

**Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; April 19-24, '21**

**Mon Acts 4:5-12** In slouched the jackals and hyenas, wary of an ambush (5-7); God doesn't ambush but helps the helpless get on their feet (8-9). The word on the street: "Jesus has done the miracle of healing the lame man, Jesus is none other than heaven's provider of salvation, and you have put yourselves in mortal jeopardy by rejecting and murdering Him. Jesus alone provides access to the throne of grace, so you need to reset your compass!"

**Tues Luke 24:36-49** The last time the disciples had laid eyes on Jesus, He was a bloody corpse (so it's understandable that they were spooked), but after He calmed them down (36-38), He provided impressive proof that He was their old Friend, alive and well – and hungry (39-43). What did it all mean? Jesus explained that since He had fulfilled His mission on Earth, His disciples were prepared to share His victory with their friends, relatives, etc., (47-49).

**Wed 1 John 1:1-2:2** Jesus used John's ears, eyes, hands, and heart to get him prepared to publicize all that Jesus had entrusted to him: the Truth, the whole Truth, and nothing but the Truth (1:1-5). That starts, of course, with the truth about our unholy selves (8), which God counters with the truth about holy Jesus, the divine solution for humanity's sins (2:1-2).

**Thurs Psalm 118** We join the psalmist's hour of worship (1-4), confident that the Lord can handle all humanity (5-14) and our own limitations (15-18). We share his Christian confession (19-20), recognizing Jesus in vv. 22-24, and close with our prayer and praises. *Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!*

**Fri Matthew 28:11-15** Some of those soldiers who had been floored by the angel (v.4) stumbled into town to report *all the things that had happened* in the early morning out at the cemetery. They knew the truth, but the ruling Sanhedrin bribed them to bear false witness against the disciples and against the Easter angel, too. Doing so put the soldiers into jeopardy, of course, but the Sanhedrin had money to solve that problem. How tragic that people will believe human lies rather than God's Truth about Easter (15)!

**Sat Acts 23:11-35** It seems that Paul needed some cheering up (11), so Jesus obliged just as things were turning nasty. Paul, God's messenger of the Truth, had enemies so rabid that they vowed to kill him before breakfast. Of course, it boomeranged, for Jesus had other plans (12-22). In the protection of federal troops, Paul was ushered out of danger via a two-day trip to the Roman provincial capital, where he was kept safe for a fair trial.

**April 18, 2021**

**3rd Sunday of Easter**

Organ: Teresa Bernthal

Usher: Ed Morris

Acolyte: Maxwell Kuehne

**GOD IS LIGHT**  
**IN HIM IS NO DARKNESS AT ALL**

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
WINTER HAVEN, FL

**CLC**

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## PRE-SERVICE DEVOTION

Psalm 32:1ff

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. <sup>2</sup> Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. <sup>3</sup> For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. <sup>4</sup> For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Selah <sup>5</sup> I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

### ✠ Order of Divine Worship ✠

#### OPENING PRAYER

☒ Pastor

☑ Congregation

**HYMN: TLH #114:1,3,5,6 "Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love"**

1. Jesus! Name of wondrous love, Name all other names above,  
Unto which must every knee Bow in deep humility.
3. Jesus! Name of priceless worth To the fallen sons of earth,  
For the promise that it gave, "Jesus shall His people save."
5. Jesus! Only name that's given Under all the mighty heaven  
Whereby man, to sin enslaved, Bursts his fetters and is saved.
6. Jesus! Name of wondrous love, Human name of God above;  
Pleading only this, we flee, Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

- ☒ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
☑ **A - - - men.**

#### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

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

- ☒ 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.
- ☑ **Who made heaven and earth.**
- ☒ I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.
- ☑ **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**
- ☒ 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.
- ☑ **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**

## PRAYERS & the BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

- ☒ 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.
- ☑ **♫ Amen, amen, a – men.**

**HYMN: TLH #196:3-5**

**"Where Wilt Thou Go"**

3. The day is now far spent and gone, The shades of night come quickly on;  
Abide with me, Thou heavenly Light, And do not leave me in this night.
4. Enlighten me that from the way That leads to heav'n I may not stray,  
That I may never be misled, Though night of sin is round me spread.
5. And when I on my death-bed lie, Help me that I in peace may die.  
Abide! I will not let Thee go. Thou wilt not leave me, Lord, I know.

