

Immanuel Lutheran Church and School

The Thread



February 22nd, 2026

Lectionary Summary:

The First Sunday in Lent (*Invocabit*)

Genesis 3:1–21
or 1 Samuel 17:40–51
2 Corinthians 6:1–10
or Hebrews 4:14–16
Matthew 4:1–11

Jesus Does Battle in Our Place

In the Garden, man exalts himself to be a god in place of God (Gen. 3:1–21). He succumbs to the temptation of the devil, and eating of the forbidden fruit, he receives death. But in the sin-cursed wilderness, God humbles Himself to become man in place of man (Mt. 4:1–11). He does not eat but fasts and bears the onslaughts of the devil for us that we may be restored to life. Jesus stands as David in our place to do battle against the Goliath, Satan (1 Samuel 17:40–51). Though outwardly Jesus appears weak, yet He comes in the name of the Lord of hosts. He draws from the five smooth stones of the books of Moses and slings the Word of God. The stone sinks into the forehead, and the enemy falls. In Christ we are victorious over the devil. Let us therefore not receive the grace of God in vain (2 Cor. 6:1–10), but seeing that we have a great High Priest, let us come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain help in time of need (Heb 4:14–16).



Sunday Divine Service - 9:00 am
Sunday Bible Study - 10:15 am

Contact Us:

Church & School Office
Office Hours: M–Fri: 7:30 am–3:30 pm
(618) 684-3012
secretary@immanuelmurphy.com

Pastor Matthew J. Christian
Office: (618) 684-3012 ext. 103
Cell: (260) 446-7953 call or text
pastor@immanuelmurphy.com

MEMORY VERSE

GOD SHOWS HIS LOVE
FOR US IN THAT WHILE
WE WERE STILL SINNERS,
CHRIST DIED
FOR US.

ROMANS 5:8



lcms.org

Live Broadcast

If you are unable to join us for church today, don't miss the opportunity to listen to our service live this morning at 9:00 a.m. on 103.9 FM WXAN. The radio broadcast re-airs on Sunday evenings at 9:00 p.m. You can also view the livestream or recording on our YouTube channel.

Church Announcements:

Wednesday Bible Study; New Time and Place:

Wednesday Bible Study will now be held from **10:00-11:00 a.m.** at **The Voyage** west building.

Pledge Cards: Pledge Cards for the 2026–2027 fiscal year are available on the table near the narthex.

These pledges help in the preparation of the yearly budget and allow us to remain good stewards of the gifts received. The pledges are not seen by anyone other than our bookkeeper as she prepares the budget. This year, we are needing an even clearer picture of the expected contributions as we need to fill at least one teaching position.

Please return your Pledge Card to the basket in the back of church or directly to the Church Office no later than **February 26**. The Board of Directors and Voters will be able to use the overall pledges to examine how we are best able to serve God as a congregation and provide for the ministry of His Word at our church and school while living within our means.

Spaghetti Spring Social: Come join us for our second annual Spaghetti Spring Social on March 1st, 10:30 am—1:00 pm. See details under School Announcements.

Voters Meeting: A special Voters Meeting will be held following the Divine Service on March 15th to revisit the motion made at our November meeting to call a teacher for Immanuel's 2026-2027 school year. Please plan to attend if you are a voting member.

Lenten Midweek Schedule:

February 25

What is Baptism?

5:30pm – Meal

6:30pm – Vespers

March 4

What benefits does Baptism give?

5:30pm – Meal

6:30pm – Vespers

March 11

How can water do such great things?

5:30pm – Meal

6:30pm – Vespers

March 18

What does such baptizing with water indicate?

5:30pm – Meal

6:30pm – Vespers

March 25

The Annunciation of Our Lord

5:30pm – Meal

6:30pm – Divine Service

School Announcements:

This is our last week for the pre-registration event. Families get to lock in a lower tuition rate by registering for the 2026-2027 school year by the end of the week. If you know of anyone seeking a Christ-centered education, please have them reach out to our office.

If you haven't already bought your tickets for the Spaghetti Spring Social, please do so. Meal tickets are \$12 each and include spaghetti with your choice of sauce (meat, marinara, or alfredo) plus salad and a breadstick. Lemonade, tea, and water will be served. These meals can be eaten at the event or taken to go. There will also be silent auction items and raffle items. Please join us for food, fun, and fellowship!

Save the Date:

- Thursday, March 5, 2026 will be the PreK Sing at 6pm; followed by the K-8 musical *Esther-Ordinary Faith* at 7pm. Both events will be in the school gym.
- The Pickleball Tournament from the fall has been rescheduled for Sunday, April 25 at Longfellow Park.
- VBS will be July 20-24. If you know anyone interested in volunteering their time and talents, please reach out to me.

Veronica Manwaring, Principal

Save the Date

Thursday, March 5, 2026



PreK Sing

6pm

School Gym



K-8 Musical

Esther-
Ordinary Faith

7pm

School Gym

+ + +
**KIDS IN THE
 DIVINE SERVICE**
 + + +

What is "Lent"?

