



Immanuel Lutheran Church

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Divine Service Setting Three ~ Pg 184
February 4, 2024

As We Gather: Scripture Alone

The Sower sows the seed of His Word (Luke 8:4–15). This Word is living and powerful (Heb. 4:9–13) to conceive new life in those who hear it. But the planting of Christ is attacked by the devil, the world, and the flesh. Satan snatches the Word away from hard hearts. The riches and pleasures of this life choke off faith. Shallow and emotional belief withers in time of temptation and trouble. But see how Christ bears this attack for us! Christ's cross was planted in the hard and rocky soil of Golgotha. A crown of thorns was placed upon His head. Satan and His demons hellishly hounded and devoured Him. Yet, through His dying and rising again, He destroyed these enemies of ours. Jesus is Himself the Seed which fell to the ground and died in order that it might sprout forth to new life and produce much grain. In Him, the weak are strong (2 Cor. 11:19–12:9). He is the Word of the Father which does not return void (Is. 55:10–13) but yields a harvest hundredfold.

Invocation/Exhortation

LSB 184

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

Absolution

LSB 185

Hymn 'May God Bestow on Us His Grace'

LSB 823

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament

Isaiah 55:10–13

10“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,

making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

11so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,

but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

12“For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

13Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;

and it shall make a name for the LORD,
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Introit

Psalm 44:1–2, 7–8; antiphon: vv. 23, 25a, 26a

Awake! Why are you sleeping, O Lord?

Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever!

For our soul is bowed down to the dust.

Rise up; come to our help!

O God, we have heard with our ears, our fathers have told us,
what deeds you performed in their days, in the days of old:

**you with your own hand drove out the nations, but them you
planted;**

you afflicted the peoples, but them you set free.

But you have saved us from our foes

and have put to shame those who hate us.

In God we have boasted continually,

and we will give thanks to your name forever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Awake! Why are you sleeping, O Lord?

Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever!

For our soul is bowed down to the dust.

Rise up; come to our help!

Epistle

2 Corinthians 11:19—12:9

19For you gladly bear with fools, being wise yourselves! 20For you bear it if someone makes slaves of you, or devours you, or takes advantage of you, or puts on airs, or strikes you in the face. 21To my shame, I must say, we were too weak for that!

But whatever anyone else dares to boast of—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast of that. 22Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they offspring of Abraham? So am I. 23Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one—I am talking like a madman—with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. 24Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. 25Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; 26on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers;

27in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. 28And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches. 29Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant?

30If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. 31The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. 32At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas was guarding the city of Damascus in order to seize me, 33but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands.

1I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. 2I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. 3And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— 4and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. 5On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. 6Though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. 7So to keep me from being too elated by the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. 8Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. 9But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Luke 8:4–15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighth chapter.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

4When a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to [Jesus], he said in a parable: 5“A sower went out to sow his seed.

And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. 6And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. 7And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. 8And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold.” As he said these things, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

9And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, 10he said, “To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that ‘seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.’ 11Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. 12The ones along the path are those who have heard. Then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. 13And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. 14And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. 15As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

Hymn ‘Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me’

LSB 756

Sermon “Blissful Boasting for Every Moment” *2 Corinthians 11:19-12:9*

Offertory

LSB 192

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

LSB 194

Distribution Hymns

‘The Infant Priest Was Holy Born’

LSB 624

‘What Is the World to Me’

LSB 730

<u>Nunc Dimittis</u>	LSB 199
<u>Thanksgiving</u>	LSB 200
<u>Post-Communion Collect</u>	
<u>Salutation</u>	LSB 201
<u>Benedicamus</u>	LSB 202
<u>Benediction</u>	LSB 202
<u>Closing Hymn ‘<i>Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide</i>’</u>	LSB 585

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Guests: Welcome! We are so glad to have you with us today! If you are visiting us for the first time, please sign our guest book, or a guest card in the pew and place in the offering plate before leaving. Please join us for fellowship after the service.

Communion Statement: As we learn from 1 Corinthians, when we commune together we make a confession of our oneness in doctrine & understanding of God's Word. Since those who show publicly that they agree with the teachings believed, taught, & confessed by the Pastor & congregation at which the Sacrament is distributed, we ask that those who are not members in good standing of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, or one of our sister churches to please refrain from partaking of the Sacrament. Instead, if you would like to receive a blessing, you are more than welcome to come to the altar rail & please indicate you would like to receive a blessing by crossing your arms in front of your chest. A list of church bodies with whom we share Altar & Pulpit fellowship is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. If you would like to visit about this doctrine & practice, please talk to Pastor or an Elder. For further study on this matter see Matthew 5:23, 18:15-35, 26:26-39; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20 & 1 Cor. 11:17-34. Thank you.

