

Shut-in/Encouragement List Patti Meno continues to receive regular dialysis and is awaiting a kidney transplant. Johanna Jaehnigen remains mostly housebound. Bill Hartmann's health is deteriorating quickly. Paulette Galstad is suffering through bad back pain and other health problems. Emily Kuehne suffers from total blindness and severe knee pain, among other ailments. Greg Tinchler is recovering from his recent surgeries at home and receiving frequent therapy. JoAnne Weis is regaining her strength at home and feeling much better. Rudy Enriquez is home from the hospital and awaiting the beginning of treatment for his throat cancer.

Last Week: WH – 47	Total Offering = \$2,074
General = \$949 Tuition = \$1,025 Building = \$50 Tuition Grant = \$50	
Cleaner (3/6): Ream Acolyte (3/7): Grant Ream	

Mon Genesis 28:10-17 Jacob was hated by his brother and sent packing by his father on a 600 mile trek to distant relatives. He needed reassurance that he was not forsaken by God—despite the mess he had made of his life (10-11). So, God came to his rescue (12-15), assuring him he would return home safely; being thus assured, Jacob vowed to dedicate Bethel as a worship center to the LORD God. [Question: In what ways does this fit our own experiences and resemble our own responses to God's protection?]

Tues Mark 8:31-38 Since we have made a mess of our lives, we need God's help, too – and God has helped in the most astonishing way: He sent Jesus away from home to endure public shame and suffer an agonizing death. This goes to prove that God's ways are higher than ours, and that He has not forsaken us.

Wed Romans 5:1-11 Faith resembles a power cord *by/via which we have access to God's grace*; it takes a heavy-duty cable to *glory in tribulations* (1-5), for instance. If we need reassurance that God has not forsaken us, here's the basic outline of how much God loves us (6-11). In spite of the mess we may have made of our life, God does not hold it against us, but only against Jesus, and He came through it all successfully for us (10-11).

Thurs Psalm 73 There's a story embedded in the shift of pronouns from *me/my/I* in verses 1-3 to *they/them* in verses 4-12. Question: What do I/we possess that makes our life worthwhile (15-17)? Answer: We have God's protection (25-27), whereas those who have turned their backs on God are headed for the worst future imaginable (27). We know how *good it is to draw near to God, to put our trust in Him*.

Fri Peter was impulsive (Mt. 14:28 and 17:4, John 21:7), presumptuous (Mt. 16:22), cowardly (Mt. 26:69-72), and slow to assimilate deep truths (Mt. 15:15-20), yet he confessed Christ (Mt. 16:16, John 6:68-69), and the Spirit strengthened him to present God's plan of salvation (Acts 2:14-36) and defend it against attack (Acts 3:12-26, 4:8-12). Which goes to show that God often crafts raw material into something serviceable in His kingdom.

Sat Acts 21:37-22:2 These verses may be of small doctrinal importance, yet they sparkle with dramatic energy. Note: First Paul asked if he were allowed to speak; he was. Then he clarified that he was not a threat to public safety, but a Roman citizen. Next he requested permission to address the crowd, and that was granted. He raised a hand-cuffed arm to request their attention, and he gained access to their hearts by his diplomatic greeting: "*Men, brethren, and fathers.*" God had well prepared Paul for such occasions.

