

Immanuel Lutheran Church and School

The Thread

April 5th, 2026



Lectionary Summary:

The Resurrection of Our Lord

Job 19:23–27

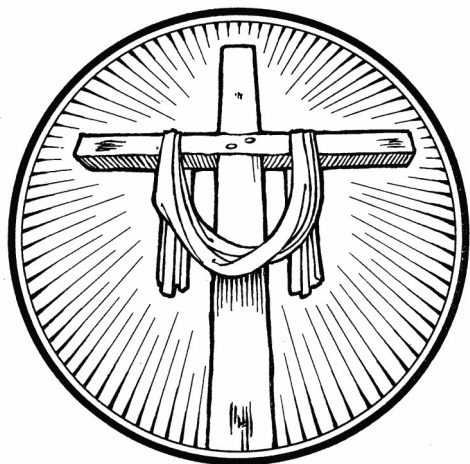
1 Corinthians 5:6–8

or 1 Corinthians 15:51–57

Mark 16:1–8

Christ's Resurrection Means That We Will One Day Be Raised

“Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed” (1 Cor. 5:7). By the shed blood of Christ, the Lamb of God, eternal death has passed over us. Now we pass with Christ through death into life everlasting. For Christ the crucified One is risen! The stone has been rolled away from the tomb, revealing that the tomb could not hold Him (Mark 16:1–8). Now our Redeemer lives eternally to save us from sin and Satan and the grave, and we can live in the sure hope of our own bodily resurrection with Christ. *“After my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God”* (Job 19:26). Feasting on the living Christ, who is our meat and drink indeed, we boldly say: *“O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting? ... But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ”* (1 Cor. 15:54–55, 57).



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

Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

ROMANS 10:9–10



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:

Kroger Community Rewards: If you have a Kroger Card, you can select Immanuel as an organization to receive a percentage of your payment every shopping trip. Contact the Church Office if you would like help setting this up on the Kroger app or website.

Seminary Assistance: Micah Mayes, son of Pastor Ted Mayes, wrote to our congregation to let us know that he will begin seminary courses this June at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne. He asks for our prayers and for help during this time. Although the seminary graciously covers 100% of tuition, living expenses remain the students' responsibility. Housing, food, insurance, and books are ongoing expenses during this time of study. If you would be inclined to provide financial support for Micah, his wife Bethany, and their children Matthias and Lila in these costs, please contact Pastor Christian for the information on how to help. Please keep Micah and his family in your prayers during these exciting and important years.

+ + +
KIDS IN THE
DIVINE SERVICE
+ + +

If all Jesus had to do was die, then why is Easter such a big deal?

Easter is a very important day. Easter is the day that we celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

After Jesus was crucified, His disciples were very sad. It seemed like their God and friend had been defeated and killed. They had forgotten that Jesus told them that He would rise from the dead. They must have thought Mary Magdalene was crazy when she told them that Jesus had appeared to her at the tomb where He was buried. But her story was true! Jesus was alive! He had risen from the dead!

Later, Jesus appeared to His disciples many times to prove it. And that's just what He did, *He proved it!* By His resurrection, He proved to the world that He was victorious over death and paid for our sins completely. Now, the first words you hear in church on Easter Sunday are: "The Lord is risen. He is risen indeed! Alleluia!"



Parents: Help your children to recognize the different places in our worship service which speak of Jesus' resurrection (the Creed is a good example). Point out some of the symbols in the church that might aid in their understanding of the resurrection. Remind them that we join in His resurrection through our Baptism!



School Announcements:

He is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

The students at ILS each created their own set of Resurrection Eggs to take home. Our middle schoolers assisted the younger students in cutting out the items that went inside the eggs, as well as the cards that had the Bible verse to match each image. We hope the families enjoy using these to retell the story of Jesus' death and resurrection.

Save the Date:

- Free Will Offering Rummage Sale: collecting items May 11–15 and 18–21 from 7:30am–3:30pm. Sale will run Friday, May 22 from 7am-5pm and Saturday, May 23 from 8am–12pm. All proceeds will benefit the scholarship fund.
- 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



Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

FREE WILL OFFERING RUMMAGE SALE!

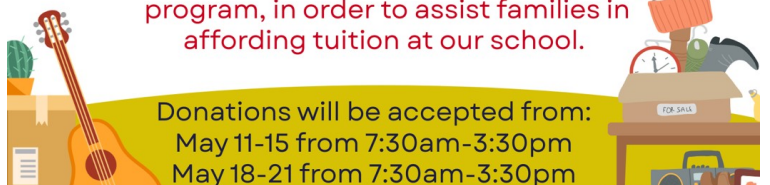
Friday, May 22 from
7:00AM - 5:00PM
Saturday, May 23 from
8:00AM-12:00PM

1915 Pine Street
Murphysboro, IL



All proceeds will benefit our scholarship program, in order to assist families in affording tuition at our school.

