

Lenten Midweek Service

Wednesday, March 30th, 2022, 6:00 PM



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

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church & School
Church/School 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 *Jesus, I Will Ponder Now* **LSB 440,v. 1-5**

INVOCATION

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

OPENING VERSES *Psalm 37 (Selected)*

P Fret not yourself because of evildoers;
C be not envious of wrongdoers!

- P** Trust in the Lord, and do good;
C dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.
P Delight yourself in the Lord,
C and he will give you the desires of your heart.
P Commit your way to the Lord.
C trust in him, and he will act.
P He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,
C and your justice as the noonday.
P Turn away from evil and do good;
C so shall you dwell forever.
P For the Lord loves justice;
C he will not forsake his saints.
P The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom,
C and his tongue speaks justice.
P The law of his God is in his heart;
C his steps do not slip.
P The wicked watches for the righteous
C and seeks to put him to death.
P The Lord will not abandon him to his power
C or let him be condemned when he is on trial.
P The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord;
C he is their stronghold in the time of trouble.
P The Lord helps them and delivers them.
C he delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they take refuge in him.

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** Lord, we know what is right and wrong, for You have written Your law on our hearts and declared Your will to us in Your Commandments. Although we know better, we still sin against You in our thoughts, words and actions. We are guilty and deserve nothing but your righteous judgment. We are heartily sorry for our sins and sincerely repent of them. For the sake Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, who was innocent, yet suffered and died for the guilty, be merciful to us; forgive our sins and lead us so that we may delight in

Your will and live according to Your Commandments to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P By sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, God condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled for us in Him. There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, so that we who have been set free from sin, may not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 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 Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

C: Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

John 18:28, 33-40; John 19:1-6, 15-16

²⁸ Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor's headquarters. It was early morning. ... ³³ So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴ Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" ³⁵ Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶ Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world." ³⁷ Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose, I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth

listens to my voice.” ³⁸ Pilate said to him, “What is truth?” After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, “I find no guilt in him. ³⁹ But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?” ⁴⁰ They cried out again, “Not this man, but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was a robber.

¹ Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. ² And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. ³ They came up to him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and struck him with their hands. ⁴ Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him.” ⁵ So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!” ⁶ When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, “Crucify him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him.” ... ¹⁵ They cried out, “Away with him, away with him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.” ¹⁶ So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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

HYMN

LSB 439, v. 1-4, 6, 8, 11

O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken

THE SERMON *Pilate – “I Knew Jesus Was Innocent”*

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 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 Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.* What does this mean?

C I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.

Who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,

That I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

BENEDICTION

HYMN *Christ, the Life of All the Living*
LSB 420, v. 1-2, 4-6

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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Pastor: Wayne Schwanke
Organist: Mary Reany
Elder: Robert Van Lyssel

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 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.