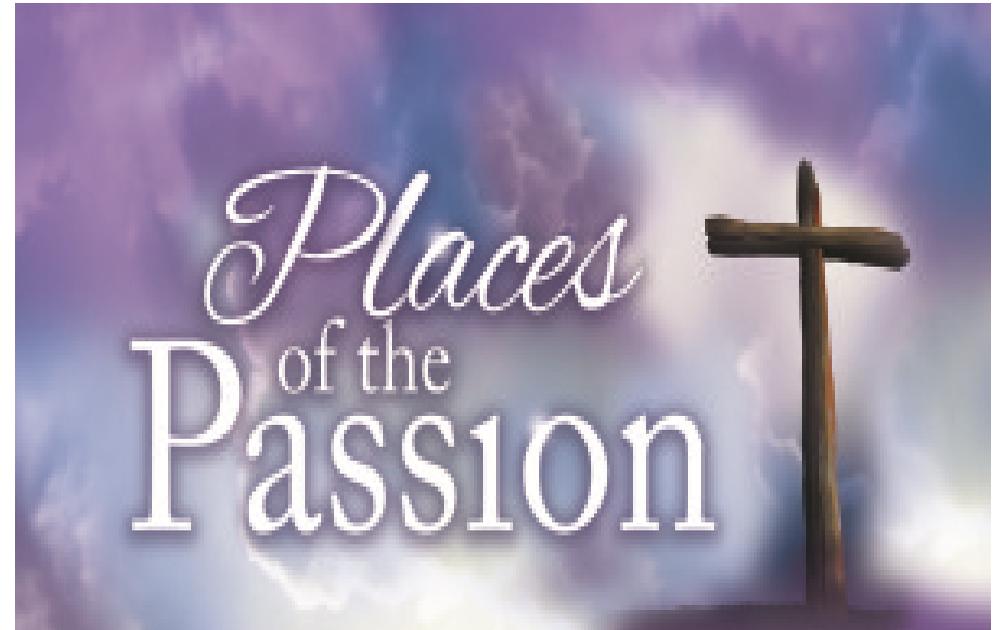


IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF CLARA CITY



Immanuel Lutheran Church
PO Box 236 ~ 204 NE 2nd Avenue
Clara City, MN 56222
Church's email: ilc236@hcinet.net
Office Fax (320) 847-2120

Rev. Joel Gueningsman
Pr. Joel's Cell Phone: (952) 807-3330 or 847-3449 (home)
Pr. Joel's email: jgueningsman001@luthersem.edu
Custodian Tim Sabe (320) 212-5773
Secretary Michelle Jaenisch @ Office (320) 847-2138

Immanuel's WEBSITE: www.ilc-ClaraCity.org

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Closed on Fridays!

+++++

Many dates are open to sponsor for 2021 radio broadcast. \$100 to sponsor, call the office at 320-847-2138.

Worship services are now broadcast over Cable Channel 8 and 117.2, FM radio 93.9, and AM 1460 or view the livestream of the service at Immanuel Lutheran's facebook page.

+++++

Tri-Community AA Meetings will be held every Sunday evening at 7 p.m. in our Upper Parish Hall Conference Room. Contact Todd Osthus (320) 212-8676 for more information.

MARCH 3, 2021

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

(SPOKEN BY PASTOR)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

Fountain of living water, pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.

Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are + forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus. Amen.

HYMN: THERE IS A BALM IN GILEAD (SONG LEADERS)

(Refrain) There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole; there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

1. Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my works in vain, but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. (Refrain)
2. If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul, you can tell the love of Jesus and say, "he died for all." (Refrain)
3. Don't ever be discouraged, for Jesus is your friend; and if you lack for knowledge, he'll ne'er refuse to lend. (Refrain)

PRAYER OF THE DAY (SPOKEN BY PASTOR)

Almighty God, you sent your son to accomplish your will for our salvation. In his life, he revealed your will done on earth as it is in heaven; and by his death he revealed your kingdom open now to all believers. Send us your Holy Spirit to inspire us in prayer and action; that in words we might pray "thy will be done" and in actions we might have your strength to do your will, for the good of our neighbor and for the sake of your kingdom. Through your son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and ever. Amen.

FIRST READING: 1 KINGS 6:3-14

Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of his father David; only, he sacrificed and offered incense at the high places. ⁴The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the principal high place; Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt-offerings on that altar. ⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask what I should give you.' ⁶And Solomon said, 'You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his

throne today. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?'

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you. ¹³I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honour all your life; no other king shall compare with you. ¹⁴If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life.' The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 139

¹O LORD, you have searched me and known me. ²You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. ³You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. ⁴Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely. ⁵You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. ⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. ⁷Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? ⁸If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. ⁹If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, ¹⁰even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

¹¹If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night', ¹²even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you. ¹³For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. ¹⁴I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 8:26-39

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or

persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (SONG LEADERS)

We are turning, Lord to hear you, you are merciful and kind; slow to anger, rich in blessing, and with love to us inclined.

GOSPEL: LUKE 22:39-46

Jesus came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. ⁴⁰When he reached the place, he said to them, 'Pray that you may not come into the time of trial. ⁴¹Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, ⁴²'Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.'

⁴³Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. ⁴⁴In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. ⁴⁵When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, ⁴⁶and he said to them, 'Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial.' The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: GO TO DARK GETHSEMANE (SONG LEADERS)

1. Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's power; your redeemer's conflict see. Watch with him one bitter hour; turn not from his grief's away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

2. Follow to the judgement hall, view the Lord of life arraigned; oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained! Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.

3. Calvary's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet, mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete. "It is finished!" hear him cry, learn from Jesus Christ to die.

4. Early hasten to the tomb where they laid his breathless clay; all is solitude and gloom. Who has taken him away? Christ is risen! he meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.

APSOSTLES CREED (SPOKEN BY PASTOR)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heave and earth?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sin, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (SPOKEN BY PASTOR)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & LORD'S PRAYER (SPOKEN BY PASTOR)

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.

COMMUNION & POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BLESSING

You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you + that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. Amen.

SENDING HYMN: ABIDE WITH ME (SONG LEADERS)

1. Abide with me, fast fall the eventide. The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide. When other helpers fail and comforts flee, help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.

2. Swift to its close, ebbs out life's little day; earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away; change and decay in all around I see; o thou who changest not, abide with me.

3. I need thy presence every passing hour; what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power? Who like thyself my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, oh, abide with me.

4. I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless; ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness. Where is death's sting? Where grave thy victory? I triumph still if thou abide with me.

5. Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes, shine through the gloom and point me to the skies; heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee; in life, in death, o lord, abide with me.

DISMISSAL

Marked with the cross of Christ, let us go forth to serve the Lord.