

**Ash Wednesday**

Realizing our need for repentance

Emmanuel Lutheran Church


March 5, 2025

## Welcome!

We are honored that you are with us today. May the Word of God that you hear strengthen your faith and increase your desire to serve the Lord! If you are a guest today, we are thankful you have joined us. We hope that you will join us again soon.

### For your convenience

For your convenience, please take note of the following:

- **Restrooms** are to the left as you exit the sanctuary.
- **Nursery.** There is a room where children may be quieted to the left down the hall across from the bathrooms as you exit the sanctuary.
- **Children's bulletins and worship notes** are available. Ask an usher.
- **Hearing assistance.** A hearing loop is available in the worship area for hearing aids equipped with a T-coil. 

If there is any other way in which we can assist you, let us know.

The service is streamed live online at [elctempe.org/worship](http://elctempe.org/worship).

For the latest information about services schedules, please visit [elctempe.org](http://elctempe.org).



#### Connection card

*During the offering  
we ask that you  
complete an online  
connection card.*



## Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the Christian's 40-day journey with the Lord to the cross and tomb, preparing for the proclamation of Easter. The 40 days are reminiscent of several biblical events: Jesus' 40-day fast at the beginning of his ministry, Moses' stay on Mount Sinai at the giving of the Law, Elijah's fast on his way to the mountain of God.

While we will not offer the imposition of ashes in our Ash Wednesday service, we still reflect on our mortality and frailty. Our service is a penitential service, in which we contemplate our sin and our need for a Savior. We celebrate Holy Communion tonight for the forgiveness of sins and the gift of eternal life.

## Ash Wednesday — March 5, 2025

### Reflections on Repentance: Realizing our need for repentance

When we do something wrong, our conscience reminds us that we have sinned. When we know that we have sinned, we're faced with a harsh reality that has to be dealt with. We have a huge problem!

We can ignore our sin and pretend the guilt will disappear. We can rationalize our sin and come up with excuses. We can point fingers and blame others for our sin. We can claim victim status and maintain our own innocence.

Or we can do what really needs to be done: We can repent. The Bible is clear: "If we confess our sin, God is faithful and just to forgive our sin and purify us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

Man-made remedies don't fix our problem. God's solution of repentance leads us to receive forgiveness. Problem solved!

# Penitential Service

*Please use the silence before the service for meditation and reflection.*

## Invocation

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

**Amen.**

## Introduction to Confession

Brothers and sisters in Christ, God created us to know joy in fellowship with him, to love all people, and to live in harmony with all creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. By our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under his judgment, but to turn to him and live. Therefore, God in his mercy has sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take our place under the law, to suffer for us, and to die the death we deserve. God made Jesus, who had no sin, to be sin for us so that in him, we might become the righteousness of God.

During the forty days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God. The time of Lent reminds us that to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, we must also know the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death. As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor.

Let us confess our sins, ask our Father for forgiveness, and commit ourselves to this struggle.



*During our services,  
the congregation  
speaks the responses  
in bold.*

## Confession

Most holy and merciful Father,

**we confess to you and to one another that we have sinned  
by our own fault,  
by our own grievous fault  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

**Have mercy on us, Lord.**

We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us.

We have not been true to the mind of Christ.

We have grieved the Holy Spirit.

**Have mercy on us, Lord.**

We have placed our wants before your will.

We have gratified the desires of our sinful nature.

We have merited your punishment now and forever.

**Have mercy on us, Lord.**

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness.

The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives

**we confess to you, O Lord.**

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, our manipulation of other people,  
our anger when our selfish aims are denied, and our envy of those more fortunate  
than ourselves

**we confess to you, O Lord.**

Our love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,  
our negligence in worship and prayer, and our failure to show the faith that is in us

**we confess to you, O Lord.**

Forgive us, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need  
and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

**forgive us, Lord.**

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward others, and for our  
prejudice and contempt for those who differ from us,

**forgive us, Lord.**

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.

**Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection.*

## Psalm of the Day

Psalm 51

*The choir sings the verses. Join them on each refrain as indicated.*

*Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.*

*Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.*

*Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.  
For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.*

### Refrain: all

Lord, have mer - cy, ——— Christ, have mer - cy, —  
— Lord, have mer - cy.

*Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.  
Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.*

*Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.  
Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.*

### Refrain: all

*Silence for meditation and reflection.*

## Absolution

Accomplish in us, O Lord, the work of your salvation  
**that we may show forth your glory in the world.**

By the cross and suffering of your Son,  
**bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners but rather that we turn from our wickedness and live. He sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins and for the sins of the whole world.

Therefore, as a called servant of Christ 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.  
**Amen.**

During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us renewal and his Holy Spirit. May we continue to abide in the true faith and at the last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Almighty and merciful God, you never despise what you have made and always forgive those who turn to you. Create in us such new and contrite hearts that we may truly repent of our sins and obtain your full and gracious pardon; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### **Anthem (3:30 p.m.)**

**I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say**  
Kevin Twit

*I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest.  
Lay down, O weary one, lay down, Your head upon my breast."  
I came to Jesus as I was, So weary, worn, and sad;  
I found in him my resting place, And he has made me glad.*

*I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold I freely give  
The living water, thirsty one, Stoop down and drink and live!"  
I came to Jesus and I drank, From that life-giving stream  
My thirst was quenched my soul revived, And now I live in him.*

*I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light  
Look unto me thy morn' shall rise, And all thy days be bright."  
I looked to Jesus and I found, In him my star, my sun  
And in that light of life I'll walk, Till pilgrim days are done.*

### **Anthem (6:30 p.m.)**

**Have Mercy Upon Us**  
Miserere Mei, Orlando di Lasso (1532-1594)

*Have mercy upon us.  
Show forth your mercy according to your steadfast love.  
Take away our sin.  
O Lord, our God, forgive us.*

# The Word

## First Reading

2 Samuel 12:1–13

<sup>1</sup>So the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came and told him this:

There were two men in a city. One was rich and one poor. <sup>2</sup>The rich man had a large number of flocks and herds. <sup>3</sup>The poor man did not own anything except one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He raised it so that it grew up together with him and his children. It ate from his food and drank from his cup. It slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him. <sup>4</sup>When a traveler came to the rich man, the rich man was unwilling to take an animal from his flock or from his herd to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. So he took the lamb from the poor man and prepared it for the man who had come to him.

*David knew he had sinned with Bathsheba by committing adultery with her and having her husband killed, but he tried to hide his sin. The Word of God exposed his sin and led him to repentance.*

<sup>5</sup>David's anger flared up against that man. He said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this is as good as dead. <sup>6</sup>In place of that lamb, he will restore four lambs, because he did this and had no pity."

<sup>7</sup>Nathan told David, "You are the man. This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says."

I anointed you king over Israel. I rescued you from the hand of Saul. <sup>8</sup>I gave the house of your master to you, and I gave the wives of your master into your embrace. I gave you the house of Israel and the house of Judah. If this were too little, I would have added even more. <sup>9</sup>Why have you despised the word of the LORD by doing evil in his eyes? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword. You have taken his wife as your own wife. You have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. <sup>10</sup>So now the sword will not depart from your house forever, because you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.

<sup>11</sup>This is what the LORD says. Look! I am raising up disaster against you from your own house. Right in front of your eyes I will take your wives and give them to your neighbor, and he will lie down with your wives in the sight of the sun. <sup>12</sup>Because you acted in secret, I will do this in front of all Israel in broad daylight.

<sup>13</sup>David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD."

Nathan said to David, "The LORD himself has put away your sin. You will not die.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*God's Word calls us  
to repent and receive  
God's free gift of  
salvation.*

## Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:20–6:2

<sup>20</sup>Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, inasmuch as God is making an appeal through us. We urge you, on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>God made him, who did not know sin, to become sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him.

As fellow workers we also urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says:

At a favorable time I listened to you,  
and in the day of salvation I helped you.

Look, now is the favorable time! See, now is the day of salvation!

