

Third Sunday in Lent ~ March 15, 2020

THEME: Those who follow Jesus walk in the light of the Lord and know him.

HYMN 297: "Baptized in Water"

HOLY BAPTISM – Page 12

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Almighty God, look with favor on your humble servants and stretch out the right hand of your power to defend us against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 42:14-21 (EHV)

In words that lay bare the often perverse nature of sin, the Lord admonishes Israel, an apostate in her self-wrought spiritual blindness. But grace is also promised. The Lord's Servant will come to lead the blind and turn darkness into light.

42:14 I have been silent for a long time. I have kept still. I have restrained myself. But now, like a woman giving birth, I will scream. I will gasp and pant. I will dry up mountains and hills. I will make all their grass wither. I will turn rivers into islands. I will dry up pools. I will lead the blind on a way they do not know. Along paths they do not know I will direct them. Ahead of them I will turn darkness into light and rough places into level ground. These are the things I will accomplish for them. I will not abandon them. They will be turned back and completely disgraced - those who trust in an idol, those who say to molten images, "You are our gods." You deaf ones, listen! You blind ones, watch carefully so that you can see! Who is as blind as my servant? Who is as deaf as my messenger whom I sent? Who is as blind as my associate, as blind as the servant of the LORD? You, Israel, see many things, but you do not observe. Israel opens his ears, but he does not hear. Because of his own righteousness, the LORD was pleased to make his law great and glorious.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 143 (p.118) (sung in unison)

The Church, recognizing her own weakness, prays for the gracious mercy and help of the Lord.

SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 5:8-14 (EHV) (sermon text)

Paul uses the metaphor of darkness in characterizing the life of the Ephesians before grace came to them. But the grace of God changed them from children of darkness into children of light. Paul encourages them and us to "Live as children of light."

5:8 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light, 9 for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness, and truth. 10 Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord, 11 and do not participate in fruitless deeds of darkness. Instead, expose them. 12 For it is shameful even to mention the things that are done by people in secret. 13 But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes things visible. 14 Therefore it is said, "Awake, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

VERSE OF THE DAY: Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:14,15 EHV)

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39 (EHV) (Please Stand)

Jesus reveals his grace and glory as he heals a man who was born blind. As he does so, he corrects his disciples, who thought some great sin caused the man's physical impairment. In the end, the one born blind regains much more than physical eyesight: he sees his Savior. But those who reject the Son of Man retain a blindness leading to eternal death.

9:1 As Jesus was passing by, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that God's works might be revealed in connection with him. I must do the works of him who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the Light of the World." After saying this, Jesus spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and spread the mud on the man's eyes. "Go," Jesus told him, "wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means "Sent"). So he went and washed, and came back seeing. They brought this man who had been blind to the Pharisees. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. So the Pharisees also asked him how he received his sight. "He put mud on my eyes," the man told them. "I washed, and now I see." Then some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God because he does not keep the Sabbath." Others were saying, "How can a sinful man work such miraculous signs?" There was division among them, so they said to the blind man again, "What do you say about him, because he opened your eyes?" The man replied, "He is a prophet." They answered him, "You were entirely born in sinfulness! Yet you presume to teach us?" And they threw him out. Jesus heard that they had thrown him out. When he found him, he asked, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" "Who is he, sir," the man replied, "that I may believe in him?" Jesus answered, "You have seen him, and he is the very one who is speaking with you." Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" and he knelt down and worshipped him. Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, in order that those who do not see will see, and those who do see will become blind."

HYMN 373: "O Jesus, King Most Wonderful"

SERMON THEME: Walk as Children of Light

1. Do not participate in deeds of darkness 2. Learn what is pleasing to the Lord

APOSTLES' CREED – Page 41

OFFERING HYMN 485 Verses 1 & 2: "We Give Thee but Thine Own" (Please Stand)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN 460: "How Can I Thank You, Lord"

BENEDICTION

HYMN 381: "Grace Has A Thrilling Sound"

SILENT PRAYER & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Serving Us Today ~ March 15, 2020

Organist: Marjean Schroeder-Oaks

Altar Guild: Barb Luft, Ann Gosdeck & Julie Treichel

Ushers: Mark Andersen, Mady Andersen, Tom Gregory, Randy Montgomery & Amy Montgomery

Counters: Sandy Briese, Randy Montgomery & Amy Montgomery

Mira Juanita-Marie Austin, infant daughter of Jordan and Alysha Austin, will be baptized today during our worship this morning. Mira's sponsors are Tom Roszak and Madison Laing. Mira's grandparents are David & Nita Schroeder. We welcome little Mira to our church family.

2020 Mid-week Lenten Services and Suppers: Pre-service soup suppers continue in our Fellowship Hall at 5:30 p.m. This is another opportunity for food, fun and fellowship with Immanuel members (and visitors). Mid-week Lenten Service begins promptly at 6:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal follows immediately after service.

Easter Flowers: (Revised from last week because of availability) Sign-up sheets are located below our bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. We are trying a different supplier this year. Available plants to sponsor are Lilies (\$12), Chrysanthemums (\$12), Pansy (\$12) and Hyacinth (\$12).

Immanuel Military Members: All active or retired personnel please provide your service information to the church office or email to pastorseelman@hotmail.com. Provide name, branch, rank and dates of service. We would like to publish a complete listing for our Memorial Day Service. Thank you!

Immanuel Constitution Update Team: If you would be interested in joining a team to review and amend our Constitution, please see the sign-up page located near our bulletin board. Also, if you have signed-up to join the team, please stop in the office to pick-up a copy of the Constitution to review before we meet.

The LWMS Sign-Up Sheet for the Spring Rally is located in our Fellowship Hall for any of our ladies interested in attending on April 18.

Ladies' Guild: This Saturday, our ladies will meet to pack cookies for the cookie sale next Sunday. Any congregational member wishing to donate any of their delicious baked goods would be greatly appreciated. Please bring your goodies to the church kitchen on Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GIFTS			THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL	
Needed per week	\$3,120.00		Today	10:00 a.m. Sunday School
Budget Received 03-08-20	\$2,344.50		Today	10:00 a.m. Adult Doctrine Study
Budget Received 03-11-20	\$439.00		Monday	5:00 p.m. GriefShare
Budget Need to date	\$31,200.00		Tuesday	9:30 a.m. Bible Study
Budget Received to date	\$36,649.00		Wednesday	5:30 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper
	Attendance 03-08-20	68	Wednesday	6:30 p.m. Mid-week Lent Service
	Doctrine Study	11	Wednesday	7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
	GriefShare	6	Saturday	9:00 a.m. Ladies' Guild Meeting
	Tuesday Bible Study	7	Sunday	9:00 a.m. Communion Service
	Mid-week Lent Service	44	Sunday	10:00 a.m. Sunday School
Office Hours: Tues. Weds & Thurs. 8:00 a.m. -Noon			Sunday	10:00 a.m. LG Cookie Sale

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