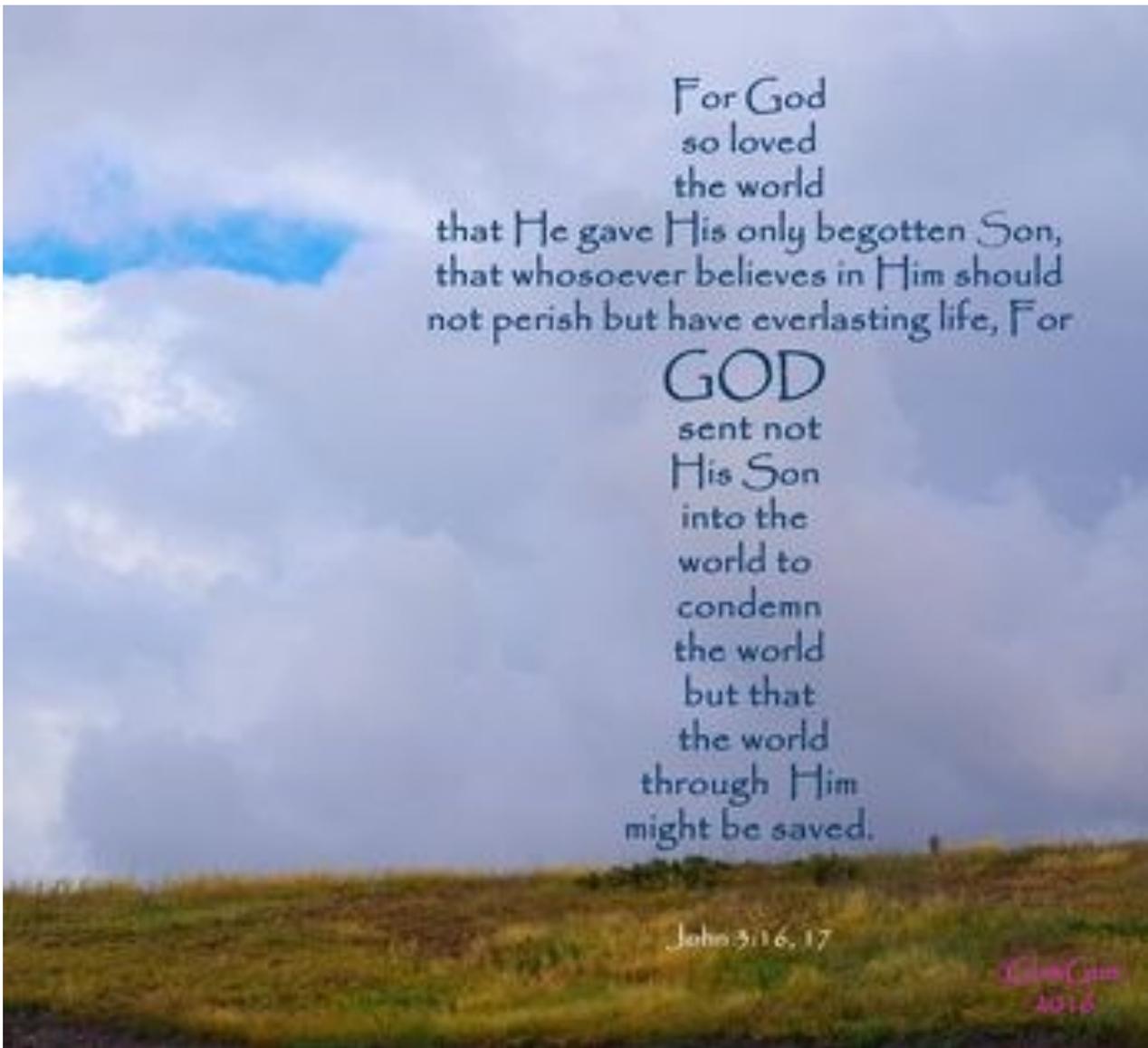


# Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

*“Inspired by God’s Grace  
to Love and Serve all”*



**MARCH 5, 2023**

**9:00 AM**

**SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**

## **Welcome & Announcements**

**WE WELCOME GUESTS WHO WORSHIP WITH US TODAY!**

Please sign the guest book in the narthex. Thank you!

**The 2023 altar flower chart is in the narthex.** Please sign up to sponsor flowers! This year the cost will be \$14.00. (There are no altar flowers during Lent.)

**We welcome our Interim Pastor John Kuziej** to worship this morning as our worship leader. Thank you Pastor John for sharing your gifts and talents!