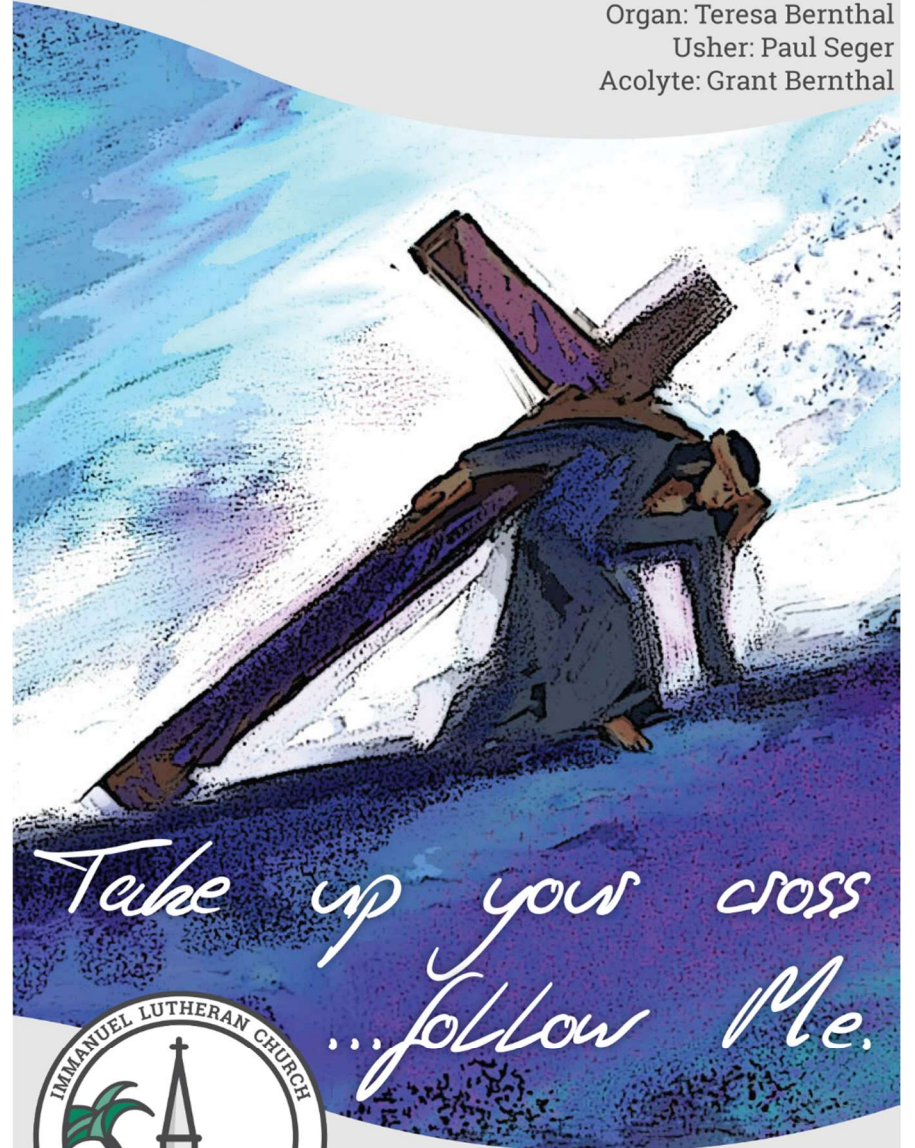
February 28, 2021

Second Sunday of Lent

Organ: Teresa Bernthal

Usher: Paul Seger

Acolyte: Grant Bernthal



Take up your cross
...follow Me.



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PRE-SERVICE DEVOTION

Psalm 73:21-28

When my soul was embittered, when I was pricked in heart, ²² I was brutish and ignorant; I was like a beast toward you. ²³ Nevertheless, I am continually with you; you hold my right hand. ²⁴ You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to glory. ²⁵ Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. ²⁶ My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. ²⁷ For behold, those who are far from you shall perish; you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you. ²⁸ But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord GOD my refuge, that I may tell of all your works.

✠ Order of Divine Worship ✠

P Pastor

C Congregation

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN: TLH #429:1-2 "Lord, Thee I Love With All My Heart"

1. Lord, Thee I love with all my heart; I pray Thee ne'er from me depart, With tender mercies cheer me. Earth has no pleasure I would share, Yea, heaven itself were void and bare If Thou, Lord, wert not near me. And should my heart for sorrow break, My trust in Thee no one could shake. Thou art the Portion I have sought; Thy precious blood my soul has bought. Lord Jesus Christ, My God and Lord, my God and Lord, Forsake me not! I trust Thy Word.
2. Yea, Lord, 'twas Thy rich bounty gave My body, soul, and all I have In this poor life of labor. Lord, grant that I in every place May glorify Thy lavish grace And serve and help my neighbor. Let no false doctrine me beguile And Satan not my soul defile. Give strength and patience unto me To bear my cross and follow Thee. Lord Jesus Christ, My God and Lord, my God and Lord, In death Thy comfort still afford.