Donations will be accepted from:
May 11-15 from 7:30am-3:30pm
May 18-21 from 7:30am-3:30pm



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
4/5	Exodus 14:10–31	Hebrews 7:23—8:13
4/6	Exodus 15:1–18	Hebrews 9:1–28
4/7	Exodus 15:19—16:12	Hebrews 10:1–18
4/8	Exodus 16:13–35	Hebrews 10:19–39
4/9	Exodus 17:1–16	Hebrews 11:1–29
4/10	Exodus 18:5–27	Hebrews 12:1–24
4/11	Exodus 19:1–25	Hebrews 13:1–21



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:

Mark 16:6

“And he said to them, ‘Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; He is not here.’”

The Good News is not just that Jesus is risen, but that He is risen to bless us — there is no need to be alarmed. He still calls us His friends and brothers and means to bring us through death to resurrection as well. The Lord is risen, He is risen indeed!



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

† Virgil Gramenz

† David Imhoff

† Marilyn Imhoff

† 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

† Larry Troue

† Richard Weber

† Sue Williams

† Carol Zobel

Expecting Mothers:

† Moriah Christian

Wedding Anniversaries:

† 4-5 Irv & Rose Cartwright

† 4-5 Jason & Jessica Svanda

Birthdays:

† 4-5 Cindy Gregory

† 4-6 Zack Cason

† 4-6 Mikah Streuter

† 4-10 Gerald Strothmann

† 4-11 Cindy Boester

† 4-11 Shawn MacFarlane

† 4-11 Sam Heiple

Baptismal Anniversaries:

† 4-4 Nancy Wright

† 4-5 Michael Boese

† 4-5 Jean Clough

† 4-6 Ray Miesner

† 4-6 Sue Williams

† 4-6 Sadie Middendorf

† 4-7 Larry Troue

† 4-7 Michelle Reames

† 4-8 Ryker Gregory

† 4-10 Charles James

Immanuel Families:

† Henry, Jeri & Ella Phillips

† Megan, Eli & Gage Pittman & Zoey Cox

† Don Porter

Offering Income from last week:

March 29th, 2026:

Regular Offerings \$3,585.00

Loose Plate \$52.00

Lent Offerings \$110.00

Total Offerings \$3,747.00

Restricted Funds:

School Scholarship \$5,000.00

Altar Guild \$600.00

Attendance: 85

Service Participants - This and Next Week

Sunday, April 5th, 2026

Celebrant & Preacher: Rev. Matthew Christian

Organist: Landon Hicks

Elder: Mike Clough

Ushers: Forrest Miesner, Bruce Mueller, Craig Mueller, Kent James, Rick Varner & Rob Hicks

Altar Guild: Judy Baird

Acolyte: Ryker Gregory

Sunday, April 12th, 2026

Celebrant & Preacher: Rev. Matthew Christian

Organist: Corey Williams

Elder: Charlie Homan

Ushers: Forrest Miesner, Bruce Mueller, Craig Mueller, Kent James, Rick Varner & Rob Hicks

Altar Guild: Judy Baird

Acolyte: Jackson Fager

Prepare for Worship Next Week:

April 12

Second Sunday of Easter (*Quasimodo Geniti*)

Hymn of the Day:

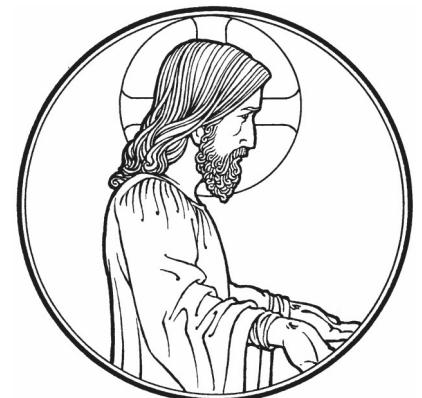
LSB 470 O Sons and Daughters of the King

Readings:

Ezekiel 37:1–14

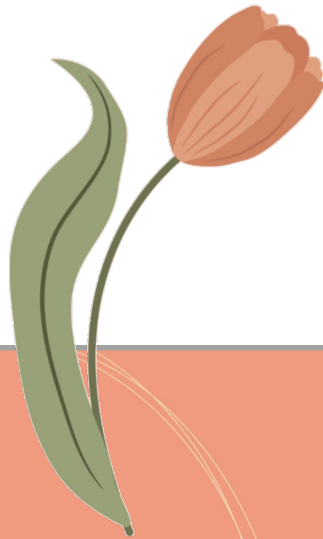
1 John 5:4–10

John 20:19–31





- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 4-3 Cindy Fager | 4-17 Moriah Christian |
| 4-3 Brooks MacFarlane | 4-20 Matthew Mayberry |
| 4-4 Carolyn Stankovich | 4-21 Megan Pittman |
| 4-5 Cindy Gregory | 4-21 Jo Troue |
| 4-6 Zack Cason | 4-21 Jaxson Smith |
| 4-6 Mikah Streuter | 4-25 Larry Troue |
| 4-10 Gerald Strothmann | 4-25 Ella Phillips |
| 4-11 Cindy Boester | 4-26 Aubrey Winters |
| 4-11 Shawn MacFarlane | 4-28 Judy Baird |
| 4-11 Sam Heiple | 4-29 Kelly Lattan |
| 4-12 Tony Cramer | |
| 4-14 Janet Estel | |
| 4-14 Matthew Proctor | |
| 4-17 Corey Williams | |



Altar Guild

Judy Baird

Ushers

Forrest Miesner
 Bruce Mueller
 Craig Mueller
 Kent James
 Rick Varner
 Rob Hicks

Acolytes

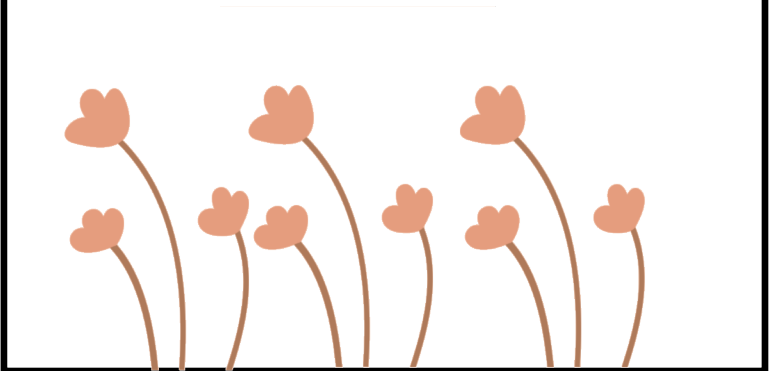
4-5 Ryker Gregory
 4-12 Jackson Fager
 4-19 Gage Pittmann
 4-26 Frankie Flores

Elders

4-2 Jeff Streuter
 4-3 Bryan Hollmann
 4-4 Mike Clough
 4-5 Mike Clough
 4-12 Charlie Homan
 4-19 Bryan Hollmann
 4-26 Mike Clough

Organists

4-2 Luella McComb
 4-3 Luella McComb
 4-4 Landon Hicks
 4-5 Landon Hicks
 4-12 Corey Williams
 4-19 Luella McComb
 4-26 Landon Hicks



- 4-5 Irv & Rose Cartwright
 4-5 Jason & Jessica Svanda
 4-13 Eric & April Hollmann
 4-16 Chancey & Vickie Hickman
 4-16 Bruce & Laura Lynn Mueller
 4-25 Lloyd & Ruth Mueller
 4-28 Rick & Mary Beth Varner
 4-29 Brian & Julie Marik



April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 8:30 am Chapel	2 Maundy Thursday School Easter Parties 6:30 pm Divine Service	3 Good Friday No School Office Closed 6:30 pm Vespers Service	4 Holy Saturday 6:30 pm Vigil of Easter Divine Service
5 Easter Sunday 7:30-8:30 am Easter Breakfast 9:00 am Divine Service	6 No School - Easter Monday	7 6:30 pm School Board Mtg.	8 8:30 am Chapel 10:00 am Bible Study	9	10 Pastor's Day Off	11
12 9:00 am Div. Service 10:15 am Bible Study/ Sunday School 11:30 am Catechesis	13 6:30 pm Elders Mtg.	14 Pastor at Circuit Winkel	15 8:30 am Chapel 10:00 am Bible Study	16	17 Pastor's Day Off	18
19 9:00 am Div. Service 10:15 am Bible Study/ Sunday School 11:30 am Catechesis	20 6:30 pm BoD Mtg.	21	22 8:30 am Chapel 10:00 am Bible Study	23	24 Pastor's Day Off Noon Dismissal	25
26 9:00 am Div. Service ILS K-8 Students Sing 10:15 am Bible Study/ Sunday School 11:30 am Catechesis	27	28	29 8:30 am Chapel 10:00 am Bible Study	30		

LCMS Stewardship:

A Better Way

The most common question about stewardship is not whether a Christian should give to their church. Of course Christians should give to their church. Everyone knows this. Rather, the question asked most is, “How much should I give?” But this question really means, “Should Christians give a tenth of their income to their local congregation?”

