

Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church
Sunday, February 28, 2021
Second Sunday in Lent
Service of the Word

Prelude

Announcement

Confession and Forgiveness

Canticle of Praise

“Glory to God”

pg. 148

Greeting

Prayer of the Day

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Opening Hymn

“Come Thou Fount Of Every Blessing”

#807

First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Psalms: Psalm 22:23-31

Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25

Gospel Acclamation.

“Return to the Lord”

Pg. 151

Gospel: Mark 8:31-38

Pulpit Hymn

“Take Up Your Cross, The Savior Said”

#667

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Niveen Ibrahim Sarras

Hymn of the Day

“O Master Let Me Walk With You”

#818

Prayers of Intercession

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Your gift of grace is for all people. Give confident faith to all the baptized, that they may follow you wholeheartedly. Give new believers joy in your promises; give hope and courage to those who suffer for their faith. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

All the ends of the earth worship you. From galaxies to microorganisms, preserve your creation. Teach humanity to wonder at your works and to join you in tending to creation's well-being. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You rule over the nations. Raise up advocates for peace and justice within and between nations. Give life where hope seems dead; call into existence new realities we cannot even imagine. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In Jesus you joined humanity in suffering and death. Reveal to all the depth of your love shown on the cross. Accompany all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. Restore all who are sick or

grieving. Bring vindication for victims of injustice, exploitation, and oppression. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You made Abraham and Sarah the ancestors of a multitude of nations. Bless grandparents, parents, and foster parents, and the children who look to them for care and guidance. Console those who deal with infertility, parents who have entrusted their children to adoption, and children longing to be adopted. Equip ministries and services to families. (*The congregation's ministries and community services may be named.*) Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord we lift up before you all who are in need of your help . We pray especially for Thelma, Esther, Kathrine-Sylvia, Abber, Jezel, Joelle, Odeh, April, Brianna, Alice, Charissa, Scott, Phyllis, Ashley, Laura, David, Sara, Jeff, Edie, Joan, Jamie & Mike, Ted, Pastor Mark (Dixie Burk's Brother), Maggie Westaby, Pat Stolen, and Sonya (Jackie's Sister-in-Law), Jim Palmer, and Duane (Joyce Lohr cousin) let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

We await the day of Christ's coming in glory. Lead us by the example of all the saints whom you have called to take up their cross and follow you, that together we may find our lives in you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray...

The Lord's prayer Sharing of Peace

Offering

Offertory Hymn

"Restore in Us, O God"

#328

Offering Prayer

Blessing

Closing Hymn

"Our Father, We Have Wandered"

#606

Dismissal

ILC Mission Statement: We are a fellowship of believers committed to live and share God's love by serving our community and the world.

NEWS

Prayer Concerns: Thelma, Esther, Kathrine-Sylvia, Abber, Jezel, Joelle, Odeh, April, Brianna, Alice, Charissa, Scott, Phyllis, Ashley, Laura, David, Sara, Jeff, Edie, Joan, Jamie & Mike, Ted, Pastor Mark (Dixie Burk's Brother), Maggie Westaby, Pat Stolen, and Sonya (Jackie's Sister-in-Law), Jim Palmer, and Duane (Joyce Lohr cousin)

ILC Worship In-Person Services:

- **Sunday, February 28, 2021, 9:00 AM** masks required.
- **Sunday, March 7, 2021, 9:00 AM** masks required, 10:30 AM masks optional.
- **Sunday, March 14, 2021, 9:00 AM** masks optional.
- **Sunday, March 21, 2021, 9:00 AM** masks required.
- **Sunday, March 28, 2021, 9:00 AM** masks optional.
- **Sunday, April 4, 2021, 9:00 AM** masks required, 10:30 AM masks optional.

Future dates and options will be published in the newsletter and posted on our web site.

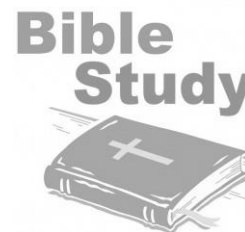
All Lenten Services will be virtual with the option of a virtual Sunday Service.

The following ILC services and ministries will continue to be online, via telephone and Spectrum TV:

- Our Facebook Page: @ILCWausau
- Our YouTube Channel: Search “Immanuel Lutheran Church of Wausau Wisconsin, Inc.” on Sunday afternoon. Our Website: <http://www.immanuelwausau.org> (Click on Video Gallery)
- Spectrum TV Cable Channel 980 at 11AM Sunday, 5:45 PM Tuesday & 9:15 AM Thursday or online: Wausau Area Access Media: waam.viebit.com (Left side, scroll to Immanuel Lutheran.)
- **Dial-a-Sermon is Live. Dial 1-715-200-9495.** Pastor Niveen’s weekly sermon is now available on any telephone.

Church office phone number is 715-842-3644. Pastor Niveen’s direct line is 510-355-4352.

“No Wonder They Crucified Him”
4 Virtual Session Bible Studies at 10:30 AM



Of all the people admired in the world today, Jesus of Nazareth continually ranks at the top of the list. Even those who don't call themselves Christians regard Jesus as one of the wisest teachers and most loving leaders the world has ever known. He is still making the covers of magazines and being talked about in coffee shops with a popularity like no other person who has walked this earth. So why did his contemporaries kill him?

This five-session study examines Jesus as not simply meek and mild, but as a dangerous man because he was and is the God who is dangerously good. Take a fresh look at Jesus' call to action.

Session One: February 28, 2021 - Get Off the Fence

Jesus won't accept neutrality.

Matthew 12:22–32

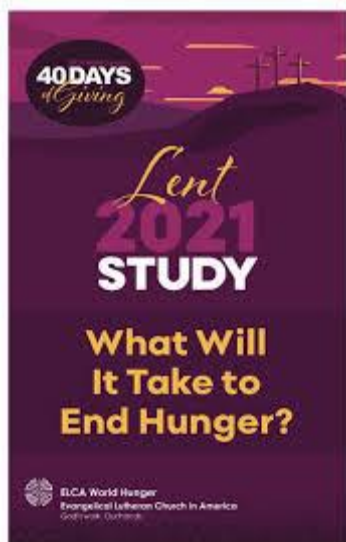
We have to buck life in a fence-walking world. Ground yourself on God's side of the fence through spiritual disciplines.

Session Two: March 14, 2021 - Complete the Circle of Grace and Works

Sometimes Jesus sets conditions on grace.

Luke 6:37–42

As Christians, we know that we get to spend eternity in heaven, not because we're such great people, but because Jesus is. Yet, what does that mean as we respond to the remarkable grace God has shown us in Christ?



The series I am using for Lent on Sundays is from the ELCA World Hunger; *what will it take to end hunger?* I have ordered 25 copies of the study booklets with 25 calendars. You are encouraged to pick up your copy from the church.

The church council have decided to launch a campaign to donate money for the ELCA World Hunger. As part of our Lent spiritual practices, you are encouraged to set aside every single day the amount of money you choose to designate for the ELCA World Hunger. For example, set aside \$2 every day until Easter Sunday, which will be \$80 and then write a check to ILC and put in the memo ELCA world hunger.

Holy Communion is now available at ILC. This table is located by the front office. Each package contains the Body of Christ and a prayer. Pastor Niveen has blessed each one. All the packages were assembled using the highest sanitizing measures.

Olive Oil is Here! Canaan Fair Trade olive oil is available in the church office. The 500 ml bottles are available in the church office for \$15.00. The purchase of this excellent olive oil supports the Palestinian farmers who are part of the cooperative. In addition to using it for your own purposes, it also makes a wonderful gift to give someone!

Special Tax Deduction for 2020: This year, there's an additional component at play with so many people, businesses and organizations struggling due to COVID-19. Many people may not realize it, but there's a special tax deduction available for them through Dec. 31, 2020 for cash donations up to \$300 to qualifying charities. This deduction is designed especially for people who choose to take the standard deduction, rather than itemizing. Please consult with your tax professional to see if you qualify.

Our Sister Church is the Lobatla Parish. The address is: c/o Justice Pule, P.O. Box 160, Motswedi 2870, Republic of South Africa.