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C *♫* A - - - men.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C *♫* Who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C *♫* And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

HYMN: TLH #409:1-2

"Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus"

1. Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow His example pure,
Flee the world, which would deceive us And to sin our souls allure.
Ever in His footsteps treading, Body here, yet soul above,
Full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, abide with me; Savior, lead, I follow Thee.
2. Let us suffer here with Jesus, To His image, e'er conform;
Heaven's glory soon will please us, Sunshine follow on the storm.
Though we sow in tears of sorrow, We shall reap with heavenly joy;
And the fears that now annoy Shall be laughter on the morrow.
Christ, I suffer here with Thee; There, oh, share Thy joy with me!

PRAYERS & the BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

- P** The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.
- C** *♫* Amen, amen, a – men.

HYMN: TLH #423:1,5,6

"Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken"

1. Jesus, I my cross have taken, All to leave and follow Thee;
Destitute, despised, forsaken, Thou from hence my All shalt be.
Perish every fond ambition, All I've sought or hoped or known;
Yet how rich is my condition! God and heaven are still my own.
5. Take, my soul, thy full salvation; Rise o'er sin and fear and care;
Joy to find in every station, Something still to do or bear. Think
what Spirit dwells within thee, What a Father's smile is thine, What
a Savior died to win thee; Child of heaven, shouldst thou repine?
6. Haste, then, on from grace to glory, Armed by faith and winged by
prayer; Heaven's eternal day's before thee, God's own hand shall
guide thee there. Soon shall close the earthly mission, Swift shall
pass thy pilgrim days, Hope soon change to glad fruition, Faith to
sight, and prayer to praise.

✠ Announcements ✠

Letter Received

Dear brothers and sisters of Immanuel Lutheran Winter Haven, I have received the call to teach at your school. Your dedication and passion for bringing the Gospel message to these children is truly a wonderful

- ✠ Mar. 3: Midweek Lent 6:30 pm
- ✠ Mar. 7: Masks-On Service 9 am
- ✠ Mar. 7: Communion
- ✠ Mar. 7: Board of Elders

work of faith! I have complete confidence that the Lord will guide us all during this call process, may He continue to bless you while we await His answer. I ask that you keep me in your thoughts and prayers and know that you are also in mine. Let His will be done! **Proverbs 16:9:** *A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps.* In Christ, Matthew Kranz

1. Through Jesus' blood and merit I am at peace with God;
What, then, can daunt my spirit, However dark my road?
My courage shall not fail me, For God is on my side;
Though hell itself assail me, Its rage I may deride.

4. Nor any creature ever Shall from the love of God
This wretched sinner sever; For in my Savior's blood
This love its fountain taketh; He hears my faithful prayer
And nevermore forsaketh His own dear child and heir.

SERMON – Mark 8:27-38 And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸ And they told him, "John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets." ²⁹ And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ." ³⁰ And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him. ³¹ And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man." ³⁴ And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. ³⁶ For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? ³⁷ For what can a man give in return for his soul? ³⁸ For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Jesus Says, "Get Behind Me."

- I. Because the Cross is Necessary.
- II. Because He Leads and You Follow.
- III. Because He Will Protect and Save You.

OFFERTORY

- G** *♩* 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.

P Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

G **O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He gives power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

G *♩* **A - - - men.**

INTROIT

Ps. 115:11-13, 18; Ps. 25:6

P Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

G **You who fear the Lord, trust in the Lord! He is their help and their shield.**

P The Lord has remembered us; he will bless us; he will bless the house of Israel; he will bless the house of Aaron;

G **He will bless those who fear the Lord, both the small and the great.**

P We will bless the Lord from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the Lord!

GLORIA PATRI

Latin for "Glory be to the Father"

G Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;

as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

VERSE OF THE DAY*Mark 8:34b*

- P** If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

THE KYRIE*Latin for "O Lord"*

C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST*TLH #237:1*

- C** ♪ All glory be to God on high, Who hath our race befriended! To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended. God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on earth again; O thank Him for His goodness!

- P** Let us pray. O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** ♪ A - - - men.

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Genesis 28:10-17 Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹ And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. ¹² And he dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! ¹³ And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. ¹⁴ Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and

you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed. ¹⁵ Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." ¹⁶ Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it." ¹⁷ And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

EPISTLE READING – Romans 5:1-11 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. ⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For one will scarcely die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die-- ⁸ but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. ¹¹ More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

CONFESSION OF FAITH*The Apostles' Creed*

- I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth. 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**