



**“Blessed**  
*are those*  
who have not seen and  
**yet have believed.”**

John 20:29, NIV

## *Second Sunday of Easter*

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Lakefield, Minnesota ~ LCMS  
April 12, 2026

### *Lord, Give Us Such a Faith as This*

#### **As We Gather**

One of the classic Easter songs of the church is the *Victimae Paschali*. Dating back to medieval times, it includes a musical narrative of the resurrection of Jesus. One of the verses begins by addressing Mary, who is a witness to the resurrection, in this way: “Speak, Mary, declaring what you saw when wayfaring.” And Mary replies confidently: “The tomb of Christ, who is living, the glory of Jesus’ resurrection” (*LSB* 460). The vision that Mary had of the divine messenger in a bright garment at the open and empty tomb was a glorious sight. His message, “He has risen; He is not here” (Mark 16:6), was glorious as well. The season of Easter in the life of the church is a time when the glory of God is celebrated by His faithful people. In his stirring hymn text “Thy Strong Word,” Dr. Martin Franzmann writes, “Glorious now, we press toward glory, and our lives our hopes confess” (*LSB* 578:3). Joyfully and confidently we can share the glory of Easter!

# Preparation

## Hymn: 490 Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won



1 Je - sus lives! The vic - t'ry's won! Death no long - er can ap -  
2 Je - sus lives! To Him the throne High a - bove all things is  
3 Je - sus lives! For me He died, Hence will I, to Je - sus  
4 Je - sus lives! I know full well Noth - ing me from Him shall  
5 Je - sus lives! And now is death But the gate of life im -



pall me; Je - sus lives! Death's reign is done!  
giv - en. I shall go where He is gone,  
liv - ing, Pure in heart and act a - bide,  
sev - er. Nei - ther death nor pow'rs of hell  
mor - tal; This shall calm my trem - bling breath



From the grave will Christ re - call me. Bright - er  
Live and reign with Him in heav - en. God is  
Praise to Him and glo - ry giv - ing. All I  
Part me now from Christ for - ev - er. God will  
When I pass its gloom - y por - tal. Faith shall



scenes will then com-mence; This shall be my con - fi - dence.  
faith - ful; doubt-ings, hence! This shall be my con - fi - dence.  
need God will dis - pense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.  
be my sure de - fense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.  
cry, as fails each sense: Je - sus is my con - fi - dence!

Text: Christian Fürchtegott Gellert, 1715-69; tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812-97, alt.

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

Text and tune: Public domain

## Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Opening Sentences *Romans 6:9; John 20:29b; Psalm 145:1, 5, 6b*

**P** Alleluia! We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him.

**C** Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia! Alleluia!

- P** I will extol You, my God and King, and bless Your name forever and ever.
- C** **On the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and on Your wondrous works, I will meditate, and I will declare Your greatness.**

### 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.
- C** **“With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high?**
- I** “Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?
- II** “Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of 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 told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?
- C** **Almighty God, we confess that we are indeed sinful. By our very nature we are 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 Savior. Grant that, by the working of the Holy Spirit, we may live out our lives on earth faithfully until that time when we, by His grace, join the company of heaven forever.**
- P** God has promised forgiveness to those who repent of their sins and turn to Him for grace. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and at His command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. May our gracious God, lead you to greater faith and obedience, and bring you to live with Him eternally in His glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

*Word*

## Prayer of the Day

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## First Reading

*Acts 5:29–42*

But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*1 Peter 1:3–9*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Verse

*Romans 6:9; John 20:29b*

**C** Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia.

## Holy Gospel

*John 20:19–31*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his

hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Children’s Message

Hymn: 470 O Sons and Daughters of the King *sts. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9*



1 O sons and daughters of the King, Whom heav’n - ly  
3 An an - gel clad in white they see, Who sits and  
5 When Thom - as first the tid - ings heard That they had  
7 No long - er Thom - as then de - nied; He saw the  
9 On this most ho - ly day of days Be laud and



hosts in glo - ry sing, To - day the grave has lost its sting!  
speaks un - to the three, “Your Lord will go to Gal - i - lee.”  
seen the ris - en Lord, He doubt - ed the dis - ci - ples’ word.  
feet, the hands, the side; “You are my Lord and God!” he cried.  
ju - bi - lee and praise: To God your hearts and voic - es raise.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615

Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

### Catechism

### *The First Article*

**P** In the First Reading, Luke records that Peter and the apostles spoke plainly of the action of God as they proclaimed the resurrection from the dead of Jesus. They plainly stated “The God of our fathers raised Jesus. . . . God exalted Him at His right hand as Leader and Savior” (Acts 5:30–31). The First Article of the Creed is focused on God, our Creator, from whom our divine Savior, Jesus Christ, was begotten before all worlds.

