

You were
straying
like sheep,

but have
now returned to the
Shepherd and
Overseer
of your **souls.**

1 PETER 2:25, ESV

Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

1449 34th Street NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881

www.WinterHavenLutheran.org

Rob Sauers, Pastor (920) 602-3242

Neil Bernthal, Teacher (863) 967-5145

Katie Naumann, Teacher (253) 230-4184

Organist: Teresa Bernthal

Usher: Mike Sheffield

Acolyte: Maxwell Kuehne

As We Gather

“Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow His example pure.” These poetic words of a favorite hymn, written in the 1600s by Sigismund von Birken, have a special meaning for us each day. Although the author intended that his hymn about following the example of Jesus be sung in the Lenten season, when there is a focus on themes of sacrifice and self-giving, the words fit equally well in Eastertide. No season, even one as joyous and victorious as Easter, is without its challenges that may include some sorts of suffering. There are no times when we are exempted from taking up our crosses and following the Lord. The Good Shepherd stands ready in every season to lead His flock with loving care!

✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

Hymn

436 – The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Opening Sentences

- P** Oh come, let us sing to the LORD!
- C** Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation.
- P** For He is our God,
- C** And we are the people of His pasture, And the sheep of His hand.

Confession and Absolution

Micah 6:6-8

- P** Let us come before God in true repentance, seeking forgiveness and amendment of our lives as we follow the Lord.
- P** With what shall I come before the LORD, And bow myself before the High God?
- C** Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, With calves a year old?
- P** Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, Ten thousand rivers of oil?
- C** Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, The fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

- P** He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?
- C** **Almighty God, we confess that we are indeed sinful. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for these our sins. Have mercy on us because of Jesus, our Good Shepherd. Grant that, by the working of the Holy Spirit, we may follow where He leads until that time when we, by His grace, come to dwell in Your house forever.**
- P** God has promised forgiveness to those who repent of their sins and turn to Him for grace. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

✠ Service of the Word ✠

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 23

- P** The LORD is my shepherd;
- C** **I shall not want.**
- P** He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
- C** **He leads me beside the still waters.**
- P** He restores my soul;
- C** **He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.**
- P** Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
- C** **For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.**
- P** You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
- C** **You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.**
- P** Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life;
- C** **And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever.**



Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son
and to the Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be - ginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be for - ev - er more. A - men.

Kyrie

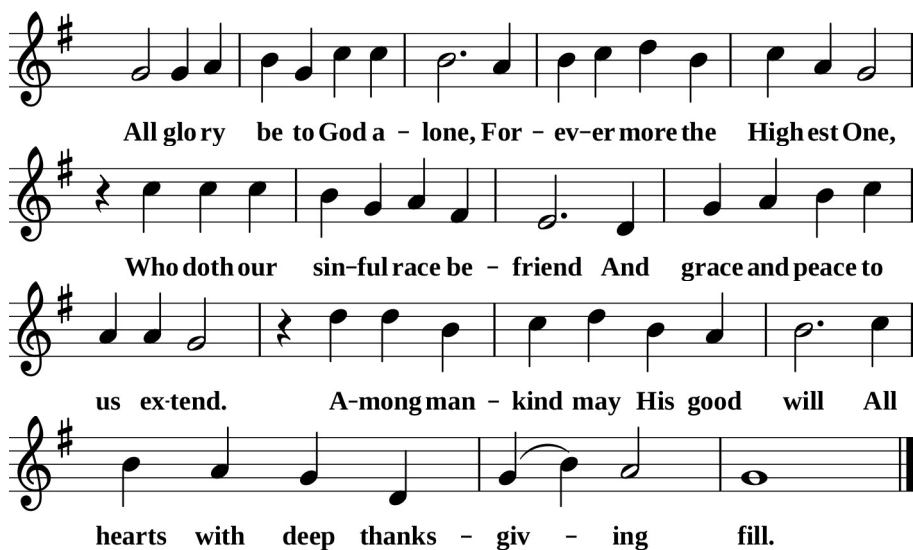
Lord, Have Mercy



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

Glory be to God on High - Hymn 238, st. 1



All glory be to God a - lone, For - ev - er more the Highest One,
Who doth our sin - ful race be - friend And grace and peace to
us ex - tend. A - mong man - kind may His good will All
hearts with deep thanks - giv - ing fill.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray...

... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

⁴² And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. ⁴³ Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, ⁴⁵ and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. ⁴⁶ So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Gospel Reading

John 10:1-10

¹ "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. ² But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵ Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶ Jesus used this illustration, but they did not understand the things which He spoke to them. ⁷ Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸ All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. ⁹ I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

Alleluia

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.



Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn

431 – The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Sermon Text

1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹ For this is commendable, if because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully. ²⁰ For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God. ²¹ For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: ²² “Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth”; ²³ who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously; ²⁴ who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed. ²⁵ For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.



Sermon

Suffering for the Faith

I. Steps of Suffering

II. The Example of Jesus

Offertory

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,
and re - new a right spir - it with in me.
Cast me not a - way from Your pres - ence;
and take not Your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re - store un - to me the joy of Your sal - va - tion;
and uphold me with Your free spir - it. A - men.