Lent is a season of the Church Year that lasts six weeks. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends the day before Easter Sunday. During these six weeks we look forward to Good Friday, the day our Lord died on the cross to pay for our sins, and to Easter Sunday, the day He rose from the dead to prove it!



How can I remember to think about Jesus during Lent?

You can give up something you enjoy during Lent. You might see your parents give up their morning coffee. Maybe your brother or sister has decided not to eat candy during Lent. Every time you think about doing what you gave up for Lent, it will remind you of what Jesus gave up for you — His life! Blessings to you as you experience the wonderful journey of Lent!

Daily Lectionary Readings:

Join in the congregation's daily devotional life with this week's readings.

Date	Old Testament Reading	New Testament Reading
2/22	Genesis 4:1–26	Mark 2:18–28
2/23	Genesis 6:1—7:5	Mark 3:1–19
2/24	Genesis 7:11—8:12	Mark 3:20–35
2/25	Genesis 8:13—9:17 <i>Genesis 9:18—11:26</i>	Mark 4:1–20
2/26	Genesis 11:27—12:20	Mark 4:21–41
2/27	Genesis 13:1–18 <i>Genesis 14:1–24</i>	Mark 5:1–20
2/28	Genesis 15:1–21	Mark 5:21–43



MANAGE YOUR TIME WELL!
 LIFELONG DISCIPLESHIP STARTS TODAY!

THE 1% SOLUTION

*Will you dedicate just 1% of your time to the
 SPIRITUAL WELFARE OF
 YOU AND YOUR FAMILY?*



**In the Word & Prayer ...
 1% of Every Day**

Each day we live is a gift from the Lord. And He gives each of us the same amount of time each day: **1,440 minutes.**

Will you use 14 of those minutes, just 1% of the time the Lord has given you each day, to read the Bible and pray?



**In Worship ...
 1% of Every Week**

If you get the full 8 hours of sleep the doctor recommends each night, that leaves **112 waking hours** per week.

Will you spend just 1% of those hours to come to church each week and worship the Lord?



**GOD PROMISES TO BLESS THOSE
 WHO READ HIS WORD**

Deuteronomy 6:6–7: And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

John 8:31–32: Jesus said ... "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Psalms 19:9–10: The rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold.

2 Timothy 3:16–17: All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.



**GOD PROMISES TO
 HEAR THOSE WHO PRAY**

Matthew 7:7–8: [Jesus said,] "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened."

John 14:13–14: Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

Stewardship Thoughts:

Matthew 4:7

“Jesus said to him, ‘Again it is written.’”

Jesus defeats Satan in our place, not by using His power as God, but by His perfect obedience in His perfect humanity. Jesus defeats Satan not by miracles, but by quoting the Scriptures and living according to them. This should cause us great joy for two reasons. First, we see Jesus win the victory for us. Second, here Jesus shows us how to stand in that victory: on the Word of God alone.



Comfort, health, recovery:

† Those in the Armed Forces,
Law Enforcement, Fire,
Emergency Medical Services,
& Healthcare

† David Arbeiter

† Sue Beckman

† Leah Carter

† Terry Estel

† Joyce Evans

† Rev. Gail Heimgartner

† Margaret Hoppe

† David Imhoff

† Marilyn Imhoff

† Ben Julkowski

† Evelyn Kennedy

† Virginia Lewis

† Ron Manwaring

† Nelda Miesner

† James Morber

† Arlene Parton

† Casey Phillips

† Henry Phillips Jr.

† Randall Phillips

† Don Porter

† Alberta Reiman

† Amanda Reinhardt

† Ina Rothe

† Randy Stoffel

† Richard Weber

† Sue Williams

† Carol Zobel

Expecting Mothers:

† Kari Winters

Anniversaries:

† No anniversaries this week

Birthdays:

† 2-23 Colin Clendenin

† 2-23 Haley Hollmann

† 2-23 Madison Stanton

† 2-25 Michael Boese

† 2-25 Valerie Draves

† 2-26 Greg Vaughn

† 2-26 Joseph Graff

† 2-26 Maybree Karg

† 2-26 Garrett Hollmann

† 2-26 Graham Hollmann

† 2-27 Marshall Meade

† 2-28 Charles James

† 2-28 Nelda Miesner

† 2-28 Maebry Presutti

† 2-28 Kelly Ratzel

† 2-29 Anthony Batson

Baptismal Anniversaries:

† 2-22 Loraine Cramer

† 2-22 Carol Zobel

† 2-23 Ruth Mueller

† 2-26 Allison Svanda

Immanuel Families:

† Kim McRoberts

† Staci Middendorf

† Brent, Sadie & Maebrie Middendorf

Offering Income from last week:

February 15th, 2026:

Regular Offerings \$ 4,195.00

Loose Plate \$ 134.00

Total Offerings \$ 4,329.00

Attendance:

February 15th: 80

Service Participants - This and Next Week

Sunday, February 22nd, 2026

Celebrant & Preacher: Rev. Matthew Christian

Organist: Corey Williams

Elder: Charlie Homan

Ushers: Bryan Hollmann, Orval Rowe, Josh Proctor,
Charlie Homan, Henry Phillips & Scott Maloney