Stewardship: Luke 8:5 – “And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot ...” Know any farmers like this? Who just throws their crop seed wherever? That's crazy! But God's ways are not our ways — He is generous beyond compare! He delights in giving. As we are more and more conformed to His image, may we also learn the joy of generosity and giving!

Sunday School: The lesson this week is “Provided-For Prophet.” The prophet Elijah warns King Ahab of the severe drought coming. God first sends Elijah to the brook Cherith, where He provides ravens to feed him. When the brook dries up, Elijah lodges with a widow in Zarephath. Despite her limited supply of flour and oil, it never runs out. God supplies just what they need each day. When the widow's son dies, Elijah raises him back to life through God's power.

A sign-up sheet for Lent mid-week meals is on the entryway table. Ash Wednesday meal will be provided by the Evangelism Board and LWML.

Building Healthy Families for Feb. 4th: Who's your favorite NFL team and coach? (...bonus points if you answered Andy Reid and the Chiefs!) Researcher George Barna rightly notes that great parents are much like great coaches as they demonstrate these four qualities when relating to their "winning team": 1) the impact of a great coach (parent) on his player (child) is proportional to the depth of the relationship fostered with them; 2) great coaches (parents) whole-heartedly embrace the outcomes they are pushing their team (children) to achieve; 3) great coaches (parents) are great communicators; and 4) great coaches (parents) have a comprehensive plan for building a winning team (family). So, coach, how are you and your team doing?? ~ www.LutheranFamilyService.org.

Life Quote for Feb. 4th: "Please rejoice in knowing prayer works and keep praying for the states who still haven't banned abortions and for those states trying to ward off those who want to bring it back. We are not done praying and never will be. God is on our side, and He has a plan. We need to stand firm and with faith never give up praying. God controls the power of prayer, and He is amazing." Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life— **A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org**

A Life Thought in the Church Year for Feb. 4th: Our Almighty Maker has blessed us with bodies for enjoyment. He has entrusted them to our control (1 Corinthians 9:26-27), but this means more than the mere "my body, my choice" indulgence of appetites. The greater gratification comes from receiving and serving even the least neighbor (1 Corinthians 9:22). Who are we to lie silent about the sanctity of life and thereby withhold the divine invitation to such a delightful discipline?

Lutheran Hour Ministries for Feb. 11th: Hear "What Is Evangelism?" based on Mark 9:7-8 by Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. How do you encourage someone to receive the gift God has for them? That's what evangelism is all about. ~ **Listen next Sunday on 600 WMT at 6:30 a.m., 1190 KFJB at 8:30 a.m., WHO-1040 at 7:30 a.m., & 1410 KGRN at 7:30 a.m.**

JAMES BIBLE STUDY... The Word of the Lord Endures Forever is a daily 15-minute verse-by-verse Bible study produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Will Weedon. Pastor Weedon begins a study later this week on the Book of James. You can listen on-demand at thewordendures.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, the LPR mobile app or a podcast provider.

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Cleaning: Household(s) responsible for the week of 2/4--2/10 is **McDonough**. Household(s) responsible for the week of 2/11--2/17 is **Mergen**. If you cannot clean the week you have been assigned, it is your responsibility to trade with others on the list. If it is your week to clean church and you have other obligations or you prefer to write a check rather than cleaning, a substitute is available for **\$75.00**. Please contact Amber at immanuelutheran@iowatelecom.net. Make payment to Amber Carnine and leave payment under her office door, in her box at church, or you can mail payment to the church. We do ask that you let Amber know ASAP but the deadline is by Thursday of the week before it is your week to clean.

Podcasts: If you are using the podcasts and would like to see them continue. Please let the church know. If there is little to no response, stopping the weekly recordings will be on the agenda for the next Elder's Meeting.

February Calendars and Newsletters are on the entryway table.