Here are some common reasons against tithing. Some say tithing isn’t necessary because it isn’t expressly commanded in the New Testament. There is no “Thus saith the Lord,” or “should” concerning tithing. Others say that Christians give to their congregation in ways much broader than money. They give of their time and their talents, and these together with treasures (money) add up to more than a tithe. Still others say that they give of their treasures to other things besides their congregation, and they want to support those things alongside their church. And then there are those who think Christians shouldn’t tithe because of some fear. They are afraid that if they tithe, their gift will be misused, or that after tithing, there won’t be enough left over to get the things that they use, want or need.

Here are some reasons why Christians should tithe. Even though the New Testament doesn’t specifically command Christians to tithe, the Old Testament people were commanded to. And on top of this, St. Paul often describes giving a regular and generous proportion of the first fruits of one’s income — terms similar to a tithe (2 Cor. 8:7–23; 2 Cor. 9:2–7).

But here’s another way to think about it. What was the point of the tithe in the Old Testament? Where did it go? This tithe was intended to support the ministry of the Levites. They were not given any land because they had no time to farm; their full-time job was the ministry. What does it say in the New Testament? “The Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel” (1 Cor. 9:14). This is the verse that Luther used in the Small Catechism’s Table of Duties to explain what Christians owe to the support of the ministry.

It seems clear from both the Old and the New Testaments that the tithe is the goal of Christians in their giving. But what if we’re not there yet? How should we handle this? What are we to do?

Let’s answer this by asking a different question. What would you say to your adult children who only attended church quarterly or once a month? After all, there is no passage in the New Testament that requires Christians to go to church weekly. Hebrews 10:25 is the closest verse we have, and it states simply that Christians should not neglect gathering together. And even though there is no passage that commands Christians to gather weekly, that is the implicit expectation throughout the Old and New Testaments.

So, what would you say to that son or daughter? The conversation might go something like this. I’m glad you’re still going to church. It is a wonderful blessing to hear God’s promises of forgiveness, life and salvation, and to receive His gifts in Word and Sacrament. But you can do better, and it will only be a blessing to you. There is a better way, and I’d really like you to try to attain it.

We should approach the topic of tithing with a similar conversation. The tithe is not specifically commanded in the New Testament, but it sure seems like the implicit expectation of both the Old and New Testaments. So, we’re ecstatic that you’re giving, and that you’re giving in all these various ways — time, talents and treasures. But there is a better way. And that will only be a blessing to you, just as the Word of God — Old and New Testament alike — promises. Can you try increasing your gifts over the coming weeks, months and years? Can you put your trust in the God who sent His Son to take away your sin and give you everlasting life? And if He did this for you, if He did not spare His only Son, how will He not give you all things? He will not disappoint. ✠

LCMS Stewardship Newsletter, April 2026

Originally published in April 2023





Easter Lily Donations

In Loving Memory of my husband

Richard Bisaga

From: Helen Bisaga

In Loving Memory of our daughter

Ashley Closson-McNemara

From: Chuck & Susan Closson

In Loving Memory of our granddaughter

Ashley Closson-McNemara

From: Lloyd & Ruth Mueller

In Loving Memory of our daughter-in-law

Jill Mueller

From: Lloyd & Ruth Mueller

In Loving Memory of

Andy Novara

From: Jane Novara & Family

In Loving Memory of

Leita, Leonard & Al Novara

Alice, Eddie & Don Arbeiter

From: Jane Novara & Family

In Loving Memory of my brother

Wayne Collmeyer

From: Helen Bisaga

In Loving Memory of

Ben & Holly Arbeiter

From: David & Barbara Arbeiter

In Loving Memory of

Lynda Homan

From: Her Loving Family

In Loving Memory of

Lawrence & Vanita Middendorf

From: Rick & Mary Beth Varner

In Loving Memory of

Ken & Pat Varner

From: Rick & Mary Beth Varner

In Loving Memory of

Eddie, Pauline, Mike

& Bob Althoff

From: Cindy Althoff Stoll