**OFFICE HOURS**—Administrative Assistant Kari Britton Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 am—Noon. Pastor John Kuziej: Tuesday 10:00 am—Noon and by appointment. Cell: 906-932-4165; email: [johnckuziej2@gmail.com](mailto:johnckuziej2@gmail.com). Pastor John is happy to schedule visits with home-bound individuals and is also available for hospital visits.

**From our Financial Secretary:** Offering envelopes are available to be picked up in the narthex. If you need envelopes, please contact our Financial Secretary, Sheree Vanden Heuvel.

**LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS**—6:00 p.m. during Lent. Sign up in the Narthex to bring soup, bread, or dessert.

**LENTEN SERVICES**—Holden Evening Prayer Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

**MARCH WORSHIP** – *Please sign up in the narthex* OR call the office if you can assist with Worship. We need readers, ushers, live stream assistant, and communion assistant.

**SNOW SHOVELING** - sign up sheet in narthex to volunteer for snow shoveling in the winter months.

**WELCA BIBLE STUDY MOCHA ON THE MOUNT** meets the third Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m.

**NATH MEALS: All meals have been covered through April 2023.** Please consider signing your group up to provide a meal again this year! To volunteer, please sign-up on the sheet in the narthex or you can call Sue Larsen at 715-362-2544.

**Lenten Devotionals** are available in the Narthex.

**BLOOD DRIVE**—Thursday, March 23rd from 2:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m. To schedule your donation, please contact Jackie Waldorf at (715) 482-0513.

## Prelude

*Statio: Holy Pause—Silence*

*Please stand as you are able.*

### **GATHERING**

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 God,

**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 us with divine mercy,

† forgive us in Christ's name,

and revives us in the Spirit's power.

**Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn** *“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”* ELW #324

**Pastoral Greeting**

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**Kyrie** (Sing)

**Also Found on Page 147**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Hymn of Praise (Sing) Also Found on Page 148/149**

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.  
**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God,  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray,  
**O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you  
bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our  
faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your  
life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our  
Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the  
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## WORD

### First Lesson

### Genesis 12:1-4a

1 Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

4 So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

*The Word of the Lord*

*Thanks be to God*

### Psalm 121

### Read Responsively

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills—

from where will my help come?

**2 My help comes from the Lord,  
who made heaven and earth.**

3 He will not let your foot be moved;  
he who keeps you will not slumber.

**4 He who keeps Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

5 The Lord is your keeper;  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

**6 The sun shall not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**

7 The Lord will keep you from all evil;  
he will keep your life.

**8 The Lord will keep  
your going out and your coming in  
from this time on and forevermore.**

## Second Lesson

## Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

1 What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? 2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. 3 For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' 4 Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. 5 But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

13 For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. 14 If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. 15 For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. 16 For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, 17 as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*The Word of the Lord*

***Thanks be to God***

*Please rise for the Gospel Acclamation.*

**Gospel Acclamation (spoken)**

**Also found on Page 151**

**Return to the Lord, your God, who is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

## **Gospel**

## **John 3:1-17**

*The Gospel of the Lord according to John*  
**Glory to you, O Lord**

1 Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. 2 He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' 3 Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' 4 Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' 5 Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. 6 What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." 8 The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' 9 Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' 10 Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? 11 'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. 12 If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? 13 No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. 14 And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 16 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. 17 'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

*The Gospel of the Lord*

***Praise to you, O Christ***

*Please be seated.*

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**SERMON**

Rev. John Kuziej

Please stand as you are able.

## HYMN OF THE DAY

## “As the Winter Days Grow Longer”

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: Welsh melody, arr. Hymnal version

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Arr. © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

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1 As the win - ter days grow long - er, draw - ing short the hours of night;  
2 As the vines burst in - to blos - som, fra - grant in the morn - ing air,  
3 As we jour - ney through this sea - son, pil - grims through a thirst - y land,

as our ea - ger ex - pec - ta - tion waits for Eas - ter's dawn - ing light—  
lift - ing spir - its with their sweet - ness, lur - ing hearts to thank - ful prayer—  
quench us with your liv - ing pres - ence; guide us with your lov - ing hand.

yearn - ing peo - ple, here we gath - er, turn - ing watch - ful eyes to you:  
Lent - en peo - ple, here we gath - er, seek - ing lives re - fresh - ed from sin.  
Wan - d'ring peo - ple, here we gath - er, called to rest a - long our way.

God who bless - es earth with spring - time, shine with - in our world a - new!  
God who bless - es earth with spring - time, bloom with - in our hearts a - gain!  
God who bless - es earth with spring - time, grant us sab - bath joy this day!

