



2nd Sunday in
Lent

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Sunday, March 5, 2023, 9:30 am/Monday March 6, 2023, 6:00 pm

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

During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. In today's gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are a given a new birth as children of God. As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God's love for all the world.

God's call of Abram and Sarai has a clear purpose—that through them all the families of the earth would gain a blessing. As they set out on their journey, they are accompanied by promises of land, nation, and a great reputation.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please stand as you are comfortable.)

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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 you with divine mercy, † forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

In The Cross of Christ I Glory

#324

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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 READING: Genesis 12:1-4a

¹The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I 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." ^{4a}So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

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

*I lift up my eyes
to the hills; my
help comes
from the LORD.
(Ps. 121:1, 2)*

*In the person
and example of
Abraham we
discover that a
right relation-
ship with God
does not in-
volve earning a
reward from
God but entails
trusting God's
promises. Abra-
ham is the fore-
bear and model
for both Jews
and Gentiles,
because we too
trust that ours
is a God who
gives life to the
dead*

*A curious Phari-
see visits Jesus
by night to
learn from the
teacher his
friends reject.
Jesus speaks to
him about life
in the Spirit and
the kingdom of
God.*

PSALM 121

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?
²**My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**
³The LORD will not let your foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.
⁴**Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**
⁵the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;
⁶**the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**
⁷The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.
⁸**The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore.**

SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

¹What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." ⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.
¹³For 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. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.
¹⁶For 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, ¹⁷as 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.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(please stand as you are able.)

p. 205



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

The holy gospel according to...

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He 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." ³Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴Nicodemus 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?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸The 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." ⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus 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 our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(please be seated.)

SERMON

Pastor Rell Spickerman

(please stand as you are able.)

HYMN OF THE DAY

We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus

#451

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.

A brief silence.

O God, you so love your church. Raise up leaders who care for your people. Bless lay theologians, seminary and college professors, and all who are called to the ministry of teaching, that they form and inspire us for the work of the gospel. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love your creation. Breathe new life into our planetary home. Guide the work of researchers, scientists, and activists who love your earth and who inspire us to care for the natural world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love the world. Uphold leaders who resist tyranny and oppression. Strengthen organizations that promote peace and harmony. Direct their work to alleviate human suffering and to address its root causes. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love your people. Draw near to all who live with mental illness, depression, or addiction, and accompany them in healing and recovery. Hear the cries of those who look to you in their distress. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love your children. Bless the young in our midst, and delight us with their joy, wonder, and curiosity. Revive our ministries with children and youth and equip us all for faithful discipleship. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

O God, you so love your saints. As our ancestors in the faith have been a blessing to us, so inspire us by their example of holy living to be a blessing to those who come after us. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Renew our lives that we may welcome and care for one another and that we may live and serve within the greater community of Negaunee and the world, witnessing to others your abundant love, grace, and welcome.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you. *(please be seated.)*



MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN

Create in Me

#188

OFFERING PRAYER

(please stand as you are able.)

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 We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ dwells with us here: All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

COMMUNION

(please be seated.)

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



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters #445

This Is the Spirit's Entry Now #448

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

(please stand as you are able.)

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 OF THE LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY

Gracious God, whose mercy endures from generation to generation: As Mary set out to visit Elizabeth before she gave birth to her son, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with our sisters and brothers who are homebound. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this communion, that through the body and blood of your Son we may all know the hope of your promised coming in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF March 5, -March 12, 2023

Take Note

* **NOTICE:** Pastor Bre will be out of the office from February 28th through March 9th. If you need to speak with a Pastor, please call **Pastor Molly at 312-576-7353**. She is the person in charge.



* **LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS** started on Wednesday, March 1st. We will be needing soups, breads, & desserts. There will be a sign-up sheet posted near the Fellowship Hall door. Please sign-up for the dates and items you can provide. Your cooperation & volunteerism are greatly appreciated. The suppers start at 5:30 pm, followed by Lenten worship service at 6:15 - 6:45 pm in the sanctuary. Any monies donated during the supper will support Immanuel's Youth travel. Come and participate and enjoy!



* **FELLOWSHIP HOUR:** Are you willing to help with Fellowship hour? Donations are needed such as bakery, crackers, cheese, fruit, or whatever suits your fancy, & cleanup! Your Fellowship Hour committee for March is the SENIOR CHOIR. If it fits your schedule to bring items before Sunday morning, there are shelves in the refrigerator tagged for Coffee hour. Or leave on the counter marked "Coffee Hour". Please contact Connie Lindblom (906-475-6139) with your date and any item you wish to bring.