Hymn

421 – Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake

Offering Hymn

442 st. 2

Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to yield Thee
Gladly, freely, of Thine own;
With the sunshine of Thy goodness
Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures,
Warmed by Thee, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed
'Tis to give than to receive.

General Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

- C** 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.

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
- C** Amen.

Hymn

409 – Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

✝ Announcements ✝

Welcome to all of our guests and visitors this morning in our Savior's name. We are glad that you have come to worship with us this morning, and hope that you will come back and join us again. It is our prayer that your faith will be strengthened by the preaching of our Lord's pure Word and by the psalms and hymns that our Scripture-based liturgy offers. If you have any questions about our church or are interested in learning more about the Scriptures, please ask Pastor Sauers.

Upcoming Schedule

April 30	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service
May 7	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
	11:15 am	Board of Education and Elders
May 14	8:00 am	Worship Service (Orlando)
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Winter Haven)

Member Visits: Pastor would like to get to know everyone in the congregation, and to that end, would like to visit with each family individually. These visits are intended as an opportunity for spiritual encouragement and for members to share their concerns, questions, comments, and suggestions. Please find the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board and sign up.

Christ's Explorers Camp: Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church (W. Columbia, SC) will be hosting Christ's Explorers Camp July 20th - 23rd in Sevierville, TN. Camp is open to students entering grades 3-9 for the 2023-24 school year. The cost is \$100 per camper. This year's theme is "Guiding Lights" with the theme passage being Psalm 119:105. The devotions and Bible studies will focus on how Jesus and His Word help us to overcome the darkness and confusion of the sinful world around us. Slots still available! You may register at christsexplorerscamp.com.

CLC Youth Camp: Registration is open until May 31st! Camp takes place from June 11th-17th, 2023 at Camp JIM in Pillager, MN for students 6th-12th grade. Visit our website for more information and to register your camper! <https://youthcampclc.wixsite.com/camp>. Email Amber Casto and Sam Rademacher at youthcamp.clc@gmail.com with any questions!

Pacific Coast Women's Retreat: Grow in Grace October 6-8, 2023 in Cusick, WA! We welcome all girls and women to our retreat in the beautiful Pacific Northwest! Planes, trains, and automobiles will bring you to Spokane, and then we'll lead you an hour-ish north to the Ponderosa Lodge. "Stay in the Know" by signing up on the Gethsemane Lutheran Church website for periodic updates. <https://gethsemaneclc.org/events/pacific-coast-womens-retreat/> Questions? Contact Tina Eichstadt, teichstadt@gmail.com or 651-398-2386.

CLC Call News: Pastor Nathanael Mayhew of Grace Lutheran in Sleepy Eye, MN and Faith Lutheran in New Ulm, MN is considering the call to serve as the third pastor at Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI <> Seminary graduate Jonah Albrecht has accepted the call from the dual parish of Redemption Lutheran of Lynnwood, WA and Ascension Lutheran of Tacoma, WA to serve as their pastor. <> Teacher graduate Stephen Krause has accepted the call from Grace Lutheran in Valentine, NE to teach in their school.

Fruits of Faith – April 16, 2023 – WH – 39	
Immanuel Home	\$816.25
Building	\$100.00
Property Improvement	\$100.00
ILC Scholarship	\$50.00
Sign	\$100.00
Total Offering	\$1,166.25

Fruits of Faith – April 23, 2023 – Orlando – ? WH – ?	
Immanuel Home	\$66.25
Total Offering	\$66.25

✠ Serving Next Weekend ✠

Cleaner (5/6): Bernthal **Acolyte (5/7):** Maxwell Kuehne

✠ Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions ✠

May 1 - May 6, 2023

Monday: John 12:20-23 – During Holy Week, when some Greek-speaking worshipers want to see Jesus, we are reminded that His death and glorious resurrection are not just for His own people, but for the whole world.

Tuesday: John 12:24-26 – Jesus goes through suffering and death for the fruit that will result for mankind: forgiveness and life. Similarly Jesus' followers go through whatever suffering is necessary, knowing that their life in Christ will survive when this world's life is long gone.

Wednesday: 1 John 4:9-12 – We know God loves us because He sent His Son into the world to live and die and rise again for us. One of the fruits of His resurrection is that we also love God and show that love by loving those whom He so loved.

Thursday: 1 John 4:13-14 – A fruit of Christ's resurrection is that we share the testimony about God's sending His Son to save us all. This sharing of the Gospel is the Holy Spirit's doing, who has brought us to see our Savior with the eyes of faith.

Friday: Isaiah 40:26-28 – When we look at the stars above, we see evidence of God's wisdom and strength. He knows every star (by name, v26). Why then, would His people think that He did not know their troubles or understand? His power we can readily see. His understanding is also unsearchable.

Saturday: Isaiah 40:29-31 – The Lord God, who raised Jesus from the dead, is the source of power for the faint, even for those with no strength at all. This is His promise to us also, both now and when we pass through the valley of the shadow of death.