**Our Worship continues with professing our faith using the words of the Apostles Creed.**

**APOSTLES CREED**

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. Amen

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

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

*Merciful God, receive our prayer.*

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

***And also with you.***

*Please share a sign of peace, keeping in mind social distancing and respecting others boundaries.*

*Please be seated.*

# MEAL

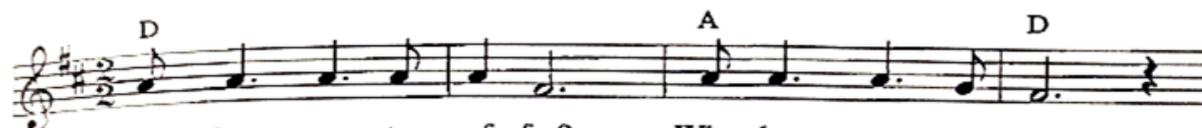
**Offering** (Please sing hymn while the collection is being taken.)

## Offering Song—"What Have We to Offer?"

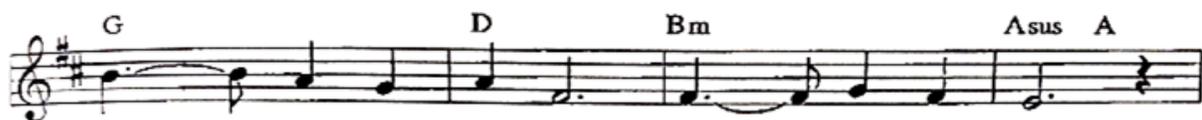
Text and music by Ray Makeever

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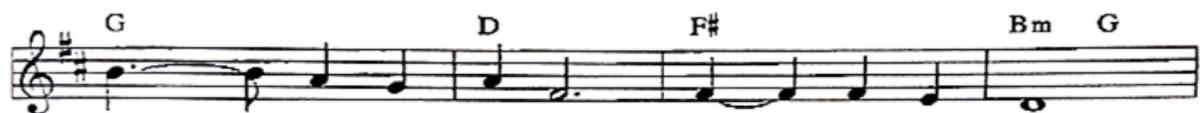
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1 What have we to of - fer?      What have we to share?  
2 What have we to of - fer?      What have we to bring?  
3 What have we to of - fer?      What have we to give?



Coins      from the cof - fer,      hearts      filled with care.  
Love,      ripe with laugh - ter;      hope      that we can sing;  
Eyes      that are wide o - pen;      lies      that we won't live;



God      will not fal - ter;      so      let us dare  
dreams      of what we're af - ter;      prom - is - es      of when.  
truth      that must be spo - ken;      jus - tice      some - how.



lay      it at the al - tar      there.  
Lay      it at the al - tar      then.  
Lay      it at the al - tar      now.



4 What have we to of - fer?      What have we to



give?      Lives      we will live.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **Offering Prayer**

Let us pray,

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.**

# Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

S 153

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **Words of Institution**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
Our Lord Jesus took Bread, and gave thanks, broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and Eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup,  
gave thanks and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
Shed for you and for all people for the  
forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.  
For as often as we eat of this bread and  
drink of this cup, We proclaim the Lord's death  
until he comes again.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*Gathered into one with the Holy Spirit let us pray  
as Jesus taught us.*

**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.**

*Please be seated.*

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

## **LAMB OF GOD**

S 154

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## **DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

### **COMMUNION SONGS**

*“What Feast of Love” ELW # 487*

*“All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly” ELW #461*

*“Jesus, Remember Me” ELW #616*

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**Amen.**

## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**Embodied God,**

**At your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.**

**Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **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** *“Lift High the Cross”* ELW #660

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve in love.

**Thanks be to God.**

# POSTLUDE

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## Serving Today

**Ushers**

Mary Wolf

**Reader**

JoAnne Barrix

**Altar Guild**

JoAnne Barrix

**Communion Asst.**

JoAnne Barrix

**Live Stream**

Cory Dellenbach

**Pianist**

Brittany Landphier

**Coffee &**

**Counters**

Sue Larsen, Jackie Waldorf



**THE COMMUNITY  
BLOOD CENTER**

connecting lives | sharing life

**MIRA**

Loves playing soccer,  
going to the cabin and  
having sleepovers with friends.

Relied on blood, platelet and  
bone marrow donors to survive  
an autoimmune disease.

**Donate blood today!**

**IMMANUEL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
BLOOD DRIVE**

21 W Timber Drive, Rhinelander, WI 54501

**THURSDAY, MARCH 23  
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

To schedule your donation, please contact  
Jackie Waldorf at (715) 482-0513.  
We kindly request you register in advance.  
Thank you!