

Immanuel Lutheran Church and School

The Thread

March 8th, 2026



Lectionary Summary:

The Third Sunday in Lent (*Oculi*)

Exodus 8:16–24
or Jeremiah 26:1–15
Ephesians 5:1–9
Luke 11:14–28

Jesus Overcomes the Strong Man

Jeremiah was charged with speaking evil when he spoke the Word of the Lord (Jer. 26:1–15). So also, Jesus is accused of doing evil when in fact He is doing good. He casts out a demon from a mute man so that he is able to speak (Luke 11:14–28). But some said Jesus did this by the power of Beelzebub, Satan. Like Pharaoh of old, their hearts were hard (Ex. 8:16–24). They did not recognize the finger of God, the power of the Holy Spirit at work in and through Jesus. Jesus is the Stronger Man who overcomes the strong man. He takes the devil's armor of sin and death and destroys it from the inside out by the holy cross. He exorcizes and frees us by water and the Word. We were once darkness, but now we are light in Christ the Lord (Eph. 5:1–9). As children of light, our tongues are loosed to give thanks to Him who saved us.



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

HE IS THE PROPITIATION
FOR OUR SINS, AND NOT
FOR OURS ONLY BUT ALSO
FOR THE SINS OF
THE WHOLE WORLD.

1 JOHN 2:2

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:

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.

Congregation Baby Shower: Join us in celebrating with Andrew and Kari Winters as they anticipate the birth of their son. We will have a baby shower on March 22 from 3:00–5:00 pm. All are welcome to attend as we celebrate God's gift of life.

Youth Event: Join area Lutheran youth on Sunday, March 22, 2026 from 3:00–6:00 pm at the SIU Rec Center. Planned activities include the climbing wall, perhaps the bouldering cave, some general rec activities, and team building exercises. (for the climbing wall, minimum weight is 50 pounds / bouldering cave, must be at least 12 years old.)

Please let Pastor know by March 12 if your child will be attending the event so that all necessary waiver forms may be turned in ahead of time.

School Announcements:

THANK YOU to all who supported the Spaghetti Spring Social! From receiving donations, donating supplies, creating the baskets, setting up the event, purchasing meal tickets, bidding on items, running the event, and cleaning up the event... the event was a success because of YOU! ILS greatly appreciates your support!

The students did a PHENOMENAL JOB on their PreK Sing and K-8 musical on Thursday evening. Please find photos from these events on our Facebook page. A special thank you to Cindy Gregory for donating items for a concession stand and for running the concession stand. The snacks were a great addition to the program.

Save the Date:

- 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

Lenten Service Schedule:

March 11

How can water do such great things?

5:30pm – Meal (School Board providing desserts)
6:30pm – Vespers

March 18

What does such baptizing with water indicate?

5:30pm – Meal (LWML providing desserts)
6:30pm – Vespers

March 25

The Annunciation of Our Lord

5:30pm – Meal (BoD providing desserts)
6:30pm – Divine Service

April 2

Holy (Maundy) Thursday

6:30pm – Divine Service

April 3

Good Friday

6:30pm – Tenebrae Vespers

April 4

The Vigil of Easter

6:30pm – Divine Service

+ + +
KIDS IN THE
DIVINE SERVICE
+ + +



Hey! What happened to the "a" word?

There's one word we often use in the Church that isn't used during Lent. Usually we use it after responsories, antiphons and other parts of our worship. Have you guessed what the word is yet? If you guessed "alleluia," then you are right. We stop singing and saying "alleluia" during Lent and won't speak it again until Easter morning.

What does "alleluia" mean and why don't we say it during Lent?

"Alleluia" is a Hebrew word that means "Praise the Lord." Since we focus on the sufferings and death of Jesus during Lent, we stop using this joyful word until we celebrate Jesus' glorious resurrection. On Easter morning the first words you hear will be: "The Lord is risen. He is risen indeed! Alleluia!"

Parents:

During worship, help your children to look for places in the service where "alleluia" has been omitted. Notice the red writing in the hymnal. These words will help to point out when and where we might use or refrain from using the "a" word.