* **FORTUNE LAKE SUMMER CAMP** Fortune Lake Registration is open for Summer Camp! Camp offers an early bird discount through April 1st and Immanuel offers scholarships to campers of all ages. Contact Stacy McEachern by April 1st for scholarship details! Call or text: **(906) 361-9123** or stacymc6@gmail.com. *Hurry, Hurry. Get your registrations in!*



* **SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CONVERSATION** A Sunday morning Bible Conversation Group meets after the 9:30 am worship service, at 11:00 am in the Youth Room for 1 hour. This is an opportunity for a discussion on the Bible lessons from the morning's worship service. There is a team of people who have volunteered to share the leadership for this group. The members of the leadership team consists of Pastor Tom Skrenes, Luanne Skrenes, Martha Hayward, Dan Collins, Andrew Crow-Roberts, Walter Scanlon, Mike Frustaglio, Jim Hayward, and Pastor Terry Cathcart. Here is the list of leaders and their dates: **Mar. 5** - Dan Collins; **Mar. 12** - Jim Hayward; **Mar. 19** - Andrew Crow-Roberts, **Mar. 16** - Terry Cathcart. *Mark your calendars and plan to come.*

* **INSTANT CHURCH DIRECTORY** To view the directory online, go to 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



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* **PROJECT KEEP KIDS WARM (PKKW).** This Project, *Keep Kids Warm*, is done for this year. If you have any further questions, please contact the Wesley United Methodist Church in Ishpeming.

* **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)** The beginning date for Vacation Bible School will be June 12th, 2023. Watch for more details. We will be in need of enrollment helpers. For more information, contact Paulette Patron @ (906) 475-4776.



***BAR CHURCH, 'Ruthless Elimination of Hurry', by John Mark Comer** This group will be meeting on the following Thursdays: March 9, 23, April 13, 27, May 11,25, 2023. There is also a Facebook group at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/841985297052095/>, or scan the QR code. If you have any questions, please call Kaitrin Raymond at (540) 435-4915. It meets at UP Brewing Company in Negaunee.



***WEEKLY MEN'S LENTEN PRAYER BREAKFAST:** The weekly men's Lenten prayer breakfast has resumed. It will be meeting on March 11, 18, 25, and April 1st. There will be breakfast and coffee provided, followed by a 1/2 hour Bible study, discussing the lessons and gospel for Sunday. The time is 8 am to 9 am. For any questions or more information, please call or text Walter Scanlon at 906-235-2294.



***HELLO CONFERENCE 8 SIBLINGS IN CHRIST,** I'm writing on behalf of our Lutheran Campus Ministry at NMU. This year a group of 13 young adults and adults will be heading on a spiritual pilgrimage to Iona, Scotland where we'll journey inward and listen to how God is speaking to us, stay at the Iona Abbey where we'll worship, live in community and learn about peace and justice, and experience much more along the way! Our goal is to raise \$10,000 for this pilgrimage. Below is some information about our major fundraiser and we would love for some of you to be able to make it!



- The NMU Campus Ministry invites you to a concert and dessert fundraiser to benefit our pilgrimage to Iona, Scotland in May. "Songs for the Journey" will take place **Friday, March 24 at 7 pm at Messiah Lutheran Church in Marquette**. There will be music, stories, and sharing of Celtic Wisdom. A suggested donation of \$15 per person, \$30 per family and \$10 per student will be taken at the door. We look forward to sharing our excitement as we journey toward Iona!



KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Pray For: *Betty Carilli, Kevin Carlson, Renae Carlson, Sue Cohan, Dan Hendrickson, Michael Holman, Peggy Jackson, Betty Kinnunen, Michael Kjellman, Anna Laurila, Don & Mary Leece, Diane Nault, Gerald Neldon, Don Palomaki, Stephanie Penhale, Joyce Peterson, Shirley Pizziola (Sue Cohan's mother), Jim Ritzenhein, Jessica Roberts, Tim Romback, Louise Spickerman, Debbie Thornberg, and all COVID patients.*

Our Shut-ins: *Bettie Ahola, Jonelle Collins, Rudy Gagnon, Charlene Kivisto, Timothy Kjellman, Betty Lukkarinen, Leo Nirva, Butch Pynnonen, Dolores Reichel, Lillian Rivers, Paul Alan Smith, Lynne Tossava.*

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





VOLUNTEERS ASSISTING IN SERVICE

SERVING IN WORSHIP: *Pastor Rell Spickerman*

ORGANIST/PIANIST/MUSICIAN: *Connie Scanlon*

Worship Services: Sun. @ 9:30 am / Mon. @ 6 pm

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

ASSISTING IN THE SERVICE:

9:30 am USHERS/GREETERS	- <i>Dan Collins</i>
	- <i>Fae Collins</i>
6:00 pm	- <i>Kevin Crupi</i>
	- <i>Reuven Romback</i>
9:30 am LECTOR	- <i>Dan Collins</i>
6:00 pm	- <i>Paulette Patron</i>
9:30 am COMM. ASST.'S	- <i>Dan Collins</i>
	- <i>Fae Collins</i>
	- <i>Noreen Collins</i>
6:00 pm	- <i>Paulette Patron</i>
9:30 am Tech Team	- <i>Luanne Skrenes</i>

(Communion Set-up for March is *Kathy & Doug Palomaki*)

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 \$ 655.00 in February to
Messiah Lutheran Church Asylum Refugee Support.
The recipients will be richly blessed with your generosity! Thank you!