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

## Gospel

Luke 18:9–14

*Personal pride and  
self-righteousness rob  
us of the gift of grace.  
A broken and humble  
heart receives God's  
forgiveness.*

<sup>9</sup>Jesus told this parable to certain people who trusted in themselves (that they were righteous) and looked down on others: <sup>10</sup>"Two men went up to the temple courts to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a tax collector. <sup>11</sup>The Pharisee stood and prayed about himself like this: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people, robbers, evildoers, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup>I fast twice a week. I give a tenth of all my income.'

<sup>13</sup>"However the tax collector stood at a distance and would not even lift his eyes up to heaven, but was beating his chest and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!'

<sup>14</sup>"I tell you, this man went home justified rather than the other, because everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Be seated.*

## Hymn of the Day

578 Chief of Sinners Though I Be



## Sermon

Psalm 51:1,2

For the choir director. A psalm by David.

When Nathan the prophet came to him after he had gone to Bathsheba.

<sup>1</sup> Be gracious to me, God, according to your mercy. Erase my acts of rebellion according to the greatness of your compassion. <sup>2</sup> Scrub me clean from my guilt. Purify me from my sin.

### *Realizing our need for repentance*

*Please stand.*

## Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Be seated.*

## Offering

### Musical Offering

From Depths of Woe I Cry to You

Valerie Floeter

### Personal Preparation for Holy Communion

*As you prepare to receive the Sacrament today, you may use the Personal Preparation for Holy Communion on page 19.*

*Please stand.*

### Prayer of the Church

#### Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## The Sacrament

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts!

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

**It is good and right so to do.**

It is truly good and right that we should in all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## Holy, Holy, Holy

## Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he,  
bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The Prophet Isaiah saw the throne room of God, where angels sang, "Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly hosts!" On Palm Sunday the crowds welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem with shouts of "Hosanna!" In Holy Communion we see God's glory revealed in his salvation, as Jesus comes to us in his Sacrament.*

## Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: A - men.

## O Christ, Lamb of God

Agnus Dei

*John the Baptist pointed to Jesus and said, "Look, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" Jesus takes away our sin and gives us his peace.*

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us your peace. A - men.

*Be seated.*

## Distribution

*For our distribution today, you may approach the altar using the side aisles. The two sides will meet at the bottom step in the middle. For those who prefer a low-gluten wafer, please indicate such to the pastor when he distributes the host. The low-gluten wafers are in a soufflé cup on the paten. The grape-colored cups in each tray are alcohol-removed wine. We will dismiss down the center aisle.*

## Distribution Hymns

657 Baptismal Waters Cover Me

654 Jesus Sinners Does Receive

# Thanksgiving

## The Blessing

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

**Amen.**

## In Peace and Joy I Now Depart

## Nunc Dimittis



1 In peace and joy I now de - part as my Lord  
2 Christ Je - sus brought this gift to me, my faith - ful  
4 Christ is the hope and sav - ing light of those in



wills it; se - rene and qui - et is my heart;  
Sav - ior, whom you al - lowed my eyes to see  
blind - ness; he guides and com - forts those in night



glad - ness fills it. This the Lord has prom - ised  
by your fa - vor. Now I know he is my  
by his kind - ness. He is Is - rael's right - eous -



me, that death is but a slum - ber.  
life, my friend when I am dy - ing.  
ness, their joy, re - ward, and glo - ry.

*Be seated.*

*Quiet music ends our service today. Depart in peace.*

## Post-Service Music

## Now Rest Beneath Night's Shadow

Karen Phipps and Charles Callahan

## Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister

Preaching Minister

Organ

Acolyte

Choir

Accompanist

Video streamer

Video captions

Sound

Pastor Jon Buchholz

Pastor Gary Pufahl

Erin Hahnke

Lincoln Schlaht (3:30 p.m.)

Junior choir (3:30 p.m.)

Adult choir (6:30 p.m.)

Kris Pufahl

Chris Wempner

Angie Keezer

Wes Wightman

*Simeon sang these words after he saw the infant Jesus in the temple. We often sing his words after we meet our Savior in his Holy Supper.*

# Acknowledgments

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## In our prayers

- All those struggling in silence – God grant them peace and comfort, and find strength in His unfailing arms.
- That our hearts and minds stay focused on Jesus and the ultimate sacrifice and subsequent victory during this Lenten season and always.