**C** **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**What does this mean?**

**I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.**

**He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.**

**He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.**

**This is most certainly true.**

## Offering

### Prayer of the Church

**P** In peace let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

For the whole Christian Church, that the peace of God dwell within it and that the Spirit of God work through it, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, grant our petition.**

**P** For the nations of the world and for the leaders entrusted with their designated responsibilities, that true and lasting tranquility be known around the globe, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, grant our petition.**

**P** For this present assembly of God’s people, that all gathered here dwell together in peace and unity, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, grant our petition.**

**P** For those who actively keep the peace and bring about security both locally and around the world, including the armed forces of our nation and our local police, firefighters and first responders, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, grant our petition.**

**P** For those whose lives are in need of a special measure of peace and comfort—the sick and the hospitalized, [*including . . .*]; those who are experiencing changes and challenges, including the unemployed; those who are relocating to new places and situations and the elderly, as they face each new day as it comes to them; and for our youth—that they be surrounded by our support and our love, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, grant our petition.**

**P** For all the saints now in the glory of light eternal, Lord, we give You thanks. Bless us by the heritage of faith that they have left to us in our time and build on the legacy they have given us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer and bless us with Your peace. Amen.**

## 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 on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## Hymn: 474 Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re -  
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter Tell - ing the  
3 Je - sus the vine, We are the branch - es; Life in the  
4 Weep - ing, be gone; Sor - row, be si - lent: Death put a -  
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er, Gold - en Je -



sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen - dor, the Lamb, Heav - en for -  
sto - ry to o - pen our eyes; Break - ing our bread, Giv - ing us  
Spir - it the fruit of the tree; Heav - en to earth, Christ to the  
sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright. Cher - u - bim sing: "O grave, be  
ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb, Riv - er of life, Saints and arch -



ev - er! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!  
glo - ry: Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.  
peo - ple, Gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.  
o - pen!" Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.  
an - gels, Sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009

Tune: David N. Johnson, 1922–87

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## **Assisting with the Service**

*Preacher*    *Rev. Eric Obermann*  
*Elder*        *Luke Henning*  
*Organist*    *Lori Kruger*  
*Acolyte*     *Maddox Boogerd & Izzy Larsen*  
*Usher*        *Ron Gettler & Merle Hendricksen*

## **We Remember in our Prayers**

*Cathy Henry, Randy Henry's stepmom, diagnosed with cancer*  
*Our former Pastor, Rev. Phil Beukema, awaiting test results*  
*Jean Oelke recovering from hip surgery*  
*Dorie Schweigert, sister of Sandie Torke, recovering at home*  
*Jackie Ward dealing with health issues*  
*Our residents at Colonial Manor, Valley View, Golden Horizons in*  
*Worthington, Accura HealthCare in Milford, Paynesville Health*  
*Care Center, Good Sam in Estherville, Lakeview in Fairmont*  
*Tim Rossow, Merlyn Rossow, Keith Kolander, dealing with health issues*  
*Sandy Brown, sister of Vickie Baumann; Jeff Meyer, friend of Bruce and*  
*Jan Bakalyar; Mitch Voehl, son of Lila Voehl; Joyce Urmie,*  
*sister-in-law of Vickie Baumann; Marla Holcomb, sister of Wade*  
*and Alan Salzwedel; Diane Hansen, wife of Pastor David*  
*McDonald (Trinity Brewster), Miles Ramsey, toddler cousin of*  
*Amy Altman; Pastor Dennis Brech; Pastor Ben Rucker; Denny*  
*Daberkow; dealing with cancer*  
*Eric Rossow, son of Dennis and Connie Rossow; Chad Kolander,*  
*brother of Keith and Corey Kolander; Curt Gates, brother-in-law*  
*of Miles Voehl (Lila's son), dealing with health issues*  
*Our Law Enforcement*  
*Our Missionaries in the Field*  
*Our Country and Our Military*

