

**BEHOLD, I WILL RAIN BREAD
FROM HEAVEN FOR YOU.**

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Exodus 16:4



Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

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As We Gather

The Lenten journey often exposes the weariness in our hearts. Like the ancient Israelites wandering through the desolate wilderness, we too can find ourselves tired, anxious, and tempted to grumble about the path before us. The journey of faith is rarely easy. Our daily struggles can quickly overshadow our memory of God's past deliverances, leaving us feeling empty and abandoned. But as we gather in the Lord's house today, we are invited to look away from our barren surroundings and look upward. How does our gracious Lord respond to His weary, wandering people? Prepare your hearts this afternoon to receive the comforting truth found in our sermon theme: "The Good News of a God Who Sustains on Our Journey."

✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

Hymn

469 – Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 107:1-2, 9; 121:8

P Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!

C For His mercy endures forever.

P Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,

C Whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy.

P He satisfies the longing soul,

C And fills the hungry soul with goodness.

P The LORD shall preserve your going out and your coming in

C From this time forth, and even forevermore.

Confession and Absolution

P Beloved in the Lord! We are a wandering people, journeying through the wilderness of this fallen world. Too often, our hearts give way to grumbling and our faith falters. We doubt the Lord's provision, complain about our circumstances, and fail to trust His daily care. Yet, our gracious God invites us to return to Him, confessing our sins and seeking the bread of His forgiveness. Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You. I have grumbled against Your providence. I have hungered for the fleeting things of this world rather than the bread of life. I have failed to trust Your sustaining grace on my daily journey. Forgive me, renew my faith, and feed my soul with Your steadfast love, for the sake of the bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to be the King upon the cross, suffering the ultimate thirst and hunger so that you might be filled with His righteousness. 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.

C Amen.

✠ The Service of the Word ✠

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray...

... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Epistle Reading

Revelation 7:13-17

¹³ Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" ¹⁴ And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. ¹⁶ They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; ¹⁷ for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 78:14-25

- P** In the daytime also He led them with the cloud,
- C** **And all the night with a light of fire.**
- P** He split the rocks in the wilderness,
- C** **And gave them drink in abundance like the depths.**
- P** He also brought streams out of the rock,
- C** **And caused waters to run down like rivers.**
- P** But they sinned even more against Him
- C** **By rebelling against the Most High in the wilderness.**
- P** And they tested God in their heart
- C** **By asking for the food of their fancy.**
- P** Yes, they spoke against God:
- C** **They said, "Can God prepare a table in the wilderness?"**
- P** Behold, He struck the rock, so that the waters gushed out, and the streams overflowed.
- C** **Can He give bread also? Can He provide meat for His people?"**
- P** Therefore the LORD heard this and was furious;
- C** **So a fire was kindled against Jacob, and anger also came up against Israel,**
- P** Because they did not believe in God,
- C** **And did not trust in His salvation.**
- P** Yet He had commanded the clouds above,
- C** **And opened the doors of heaven,**
- P** Had rained down manna on them to eat,
- C** **And given them of the bread of heaven.**
- P** Men ate angels' food;
- C** **He sent them food to the full.**

Passion History Reading

VI. The King on a Cross

Then they crucified Him there, and two others with Him, robbers and criminals, one on the right hand, and the other on the left, and Jesus in the center. So the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "And He was numbered with the transgressors." Now it was the third hour when they crucified Him. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they do."

The soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and divided them up among themselves into four parts, to each soldier a part, casting lots for them to determine what every man should take. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top in one piece. They said therefore among themselves, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be;" that the Scripture might be fulfilled, which says, "They divided

My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots.” Sitting down, they kept watch over Him there.

Now Pilate wrote a title an inscription of His accusation over Him. And the soldiers put it above His head on the cross. It was written: “THIS IS JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS.” Many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in letters of Hebrew, Greek, and Latin. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, “Do not write ‘The King of the Jews’, but ‘He said, “I am the King of the Jews”.’” Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.”

And the people stood, looking on, and those who passed by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads, and saying, “Aha! You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross.” Likewise even the rulers, the chief priests, together with the scribes, the Pharisees, and the elders, sneered at Him and mocked Him, saying, “He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, that we may see and believe in Him. He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now, if He will have Him; for He said, ‘I am the Son of God’.” And the soldiers also mocked Him, coming and offering Him sour wine, and saying, “If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself!”

Even the robbers who were crucified with Him reviled Him with the same thing. One of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, “If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us!” But the other answering rebuked him, saying, “Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said to Jesus, “Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom!” And Jesus said to him, “Truly I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”

Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, “Woman, behold your son!” Then He said to the disciple, “Behold your mother!” And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home.

And it was about the sixth hour, and the sun was darkened. There was darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani!” Which is translated, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” And when some of those who stood by heard that, they said, “Look! This Man is calling for Elijah.” After this, Jesus, seeing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, “I thirst.” Now a

vessel full of sour wine was sitting there. Then immediately someone ran, and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed, and offered it to Him to drink. He and the others said, “Let Him alone! Let us see if Elijah will come to save Him and take Him down.” So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished!” Jesus then cried out with a loud voice, saying “Father, into Your hand I commend My spirit.” Then, He bowed His head, gave up His spirit, and breathed His last.

Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom, and the earth quaked; and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves after His resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion, who stood opposite Jesus, and those with him who were guarding Jesus, saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, and that He cried out like this, they feared greatly, saying, “Truly this Man was the Son of God.”

Response

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

C Amen.

Confession of Faith

Luther’s Explanation of the Second Article

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.

He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity.

This is most certainly true.

Hymn

422 – Savior, I Follow On

Sermon Text

Exodus 16:1-18, 35

¹ And they journeyed from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came to the Wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they departed from the land of Egypt. ² Then the whole congregation of the children of Israel complained

against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³ And the children of Israel said to them, “Oh, that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and when we ate bread to the full! For you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.” ⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you. And the people shall go out and gather a certain quota every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in My law or not. ⁵ And it shall be on the sixth day that they shall prepare what they bring in, and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily.” ⁶ Then Moses and Aaron said to all the children of Israel, “At evening you shall know that the LORD has brought you out of the land of Egypt. ⁷ And in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD; for He hears your complaints against the LORD. But what are we, that you complain against us?” ⁸ Also Moses said, “This shall be seen when the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening, and in the morning bread to the full; for the LORD hears your complaints which you make against Him. And what are we? Your complaints are not against us but against the LORD.” ⁹ Then Moses spoke to Aaron, “Say to all the congregation of the children of Israel, ‘Come near before the LORD, for He has heard your complaints.’ ” ¹⁰ Now it came to pass, as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. ¹¹ And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ¹² “I have heard the complaints of the children of Israel. Speak to them, saying, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. And you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’ ” ¹³ So it was that quails came up at evening and covered the camp, and in the morning the dew lay all around the camp. ¹⁴ And when the layer of dew lifted, there, on the surface of the wilderness, was a small round substance, as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵ So when the children of Israel saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, “This is the bread which the LORD has given you to eat. ¹⁶ This is the thing which the LORD has commanded: ‘Let every man gather it according to each one’s need, one omer for each person, according to the number of persons; let every man take for those who are in his tent.’ ” ¹⁷ Then the children of Israel did so and gathered, some more, some less. ¹⁸ So when they measured it by omers, he who gathered much had nothing left over, and he who gathered little had no lack. Every man had gathered according to each one’s need. ³⁵ And the children of Israel ate manna forty years, until they came to an inhabited land; they ate manna until they came to the border of the land of Canaan.

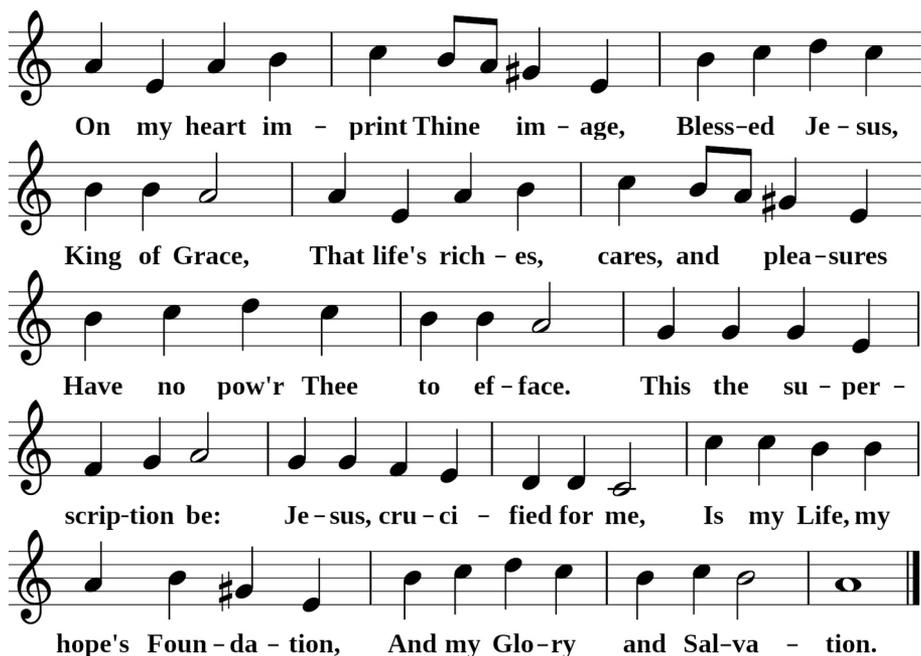


Sermon

The Good News of a God Who Sustains on Our Journey

Offertory

TLH 179 – On My Heart Imprint Thine Image



On my heart im - print Thine im - age, Bless-ed Je - sus,
King of Grace, That life's rich - es, cares, and plea-sures
Have no pow'r Thee to ef - face. This the su - per -
scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me, Is my Life, my
hope's Foun - da - tion, And my Glo - ry and Sal - va - tion.

General Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

C 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 forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C Amen.

Hymn

518 (1-3, 7) – If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee

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✠ Announcements ✠

Upcoming Schedule – winterhavenlutheran.com/church-calendar

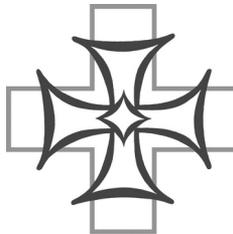
March 25	2:00 pm	Midweek Lenten Worship
March 27	10:30 am	Learning with Littles
March 29	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service
April 2	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Worship
April 3	7:00 pm	Good Friday Worship
April 5	9:00 am	Easter Breakfast
	10:15 am	Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
	11:30 am	Quarterly Voters' Meeting

Upcoming Meetings: Here is a schedule of our upcoming meetings:

- **April 5** – Quarterly Voters' Meeting
- **May 3** – Education/Elders
- **June 7** – Trustees/Church Council

In Our Prayers: Please keep our shut-in members in your prayers: Don Beymer, Bob & Joan Doriot, Johanna Jaehnigen, David & Elsie Kleinschmidt, Shirley Rosenberry, and Mike Sheffield.

Looking Forward to Next Sunday: Next Sunday is Palm Sunday! In our worship, we will join the Jerusalem crowds in crying out, "Hosanna!" Yet, we know how quickly the cheers of that fickle crowd turned to vicious cries of "Crucify Him!" If we are honest, our own hearts are often just as fickle, wavering in our devotion to the Lord. Thank God our salvation does not depend on our steadfastness, but on His! Next week, as we enter Holy Week, our sermon text will be Isaiah 50:4-9a. We will behold "The Flint-Faced Savior for a Fickle People." Come and see how Jesus set His face like a flint toward the cross, willingly giving His back to those who struck Him, all to win your forgiveness.



Learning with Littles – We’re putting together special Easter bags for the children to enjoy at our March 27th Learning with Littles Session! We’re aiming to make about 70 bags for children ages 4 and under, and we’d love your help. Below is a list of items that we could still use. We’ll assemble the bags next Sunday, March 22nd.

- **Food Items:** Cutie oranges, granola bars, Animal crackers (No more candy needed.)
- **Non-Food Items:** Small containers of Play-Doh, mini slinkies, stickers, cross pop-its (from Amazon)

Thank you for supporting this outreach and helping us share the love of Jesus with young children and their families in our community!

Easter Lilies for Easter Sunday: We invite you to help beautify our sanctuary for Easter Sunday by purchasing an Easter lily in honor or memory of a loved one. Each lily is \$10. If you would like to participate, please sign up at the back of church by March 29.

ILC Dorm Supervisor: Jaqi Bredehoft will be resigning as girls dorm supervisor at the end of this school year. We thank her for her faithful service to the LORD and for being such a positive role model to our dorm students. ILC is accepting applicants for this position to begin the 2026-27 school year. This role is vital to our campus, given how dorm supervisors provide spiritual counsel and a fatherly or motherly role to those students who are living away from home. Females who are CLC members in good standing and are able and willing to fill this position may contact ILC President Daniel Schierenbeck (dan.schierenbeck@ilc.edu/660) for more information about the responsibilities and compensation for this position. An application is available online at ilc.edu > Forms and Applications > ILC Employment Application. Review of applications begins April 15.

CLC News: Pastor Rob Sauers of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, FL, has received the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ. <> Pastor Jonah Albrecht of Redemption Ev. Lutheran Church, Lynnwood, WA, and Ascension Lutheran Church, Tacoma, WA, has received the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI. <> Dr. Daniel Sullivan has accepted the call from the CLC Call Committee for Educational Institutions to serve as a professor at Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary in Eau Claire, WI. <> Teacher Levi Schaller of Messiah Lutheran School, Hales Corners, WI, has received the call to Redeemer Lutheran School, Cheyenne, WY. <> Dr. Daniel Schierenbeck has accepted the two-year call from the CLC Call Committee for Educational Institutions to serve as the President of Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary in Eau Claire, WI. <> Teacher Lane Fischer of Immanuel Ev. Lutheran School, Mankato, MN, has received the call to Faith

Lutheran School, Markesan, WI. <> Pastor Tom Naumann of Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, Madison Heights, MI, has accepted the call to Grace Lutheran Church, Fridley, MN. <> Teacher Noah Ohlmann of Grace Ev. Lutheran School, Valentine, NE, has received the call to teach grades 3-4 and serve as associate principal at Messiah Lutheran School, Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor Nathanael Mayhew of Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church, Mankato, MN, has been appointed by President Michael Wilke and has accepted the call to serve as the Secretary of the Church of the Lutheran Confession through June 30th of 2026. Pastor Mayhew is filling out the two-year term of former CLC Secretary, Pastor Wayne Eichstadt. Previously, Pastor Eichstadt had accepted the appointment to serve as a member of the ILC Board of Regents. He is filling out the term of former ILC Regent board member, Pastor John Hein.