*Emmanuel usher  
sign-up.*

## Ushers

3:30 p.m.

6:30 p.m.

Joe Beatrice, Sean Lieske  
Craig Kiecker, Roger Odle

## Communion

Thank you to Molly Heyn and Sandy Heyn for helping set up Communion for the weekend.

## This week at Emmanuel

### Wednesday

Ash Wednesday worship service

3:30 and 6:30 p.m.

Lenten supper

4:45-6:30 p.m.

Adult choir in the MEC

No practice this week

### Thursday

Thursday Bible study at Denny's, Broadway and Priest, Tempe 6:00 a.m.

*Attitude Adjustment (Book of Philippians)*

*Led by Pastor Dan Pautz*

God's Ways Bible study in the MEC

6:00 p.m.

*Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl*

Bible Basics in the MEC

6:30 p.m.

*Led by Pastor Jon Buchholz*

### Friday

ELS

No school

John Henderson Memorial basketball tournament

9:00 a.m.

*at Arizona Lutheran Academy*

### Saturday

John Henderson Memorial basketball tournament

8:00 a.m.

*at Arizona Lutheran Academy*

## Sunday, March 9

Worship services	8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
In-person Bible study, Sunday school, teen study	9:15 a.m.
Public school catechism	12:00 p.m.
Serve at Paz de Cristo	4:00-7:00 p.m.

## Looking ahead

March 10	ASU campus ministry	5:00 p.m.
	Monday night worship service	6:30 p.m.
	Monday night Bible study in the MEC	7:40 p.m.
		<i>Where's God?</i>
		<i>Led by Pastor Chris Pflughoeft</i>
March 11	Women of the Word social and elections	5:00-8:00 p.m.
March 12	Wednesday Bible study in the MEC	8:30 a.m.
		<i>Digging deeper into doctrine</i>
		<i>Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl</i>
	Midweek Lent worship service	3:30 and 6:30 p.m.
	Lenten supper	4:45-6:30 p.m.
	Adult choir in the MEC	7:30 p.m.
March 13	Thursday Bible study at Denny's	6:00 a.m.
		<i>Attitude Adjustment (Book of Philippians)</i>
		<i>Led by Pastor Dan Pautz at</i>
		<i>Denny's (Broadway and Priest in Tempe)</i>
	God's Ways Bible study in the MEC	6:00 p.m.
		<i>Led by Pastor Gary Pufahl</i>
	Bible Basics in the MEC	6:30 p.m.
		<i>Led by Pastor Jon Buchholz</i>
March 14	ELS chapel	8:30 a.m.
	Early release	1:50 p.m.
March 15	Joy Fellowship at Barleens Dinner Show	11:15 a.m.
March 16	In-person services	8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
	In-person Bible study	9:15 a.m.
	Sunday school, teen study	No classes this week
	Public school catechism	No class this week



### **Connection card**

*During the offering we ask that you complete an online connection card.*

# Notes and News

## **Connection cards**

The connection cards have a valuable purpose in helping us serve you better. We ask all our worshipers to help us serve you by scanning the QR code, by going to [elctempe.org/connect](http://elctempe.org/connect), or by filling out one of the cards in the pews. Thank you!

## **John Henderson Memorial Tournament**

The John Henderson Memorial Tournament will take place this Friday and Saturday, March 7 and 8, at Arizona Lutheran Academy. Our boys and girls A teams will both be competing. The boys' first game on Friday is at 9:00 a.m. while the girls' first game on Friday is at noon. Cost for admission for the tournament is children 5 and under are free, children 6 and up are \$2, and adults are \$4. A family pass for the day is \$10.

## **Volunteers and candy needed for Family Easter Festival**

Our Family Easter Festival is on Saturday, April 19, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. In order to have a fun and safe event for all, we need volunteers and candy donations. If you are interested in volunteering for this fun family event, use the provided QR code or contact Alysha Bergsma, the church administrative assistant, at (480) 967-3983. We are also collecting non-chocolate candy that will go into the plastic eggs for our egg hunts. A candy collection box is located in the church narthex.