## **Acknowledgments**

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 2.  
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**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER APPRECIATION:** Join us on Sunday, April 26th, following the church service, downstairs in the basement for our Sunday School Teacher Appreciation. Treats and beverages for all will be served. We want to thank our teachers for their service this past Sunday School year. Then at 10:15 a.m. Shelley and Roger Pohlman will be doing a Bible trivia with their third through fifth grade Sunday School class. They have extended an invitation for all to come watch and cheer them on! **This will be our last day of Sunday School. Thank you parents for bringing your little ones to Sunday School. We will start back up in the fall!**



**3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> GRADE BIBLE TRIVIA**  
**SUNDAY, APRIL 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**10:15-11:15**  
**CHURCH BASEMENT**

The 3rd-5th grade Sunday School students have learned so much this year while exploring the Bible stories from Genesis and Exodus. Their teachers, Roger and Shelley Pohlman, are hosting a trivia competition to celebrate their learning and give students a chance to share what they know in a fun, encouraging, and faith-centered environment.

***All are invited to come cheer on the 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders!***

Teams will be competing for a cash prize that will be given as a donation to one of these 3 options:

Church Mission, Immanuel School, School Lunch Program.  
Winning team decides which of these to give the donation to.

**BIBLE CLASS** will not be held in April due to all of the activities on those Sundays (Easter, voters meeting, Confirmation, and Bible Trivia). In its place, we will have a time of fellowship with coffee and treats for anyone who wants to visit.

**BRIDAL SHOWER** will be held for Kim Meyers, bride to be of Matthew Poppe, is today, Sunday, April 12th, at 1:30 p.m. in the Immanuel Church basement. The couple is registered at Target and Amazon. All are welcome to shower the bride to be with well wishes!

**BRIDAL SHOWER** for Faith Freking, bride to be of Dodge Byam, is on Sunday, April 26th, from 11:00-1:00 here in the Immanuel Lutheran Activity Center. The couple is registered on Amazon. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to shower Faith with well wishes!

**VOTERS MEETING** for the second quarter is today, Sunday, April 12th right after church starting around 10:15 a.m.

**BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN:** We are doing a Baby Bottle Campaign for Cherish House in Okoboji, Iowa. Cherish House is a safe, compassionate, faith-based home environment for expectant mothers and their children. These moms stay at Cherish House and are able to get the help they need for their family's future including counseling, education, life-skills training, and finding a job). All services at Cherish House (including housing) are no cost. They are able to provide this service by donations. Did you know that when you participate in the Baby Bottle Campaign for Cherish House, you're helping relieve financial and emotional pressures for pregnant women and parenting mothers of young children? Your gifts make it possible for the home to meet their needs, provide loving support, and offer them hope. If you didn't get your bottle, you can still participate! Just pick one up today and fill it with coins, cash, or check (payable to Cherish Center) between now and when we collect the bottles on Sunday, April 26th. Filled baby bottles can be put in the tote in the narthex.

**CONFIRMATION** will be held on Sunday, April 19th during the 9:00 a.m. worship service. Pastor Obermann will be confirming these 5 confirmands:

- Maddox Boogerd: son of Jeremy and Tara Boogerd
- Nora Freking: daughter of Mark and Sheila Freking
- Mathias Liepold: son of Wes and Amber Liepold
- Jada Milbrath: daughter of Cory and Suzanne Milbrath
- Simeon Peterson: son of Stuart and LaDonna Peterson

There will be a table set up in the narthex for our confirmands on Confirmation Sunday. Each confirmand will have a bag on the table for cards to be placed into.

**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL OR YOUTH GROUP BIBLE STUDY**  
**SUNDAY, APRIL 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**SUNDAY, APRIL 19<sup>th</sup>**



# *LWML Spring Get-Together*

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
SIOUX VALLEY

38523 730TH STREET, LAKEFIELD  
SATURDAY, APRIL 18

9:30 a.m. with a 9:00 registration

Cost is \$5

⇒ Speaker Pastor Peter Preus, Gospel Relief for the  
Despairing

⇒ Gifts from the Heart collected for SW Crisis Center

- Diapers: size 2, 3, 4
- Hygiene Items - All items full size please:  
Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash, Bar Soap,  
Deodorant, Tampons, Toilet Paper, Kleenex,  
Laundry Soap (liquid or pods)

A collection box is in the narthex.

