



# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Ash Wednesday, 6:30 pm, March 2, 2022

*Ash Wednesday*

*Welcome to  
worship! Please  
complete a  
Connection Card  
and place the card  
in the offering plate.  
Thank you!*

*Have mercy on me,  
O God, according to  
your steadfast  
love. (Ps. 51:1)*

## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that “now is the day of salvation.” Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world.

### SERMON

***“What Reward Fasting?”***

**Pastor Steve Solberg**

### CHOIR ANTHEM

***Cast Thy burden Upon the LORD***

**Senior Choir**

### PSALM 51:1-17

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

<sup>2</sup>**Wash me through and through from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup>For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

<sup>4</sup>**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother’s womb.

<sup>6</sup>**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

<sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

<sup>8</sup>**Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

<sup>10</sup>**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

<sup>11</sup>Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

<sup>12</sup>**Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

<sup>13</sup>Let me teach your ways to offenders, and sinners shall be restored to you.

<sup>14</sup>**Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation,  
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.**

<sup>15</sup>O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

<sup>16</sup>**For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it.  
You are not pleased with burnt offering.**

<sup>17</sup>The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;  
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.

### 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.**

Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked. Sincere repentance will lead to a dramatic improvement of their condition.

*The ministry of the gospel endures many challenges and hardships. Through this ministry, God's reconciling activity in the death of Christ reaches into the depths of our lives to bring us into a right relationship with God. In this way, God accepts us into the reality of divine salvation.*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, **you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness 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.**

## WORD

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1-12

<sup>1</sup>Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. <sup>2</sup>Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. <sup>3</sup>“Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. <sup>4</sup>Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. <sup>5</sup>Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? <sup>6</sup>Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? <sup>7</sup>Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? <sup>8</sup>Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. <sup>9</sup>Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, <sup>10</sup>if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. <sup>11</sup>The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. <sup>12</sup>Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

Word of God. **Word of Life. Thanks be to God.**

### SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20b--6:10

<sup>20b</sup>We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. <sup>6:1</sup>As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says, “At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.” See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! <sup>3</sup>We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, <sup>7</sup>truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Word of God. **Word of Life. Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Return to the Lord, your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. (Joel 2:13)

## GOSPEL: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

The holy gospel according to...

**Glorify to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. <sup>2</sup>“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>3</sup>But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup>so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. <sup>5</sup>“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup>But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>16</sup>“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>17</sup>But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup>so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. <sup>19</sup>“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; <sup>20</sup>but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SONG

*Restore in Us, O God*

#328

## INVITATION TO LENT

## CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.*

Most holy and merciful God, **we confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault, by our own most grievous fault, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven. **Have mercy on us, O God.**

We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you. **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you. **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you. **Have mercy on us, O God.**

*In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus commends almsgiving, prayer, and fasting, but emphasizes that spiritual devotion must not be done for show.*

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you. **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you. **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

**Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.**

## **IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*People may come forward and kneel or stand to receive the ashes.*

*After all those who desire ashes have received them, the minister continues.*

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,  
**that we may show forth your glory in the world.**

By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,  
**bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Renew your church, O God. When we have drifted from our call to proclaim repentance and to guide your people toward justice, lead us back to you. Encourage believers who hold the church's doors open to those who have felt excluded. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew your creation, O God. Transform parched places into watered gardens and preserve every creature that awaits the arrival of spring. Turn each of us from practices of environmental exploitation to become responsible stewards of all you have made. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew our civic life, O God. Teach those in authority to advocate for the liberation of all who are oppressed and grant them courage to make difficult decisions. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew our lives, O God. Spare your people from diseases of the body, mind, or spirit and send healing to those overcome by illness or grief. Restore to us the joy of your salvation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew this congregation, O God. During these forty days of Lent, confirm our sense of mission and expand our imagination for ministry. Deepen our faith, increase our love, and draw us into your unfolding work of healing and restoration. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

As we mark ashes on our foreheads, we give you praise, O God, for all the saints who died and yet are alive with you. Receive us with them into your eternal embrace. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

### MEAL

## OFFERING

### SONG

*Take My Life, That I May Be*

#685

## OFFERING PRAYER

Extravagant God, you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. **Amen.**

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need. **Amen.**

### SENDING

## BLESSING

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, ✚ bless you this day and always. **Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF, March 6-March 13, 2022

- \* **BIRTHDAYS:** Happy 85th Birthday to *Joyce Peterson* on February 26th.  
Happy 81st Birthday to *Deanna Johnson* on February 27th.  
Happy 82nd Birthday to *Vera Palomaki* on March 2nd.  
Happy 82nd Birthday to *Nancy Burton* on March 12th.