*Family Easter Festival - Volunteers*

## **Serve at Paz de Cristo | Meal service on March 9**

Ages 12 and up are invited on Sunday, March 9, 2025, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. to help with meal service (please arrive 15 minutes early for sign-in). This volunteer opportunity will consist of serving dinner to those in need. Kitchen help, serving plates, handing out meals, and kindly greeting people with a smile will be among the duties for the night. Please contact Martha Wenzel at [wenzel715email@gmail.com](mailto:wenzel715email@gmail.com) or call or text (602) 697-3200 to reserve your spot. An e-mail link will be sent to you.

## **WOW social and elections | March 11**

Emmanuel's Ladies' Group, *Women of the Word (WOW)*, will meet this coming Tuesday, March 11, 5:00-8:00 p.m. in Emmanuel's Ministry and Education Center (MEC) for dinner and elections. Dinner, drinks, and dessert will be provided. All ladies of Emmanuel are encouraged to join! We are looking for officers and committee chairs to begin their terms in June. Please be on the lookout for information regarding this event and more exciting news about WOW. If you have any questions, please contact Alysha Bergsma, the church administrative assistant, at (480) 967-3983.



## **Holy Week choirs open to all**

All are invited to join the adult choir for our Holy Week services. There are three opportunities: all males for Palm Sunday, all females for Holy Thursday, and mixed voices for Easter Sunday. You are invited to join us at 7:30 p.m. on each Wednesday night starting next Wednesday, March 12, and leading up to Holy Week. We would enjoy having additional singers for this special week of worship! For more information, contact Kevin Bode, [kbode@elstempe.org](mailto:kbode@elstempe.org).

## **Emmanuel church picnic | March 30**

It's that time of year again! Our annual church picnic is scheduled for Sunday, March 30, 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Please join us for fellowship, festivities, fun, and food. We will have food, drinks, entertainment, and activities. Hamburgers, hotdogs, buns, bar-b-que beans, drinks, and condiments will be provided.

We are asking for members to contribute cold sides and desserts. More information about this event, volunteer opportunities, and to RSVP can be found at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A4FADA82DAA8-55229381-2025>, or the provided QR code. A paper sign-up is also available on the table in the MEC. Please RSVP by Monday, March 24.



*Emmanuel picnic  
- Sign-up*

## **Student teachers**

Emmanuel is hosting two student teachers from Martin Luther College now through Friday, May 9. Miss Caitlin Broehm is under the supervision of Miss Wempner in second grade, while Miss Emma Berg is under the supervision of Mrs. Miller in grade 7. This student teaching experience serves as one of the final requirements for these young ladies to receive their degrees in education and be assigned to serve in a future WELS classroom. Make sure to introduce yourselves and welcome them to Emmanuel!

## **Arizona Prison Ministry**

Arizona Prison Ministry exists to meet the spiritual needs of returning citizens and others requiring spiritual direction. At the present time we are seeking new mentors to train for this purpose. We especially need a female mentor. If you are interested, please contact David Hochmuth administrator for WELS Prison Ministry at [dave.hochmuth@wels.net](mailto:dave.hochmuth@wels.net), phone (414) 256-3243, or Pastor James Ruppel (509) 899-5018. Training is available at any time.

## **Lenten meals and fellowship**

Let's get together! Enjoy a meal and fellowship on Wednesday nights for the six weeks during Lent. Bring your family, friends and themed dish to share! If you plan to attend, please RSVP using the provided QR code, link, or paper sign-up in the Ministry and Education Center.