**"Fear not, for I am with you; be  
not dismayed, for I am your God;  
I will strengthen you, I will help  
you, I will uphold you with my  
righteous right hand."**

**~ Jeremiah 29:11**



**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN ST. PAUL ROST AND OUR REDEEMER  
OKABENA** congregations in wishing a "Farewell to the Sage's". Pastor  
Jeff Sage is retiring and will preach his last sermon with them on  
Sunday, April 26th at St. Paul Rost Church located at 38886 800th St,  
rural Lakefield. His wife, Jani, was our Kindergarten teacher here at ILS  
for a number of years. You are welcome at:

10:00 a.m. Church Service

11:30 a.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. Program



# ILS Spring Musical

## **Going West**

Wednesday, May 6

12:30 & 6:30 p.m.

Immanuel Lutheran School  
Activity Center

**HAVE YOU SCHEDULED A TIME TO HAVE YOUR PICTURE TAKEN FOR THE NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY?** It's not too late. You are an important part of our church family and our directory wouldn't be complete without you! For participating you will receive a complimentary 8X10 as well as an updated church pictorial directory. The process will only take 30-45 minutes and you will have the opportunity to purchase family portraits. You can contact Dory Poppe @ 507-830-0577 or Beth Carlson @ 507-370-3107 to schedule an appointment or go online:

- Go to [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com)
- Click on the red box "Photography Session Sign Up"
- Put in Church Code: mn640
- Put in Church Password: 640mem
- Pick your day & time!

We look forward to seeing you there!

**CLOSING SERVICE:** It is with sadness that that we announce the closing of St. John's Lutheran Church in Rushmore, Minnesota. All are welcome to attend a service for the closing rite on Sunday, April 19th, at 2:00 p.m. at St. John's. We thank God for the 132 years of service to Him and community history. St. John's Lutheran Church is located at 408 4th St., Rushmore.

**NEW PORTALS OF PRAYER** for April through June are available on the welcome center in the narthex in both regular and large print. Please help yourself to a copy.

**CONGREGATIONAL SERVICES CAN USE YOUR HELP DURING THE PHOTO SESSIONS** for the directory Friday, April 17th through Wednesday, April 22nd. On the narthex glass we have sign up for helping with the registrations as people come for their photo sessions. 2 people per time slot are required. We also need cookies baked for serving during the photo registrations. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

**A PEACE OF MY MIND:** World-renowned author and photographer John Noltner from A Peace of My Mind will hold various events in Jackson and Windom. Stories and portraits of our community members will be presented and used as a catalyst to rediscover the common humanity that connects us through exhibits, workshops, and lectures The public is invited to attend:

- Monday, April 20th at 7:00 p.m.: Art reception at the Jackson Center for the Arts, 308 2nd St., Jackson
- Wednesday, April 22nd from 10:00-12:00: Storytelling Workshop at the Jackson Center for the Arts, 308 2nd St., Jackson
- Thursday, April 23rd at 7:00 p.m.: Presentation and film featuring local residents showing at the Historic State Theater, 600 2nd St., Jackson
- Friday, April 24th from 10:00-12:00: Storytelling Workshop at the Cottonwood Historical Society, 812 4th Ave., Windom

Exhibits can be viewed all week at the Jackson Center for the Arts and the Cottonwood Historical Society. The theme is “Belonging”.



**LAKEFIELD AREA EMERGENCY  
RESPONDERS THANK YOU SOCIAL  
Friday, May 1st at 8:30 a.m.  
Immanuel Activity Center**

ILS staff and students invite all police officers, firefighters, EMS, paramedics, 911 dispatchers, and all those who protect us in emergency situations to join us for rolls, juice, and coffee as a “Thank You” for all they do.

## **IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWS**

- All School Choir sings at The Lutheran Church of Our Savior on Sunday 4/12 at 9:00.
- Region IV Spelling Bee is at St. Paul's Truman on Saturday 4/25. Students participating are:
  - Grades 7/8: Abby Ackermann & Sofia Welp  
Alternate: Simeon Peterson & Alivia Ackermann
  - Grades 5/6: Aaron Ackermann & Ben Hesemann  
Alternate: Colton Laabs & David Ackermann
  - Grades 3/4: Morgan Byam & Connor Voss  
Alternate: Grady Dagele & Graycen Culver
  - Grades 1/2: Brynlea Kraft & Jameson Hoffman  
Alternate: August Voss & Karina Buresch
- We collected a special offering at our chapel on Wednesday 3/25 for the Rossow, Johnson, Hargus, Hanson, and Ambrose families following the tragic accident. \$1,627.20 was collected.

