



LENT



- A SEASON OF PREPARATION -

ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 17, 2021

WELCOME

HYMN: “Christ the Life of All the Living” (LSB #420)

**Christ, the life of all the living,
Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Who, Thyself for me once giving
To the darkest depths of woe:
Through Thy suff’rings, death, and merit
I eternal life inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.**

**Thou hast suffered great affliction
And hast borne it patiently,
Even death by crucifixion,
Fully to atone for me;
Thou didst choose to be tormented
That my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.**

**Then, for all that wrought my pardon,
For Thy sorrows deep and sore,
For Thine anguish in the Garden,
I will thank Thee evermore,
Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing,
For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,
For that last triumphant cry,
And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.
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INVOCATION:

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

✠ ASH WEDNESDAY REPENTANCE PRAYER ✠

CONFESSION OF SINS:

Pastor: O God, may the measure of Your eternal love be the measure of Your mercy.

People: May the measure of Your mercy be sufficient to blot out our great sins and cancel out the guilt of our wrong doing.

Pastor: We have failed to keep Your commands, and our failures weigh heavily upon our hearts.

People: We cannot bring ourselves to share them with others, but You know what they are, O God, and how far we have fallen short of Your standards and expectations.

HYMN: “Renew Me, O Eternal Light” (LSB #704)

**Renew me, O eternal Light,
And let my heart and soul be bright,
Illumined with the light of grace
That issues from your holy face.**

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Pastor: We are humans Lord. Because of our fallen nature we cannot fix our problem in sin. Only Jesus can. So we put our trust in Him for forgiveness and salvation.

HYMN: “Renew Me, O Eternal Light” (LSB #704)

**Remove the pow’r of sin from me
And cleanse all my impurity
That I may have the strength and will
Temptations of the flesh to still.**

Pastor: Lord, we know that nothing can be hidden from You.

People: Take away our great guilt. Heal the hurts of those who have been affected by our sin.

Pastor: Restore to us the joy and assurance of a right relationship with You.

HYMN: “Renew Me, O Eternal Light” (LSB #704)

**Create in me a new heart, Lord,
That gladly I obey Your Word.
Let what You will be my desire,
And with new life my soul inspire.**

✦ ASH WEDNESDAY PROMISES OF RESTORATION ✦

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Joel 2:12-19

¹² ‘Even now,’ declares the LORD, ‘return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.’ ¹³ Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity. ¹⁴ Who knows? He may turn and have pity and leave behind a blessing— grain offerings and drink offerings for the LORD your God. ¹⁵ Blow the trumpet in Zion, declare a holy fast, call a sacred assembly. ¹⁶ Gather the people, consecrate the assembly; bring together the elders, gather the children, those nursing at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room and the bride her chamber. ¹⁷ Let the priests, who minister before the LORD, weep between the temple porch and the altar. Let them say, ‘Spare your people, O LORD. Do not make your inheritance an object of scorn, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’’ ¹⁸ Then the LORD will be jealous for his land and take pity on his people. ¹⁹ The LORD will reply to them: ‘I am sending you grain, new wine and oil, enough to satisfy you fully; never again will I make you an object of scorn to the nations.

EPISTLE READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

²⁰ ...We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God...¹As God's fellow workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. ²For he says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation. ³We put no stumbling block in anyone's path, so that our ministry will not be discredited. ⁴Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses; ⁵in beatings, imprisonments and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights and hunger; ⁶in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love; ⁷in truthful speech and in the power of God; with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left; ⁸through glory and dishonor, bad report and good report; genuine, yet regarded as impostors; ⁹known, yet regarded as unknown; dying, and yet we live on; beaten, and yet not killed; ¹⁰sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

RESPONSE: (From Psalm 103)

Pastor: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

People: He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

Pastor: As high as the heavens are above the earth,

People: So great is His love for those who fear Him;

Pastor: As far as the east is from the west,

People: So far has he removed our transgressions from us.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 6:16-21

¹⁶ “When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show men they are fasting. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ so that it will not be obvious to men that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. ¹⁹ “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

SONG: “Above All” (Lenny LeBlanc/Paul Baloche)

**Verse: Above all powers, above all kings,
above all nature and all created things;
above all wisdom and all the ways of man,
You were here before the world began.
Above all kingdoms, above all thrones,
above all wonders the world has ever known;
above all wealth and treasures of the earth,
there’s no way to measure what you’re worth.**

**Chorus: Crucified, laid behind the stone;
You lived to die, rejected and alone.
Like a rose trampled on the ground,
You took the fall, and thought of me, above all.
(Repeat verse and chorus)**

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SERMON: Revelation 2:1-7 “The Honeymoon’s Not Over!”

OFFERING

PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

People: 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

HYMN: "Lamb of God, Pure and Holy" (LSB #434)

Lamb of God pure and holy,
who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly,
Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us,
Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

Lamb of God pure and holy,
who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly,
Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us,
Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Thy peace be with us, O Jesus! O Jesus!
(Public Domain)

IN THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION WE BELIEVE *our Lord Jesus Christ comes to us with His body and blood given and shed for the forgiveness of sins (Matt 26:26-28). In it we are united with him and with the whole Church. Baptized and confirmed Christians who believe, by the guidance of the Holy Spirit, that Christ's body and blood are present in the bread and wine of the Sacrament, who acknowledge their sin, set aside any refusal to forgive (Matt 6:15), are sorry, repent (Mark 1:15) and look to Christ alone for forgiveness and strength to live the new life, are welcome to eat and drink at the Lord's table in remembrance of Him. (1 Cor 11:25-25) You may register for Communion as the Friendship Folder is passed to you in the pew. If you have any questions, please speak to the Pastor or a Lay Minister before communing.*

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

BENEDICTION

HYMN: "Abide with Me" (LSB #878)

**Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.**

**Come not in terrors, as the King of kings.
But kind and good, with healing in Thy wings;
Tears for all woes, a heart for ev'ry plea.
Come, Friend of sinners, thus abide with me.**

**Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.**

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Sunday Morning at 10:45 in the Fellowship Hall

LOOKING AHEAD IN OUR SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS: "The End and Revelation!"

