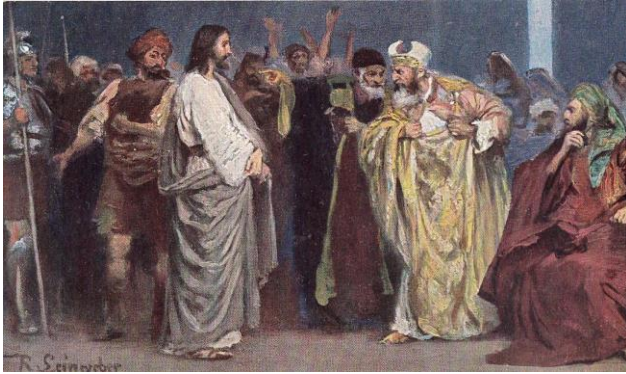


Lenten Midweek Service

Wednesday, March 23rd, 2022, 6:00 PM



Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church & School
Church/School Phone: (920) 867-3263

Emmaus Evangelical Lutheran Church
Church Phone: 920-987-5229



AS WE GATHER The season of Lent invites Christians into the disciplines of faith — prayer, Bible reading, worship, fasting, and sacrificial giving. We gather together in the middle of our busy week, surrounded by a faithful community, to hear God’s holy Word and to meditate on Christ’s journey to the cross on our behalf. In doing so, we are strengthened in our faith, and we look forward to the Easter miracle of our Lord’s resurrection, which works powerfully in our lives.

HYMN *Savior When in Dust to Thee* **LSB 419,v. 1-3**

INVOCATION

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

C **Amen.**

OPENING VERSES

Psalm 80 (Selected)

- P** Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;
- C** **incline your ears to the words of my mouth!**
- P** I will open my mouth in a parable;
- C** **I will utter things that our fathers have told us.**
- P** We will not hide them from their children,
- C** **but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, the wonders that he has done.**
- P** He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel,
- C** **which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children,**
- P** that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn,
- C** **and arise and tell them to their children,**
- P** so that they should set their hope in God
- C** **and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments;**
- P** that they should not be like their fathers,
- C** **a stubborn and rebellious generation,**
- P** a generation whose heart was not steadfast,
- C** **whose spirit was not faithful to God.**
- P** They did not keep God's covenant,
- C** **but refused to walk according to his law.**
- P** They forgot his works
- C** **and the wonders that he had shown them.**
- P** Therefore, when the LORD heard, he was full of wrath;
- C** **a fire was kindled against Jacob; his anger rose against Israel,**
- P** because they did not believe in God
- C** **and did not trust his saving power.**
- P** Yet he, being compassionate, atoned for their iniquity and did not destroy them.
- C** **he restrained his anger often and did not stir up all his wrath.**
- P** With upright heart he shepherded them
- C** **and guided them with his skillful hand.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven; whose sin is covered. Blessed is the one against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit, there is no deceit.

C **If I say that I have no sin, I deceive myself and the truth is not in me. But if I repent of my sin, You are faithful and just, O God, and for the sake of Your Son, You promise to forgive my sin and cleanse me from all unrighteousness. I confess my sins of pride and doubt and smallness of faith, which separate me from You. For the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being. O Lord, I believe, help my unbelief. Amen.**

P Our Heavenly Father does not forsake us because of our sin. If we are faithless, His mercy and grace remain faithful toward us. He reconciled us to Himself through His Son who bore our sins in His body on the cross, suffered and died that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, your Savior, 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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

C **Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

John 11:45-53

⁴⁵ Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him, ⁴⁶ but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. ⁴⁷ So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. ⁴⁸ If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation." ⁴⁹ But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all. ⁵⁰ Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish." ⁵¹ He did not say this of his own accord but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, ⁵² and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. ⁵³ So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Matthew 26:57-66

⁵⁷ Then those who had seized Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. ⁵⁸ And Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. ⁵⁹ Now the chief priests and the whole council were seeking false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, ⁶⁰ but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last, two came forward ⁶¹ and said, "This man said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to rebuild it in three days.'" ⁶² And the high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" ⁶³ But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, "I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." ⁶⁴ Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven." ⁶⁵ Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy. ⁶⁶ What is your judgment?" They answered, "He deserves death."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN *O God, Forsake Me Not* **LSB 731**

THE SERMON *Caiaphas – “I Refused to Believe”*

THE APOSTLES’ CREED (*Back Cover of the Hymnal*)

OFFERING and OFFERTORY *LSB, pg. 192-193*

*Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence,
and take take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,
and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.*

THE PRAYERS

P In Peace let us pray to the Lord

C Lord, have mercy.
(Spoken after Each Petition) ...

P For these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord;

C Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord have mercy.
Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER (*Back Cover of the Hymnal*)

CATECHISM REFLECTION

P In the Apostles’ Creed we profess: *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.* What does this mean?

C I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.

On the last Day He will raise me and all the dead and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

BENEDICTION

HYMN *O Christ, Our Hope, Our Heart's Desire*
 LSB 553, v. 1-5

At this time, we leave our service in silent prayer contemplating and meditating on our Lord Jesus' passion in suffering and dying on the cross for our sins.

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Chaplain Benjamin Schroeder
Organist: Ila Robbert
Elder: James Kobiske



All are welcome to attend our soup supper after this service in the school commons. We look forward to the fellowship!

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR LENT
CHRIST AND EMMAUS
LUTHERAN CHURCHES

All services are at 6:00 PM, alternating by week, between our two congregations. This year we will focus on Witnesses of Christ's Passion, seeing Jesus through their eyes as we follow Him from the Garden of Gethsemane to the Tomb.

March 23 – Christ Lutheran “***Caiaphas—I Refused to Believe that Jesus is the Christ!***”

March 30 – Emmaus Lutheran “***Pilate – I Knew that Jesus Was Innocent***”

April 6 – Christ Lutheran “***Simon – Jesus Carried MY Cross***”

April 14 – Emmaus Lutheran **Maundy Thursday with Holy Communion** “***Jesus – This is My Body; This is My Blood***”

April 15 – Christ Lutheran **Good Friday** “***Joseph of Arimathea – Jesus was Laid in MY Tomb***”

Christ Lutheran - **Easter Sunrise 8:00 AM with Holy Communion**
“***The Angel – He Has Risen!***”

Emmaus Lutheran – **Easter Day 10:00 AM with Holy Communion**

Wednesday Evening Confirmation Class will meet after the Lenten Services from 7:00 to 8:30 PM, at the congregation hosting the Service.