please call Michelle in the office to register by April 30.



RAISE THE ROOF \$40K MATCH CHALLENGE: Double the impact of your gift and help us raise the roof! All donations will be matched dollar for dollar by an anonymous donor up to \$40,000 for the roof over the chapel and education wing. (Current total: \$23,676.82)

LENTEN “ROUND ROBIN” WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Soup Supper 6 PM; Worship 7 PM

- March 15: Rev Paul Tobiason “Perseverance & Endurance”
Soup Supper Host – WELCA
- March 22: Rev Peter Jonas “Faithful in Prayer”
Soup Supper Host – ILC Council
- March 29: Rev Natalie Leske “Striving for Justice”
Soup Supper Host – Ding-a-Lings

Volunteers are also needed to prepare and serve Easter Dinner on Sunday, April 9. If you or your group would like to serve, please sign up in the Narthex or call Michelle in the church office, 715-695-3511.

MARCH USHERS: Ushers for March are Ronnie Bjorgo and Hensel Vold. Thank you Ronnie and Hensel. Anyone interested in helping to usher please call Julia at 715-695-2901 or Maxine at 715-695-3588.

LUTHER PARK BIBLE CAMP- SUMMER STAFF: Working at Luther Park is a chance to spend your summer in the Northwoods of Wisconsin exploring your faith as part of a supportive community and teaching youth as they encounter Christ in the outdoors. Want to join the Luther Park team? We are hiring faithful, dedicated, and energetic young adults who want to participate in a summer of ministry and community, with fun, games, music and life-long friendships along the way! If you know any college-aged people looking to have an unforgettable summer working at camp, have them visit lutherpark.org/summer-staff to apply.

LUTHER PARK BIBLE CAMP – VOLUNTEER NURSES: Luther Park is looking for volunteer nurses to help for a week at a time at camp. This is a great opportunity to grow in your faith and help ensure others can thrive in a safe and loving community. Meals and housing are provided, and your child attends camp for free the week that you are here. If you are interested, email info@lutherpark.org or call our office at 715-859-2215

LUTHER PARK BIBLE CAMP – SUMMER CAMP: Camper registration at Luther Park is open! Join us this summer as we explore the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries bible study curriculum “Holy Trinity, Wholly Love”. Register and pay in full by May 1st to receive our Early Bird Discount. Spots fill up fast, so visit lutherpark.org/summer-camp to register today!

“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.” – Revelation 22:13

Camperships are available through the church and/or Luther Park. Please call Michelle in the office for more information.

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE: April 5, 2023, 12:30 PM – 5:30 PM at the American Legion Post 459 on Mondovi Street (HWY 10) in Eleva. Sponsored by Eleva-Strum Honor Society Students. Contact Jessa Payne, District Nurse, to schedule an appointment at 715-695-2696 ext. 109. or paynejessa@esschools.k12.wi.us

COFFEE HOUR: Hosts needed for coffee hours. Sign-up sheets are located on the table in the main entrance of the church. Coffee hour can be set up as self-service if you would like to provide treats only. Michelle is more than happy to start the coffee.

READERS: We are seeking readers to read the lessons during Sunday worship. Readings are available by Thursday morning for the following Sunday service. Please contact Michelle in the church office if interested.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. **Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God’s mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal, **we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.**

Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, † forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

"O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts"

ELW 658



1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, the fount of
 2 We taste you, ev - er - liv - ing bread, and long to
 3 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our
 4 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our



life, the light of all: from ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -
 feast up - on you still; we drink of you, the foun - tain -
 chang - ing lot is cast; glad, when your smile on us you
 mo - ments fair and bright! Oh, chase the night of sin a -



parts we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.
 head; our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.
 turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.
 way! Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808–1887, alt.
 Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

"Jesus and the Poor Widow"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Exodus 17:1-7

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test

the LORD?” ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” ⁵The LORD said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 95

¹Come, let us sing to the LORD;

let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

²**Let us come before God’s presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

³For you, LORD, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.

⁴**In your hand are the caverns of the earth;
the heights of the hills are also yours.**

⁵The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.

⁶**Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

⁷For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God’s pasture and the sheep of God’s hand.

Oh, that today you would hear God’s voice!

⁸**“Harden not your hearts,
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.**

⁹There your ancestors tested me,
they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

¹⁰**Forty years I loathed that generation, saying,
‘The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.’**

¹¹Indeed I swore in my anger,
‘They shall never come to my rest.’ ”

