

# Emanuel Lutheran Church, Napoleon, Ohio

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**Third Sunday in Lent    †    March 7, 2021**

## PRELUDE

## RINGING OF THE BELL

## WELCOME

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer. **Amen.**

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Fountain of living water,

**pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.**

Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus. **Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING: Exodus 20:1-17

<sup>1</sup>God spoke all these words:

<sup>2</sup>I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup>you shall have no other gods before me.

<sup>4</sup>You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me,

<sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

<sup>7</sup>You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

<sup>8</sup>Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work. <sup>10</sup>But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. <sup>11</sup>For in six days the Lord made

heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

<sup>12</sup>Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup>You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup>You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup>You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 19

<sup>1</sup>The heavens declare the glory of God,  
and the sky proclaims its | maker's handiwork.

<sup>2</sup>**One day tells its tale | to another,  
and one night imparts knowledge | to another.**

<sup>3</sup>Although they have no | words or language,  
and their voices | are not heard,

<sup>4</sup>**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends | of the world,  
where God has pitched a tent | for the sun.**

<sup>5</sup>It comes forth like a bridegroom out | of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to | run its course.

<sup>6</sup>**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of  
it again; nothing is hidden from its | burning heat.**

<sup>7</sup>The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;  
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to | the simple.

<sup>8</sup>**The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;  
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light | to the eyes.**

<sup>9</sup>The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever;  
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous | altogether.

<sup>10</sup>**More to be desired are they than gold, more than | much fine gold,  
sweeter far than honey, than honey | in the comb.**

<sup>11</sup>By them also is your servant enlightened,  
and in keeping them there is | great reward.

<sup>12</sup>**Who can detect one's | own offenses?  
Cleanse me from my | secret faults.**

<sup>13</sup>Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion | over me;  
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a | great offense.

<sup>14</sup>**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable | in your  
sight, O Lord, my strength and | my redeemer.**

## SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

<sup>18</sup>The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I  
will thwart."

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is

the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we

proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,<sup>24</sup> but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.<sup>25</sup> For God's foolishness is

wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL: John 2:13-22**

<sup>13</sup>The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. <sup>15</sup>Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup>He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" <sup>17</sup>His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." <sup>18</sup>The Jews then said to him,

"What sign can you show us for doing this?"

<sup>19</sup>Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

<sup>20</sup>The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" <sup>21</sup>But he was speaking of the temple of his body.

<sup>22</sup>After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **SERMON**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** "Lift High the Cross"

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **NICENE CREED**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

### **PRAYERS**

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

There is no God before you. Purify the faith of your church, that your people place their trust in nothing beside you. Your name is holy. Guide your church, that in every situation your

people's words and actions honor your name. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

The heavens declare your glory. Renew your creation. Provide leaders in the struggle for clean air and water; protect creatures and crops that rely on healthy ecosystems; give all people the willingness to repent when our way of life pollutes the earth and skies. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your foolishness is wiser than human wisdom. Fill leaders with the foolishness of your peace and mercy. Your law defends the vulnerable. Work through legislators, judicial systems, and systems of law enforcement to protect the wellbeing and freedom of all. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your weakness is stronger than human strength. Protect those who are vulnerable and give courage to all who are suffering especially we remember those in our hearts and minds. Defend victims of crime and bring redemption to those who have harmed others. Give sabbath rest to all who labor. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You call us to proclaim Christ crucified. Give clarity to this congregation and our leaders, so that we might follow Christ beyond our own habits and comfort. Clear out anything in our common life that would obscure the gospel or that serves our own interests. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

The cross of Christ is your power for all who are being saved. Thank you for all the martyrs whose witness reveals the power of the cross. Give us the same trust in life and in death. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you, and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**HOLY COMMUNION**

Consecration of Elements

## PRAYER

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you feed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## BENEDICTION

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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**This week please hold in prayer:** the family of Evelyn Allen, Karl & Oneta Wiechers, Mary Lou Zwiebel, Rick Ford, for all those on our hearts and minds, and for peace in our nation and the whole world.

### **Pancake & Sausage Breakfast - DRIVE THRU ONLY!**

Ridgeville Township Fire Department is hosting its annual Pancake and Sausage Breakfast today from 7am until 1pm at the Ridgeville American Legion on County Road 19. Free-will Donation. Proceeds will go towards fire and rescue equipment.

### **Swiss Steak Drive Thru Dinner**

Ridgeville Legion is holding a drive thru Swiss Steak Dinner on Sunday, March 14 from 11am until sold out at the Legion Hall on County Road 19. Menu: Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Corn, Dinner Roll, Dessert. Cost \$10 per meal.

**Communion** will be offered the 1st Sunday of each month from 10-11am. If the county is yellow or orange, we will do this like we have done before. If the county is red, we invite you to bring your own elements. You can use bread, crackers, or any ordinary substance for the body and wine, grape juice, other juice, or any celebratory drink for the blood. We will have prefilled communion kits available if needed. You will pull into the parking lot from Clinton Street and remain in your vehicle. I will be standing at the back corner of the building. When it's your turn, I will say a prayer and bless the elements and invite you to partake, then bless you! When you're done you can leave through the alley. If you aren't available during that time, feel free to set up a time throughout the week for you to receive communion this way.