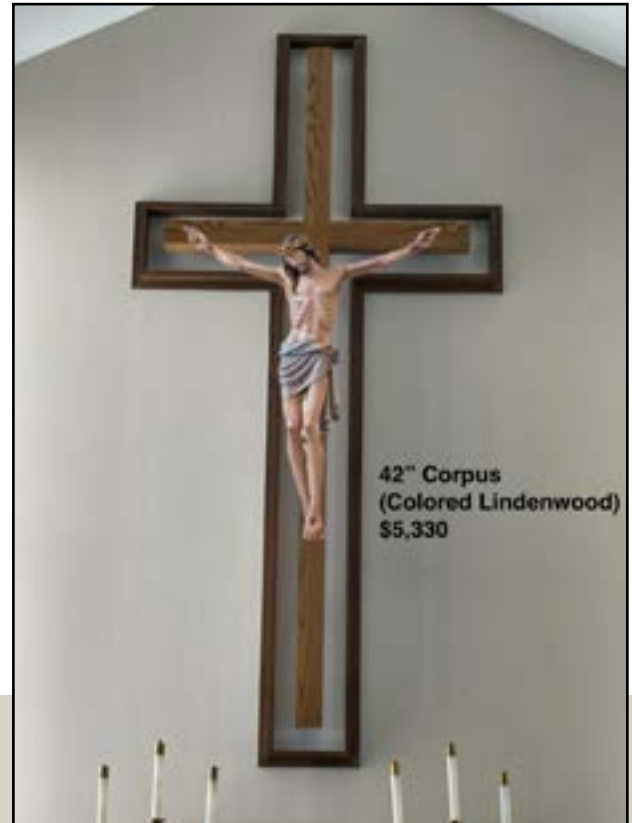
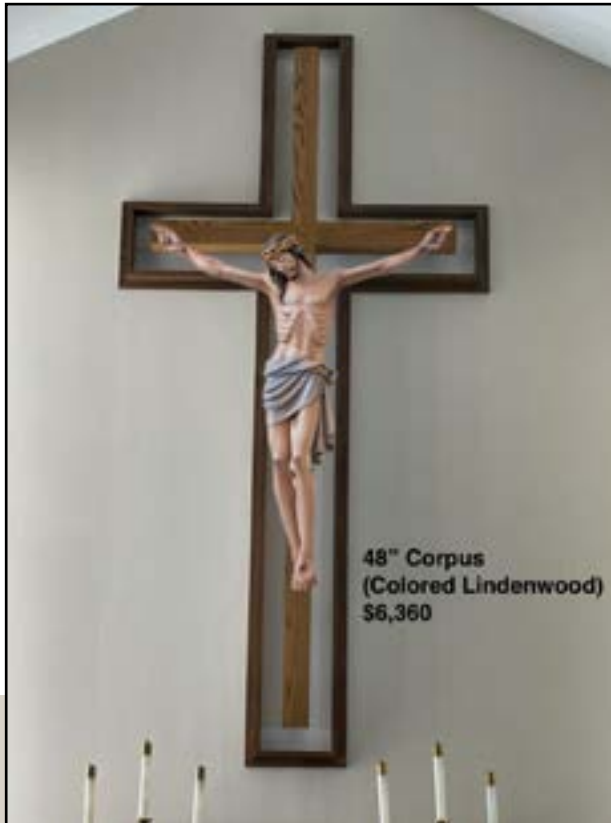
ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS
For January 28, 2024

Attendance	52
Communion	38
General Fund	\$4320.00
Missions	\$25.00

WEEK AHEAD

Today	8:00am	Elders Meeting
	9:00am	Sexagesima Missions: LCMS Office of International Mission – Cody & Aurelie Mock
	10:30am	Sunday School/Bible Study Greeter: Johnson Usher: Keith Thorpe Servers: Robin M./Sue F. Acolyte/Crucifer: Alivia/Cole Elder: Joel McDonough
Wednesday	4-5:30pm	5th/6th Grades Confirmation
	5:30-7pm	7th/8th Grades Confirmation
Thursday	11:00am	Bible Study
Next Sunday	8:00am	Council Meeting
	9:00am	Quinquagesima
	10:30am	Sunday School/Bible Study
	11:30am	Board of Education Meeting Greeter: Kadera Usher: Ben L. Servers: Marrina K./Tammy S. Acolyte/Crucifer: Kaitlynn/Finn Elder: Darlo K.

Proposed Corpus Project



Proposal

One of our younger congregational members has presented a proposal to turn our main cross into a crucifix by adding the Corpus of Christ onto our pre-existing cross.

Why: A cross can represent anything nowadays. Many people wear it just as something to match their outfit without really knowing what it is meant to represent.

By putting the Corpus on our church's cross, we could better represent our shared belief in Jesus's crucifixion, sacrifice and fulfillment of the covenant.

- ▶ Has been approved by Board of Elders
- ▶ Has been approved by Church Council
- ▶ Is under discussion by Church Voters
- ▶ Needs congregational consideration and approval
- ▶ Will be reviewed and voted upon by Church Voters at the next quarterly meeting in April 2024

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact Pastor Koepp or a church elder.