"What's happening?" COVID-19, turmoil in the streets, changing weather, and general unrest, have people asking and wondering if the end of time is at hand. Speculation abounds! Unfortunately, that speculation often leads to hearts being filled with fear, rather than the peace that Jesus desires us to live in as His redeemed people.

To combat that we are going to look at the book of Revelation in our Bible class on Sunday mornings at 10:45am. This book portrays the majesty of the true God. It also gives us some of the most beautiful pictures of the future glory that awaits all who trust in Jesus as their Savior, bringing us much comfort.

The book of Revelation however is not easy reading. It's "college level" spiritual material that can easily be misunderstood and twisted in ways God does not intend. To prevent that from happening in our lives, before we tackle Revelation, we will look at what God says about the end of our life, the end times, and the end of the world, elsewhere in the Bible. That will provide us with a good solid foundation for understanding the book of Revelation properly, and getting the blessings out of it which the Holy Spirit intends. Praying you will come and join us each Sunday for this exciting adventure in God's word, as we let the Holy Spirit fill our hearts with His peace!

Your brother and servant in Christ,
Pastor Paul Krentz

To access via Zoom.

Topic: Holy Emmanuel - Sunday Bible Study

Time: This is a recurring meeting Sunday's 10:45am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://fielding-edu.zoom.us/j/3033135695>

Meeting ID: 303 313 5695

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,3033135695# US (Chicago)

+16465588656,,3033135695# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.

Sunday School - 6th-12th Grade Youth Sunday School will be led by Chris Krentz.

Missional Living Learning Group Wednesday TBD at 6:00PM
Our goal will be to continue the discovery process as to what missional living means; or, how do we become more Christ like in our own zip code. In the meantime, if you have any questions please let me know. Blessings, Chuck Squires (612-799-5315 Cell) or squir008@msn.com

New: Women's Bible Study

Ladies, are you looking for an opportunity to gather with other women to study God's Word, grow in your faith, and build relationships with other women?

You are invited to join us for a brand new Bible Study starting on Monday, February 22nd!

"Jesus and Women"

By: Kristi McLelland

Join Biblical Culturist Kristi McLelland as she takes us back to Jesus' time period, and explains the historical and cultural climate of the times. This Study is a thoughtful look at several of Jesus' interactions with women in the Bible that will help us come to a greater understanding of who Jesus was, and how that impacts our relationship with Him today!

Details:

Date: Monday, Feb 22nd

Where: Holy Emmanuel Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall

Time: Join us for Supper starting at 6:15 pm.

Study time starts at 6:30 pm.

Dinner: White Chicken Chili, Rolls, Caesar Salad, Dessert

Please RSVP for supper no later than Sunday, Feb 21st.

You can call/text Brittany @ 907-355-8931, or email brittany@holyemmanuel.org.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Brittany via the contact information listen above!

“A NEW START”

The season of Lent is often thought of as a time of spiritual growth and renewal. Given that, what better way to celebrate Lent than by spending extra time in God’s word? This year for our Lent services at Holy Emmanuel, we will be looking at the letters Jesus sent to the churches found in the book of Revelation, chapters two and three.

In addition to the Lent services however, I will also be hosting another session of Faith Fundamentals. This class will meet in the fellowship hall each Tuesday evening, from 6:30-8:00pm, beginning February 23rd. We will start at the beginning of Genesis and go through the end of Revelation. We won’t read everything in between, but we will try to get the “big picture” to understand God’s ways and work for us as we look at things like: Creation, Jesus’ work as our Savior, the 10 Commandments, living a Christian life, Baptism, the Lord’s Supper, prayer, and many more things than can be named.

If you are interested in participating, please contact me at pastork@holyemmanuel.org or call me at my office; 952-888-2345. Due to COVID, space is being limited to 10 participants. We will wear masks, and practice social distancing.

Thanks, and hope to hear from you!
Pastor Paul Krentz

Tithes and Offerings

During these uncertain times we can be certain of God’s promise to provide. Holy Emmanuel ministry continues to find new ways to share Jesus. You may continue to share your tithes and offerings through online giving or by mailing in your gift.

ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 17, 2021

Revelation 2:1-7 “The Honeymoon’s NOT over!”

¹ “To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands: ² I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked men, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. ³ You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. ⁴ Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love. ⁵ Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. ⁶ But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. ⁷ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

1. What is the time of Lent for?
2. How might the love of a couple change over time?
3. Where is the Lord of the church?
4. How does Jesus evaluate us?
5. What was the problem with the church in Ephesus?
6. What are one of the signs of the end times Jesus warns about?
7. How can we evaluate our love for others?
8. How can we evaluate our love for God?
9. What is God’s love like?
10. How is God’s love proved?
11. Why is it good news for us that Jesus’ love does not dwindle?