**BIBLE STUDY:** Next weeks readings are: First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9, Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22, Second Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10, Gospel: John 3:14-21. Please join us weekly on Wednesday at 6:00 pm on Zoom. We discuss the texts for the upcoming Sunday. Some guiding questions are: what sticks out, what are you noticing, and what is challenging you in this text. We have a lot of fun and learn some, too! We would love for you to join us! You can join host Carey Plummer and Pastor Janine Shearer a little before the hour by entering the following information on the Zoom page: Meeting #817 3901 3743 and Password: church12. No need to be a Bible scholar!! Just have your Bible handy!!

**JOIN US** in reading the New Testament in chronological order in 2021! This week's readings are:

March 7: Colossians 1  
March 8: Colossians 2  
March 9: Colossians 3  
March 10: Colossians 4

March 11: Ephesians 1  
March 12: Ephesians 2  
March 13: Ephesians 3

### **Lenten Micro Practices**

● A New Gift - 3-8 - Day 17 - GIVE

**Find a new charity or organization to support that energizes you.** Share their mission with friends and family.

● Saintly Friend - 3-9 - Day 18 - MORE

**Read about one of the saints.** We have many mothers and fathers who have come before us with inspiring stories. Learn about some saints at [bit.ly/Saintly-Friend](http://bit.ly/Saintly-Friend). You can also scan the QR code to access the link. Located in the Lenten Micro Practices Booklet.

● Prayerful Encounters - 3-10 - Day 19 - PRAY

**Pray for others you encounter in your day**—whether you know them or not. Did you pray for someone unexpected?

● Buy Less - 3-11 - Day 20 - FAST

When we can buy with the click of a button, it's easy not to pause and think. **Take a day to refrain from purchasing anything unless it's truly needed.**

● Sustain - 3-12 - Day 21 - GIVE

**Write a note of thanks to those who work to keep us healthy (doctors, nurses, etc.).** Your words of thanks and appreciation will sustain them through difficult times.

● Color - 3-13 - Day 22 - MORE

We can connect with God when we're doing something that doesn't use our full concentration like coloring. **Color a mandala or search out other meaningful coloring pages.**

● Silence - 3-14 - Sunday 4 - PRAY

**Find a quiet place, close your eyes and let your thoughts go.** As they come to you, imagine that they are floating by you on a river. Let them go.

### **Daylight Savings Time**

Remember to turn your clock AHEAD one hour on Saturday night, March 13.

### **Tentative Holy Week 2021 Schedule**

● Palm Sunday- We will gather in the parking lot for a Palm Procession at 8:30am. You are welcome to walk around the building (distanced) or to stay in your cars and honk your horns! Worship will continue at 9am (online if red, inside if orange or yellow) with a potential parking lot worship option. Check back for details!

● Maundy Thursday- Dinner Church is one of my favorite things and I will be sharing it with you online! We will eat together, share stories about important meals in our lives, do a liturgy for remembrance of communion, and witness the stripping of the altar. You are invited to make spaghetti so that we are all eating the same thing and have bread/wine/juice for the remembrance of communion! Add whatever you want to make it your own. If you need spaghetti and sauce, reach out and we can provide it. For the best experience, gather on zoom (it will be shared to Facebook, but it won't be as fun there).

● Good Friday- A community worship service will be available on Facebook at noon. If we are orange, there will also be a service in person at 7pm.

● Easter Sunday- We will gather at Meyerholtz Park (1799 W Riverview) at 7am for Sunrise Easter Worship including Holy Communion. Bring a chair and dress for the weather.

- If we are red- Easter worship will be on Facebook and Zoom at 9am with drive thru communion from 10-11am. Bring your own elements if you would like!
- If we are orange or yellow- Easter Worship will be at 9am and 11am. Attendance is limited to 60 people per service and therefore RSVPs are necessary. Masks are required and we ask that you distance. Communion will be celebrated at the end of worship in the back of the sanctuary and from 10-10:45am in the elevator room.

\*Holy Week's determination will be based on the county color as of March 25th.

**EASTER LILIES:** Only Easter lilies are available this year to be purchased for Easter Sunday. The cost will be \$10.00. Any proceeds will benefit the Good Samaritan Fund. An order form will be included in next Sunday's bulletin. The order (and check made out to Emanuel Lutheran) can be placed in the black drop box located on the back wall of the church building. Help decorate the altar for Easter Sunday! The deadline for ordering is March 20. Any questions, please call Denise Etzler at 814-389-2973.

### **Offering**

If you are interested, you may sign up for Simply Giving through Vanco by contacting treasurer Julie Kohout, or send your offering to Emanuel Lutheran Church, PO Box 501, Napoleon, OH 43545. **Please do not send cash in the mail!**

**Available now, Mobile and OnLine Donations**

### **GivePlus Mobile App**

1. Download the free GivePlus app from the App Store or Google Play.
2. Find our church by our zip code **43545** or by searching for the name of our church.

### **GivePlus Online**

1. Visit our website at **EmanuelNapoleon.org**
2. Locate the link Give at the top of the page.

You can make a one-time contribution or a recurring gift. Any questions, please contact Julie Kohout.