



*4th Sunday in Lent with
Holy Communion
Immanuel Lutheran Church
March 15, 2026*

Welcome to this place of praise and prayer. We gather today in celebration of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, as part of God's family.

- ❖ We would appreciate having you sign our guest book so that we can remember your presence with us. Please note that in the ELW the page numbers are printed at the bottom of the page and hymn numbers are located at the top. The order of worship is outlined on the following pages.
- ❖ The offering reminds us that all of life is a gift of God. We are stewards of that gift. In response, a portion of our income is given as an act of worship to do God's work in the world. Immanuel is a first-fruits congregation. That means that every Sunday when the offering is taken in, we give first to the mission and the ministry of the ELCA. We don't wait to see if we can pay our bills before we give away for God's mission. It is our hands doing God's work, for the sake of the world our Lord loves.
- ❖ We serve Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month and at all festivals. We offer an open invitation to all baptized believers to participate. It is our understanding that Christ offers his body and blood with the bread and wine to forgive sin and strengthen faith and life. If you receive communion in your home church, you are welcome to receive communion here.
- ❖ We have a toddler worship area in the middle-right section of our pews. This area is intended for children ages 0-3 accompanied by an adult(s) to sit during worship. Children 4K-6th Grade are welcome to join us for Sunday school during worship downstairs. This is a space for families to be fully engaged in worship, while providing quiet activities for young children to accommodate their natural need to move and be busy. Please follow posted guidelines for use of this space. Thank you!
- ❖ We have accommodated seating available in the middle-left and the front-right sections of our pews. Please feel free to utilize this space for those who may need it!

CONTACT INFORMATION

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FIND US ONLINE



www.immanuelcaledonia.org



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www.lacrosseareasynd.org

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GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Welcome And Worship Announcements

*Please note all **bold** text throughout the service are congregational responses

(Please stand as you are able)

Confession And Forgiveness

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

Amen.

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

(Silence is kept for reflection)

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdainning the living water
Christ offers:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn *God of the Sparrow* **#740**

Greeting **Page 138**

Kyrie **Page 138-139**

Lenten Hymn *Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church* **#321**

Prayer Of The Day

Lord Christ, **bend your ears to our prayers and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Hymn (children come forward) *Jesus Loves Me!* vs. 2 **#595**

Word for Kids

THE WORD

First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the LORD, designating David as the LORD's chosen successor to Saul.

¹ The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ² Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'" ³ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴ Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵ He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now before the LORD." ⁷ But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." ¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." ¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

**Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.
Save us as you promised; we will trust your word.**

Gospel Reading: John 9:1-41

Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.

The holy gospel according to John, chapter 9. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷ saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹ Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." ¹⁰ But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹ He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." ¹² They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said,

“He is a prophet.”

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind.” ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” ⁴¹Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

This is the gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ!**
(Congregation may be seated)

Sermon

Hymn Of The Day (With Intro)

God, Whose Almighty Word

#673

(Please stand as you are able)

Apostles' Creed

Back Cover of Hymnal

Prayers Of The People

The response to each prayer will be, "God of grace,"
Congregation reply will be, "**Hear our prayer.**"

Sharing Of The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**
You are welcome to send a text or email to share peace with others.

OFFERING

(Offerings may be placed in the wooden offering box as you leave the sanctuary)

Offering Response

Create in Me a Clean Heart

#186

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

Offering Prayer

O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Great Thanksgiving (Sung)

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The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy, Holy, Holy

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Words Of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Lamb Of God (With Intro)

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Distribution Of Communion

Communion Hymns

Be Thou My Vision #793

Lead Me, Guide Me #768

Communion Blessing

Prayer After Communion

SENDING

God Blesses Us And Sends Us In Mission To The World.

Benediction

Announcements

Dismissal

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude**Thank you to Today's Volunteers!**

We would love to have your help during our worship service. Please sign up at the kiosk in the church narthex or on the church website under the sign-up link on the home page. Thank you!

Greeters:

Ushers: Dave Renslo & Dean Schutte

Reader: Donna Huttner

Presentation Clicker:

Live Stream: Cheryl Kuennen

Acolytes:

Coffee and Refreshments:

Communion Servers:

Additional News and Notes:**Do you have an interest in being part of the Synod level of the Women of the ELCA?**

The Synod W-ELCA needs a new Treasurer, Vice President, North Conference Representative, East Conference Representative, West Conference Coordinator, North Conference Coordinator, and South Conference Representative.

If you are interested and/or would like to know more about the positions, contact JoAnn Salava at jams@mwt.net or Mona Van Riper at monavanriper@gmail.com.

Our Spring Convention will be on Saturday, 04/18/2026, at Coon Valley Lutheran Church in Coon Valley, WI.

Sign Ups for Worship Volunteering

With Lent in full swing, we have communion every Sunday in the month of March and then Easter Sunday, April 5. We are in need of communion servers, at least 4 per service. If you are available to help serve communion, please sign up at the kiosk in the Narthex or online. We are also in need of presentation clickers for not only each Sunday, but Wednesday evening Holden Even Prayer services during the month of March. Please consider signing up if you are able to do so! Thank you! Many hands make things run smoothly and your time and dedication is always appreciated!

Immanuel Lutheran Scholarships

College Scholarship Applications are now available! Calling all Graduating High School Seniors, Families, along with all college students who are members of Immanuel Lutheran Church.



Immanuel has three different scholarships you may apply for:

1. Immanuel Lutheran/Elmer & Doris Anderson Scholarship
2. Leland Schulze Scholarship
3. Thrivent Choice Dollars Scholarship

Each scholarship has a separate application, but are all similar in content. Confirmed members of Immanuel may apply for each scholarship up to two times. Applications have been mailed to all Immanuel seniors and all college students who have previously applied and are still eligible. Applications are also available in the church office and on the church website (www.immanuelcaledonia.org). Applications are due to the church office **no later than April 1, 2026.**

Applications will be reviewed by the Immanuel Scholarship Committee. After April 1, first time applicants will be invited to participate in a “meet and greet” session with the scholarship committee.

Presentation of scholarships will take place on Senior Recognition Sunday in April or May with the time still to be determined.



Run For The One 5K

in honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April 25, 2026



Scan the QR code
to register today!



Old Hickory Park, La Crescent, MN

Check-in begins at 9:00am

Run/Walk begins at 10:00am

Call 507-894-2676 for more info!



Coulee Region Gospel Choir

Presents

Alpha and Omega

A Musical for Easter

The Venue at Crossway Church

Valley View Mall, La Crosse

Sunday March 22nd - 3 pm

Saturday March 28th - 3 pm

Sunday March 29th - 3 pm