### ✠ Announcements ✠

#### Our Teaching Call

was extended on Wednesday evening to Ms. Katie Naumann. We received this letter on Saturday night:

✠ Today: Masks-on Service 9 am  
✠ Today: **Voters Meeting**  
✠ Apr. 21: Zoom Bible Class 6:30pm  
✠ Apr. 25: Orlando Service 8 am

Dear members of Immanuel

Lutheran Church, With much prayer and joyful anticipation I write to inform you that the Holy Spirit has led me to accept the call you have extended to me to serve as the lower grade teacher in your school.

**Deuteronomy 32:2** "Let my teaching fall like rain and my words descend like dew, like showers on new grass, like abundant rain on tender plants." It is my desire to be but a humble instrument through which the gracious showers of His Word may water the tender youth entrusted to me.

Please keep thoughts and prayers ascending on my behalf as I finish out my education at Immanuel College in Eau Claire, and also over the next few months as I prepare to join you in school, life, and worship.

**Deuteronomy 11:18-19** "Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."

May God bless you all richly and may He also grant me the abilities to faithfully carry out my duties among you. Your sister in Christ, Katie Naumann

**Last Week:** WH – 20 Orlando – 10

**Total Offering = \$1,396**

General = \$676 | ILC SAF = \$20 | Property Improvement = \$100

**Cleaner (4/24):** Custodio | **Acolyte (4/25):** Mason Goodwin

**SERMON – 1 John 1:1-2:2** That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life--<sup>2</sup> the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us--<sup>3</sup> that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.<sup>4</sup> And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.<sup>5</sup> This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.<sup>6</sup> If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.<sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.<sup>8</sup> If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.<sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.<sup>10</sup> If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.<sup>1</sup> My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.<sup>2</sup> He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

**Exchanging a Lie for the Truth**

- I. "Jesus is not risen." (1:1-4)
- II. "I have no sin." (1:5-6, 8, 10)
- III. "You cannot be forgiven." (1:7, 9, 2:1-2)

**OFFERTORY**

**♩ 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.**

**HYMN: TLH #382:1,4-6 "Lord, We Confess Our Numerous Faults"**

1. Lord, we confess our numerous faults; How great our guilt has been, How vain and foolish all our thoughts, And all our lives were sin.
4. 'Tis from the mercy of our God That all our hopes begin; 'Tis by the Water and the Blood Our souls are washed from sin.
5. 'Tis through the purchase of His death Who hung upon the tree The Spirit is sent down to breathe On such dry bones as we.
6. Raised from the dead, we live anew; And justified by grace. We shall appear in glory, too, And see our Father's face.

**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.**

**♩** 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.

**♩ A - - - men.**

**INTROIT**

*Ps. 30:1-5; Ps. 16:11*

- ♩** In your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.
- ♩** I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up and have not let my foes rejoice over me.
- ♩** O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.
- ♩** O Lord, you have brought up my soul from Sheol; you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.
- ♩** Sing praises to the Lord, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name.
- ♩** For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

**GLORIA PATRI**

*Latin for "Glory be to the Father"*

**♩** 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**

*Lk. 24:32*

**♩** Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. Our hearts were burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us. Alleluia.

## THE KYRIE

Latin for "O Lord"

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

**♩ 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!**

**♩** Let us pray. O God, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**♩ A - - - men.**

**FIRST LESSON – Acts 4:8-12** Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup> if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup> let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead-- by him this man is standing before you well. <sup>11</sup> This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. <sup>12</sup> And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

**SECOND LESSON – Luke 24:36-49** As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" <sup>37</sup> But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. <sup>38</sup> And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do

doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup> See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." <sup>40</sup> And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup> And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup> They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup> and he took it and ate before them. <sup>44</sup> Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup> and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup> and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

## 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.**

## **HYMN: TLH #364:1-3,6-7 "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"**

- 1. How sweet the name of Jesus sounds In a believer's ear! It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds, And drives away his fear.**
- 2. It makes the wounded spirit whole And calms the troubled breast; 'Tis manna to the hungry soul And to the weary, rest.**
- 3. Dear name! The Rock on which I build, My Shield and Hiding-place; My never-failing Treasury filled With boundless stores of grace.**
- 6. Weak is the effort of my heart And cold my warmest thought; But when I see Thee as Thou art, I'll praise Thee as I ought.**
- 7. Till then I would Thy love proclaim With every fleeting breath; And may the music of Thy name Refresh my soul in death.**