

# Second Sunday in Lent

10:30 A.M. Worship with Eucharist March 8, 2020

## Welcome!

Immanuel Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

We welcome people of every age and size, color and culture, every sexual orientation and gender identity, socio-economic status and marital status, every ability and challenge.

We welcome believers and questioners, and questioning believers.

We're glad God has called you here today! If you're a guest, please feel free to introduce yourself to our pastor or assisting minister. If you would, sign the guest book in the Gathering Area or fill in a guest card, and we'll be happy to send information on how you can get involved at Immanuel.

#### **Facilities**

- Our parking lot is located on the south side of the church off Sherman Avenue. You may park in the lot at any time, whether for church events or for shopping or other errands in downtown Evanston; weekdays, see the church office at the Lake St. entrance to get a parking pass. On Sundays, additional parking is available across the street at the Holiday Inn or in Lot 6 on Lake St. across from the Police and Fire Headquarters. Parking meters are free until 1:00 P.M. on Sunday.
- The parking lot entrance is an accessible entrance. An elevator is located just inside that door.
- Restrooms are downstairs near the meeting of the two hallways. Accessible restrooms are located near
  the elevator on both upper and lower levels. A gender-neutral restroom is located on the lower level by
  the elevator.
- We love having children in worship! Activity bags are available from the greeters. There is a nursery and changing/crying room for parents to use, if needed, located downstairs. There are also changing tables in both restrooms on this level, by the elevator. An usher will be happy to direct you.
- Hearing assistance is available. Ask an usher for equipment.
- Wi-Fi is available throughout most of the building. The network is "Immanuel," password "allarewelcome". Please use the Internet responsibly!

#### **About Our Worship**

Our Sunday worship is organized around the proclamation of the Word of God and the celebration of the Lord's Supper. It has a familiar form each week, but the content changes for each service according to a calendar shared with many other Christians. Our hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, is organized so that page numbers for the liturgy are in the front part of the book, while hymn numbers are in the second part. The liturgy and hymns are printed in this bulletin, but page numbers are provided for those who wish to follow along in the hymnal.

#### **Receiving Holy Communion**

We invite you to share with us in the sacramental meal, because Christ himself invites you! There is no specific age requirement for Communion. If you would like your child to commune, please let the pastor know. At the direction of the usher, come forward if you are able, and kneel or stand at the altar rail, starting at the walls. Receive the bread in the palm of your hand. (Gluten-free wafers are available. Just ask the pastor.) You may eat it immediately, then take the silver chalice and drink from it or, if you prefer, take a small cup from the tray. The cups in the outer ring contain wine. The cups in the center contain grape juice. As you return to your seat, place your empty cup in the trays provided at the ends of the front pews. Return to your place via the side aisles after you have communed. If you need to have Communion brought to you, please sit on or near the aisle, and let either the pastor or an usher know before the service that you would like to commune at your seat. If you desire a blessing but not the sacrament, you are invited to come forward with everyone else and fold your arms over your chest to indicate this.

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.

**P:** Presiding Minister **L:** Leader/Assisting Minister **R:** Reader **A:** Assembly + All may make the sign of the cross.

**Pre-Service Music** 

"Variations on "Thee I Love with All My Heart" and other Lenten Hymns by Bach et al.

The Assembly stands when directed and turns toward the font.

#### **Confession and Forgiveness**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the Presiding Minister begins.

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who gathers us in the wilderness to redeem us, anoint us, and make us new.
- A Amen.
- P In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin, and receive God's promise of mercy.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

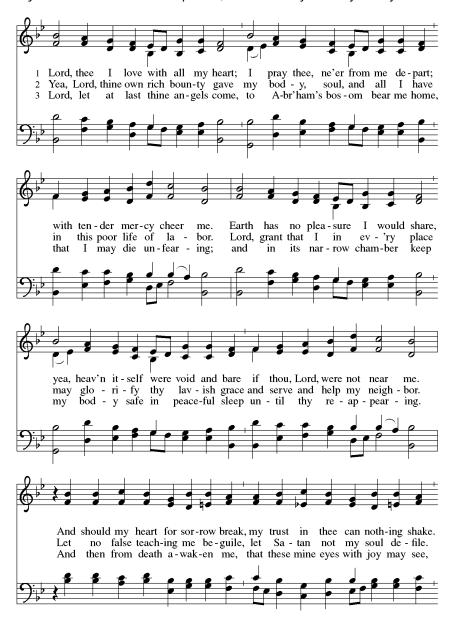
- P God at the margins,
- A you have shown us what is good,
  We have wandered far from your home;
  again and again, we lose our way.
  We turn inward, afraid of the world around us.
  We forget that you have saved your people before and promise to do so again.
  Do not remember the deeds of our past, but turn our faces toward the future, where your forgiveness is sure, your welcome is clear, and your love overflows. Amen
- P Like a hen who gathers her chicks,
  God embraces you in tender care.
  Like manna in the desert,
  God feeds you with surprising mercy.
  Like a loving parent,
  God runs to meet you again this day,
  forgiving your sins for the sake of 

  ← Christ,
  leading you from death into life.

#### A Amen.

## **Gathering Song**

You may reverence the cross as it passes, then turn to face the front of the worship space.





# Greeting

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- A And also with you!

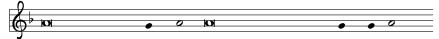






For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-va-tion, let us pray to the Lord.





For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,







For this ho-ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor-ship and praise,









#### **Prayer of the Day**

- P 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.
- A Amen.

The Assembly is seated.

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

**Word:** God speaks to us in scripture, preaching, and song

## **Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures**

**Genesis 12:1-4a** 

R A reading from the Book of Genesis.

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.

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>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." <sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

- R Word of God, word of life.
- A Thanks be to God!

#### **Psalm 121**

During this season of Lent, we will read the Psalm responsively, rather than sing it.

The right side of the Assembly will speak the lightface verses, and the left will speak the boldface verses

I lift up my eyes | to the hills;

from where is my | help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes | from the LORD, the maker of heav- | en and earth.

<sup>3</sup>The Lord will not let your | foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you | fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, the keep- | er of Israel will neither slum- | ber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>the Lord watches | over you; the Lord is your shade at | your right hand;

<sup>6</sup>the sun will not strike | you by day, nor the | moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord will preserve you | from all evil and will | keep your life.

<sup>8</sup>The Lord will watch over your going out and your | coming in, from this time forth for- | evermore.

R A reading from the Letter to the Romans.

In the person and example of Abraham we discover that a right relationship with God does not involve earning a reward from God but entails trusting God's promises. Abraham is the forebear and model for both Jews and Gentiles, because we too trust that ours is a God who gives life to the dead.

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

<sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>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, <sup>17</sup>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.

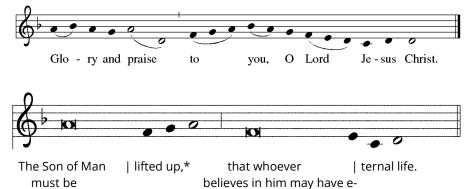
R Word of God, word of life.

#### A Thanks be to God!

The Assembly stands to greet the Good News of Jesus.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Hymnal p. 160



Gospel John 3:1–17

P This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ according to John.

#### A Glory to you, O Lord!

A curious Pharisee 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.

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>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." <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup>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?" <sup>5</sup>Jesus 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. <sup>7</sup>Do 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." <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup>"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. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in

<sup>16</sup>"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.

<sup>17</sup>"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.".

P The Gospel of the Lord.

him may have eternal life.

## A Praise to you, O Christ!

#### Sermon

#### Time of Silence

A bell will sound to signal a time of silence for reflection.

During this time, you may want to meditate on one word from the scriptures or from the sermon that stands out to you, asking the Spirit to show you how it applies to your own life.

When the bell sounds a second time, the Assembly stands to respond to the Word with song.



## **Prayers of the People**

- L Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.
- L God of rebirth, empower your church throughout the world to be a voice of hope for those who fear judgment or condemnation. We pray for our bishops, Elizabeth and Yehiel; for our president, Scott; for our Council; and for all those you have gathered here in your name. Assure us of your faithfulness and give us confidence to proclaim your salvation for all. Hear us, O God.

#### A Your mercy is great.

L God of rebirth, your Spirit hovered over the waters and you called creation into being. Nurture and bless all signs of rebirth around us: budding trees and new shoots, thawing lakes and warm breezes, and animals awaking from hibernation. Hear us, O God.

#### A Your mercy is great.

L God of rebirth, lead the nations in your way of righteousness. Protect those who advocate for the needs of children, migrants, and victims of violence. Give courage to lawmakers, lawyers, judges, and law enforcement officers, guiding them to do justice and to love mercy. Hear us, O God.

## A Your mercy is great.

L God of rebirth, give us a new vision of your healing power among us. Restore hope to those who remain in the depths of depression or despair. Bring mercy and relief to those who are injured, sick, or suffering, especially Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Margaret Carlson, Babs Deacon, Lucas Forzley, Bob Fried, Kim Gann, Jennifer Grethe, Judith Kratochvil, Richard Lewis, Elaine Nelson, Andy Sheer, Darryl Simchak, Alyssa Steinberg, Doris Strom, and those we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts [...]. Hear us, O God.

#### A Your mercy is great.

L God of rebirth, we thank you for the children of this community and for the people and ministries that care for them. Bless new and expectant parents. Console those who have lost children and those whose desire for children remains unfulfilled. Hear us, O God.

## A Your mercy is great.

L And now, sisters and brothers, for what else shall we pray?

The petitions and thanksgivings of the Assembly, silent or spoken aloud, are invited.

L Hear us, O God.

#### A Your mercy is great.

L God of rebirth, by wind and spirit you call us into life renewed. We give you thanks for all your saints who have inherited your promises, especially Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, and Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome. Bring us, with them, into your everlasting kingdom. Hear us, O God.

## A Your mercy is great.

P According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

#### A Amen.

#### **Peace**

- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- A And also with you.

Greet one another in the peace of the Risen Christ, saying "Peace be with you," "The peace of the Lord," or similar words.

If you prefer not to shake hands, you might raise your hand in a gesture of blessing
as you speak peace to your neighbors. After the Peace, all return to their seats.

**Meal:** God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ ...

**Offering** An offering is gathered for doing God's mission, including the care of those in need.

## **Offering Music**

Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt daß er seinen eingebornen Sohn gab auf daß alle die an ihn glauben nicht verloren werden sondern das ewige Leben haben. "Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt," SWV 380 John 3:16" by Heinrich Schütz

For God so loved the world, that he sent his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, The Assembly stands and sings as the gifts are brought forward.

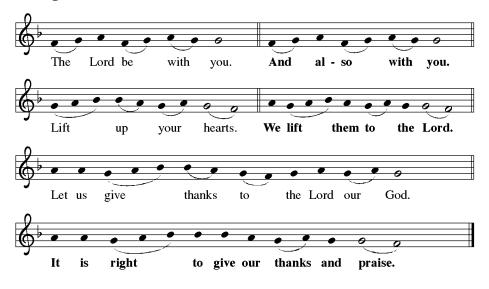


## **Offering Prayer**

- L Let us pray.
- A God of wonder,
  you have not fed us with bread alone,
  but with words of grace and life.
  Bless us, and these your gifts,
  which we receive from your bounty.
  through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Great Thanksgiving

#### **Dialogue**

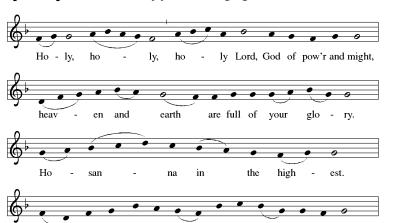


**Preface** The Presiding Minister begins the prayer:



Hymnal, p. 162

## Holy, Holy, Holy The Assembly joins in singing:



high

## Thanksgiving at the Table

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

#### A Amen.

#### The Lord's Prayer

- P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
- A 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.

## The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation

L Christ has prepared the feast!
Come to the table where all are welcomed home

#### A Thanks be to God!

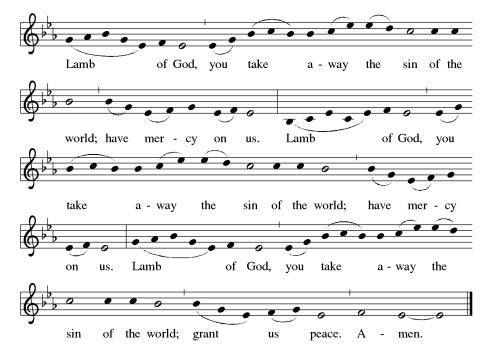
## **Distribution of Holy Communion**

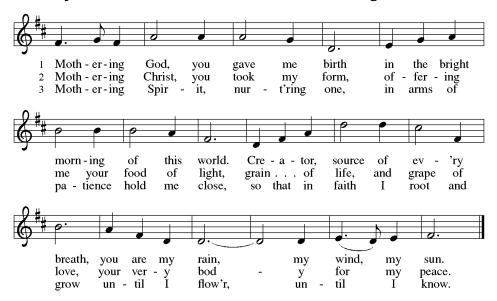
The Assembly is seated. Please come forward as the ushers direct, and as you are able.

See the inside front cover for instructions concerning Holy Communion.

#### **Communion Song**

"Lamb of God" Hymnal p. 164





The Assembly stands when directed by the Presiding Minister.

## **Blessing after Communion**

- P May the body and blood of our + Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you in his grace.
- A Amen.

## **Prayer after Communion**

- Let us pray. Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- A Amen.

#### **Sending of Communion**

P Let us pray. Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

#### A Amen.

#### **Sending Song**

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory" " [printed on next page] **Hymnal 324** 

Please turn as the cross passes you to face the doors through which you will be sent out in mission.

#### **Blessing**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

#### A Amen.

#### Dismissal

L Go in peace. Share the Good News!

#### A Thanks be to God!

#### **Postlude**

Please stay for a time of fellowship immediately following the service in Fellowship Hall.

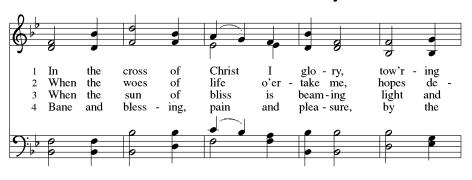
Refreshments are provided by the Chatains.

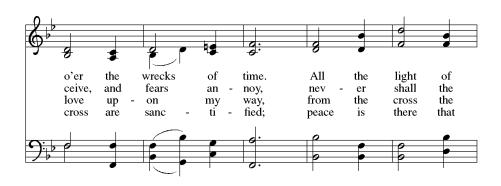
Come enjoy one another's company and hear about all the opportunities for service and community!

## Serving in worship today...

| Presiding Minister | The Rev. John Lang              |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Assisting Minister |                                 |
| Acolyte            |                                 |
| Lector             | Christine Imhoff                |
| Communion Minister | Susan Ross                      |
| Organist           | Greg Hummel                     |
| Music Director     | James Morehead                  |
| Table Preparation  | Kathryn Skelton                 |
| Communion Bread    | The Bread Bakers                |
| Ushers             | Jim Rakowsky, Nicolai Schousboe |

# In the Cross of Christ I Glory







#### This Week's Commemorations

# Harriet Tubman, died 1913; Sojourner Truth, died 1883; renewers of society Tuesday, March 10, 2020

Harriet Tubman, born into slavery, helped about 300 others to escape slavery until the institution was abolished. Sojourner Truth, whose birth name was Isabella, was freed after slavery was abolished, and discerned a call to be a preacher. Taking the name Sojourner Truth, she set out on an evangelistic journey, where people found her testimony to be deeply moving.

## Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, died 604 Thursday, March 12, 2020

Born into wealth and power, Gregory was for a time the chief administrator of the city of Rome. Giving this up for a life in the church, he was elected pope in 590. He influenced public worship through the establishment of a lectionary and prayers to correlate with the readings. Gregorian chant is named in his honor.

## **Upcoming Events**

| Sunday, March 8     | Lenten Study at Grace Luthern: "Making Sense of the Cross"     | 3:30 PM           |
|---------------------|--|-------------------|
| Wednesday, March 11 | Dinner Church  | 6:30 PM           |
| Friday, March 13    | Community Warming Center                                       | 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM |
| Sunday, March 15    | Adult Spiritual Growth   | 9:00 AM           |
|                     | Worship with Eucharist   | 10:30 AM          |
|                     | Lenten Study at Immanuel Lutheran: "Making Sense of the Cross" | 3:30 PM           |

## Immanuel's Staff and Leadership

| Scott Romans  |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Melisa Larson   |  |  |
| Sara KrentzCongregation Secretary   |  |  |
| Susan Ross  |  |  |
| Dana Barron, Tom Couch, Linda Edlund, Greg Hummel, Bert Mount, Erik Shearer, Jim Skelton, Grace Yarnoff |  |  |
| Congregation Council Members  |  |  |
| Mary Ann KearnsFinancial Secretary  |  |  |
| Elizabeth Stegner   |  |  |
| James Morehead  |  |  |
| Greg Hummel   |  |  |
| Laurie Stivers  |  |  |
| Jane Kaihatsu   |  |  |

Immanuel Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), Metropolitan Chicago Synod. We've been worshiping God and serving the Evanston community since 1888!