### **Ash Wednesday, March 5 - Mexican**

Set-up and clean-up led by Women of the Word (WOW)  
Congregation will bring Mexican dishes and desserts  
WOW will provide chips and salsa

### **March 12 - Chili and Mac-n-Cheese**

Set-up and clean-up led by soup supper group led by Cathy Wightman  
Congregation will bring crockpots of chili, pans of mac-n-cheese, and desserts  
WOW will provide crackers, cheese, and onions  
Sign-up [here](#)

### **March 19 - Salad**

Set-up and clean-up led by Joy Fellowship  
Congregation will bring salads and desserts  
WOW will provide bread, butter, and crackers  
Sign-up [here](#)

### **March 26 - Italian**

Set-up and clean-up led by school faculty  
Congregation will bring Italian dishes, salad, and desserts  
WOW will provide garlic bread  
Sign-up [here](#)

### **April 2 - Hot Dish/ Casserole**

Set-up and clean-up led by Adult Choir  
Congregation will bring casserole, hot dishes, and desserts  
WOW will provide bread and butter

### **April 9 - Potluck**

Set-up and clean-up led by Church Council  
Congregation will bring a potluck dish of their choice

WOW will have a freewill offering to offset the cost of paper products and accompaniment to the meal. Please use the sign-up links or QR codes provided above, or the paper sign-up on the table in the MEC, to RSVP your attendance (and if you're able to volunteer) and join the fun! If you have any questions, please contact Karen Henriksen at (602) 301-6243 or [tkhenriksen@gmail.com](mailto:tkhenriksen@gmail.com).



*Lenten meal, March 12  
- Sign-up*



*Lenten meal, March 19  
- Sign-up*



*Lenten meal, March 26  
- Sign-up*

# Personal preparation for Holy Communion

*The following questions for self-examination (adapted from various sources) may be helpful as you prepare to receive the Sacrament.*

As we prepare to partake of the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, it is appropriate that we diligently examine ourselves, as St Paul exhorts us. For this Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort and strengthening of those who humbly confess their sins and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But if we thus examine ourselves, we find nothing in ourselves but sin and death, from which we can in no way set ourselves free. Therefore our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy upon us and has taken upon himself our nature, so that he might fulfill the whole will and law of God and for us and for our deliverance suffer death and all that we by our sins have deserved. In order that we should more confidently believe this and be strengthened in faith and cheerful obedience to his holy will, he has instituted the holy Sacrament of his Supper, in which he feeds us with his body and gives us to drink of his blood.

Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup firmly believing the words of Christ, lives in Christ and Christ in him, and has eternal life.

We should also do this in remembrance of him, proclaiming his death – that he was delivered over for our sins and raised to life for our justification. Then with thankful hearts we commit ourselves again to take up our cross and follow him, keep his commandments, and love one another as he has loved us.

*As you examine yourself, consider these questions before God, who searches the heart:*

**Q:** Do you sincerely confess that you have sinned against God and deserved his wrath and punishment?

**A:** *Truly you should confess, for Holy Scripture declares, "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."*

**Q:** Do you heartily repent of all your sins committed in thought, word, and action?

**A:** *Truly you should repent, as did the penitent sinners: King David, who prayed for a contrite heart; Peter, who wept bitterly; the woman caught in adultery; the prodigal son; and others.*

**Q:** Do you sincerely believe that God, by his grace, for Jesus' sake, forgives you all your sins?

**A:** *Truly you should believe, for Holy Scripture declares, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."*

**Q:** Do you promise that with the help of the Holy Spirit you will from this time forward amend your sinful life?

**A:** *Truly you should so promise, for Holy Scripture declares, "No one who lives in him keeps on sinning," and Jesus himself declares, "If you love me, you will obey what I command."*

Personal prayer:

Lord Jesus, as a penitent sinner filled with joy and gratitude, I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of love and kindness to others. Amen.

*A person should examine himself before eating of the bread and drinking from the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment (1 Corinthians 11:28,29,31).*

# About Us

**E**mmanuel Lutheran Church shares the love of Jesus and the truth of his saving Word with the people in our church, our community and the world.

The objectives of our mission are:

- To **preach**, by proclaiming the Word of God, as we worship and praise God in a loving Christian atmosphere;
- To **teach**, by fostering an ongoing increase in knowledge and maturity in God's Word;
- To **reach**, by sharing the Gospel of God's Word with all people, and to do so;
- By **each** member actively participating in our ministry.

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**E**mmanuel Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the Wisconsin Synod as well as the churches of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS).

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