**MARTIN LUTHER HIGH SCHOOL** Science teacher Nate Watt and Lutheran Special Educational Ministries teacher Teri Watt who have faithfully served MLHS students will not be returning next year. As they begin the process of calling a new Science teacher, they are reaching out to churches for assistance in identifying candidates and asking for our prayer support. At the same time, they know that many strong candidates come through personal connections within our community. If you know of someone who may be qualified or interested, they would greatly appreciate your recommendation and would be happy to connect with them. As always, please continue to keep the ministry of Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School in your prayers.

**SPRING RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE** will be at Martin Luther High School, Northrop. The hours are as follows:

- Thursday, April 16: 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- Friday, April 17: 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM
- Saturday, April 18: 8:00 AM - 12:00 NOON

There is a \$3 bag sale on Saturday. The school is located at 315 Martin Luther Drive in Northrop.

**REDCROSS BLOODMOBILE** will be at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Lakefield on Tuesday, May 5th from 1:00-6:00 p.m. For appointments call 800-733-2767 or online at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org).

**PARENTS, ARE YOUR CHILDREN INTERESTED IN GOING TO A BIBLE CAMP THIS SUMMER?** Financial assistance may be available from the Immanuel LWML if they are going. Amount will be determined by the number of campers interested. Local LCMS Bible camps include Camp Okoboji and Camp Omega. More info on these camps can be found in the April newsletter. Talk to Amy in the office for more info.

**CONFIRMATION CARDS, GRADUATION CARDS,  
AND MOTHER'S DAY CARDS  
ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE BOOKSTORE**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Salad Supper with the  
Looney Lutherans**



**Wednesday, June 3 at 5:30  
Immanuel Lutheran Activity Center  
Sponsored by the Immanuel LWML  
Tickets available soon!**

## **JOYFUL RESPONSE: AN OPPORTUNITY FOR FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP**

**Biblical stewardship** is the managing of God’s resources—our time, talents, finances, and creation—for His glory rather than for personal gain. As Scripture reminds us:

“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another,

as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” — 1 Peter 4:10 (ESV)

One tool we have to help with our stewardship is Joyful Response, a free, simple, and secure automated electronic giving program offered through the Lutheran Church Extension Fund. This program can help you plan your giving faithfully and consistently, while also helping the church meet its regular bills and ministry obligations.

Joyful Response is easy to set up. There is a simple one-page form available in the narthex or church office.

You can choose from several giving frequency options such as weekly, semi-monthly, or monthly, and your giving amount can be changed at any time. This does not have to replace your envelope giving—you may still give in person—but it does provide consistency, especially when you are unable to attend church due to weather, illness, or travel.

We encourage you to consider trying Joyful Response, even with a small portion of your tithe, and see if it might help your family as it also helps our church family carry out our ministry.

We currently have 23 members enrolled representing about 18% of our monthly budget. Let’s see how many more we can have signed up by June! If you have questions or would like to get started, please speak with a member of the Board of Finance, an Elder, or Amy in the church office.

**WE WELCOME** all of our guests and visitors today. We invite you to visit us again. If you have no church home and would like to make Immanuel your church home, please speak to Pastor Obermann or one of the Elders at the end of the service.

**IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF PASTORAL CARE** you may call the church office at 507-662-5718, Pastor Obermann at 563-321-0032, or speak to one of the elders

Wondering where you can watch this service?

1. Facebook: “Immanuel Lutheran Church” at the time of the service or any time after up to a month.
2. YouTube: “Immanuel Lutheran Church and School Lakefield” at the time of the service or any time after.

**WAYS TO SUPPORT THE JOHNSON, ROSSOW, HANSON, HARGUS, AND AMBROSE FAMILIES FOLLOWING THE ACCIDENT AND TRAGIC LOSS OF 4 FAMILY MEMBERS.**

- Friday, April 17 starting at 6:00 a.m.: The Worthington radio stations (Radio Works: 93.5 KITN, 95.1 KUSQ, 104.3 KZTP) are doing a Business Certificate Fundraiser on their website.
    - Go to radioworks.net
    - Click on Big Deals
    - Click on Accident Benefit “Johnson Family”
- Buy certificates for area business services or goods. Some items are “buy it now” and some are “auction”. 100% of all funds raised will go to the families.
- Bank Midwest in Jackson has established support accounts for these families. Donations may be given at any Bank Midwest location. Bank Midwest in Jackson is located at 509 3rd St.
  - Security Bank in Jackson has established support accounts for these families. Donations may be given at any Security Bank location. Security Bank in Jackson is located at 202 Grant St.