Altar Guild: Sue Williams

Acolyte: Frankie Flores

Sunday, March 1st, 2026

Celebrant & Preacher: Rev. Matthew Christian

Organist: Landon Hicks

Elder: Jeff Streuter

Ushers: Rick Fager, Jeff Streuter, Chuck Closson, Mike
Boese, Brett Closson & Kevin Boester

Altar Guild: Patti Proctor

Acolyte: Gage Pittman

Prepare for Worship Next Week:

March 1

Second Sunday in Lent (*Reminiscere*)

Hymn of the Day:

LSB 656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Readings:

Genesis 3:1–21

or 1 Samuel 17:40–51

2 Corinthians 6:1–10

or Hebrews 4:14–16

Matthew 4:1–11





March BIRTHDAYS

3-1 Patti Proctor
 3-1 Bruce Davis
 3-2 Joshua Proctor
 3-2 Zoey Cox
 3-3 Robert Boulton
 3-4 Vickie Hollmann
 3-6 Kent James
 3-6 Bowan Mueller
 3-10 Andrew Winters
 3-12 Amy Hoppenstedt
 3-13 Brad Fager
 3-13 Blaire Manwaring
 3-14 Betty Beckman
 3-14 Ron Manwaring
 3-15 Scott Wheeler
 3-16 Miles Franzen
 3-17 Andrew Cramer
 3-19 Adelynn Streuter

3-19 Christopher Alvey
 3-20 Lori Graff
 3-20 Mary Beth Varner
 3-22 Julie Cason
 3-23 Anthony Spurgeon
 3-24 Kallie Winters
 3-25 Eric Clendenin
 3-25 Chloe Barnett
 3-27 Malcolm Todd
 3-29 Jeff Streuter
 3-29 Kelly Batson
 3-30 Calvyn Karg
 3-30 Nolan Stephens
 3-30 Martin Stephens
 3-31 Olivia Herring
 3-31 Jolene Morber
 3-31 Molly Stephens

Altar Guild

Patti Proctor

Ushers

Rick Fager
 Jeff Streuter
 Chuck Closson
 Mike Boese
 Brett Closson
 Kevin Boester

Elders

3-1 Jeff Streuter
 3-4 Jeff Streuter
 3-8 Bryan Hollmann
 3-11 Charlie Homan
 3-15 Mike Clough
 3-18 Mike Clough
 3-22 TBD
 3-25 TBD
 3-29 Charlie Homan

Acolytes

3-1 Gage Pittman
 3-8 Jackson Fager
 3-15 Ryker Gregory
 3-22 Eli Pittman
 3-29 Frankie Flores

Organists

3-1 Landon Hicks
 3-4 Landon Hicks
 3-8 Luella McComb
 3-11 Luella McComb
 3-15 Corey Williams
 3-18 Luella McComb
 3-22 Landon Hicks
 3-25 Landon Hicks
 3-29 Luella McComb



March ANNIVERSARIES

3-4 Will & Molly Stephens
 3-10 Jim & Charla Alvey
 3-25 David & Haley Hollmann



CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

Oh God

AND RENEW IN ME A RIGHT

SPIRIT WITHIN ME

PSALM 51:10



March 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 am Div. Service PreK students Sing 10:30 am—1:00 pm Spaghetti Spring Social	2 5:00 pm LWML Mtg. 6:30 pm Elders Mtg.	3 Pastor at Winkel 6:30 pm School Board Mtg.	4 8:30 am Chapel 10:00 am Bible Study 5:30 pm Lenten Meal 6:30 pm Lenten Vespers	5 6:00 pm PreK Sing 7:00 pm K-8 Musical	6 Pastor's Day Off End of 3rd Quarter	7
8 Daylight Savings Starts 9:00 am Divine Service 10:15 am Bible Study / Sunday School 11:30 am Catechesis	9 No School - Spring Break	10 No School - Spring Break	11 No School - Spring Break 10:00 am Bible Study 5:30 pm Lenten Meal 6:30 pm Lenten Vespers	12 No School - Spring Break	13 No School - Spring Break Pastor's Day Off	14
15 9:00 am Div. Service 10:15 am Voters Mtg./ Bible Study/Sun. School 11:30 am Catechesis 2:00-5:00 pm Paint Party	16 6:30 pm BoD Mtg.	17	18 8:30 am Chapel 10:00 am Bible Study 5:30 pm Lenten Meal 6:30 pm Lenten Vespers	19	20 Pastor's Day Off	21
22 9:00 am Div. Service 10:15 am Bible Study/ Sunday School 11:30 am Catechesis 3:00-5:00 pm Baby Shower	23	24	25 The Annunciation 8:30 am Chapel 10:00 am Bible Study 5:30 pm Lenten Meal 6:30 pm Divine Service	26	27 Pastor's Day Off Noon Dismissal	28
29 Palm Sunday 9:00 am Divine Service 10:15 am Bible Study/ Sunday School 11:30 am Catechesis	30	31				