\* **ARE YOU WANTING A WAY TO SUPPORT FINANCIAL UKRAINE'S REFUGEES?**

We can work through Lutheran World Relief (LWR), donating through Immanuel, noting "LWR" or "Ukraine". Or you can give online directly to LWR's "World of Good Fund," providing families facing crisis with emergency food, clean water, safe shelter, medical supplies and more. Your love will reach neighbors in Ukraine and around the world with the lifesaving care they need.

*All baptized Christians who believe this true presence are welcome and encouraged to receive Holy Communion today. Please assist your child (ren) if you wish them communed.*

*Parents, We believe that the true body and blood of Jesus Christ is in/with/under the bread and wine.*



# 40 days of Lent

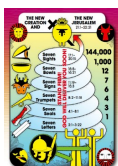
\* **WELCOME TO LENT!** In cooperation with Yombo Parish and Pastor Michael Locko, we will focus on “fasting” (Matthew 6:16-18) during our Lenten mid-week services. Immanuel’s approach will be “Fasting: *Disrupting the Ordinary to Gain the Extraordinary*” and include: **a)** What Reward Fasting?; **b)** Fasting from Worry; **c)** Fasting from Anger & Hatred; **d)** Fasting from Judgements; **e)** Fasting from Forgetting; and **f)** Fasting from Being Your Own Savior.



\* **LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS** Next Wednesday, March 9, and each following Wednesday in Lent, our *Soup Suppers* will take place. Donations of soups, breads, and desserts, are needed. There is a SIGN-UP sheet posted near the Fellowship Hall door for you to sign up for the various Wednesdays for bringing YOUR delicious ‘foods’. Thank you for contributing to the Lenten Soup Suppers. Then, come for our soup supper at 5:30 pm, followed by a ½-hour service at 6:15 pm.



\* **MEN'S LENTEN PRAYER BREAKFASTS** ... beginning this Saturday, March 5th, at 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall and will meet every Saturday throughout Lent. The breakfast starts at 8:30 am followed by a discussion of Sunday’s readings and any topic that you may want to share. The meeting ends at 9:30 am. For more information, please call Walter Scanlon @ 906-235-2294. All of you men are welcome, and Walter hopes to see you there!



\* **REVELATION STUDY...** continues on Thursdays at 6:00 pm, both in person (fellowship hall) and online (church website). No RSVP is necessary. Just bring your Bible. Pastor Steve will provide study materials in downloadable and printed form. Explore this strange and wonderful final book of the New Testament that is best understood as a series of seven broad cycles each beginning either with the life of Christ or the beginning of the Christian Church and completed by the coming of Christ for judgment of the world.



\* **CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY: A HARD-COPY OF OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY IS AVAILABLE AT THE CHURCH!** You can also view it online or via the FREE mobile app. Printed copies are available on the upper level resource table and at the front entrance. To view the directory online, go to [members.InstantChurchDirectory.com](http://members.InstantChurchDirectory.com) and follow the prompts under “Sign In” to “Create a login now.” Use your email address that you included in your directory submission and confirm it following the instructions. If you did not submit an email for directory use, you won't be able to access the directory online. There is also a free mobile app available for download at the Apple® App store in iTunes®, Google Play™ store and the Amazon Fire App Store. Simply search for “Instant Church Directory” to get the download. The same login protocol as above applies to the app. Need help or have questions? Please contact the church office: (906) 475-9161.

\* **GIVING YOUR OFFERINGS:** Thank you for continuing to financially support our on-going congregational mission. **NOTE:** The GivePlus Mobile App will be phased out by April 30th. After that date, GivePlus Mobile app will no longer be supported. In its place, you may download the VANCO Mobile app. VANCO Mobile is a free app and offers a better user experience with easy giving options, including giving to special funds. Here are the steps to follow: 1) **Search for Our Church** - Enter our church’s name or use the invite code and click SEARCH. Then, select our church. 2) **Select Your Fund and Amount** - Select your fund and donation frequency, then select your payment method. 3) **Enter Payment Method** - Select a payment method and enter your credit card, debit card, or bank account information. You can save this payment method for future donations. 4) **Choose to Cover Processing Fees** - You can choose to cover the donation processing fees by adding a small amount on top of your gift. Click the button to opt in. 5) **Complete Your donation** - Review and complete your gift by clicking SUBMIT. If giving online through Immanuel’s website, there is no change.