SECOND LESSON

Romans 5:1-11

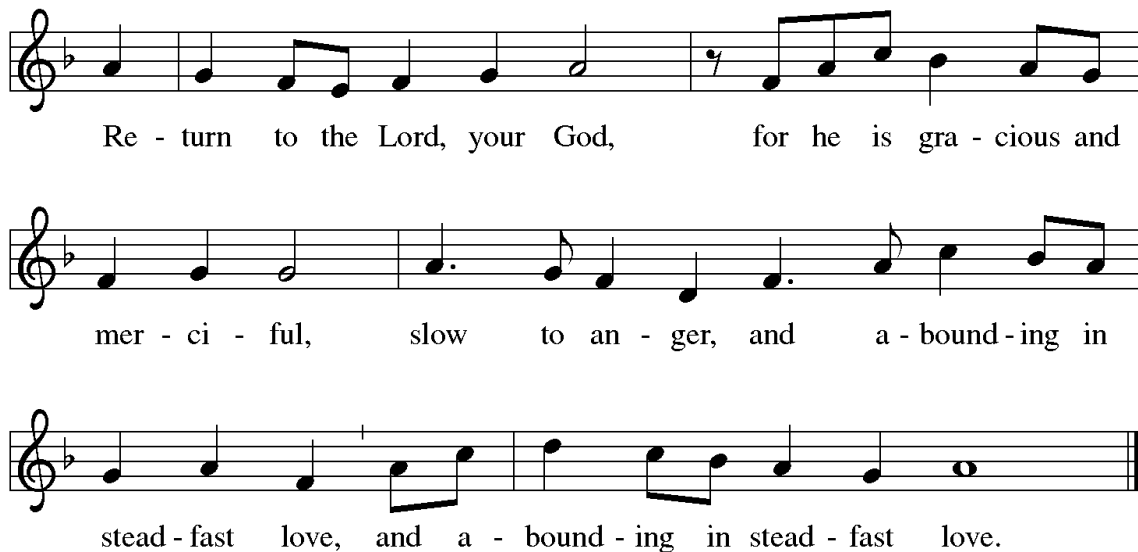
¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

This is the word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

p 142



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

The holy gospel according to John. *Glory to you, O Lord.*

⁵[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back."¹⁷The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband';¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet.²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."²⁵The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us."²⁶Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?"²⁸Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the

people, ²⁹“Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” ³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” ³²But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” ³³So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” ³⁴Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

The gospel of the Lord. ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

SERMON

Rev Valerian J Ahles

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Just As I Am”

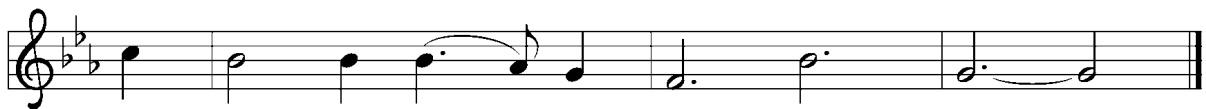
ELW 592



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y_a con - flict,
 3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,
 4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry



shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
 man - y_a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,
 cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,
 bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,



O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871
 Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

APOSTLES' CREED

p 105

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.***
***I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.***
***I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting.***

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Merciful God, *receive our prayer.*)

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

We pray for your church. Bless partnerships with other Christians and inter-religious dialogue. Guide the daily work of denominational and congregational leaders. Strengthen our combined witness for the sake of the gospel, that all experience your life-giving love. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the universe. All creation teems with life, from the depths of the earth and seas to the skies above. Fill us with awe and reverence for the diversity and preservation of life. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the nations of the world. Topple the dividing walls that separate us from our neighbors. Form us into your beloved community where diversity of gender, race, language, ability, and ethnic origin is celebrated and affirmed. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit. Be present with all who are lonely, and give courage to all who are afraid. Comfort those who live with chronic illness or other sickness (*especially*). Give them your living water always. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation, especially those preparing for baptism (*at the Vigil of Easter/on Easter Day*). Nurture their faith and pour your love into their hearts. Inspire our community by their testimony to God's grace in their lives. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for the lives of all your saints (*especially Gregory the Great, whom we commemorate today*). Their hope in you sustained lives of faith and service. Encourage us with the hope they shared in you. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

Sisters and brothers, rejoice and share the peace of the Lord with each other. Peace be with you! **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY HYMN

“Lamb of God”

Chancel Choir

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

***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.***

BLESSING

God, the giver of love, † Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey. ***Amen.***

SENDING HYMN

“Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song”

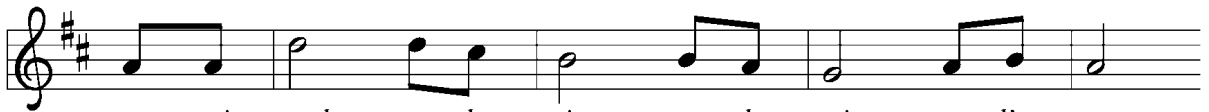
ELW 808



1 *Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te;*
 1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;
 2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
 3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,
 4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;



Jé - sus, je vou - drais t'an - non - cer à mes voi - sins par - tout,
 I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:
 May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.
 to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.
 but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.



car toi seul es la vie et la paix et l'a - mour:
 you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.
 May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
 For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.
 And with all of the fam - 'ly you saved by your love,



Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te.
 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.
 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant.
 we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.

Text: Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community; tr. Stephen Somerville, b. 1931
 Music: LES PETITES SOEURS. Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community
 Text and music © 1987 Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus
 Tr. © 1970 Stephen Somerville

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in love. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE