

***Welcome to Immanuel Lutheran Church***

*630 Adams St Wausau, WI 54403*

*Phone: (715) 842-3644*

**<http://www.immanuelwausau.org>**

***Sunday, March 16, 2025***

***Second Sunday in Lent, Year C***



***Please welcome Kathy Robinson as she leads us in Worship today.***

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

**Introduction**

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

***Please stand if able.***

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

***Silence is kept for reflection.***

**P:** Compassionate One,

**C:** you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,  
but our lives do not always reflect you  
and your love for the world.

**We do not show others the tender compassion  
you have shown to us.  
We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality  
you grant to all people.  
We oppress others,  
even though you have set us free again and again.  
We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.  
Transform our lives  
and guide us again in the way of the cross.  
Amen.**

**P:** Beloved in Christ,  
God's arms are always stretched open wide  
to welcome the wandering ones home.  
In ✝ Christ your sins are forgiven.  
You have a place in God's house forever.  
**Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn                      "Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land"                      #333**

**Greeting:** "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all" ( 2 Corinthians 13:14).

**C: And also, with you.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

**P:** God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in 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.*

## **First Reading: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18**

*God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.*

<sup>1</sup> After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup> But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup> And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." <sup>4</sup> But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup> He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup> And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

<sup>7</sup> Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." <sup>8</sup> But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" <sup>9</sup> He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." <sup>10</sup> He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. <sup>11</sup> And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

<sup>12</sup> As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

<sup>17</sup> When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. <sup>18</sup> On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

**R: Word of God. Word of life. C: Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm: Psalm 27

### R: Please read responsively to Psalm: Psalm 27

*In the day of trouble, God will give me shelter. (Ps. 27:5)*

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then <sup>1</sup> shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I <sup>1</sup> be afraid?

<sup>2</sup> **When evildoers close in against me to de- <sup>1</sup> vour my flesh,  
they, my foes and my enemies, will stum- <sup>1</sup> ble and fall.**

<sup>3</sup> Though an army encamp against me, my heart <sup>1</sup> will not fear.

Though war rise up against me, my trust will <sup>1</sup> not be shaken.

<sup>4</sup> **One thing I ask of the LORD; one <sup>1</sup> thing I seek;**

**that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to  
gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God <sup>1</sup> in the temple. R**

<sup>5</sup> For in the day of trouble God will <sup>1</sup> give me shelter,

hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up- <sup>1</sup> on  
a rock.

<sup>6</sup> **Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies <sup>1</sup> who surround me.**

**Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of  
rejoicing; I will sing and make music <sup>1</sup> to the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup> Hear my voice, O LORD, <sup>1</sup> when I call;

have mercy on me and <sup>1</sup> answer me.

<sup>8</sup> **My heart speaks your message— <sup>1</sup> “Seek my face.”**

**Your face, O LORD, <sup>1</sup> I will seek. R**

<sup>9</sup> Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your ser- <sup>1</sup> vant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God  
of <sup>1</sup> my salvation.

<sup>10</sup> **Though my father and my moth- <sup>1</sup> er forsake me,  
the LORD will <sup>1</sup> take me in.**

<sup>11</sup> Teach me your <sup>1</sup> way, O LORD;

lead me on a level path, because of <sup>1</sup> my oppressors.

<sup>12</sup> **Subject me not to the will <sup>1</sup> of my foes,**

**for they rise up against me, false witnesses <sup>1</sup> breathing violence.**

<sup>13</sup> This I believe—that I will see the goodness <sup>1</sup> of the LORD

in the land <sup>1</sup> of the living!

**<sup>14</sup> Wait for the LORD <sup>1</sup> and be strong.  
Take heart and wait <sup>1</sup> for the LORD! R**

**Second Reading: Philippians 3:17—4:1**

*Although Paul's devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.*

<sup>17</sup> Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. <sup>18</sup> For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. <sup>19</sup> Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. <sup>20</sup> But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>21</sup> He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. <sup>4:1</sup> Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

R: Word of God. Word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for the Gospel.*

**Gospel Acclamation**

**“Return To The Lord”**

**pg. 142**

**Gospel: Luke 13:31-35**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.*

<sup>31</sup> At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” <sup>32</sup> He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work.’” <sup>33</sup> Yet today, tomorrow,



Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**Offertory Hymn**                      **“Create in Me a Clean Heart”**                      **#186**  
*The usher will bring up the offering plate.*

*Please stand if able.*

## **Offering Prayer**

**P:** Gracious Provider,  
you set your immense treasures among us,  
opening your heart to the world.  
As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,  
deepen our commitment to sharing those  
treasures with others,  
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

## **Blessing**

God our tender parent,  
God the crucified one,  
God the reconciling Spirit,  
✠ bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**Sending Hymn**                      **“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”**                      **#335**

## **Dismissal**

**P:** Go in peace. Live in hope.  
**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Postlude**

## Attendance on 3/9/2025: 26

**Prayer Concerns: Joan Bonstead, Judi McGill and Bob Henning for medical challenges. Leora Mitchell, Joan Winterhoff, Karen Spoehrs.** (For updates, please contact the ILC Office)

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***Our Sister Church is the Lobatla Parish. Pastor Elijah Lekwate. Email for Justice Pule: pulejustice74@gmail.com***

**Volunteers needed to Host Coffee Hours. The sign-up sheet is in the kitchen.**

### **Serving us Today**

**Leader:** Kathy Robinson

**Organist/Pianist:** Delores K.

**Reader:** Vern Diestelhorst

**Usher:** Mike Schwede

**Video Recorder:** Bob Henning

**Altar Guild:** Kathy Knox, Joanne Distelhorst, and Pattie Bricko



### **Time For Easter Flowers! The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex!**

Here are the flowers for 2025:

- Single Lilies (5+ blooms) \$13
- Spring Bulb Plants (Tulip, Daffodil, Hyacinth) \$10
- Mums – Daisy Variety in white, yellow or lavender \$14

*All prices include preformed foil pot covers.*

**Order by March 16, 2025**

**Sunday, March 23, 2025, at 9:15am.** Immanuel Lutheran Church Council Meeting.





**St. John Lutheran Church, 5304 44th Avenue  
Wausau, WI 54401**

- **Lenten Dinners at 5pm** (Every Wednesday in Lent – excluding Holy Week) March 5, 2025 – April 9, 2025
- **Lenten Services at 6:30pm** (Starting with Ash Wednesday March 5, 2025 – April 9, 2025)

**Holy Week**

- **Thursday, April 17 at 6:30** - Maundy Thursday Service
- **Friday, April 18 at 6:30** - Good Friday Service
- **Easter Sunday, April 20 - Services at 8:00 and 10:30, breakfast at 9:00**

**Saint Andrew Lutheran Church, 150202 County Rd NN  
Wausau, WI 54401**

- **Lent** will begin with Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025, when we will mark the beginning of the 40 days of Lent together. Pr. Rich Block will preside over these services at 12:15 and 6:15 pm with the Handbell Choir playing at 6:15 pm.
- **Lenten Soup Supper.** Wednesdays 1-6 pm | **March 9-April 9** in Fellowship Hall. It is time once again to share in fellowship and soup supper. There will be 3 soup varieties each week along with a vegetarian option. The weekly “Network” will list the soups for the upcoming Wednesday. Please join us after the noon Lenten service or before the evening Lenten service. All are welcome.

**First English Lutheran Church, 402 N 3rd Avenue**  
**Wausau, WI. 54401**

- **Lenten Services:** Wednesday, 6:00 p.m., beginning March 5, 2025
- **Maundy Thursday:** 6:00 p.m. with Holy Communion
- **Palm Sunday:** 9:00 a.m.
- **Good Friday:** 1:15 p.m.
- **Easter Sunday:** 2 services, 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. with Holy Communion

**The Men's Discussion Group** meets Thursdays at 7:30 am, in the Koinonia room. New participants are always welcome.

**Strong Bones Senior Exercise Group** meets every Tuesday and Thursday in the old Nursery at 10:30 am. The class is open to anyone wishing to improve balance and maintain strength to prevent falls. New faces are happily welcome.

**Food Pantry Donations for the Neighbors' Place**

Place your items on the black cart next to the pew near the Gathering Room and they will be delivered to the Neighbors' Place.

## 40 Days 40 Items

In observance of the Lenten Season, many people choose to “give up” something they enjoy as they enter a period of reflection. An alternative to or perhaps in addition to this observance is to “take on” something new.

You can collect an item for each day of Lent—40 days yields 40 much-needed items in our community for many organizations. You will make a profound impact on your community while you are reflecting on your life and making personal changes.

Please consider contributing the following shelf stable food to your local food bank, clothing or hygiene items to those that need it. You can bring these items to church and place them in the appropriate donation location, and we will sort and distribute at the end. Items collected will then be distributed amongst Neighbors Place, The Marty Bus, Women’s Community and Community Clothing Closet.

1. Peanut Butter
2. Socks
3. Canned Meal with Pop Tops
4. Canned Chicken/Tuna
5. Pasta
6. Spaghetti Sauce
7. Cereal
8. T-Shirts
9. Canned Vegetables
10. Canned Fruit
11. Oatmeal
12. Applesauce
13. Pants
14. Spices/Sauces
15. Jelly
16. Juice/Juice Boxes
17. Flour, Sugar or Oil
18. Sweatshirts
19. Side Dishes
20. Soup
21. Popcorn/ Snacks
22. Hamburger Helper
23. New Tarps
24. Baked Beans
25. Granola Bars/Protein Bars/Pop Tarts
26. Water
27. Laundry Soap
28. Toilet Paper
29. New Underwear/Boxers
30. Instant Mashed Potatoes
31. Microwave Meals
32. Crackers [i.e. Saltine or “Ritz”]

- |                                       |                                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 33. Cake Mix with Frosting            | 34. Walking Shoes without holes |
| 35. Individual Drink Mixes ex. Propel | 36. Tooth brush/Toothpaste      |
| 37. Paper Towel                       | 38. Bath Soap                   |
| 39. Shampoo/Conditioner               | 40. Deodorant                   |

Please bring your donations to any of the following four church locations:  
St. Stephens, Good Shepherd, Pilgrim, or Immanuel Lutheran Church. If you  
have questions feel free to reach out to Shauna Robinson, 608-514-4504,  
[nutband@gmail.com](mailto:nutband@gmail.com)