***POINTS OF INFORMATION April 5, 2026***

<i>Current Fund received this past week.....</i>	<b><i>\$20,494</i></b>
<i>    Needed each week.....</i>	<b><i>\$10,112</i></b>
<i>Non-Budget Giving</i>	
<i>    Building.....</i>	<b><i>\$117</i></b>
<i>    Immanuel School.....</i>	<b><i>\$115</i></b>
<i>    Rent Donation.....</i>	<b><i>\$25</i></b>
<i>    Lunch Assistance Program.....</i>	<b><i>\$25</i></b>
<i>Memorial given in memory of</i>	
<i>    Ardie Westergard to Immanuel Church.....</i>	<b><i>\$20</i></b>
<i>Current Fund received in March.....</i>	<b><i>\$40,318</i></b>
<i>    Needed in March.....</i>	<b><i>\$41,914</i></b>
<i>    Worshipping on Maundy Thursday 4/2: 119</i>	
<i>    Worshipping on Good Friday 4/3: 177</i>	
<i>    Worshipping on Easter Sunday 4/5: 345</i>	
<i>If you have any questions, please call Josh Swanson</i>	

# KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

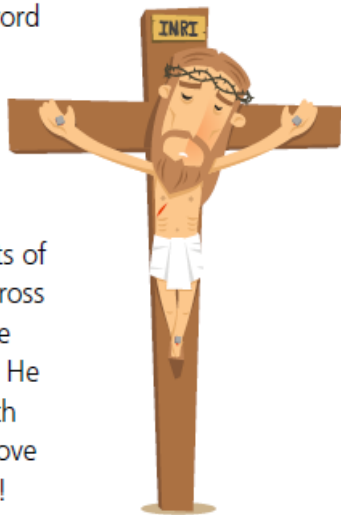
## A great big word of love.

A word that you often hear used in the church is the word “redemption” (pronounced ree-DEMP-shun). All of the events in Jesus’ life work together to form God’s plan of redemption.

## What does “redemption” mean?

The word “redemption” is a very important word used to describe what Jesus has done for us.

Redemption comes from the root word “redeem” which means “to buy back.” God’s plan of redemption was His plan to buy us back from sin, death and the power of the devil. This all happened when Jesus fulfilled the requirements of the Law perfectly and died on the cross in our place. He paid the high price for sin, and He bought us back! But He didn’t stop there. He overcame death for us and rose from the dead to prove it! What a great Redeemer we have!



### Parents:

What our God has done for us in Jesus reflects the Fatherly love He has for all people. As parents, we share this love with our children through the means our Lord has provided: Word and Sacrament. This is where we receive the real fruits of redemption.



***THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL...***

*Sunday, April 12*

*9:00 AM          Worship*

*9:00 AM          All School Choir sings at The Lutheran Church of  
Our Savior in Windom*

*10:15 AM        Voters Meeting*

*Wednesday, April 15*

*8:20 AM          Chapel*

*2:10 PM          Confirmation*

*6:10 PM          Immanuel Ringers*

*7:10 PM          Choir*

*Thursday, April 16*

*5:30 PM          Board of Trustees Meeting*

*Friday, April 17*

*Church Directory Pictures*

*Saturday, April 18*

*Church Directory Pictures*

*Sunday, April 19                  Confirmation Sunday*

*9:00 AM          Worship with Communion*

*Monday, April 20*

*Church Directory Pictures*

*Tuesday, April 21*

*Church Directory Pictures*

*Wednesday, April 22*

*Church Directory Pictures*

*8:20 AM          Chapel*

Immanuel Lutheran Church and School  
604 Bush Street, PO Box 750, Lakefield, MN 56150  
507-662-5718  
[www.immanuellakefield.com](http://www.immanuellakefield.com)  
[immanuel@immanuellakefield.com](mailto:immanuel@immanuellakefield.com)