A

Weekly Small Catechism Readings:

The following chart may be used to pray through the entire Small Catechism weekly.

Sunday <i>Before Divine Service</i>	Christian Q & A
Sunday <i>After Divine Service</i>	Table of Duties
Monday	The Ten Commandments
Tuesday	The Creed
Wednesday	The Lord's Prayer
Thursday	The Sacrament of Holy Baptism
Friday	Confession
Saturday	The Sacrament of the Altar

Daily Lectionary Readings:

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

Date	Old Testament Reading	New Testament Reading
3/8	Genesis 27:30–45; 28:10–22	Mark 9:1–13
3/9	Genesis 29:1–30 <i>Genesis 29:31—34:31</i>	Mark 9:14–32
3/10	Genesis 35:1–29	Mark 9:33–50
3/11	Genesis 37:1–36	Mark 10:1–12
3/12	Genesis 39:1–23	Mark 10:13–31
3/13	Genesis 40:1–23	Mark 10:32–52
3/14	Genesis 41:1–27	Mark 11:1–19



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?

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD



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.

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Stewardship Thoughts:

Luke 11:21–22 “When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil.”

Jesus has disarmed Satan in a most unusual way: He has disarmed him by allowing Satan to cast all his weapons into Jesus. Satan has nothing left to attack us with — he spent it all on Jesus. And now Jesus is our stronger man. He guards and keeps us and ours. We have none to fear.



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
- † Cindy Fager
- † Margaret Hoppe
- † David Imhoff
- † Marilyn Imhoff
- † 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:

† 3-10 Jim & Charla Alvey

Birthdays:

† 3-10 Andrew Winters
† 3-12 Amy Hoppenstedt
† 3-13 Brad Fager
† 3-13 Blaire Manwaring
† 3-14 Betty Beckman
† 3-14 Ron Manwaring

Baptismal Anniversaries:

† 3-11 Cole Lattan
† 3-12 Samuel Herring

Immanuel Families:

† Jolene Morber
† Thomas & Jean Morgan
† Craig Mueller



Offering Income from last week:

March 1st, 2026:

Regular Offerings	\$6,365.00
Loose Plate	\$2,458.00
Lenten	\$230.00
LERT	\$150.00
Total Offerings	\$9,203.00

Restricted Funds:

Funeral Committee Fund	\$100.00
Church Memorials	\$400.00
Building Fund	\$25.00

Attendance:

March 1st: 139

Service Participants - This and Next Week

Sunday, March 8th, 2026

Celebrant & Preacher: Rev. Matthew Christian

Organist: Luella McComb

Elder: Bryan Hollmann

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

Altar Guild: Patti Proctor

Acolyte: Ryker Gregory

Sunday, March 15th, 2026

Celebrant & Preacher: Rev. Matthew Christian

Organist: Corey Williams

Elder: Mike Clough

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

Altar Guild: Patti Proctor

Acolyte: Jackson Fager

Prepare for Worship Next Week:

March 15

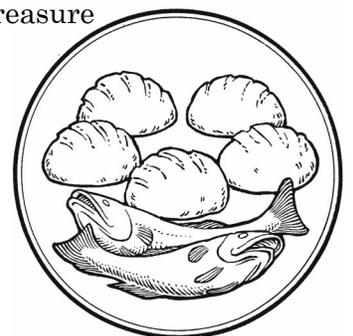
Fourth Sunday in Lent (*Laetare*)

Hymn of the Day:

LSB 743 Jesus, Priceless Treasure

Readings:

Exodus 16:2–21
or Isaiah 49:8–13
Galatians 4:21–31
or Acts 2:41–47
John 6:1–15





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 Jeff Streuter
 3-25 Jeff Streuter
 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 Luella McComb
 3-8 Luella McComb
 3-11 Landon Hicks
 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 5:30 pm Lenten Meal 6:30 pm Lenten Vespers	12 No School - Spring Break Deadline to sign-up for Youth Event	13 No School - Spring Break Office Closed 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 3:00–6:00 pm Youth Event	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				