\* **SUNDAY SCHOOL:** If you are interested in Sunday School for your child(ren), there is always open enrollment for toddlers through Grade 5. The class meets at 9:15 am and classes start at 9:30 am. Go to the Facebook page for updated information, or you can always call the office at (906-475-9161). Bring your child(ren) to worship with us.



### KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Pray For: Nancy Burton, Pat DeWitt, Dan Hendrickson, Pete Hicks, Billy Jo Kaufman, Peggy Jackson, Betty Kinnunen, Anna Laurila, Don & Mary Leece, Wendy Niemi, Arianna Paananen, Don & Vera Palomaki, Joyce Peterson, Jessica Roberts, Linda Sjolund, Richard Toyra, and all COVID patients.

Our Shut-ins: Bettie Ahola, Rudy Gagnon, Charlene Kivisto, Timothy Kjellman, Betty Lukkarinen, Leo Nirva, Mary Parkkonen, Janet Penhale, Butch Pynnonen, Lillian Rivers, Paul Smith, Lynne Tossava.

Members in the Armed Service: Luke DeWitt, Adrianna Gustafson, Michael Gustafson, Hunter (Jessica) Hetrick, Dennis Koski, Jacque Kurian, Tanner Romback, Trevor Romback, Michael Sedlock, Ethan Wallner, and all Armed Services Families.



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## VOLUNTEERS ASSISTING IN SERVICE

SERVING IN WORSHIP: Pastor Steve Solberg

ORGANIST/PIANIST/MUSICIAN: Connie Scanlon

Ash Wednesday Worship Services: 6:30 pm

Office Hours: 8 am-2 pm, Monday-Thursday (or by appt.)

### ASSISTING IN THE SERVICE:

6:30 am USHERS/GREETERS – Alice Mutkala

6:30 am LECTOR – Paulette Patron

6:30 am COMM. ASST.'S – Paulette Patron

6:30 am Tech Team – Tyler Moore



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## MARCH'S MONTHLY MISSION

IN MARCH, our Immanuel's Fortune Lake Camp Scholarship Fund will be the Mission Emphasis (ME), enabling people from Immanuel, young and old, to participate in the out-door camping ministries of Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp (FLLC) near Crystal Falls, MI.

Outdoor camping ministry reaches people like none other. We'd like to encourage those connections by providing scholarship funds to our local youth, making it more affordable for them to attend a week of summer camp and other retreats throughout the year. In this special place, campers disconnect from the world in order to reconnect with God, each other, and themselves. Campers experience the beauty of God's creation, amazing camp staff, other campers, Good News themes, and all the fun that a week can hold.



If you wish to give to Immanuel's Fortune Lake Camp Scholarship Fund, use the *March Monthly Mission envelope* from your offering envelope box or in some other way designate your gift. *Thank you for your generosity!*

Thank you for giving \$1,215.00 in February to  
Messiah Lutheran Church Asylum Refugee Support.  
The recipients will be richly blessed with your generosity! Thank you!



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**  
**March 6, 2022 - March 13, 2022**

***YOU CAN FIND ALL ONLINE INFORMATION REFERENCED BELOW AT...***  
***[www.ImmanuelNegaunee.org](http://www.ImmanuelNegaunee.org)***

- Sunday**            ***1st Sunday in Lent***  
- 9:30 am    - Sunday School  
- 9:30 am    - Worship Service  
- 10:30 am   - Coffee & Fellowship  
- 7:30 pm    - AA Group Meets (men & women)
- Monday**           - 6:00 pm    - Worship Service  
- 7:00 pm    - Confirmation Class
- Tuesday**           - 6:30 pm    - PEO (Linda Sjolund)
- Wednesday**      - 10:00 am   - Bible Study (in-person and on Zoom)  
- 5:30 pm    - Soup Supper  
- 6:15 pm    - Lenten Midweek Service  
- 6:45 pm    - Choir Practice
- Thursday**           - 10:00 am   - Quilting  
- 6:00 pm    - *Revelation* Bible Study (in-person and on Zoom)
- Friday**             **OFFICE CLOSED**  
- **World Day of Prayer** (worldwide)  
- 10:00 am   - Women's AA Group Meets
- Saturday**           - 8:30 am    - Men's Lenten Breakfast
- Sunday**            ***2nd Sunday in Lent***  
- 9:30 am    - Sunday School  
- 9:30 am    - Worship Service  
- 10:30 am   - Coffee & Fellowship  
- 7:30 pm    - AA Group Meets (men & women)