



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

P.O. Box 39, 242 Main Street
Preston, MD 21655

*Caring for Our Community Through Christ
for Over 120 Years!*

REV. DAVID CASEY-MOTLEY, PASTOR

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS & CONTACT INFORMATION

*Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
1:00 p. to 3:00 pm, and by appointment*

*Home Phone 410-673-8428
Cell Phone 253-241-1435
Email pastordavid.immanuel@gmail.com*

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS & CONTACT INFORMATION

Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

*Office Phone 410-673-7107
Office Fax 410-673-1426
Email.. immanuellutheranpreston@verizon.net*

Website: www.ilcpreston.org

For news and alerts, like us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/immanuellutheranpreston

GENERAL INFORMATION

- **Restrooms** are located downstairs. An elevator is available in the narthex.
- A **nursery room** is available at the rear of the Sanctuary for young children and their parents. The nursery room is equipped with a speaker so you can hear the service.
- **Registration cards** are placed in the back of the pews for worshipers to use for: 1) Visitor registration; 2) Communion registration for communion services; 3) Prayer requests may be written on the back of the card; after filling out the card, please place it in the offering plate.
- **Preprinted offering envelopes** are available in the pews for special offerings and Special Funds donations. Visitors are welcome to use these envelopes as well as members. Members, please make sure to note your envelope number on these special envelopes and place in the offering plate.
- **Kids Worship** - We love having children in church! It is so important for the kids to be welcomed and loved in God's house. Kids Worship is offered during the service, after the Bible Readings. Kids ages 3 through 10 can come downstairs where we offer an age appropriate lesson on the readings, snack and sometimes a craft. Children will return to the sanctuary at end of service and on communion Sundays just before communion. For more information contact Rene Langwost at 410-253-8735.

We kindly request that all cell phones be silenced

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

The Second Sunday in Lent

March 13, 2022 ~ 10:30 a.m.

WELCOME TO IMMANUEL!

Welcome to worship this first Sunday in Lent as we journey toward the cross and the empty tomb.

WORDS OF PREPARATION

How amazing, Jesus, that you faced temptation just as I do every day. Remind me to draw on Scripture to confront it, but most of all to rely on you for strength to resist and forgiveness when I fail.!

Divine Service, Setting Two

Lutheran Service Book (LSB) 167-183

♪ = congregation sings response

Prelude

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

(Arr. Charles Callahan)

Gathering Prayer Concerns

Welcome

The Call to Worship

P This is the day the Lord has made.

C **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

P We pause silently to prepare ourselves for worship.

Sharing of the Peace

P The Lord says to you as Paul wrote to the church at Colossae: “Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.”

C We come to the Lord to hear His Word, to receive His forgiveness, and present our tithes and offerings at the altar. It is my desire to be reconciled – to make things right – with you my sisters and brothers (Matthew 5:23-24). Receive the “peace” I share with you as I receive the peace of God through Jesus.

Stand

Opening Hymn *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* **LSB 700**

Sit

Rite of Holy Baptism

Baptism Candidate, Parents, and Godparents/Sponsors move to front of the church with Pastor
When candidates are unable to speak for themselves, the sponsors answer the questions on their behalf.

Stand

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

C **Amen.**

P Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises, “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.” And the apostle Peter has written, “Baptism now saves you.”

The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

The pastor addresses each candidate:

P How are you named?

R **Andrew Joseph Bartenfelder III**

The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon the forehead and heart of each candidate while saying:

P Andrew Joseph Bartenfelder III, receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your + forehead and upon your + heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold Joseph according to Your boundless mercy and bless him with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in him, which has been inherited from Adam and which he himself has committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that he be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, he would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P From ancient times the Church has observed the custom of appointing sponsors for baptismal candidates and catechumens. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church sponsors are to confess the faith expressed in the Apostles' Creed and taught in the Small Catechism. They are, whenever possible, to witness the Baptism of those they sponsor. They are to pray for them, support them in their ongoing instruction and nurture in the Christian faith, and encourage them toward the faithful reception of the Lord's Supper. They are at all times to be examples to them of the holy life of faith in Christ and love for the neighbor.

P Is it your intention to serve Andrew Joseph Bartenfelder III, as sponsors in the Christian faith?

R *Yes, with the help of God.*

P God enable you both to will and to do this faithful and loving work and with His grace fulfill what we are unable to do.

C **Amen.**

P Hear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

They brought young children to [Jesus] that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The pastor places his hands on the head(s) of the candidate(s), and the congregation joins in praying:

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.**

The pastor addresses the candidate(s) and asks the following questions:

P AJ, do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

R *Yes, I believe.*

P Do you 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead?

R *Yes, I believe.*

P Do you 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?

R *Yes, I believe.*

P AJ, do you desire to be baptized?

R *Yes, I do.*

The pastor pours water three times on the head of each candidate while saying:

P AJ, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of + the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

The pastor places his hands on the head of the newly baptized while saying:

P The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life + everlasting.

C **Amen.**

The pastor may place a white garment on the newly baptized while saying:

P Receive this white garment to show that you have been clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covers all your sin. So shall you stand without fear before the judgment seat of Christ to receive the inheritance prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

The pastor may light a baptismal candle from the paschal candle and give it to the newly baptized while saying:

- P Receive this burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world. Live always in the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which shall have no end.

The newly baptized may be welcomed with the following:

- A In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you a member of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our brother in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.
- C **Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.**

Stand

- P Let us pray.
Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted Andrew Joseph Bartenfelder III, the new birth in Holy Baptism and made him a member of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as he has now become Your child, You would keep him in his baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure he may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C **Amen.**
- P Lord and Giver of life, look with kindness upon the father and mother of this child and upon all our parents. Let them ever rejoice in the gift You have given them. Enable them to be teachers and examples of righteousness for their children. Strengthen them in their own Baptism that they may share eternally with their children the salvation You have given them; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C **Amen.**
- P Almighty and everlasting God, since You govern and sanctify the whole Christian Church by Your Holy Spirit, hear our prayers for all her members, and mercifully

grant that by Your grace we may serve You in true faith; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P Peace + be with you.

C **Amen.**

All return to their places.

~ Service of the Word ~

Introit

Psalm 74:1–3; antiphon: Psalm 69:9

P: For zeal for your house has consumed me,
and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fallen on me
C **O God, why do you cast us off forever?**
Why does your anger smoke against the sheep of your pasture?
P: Remember your congregation, which you have purchased of old,
which you have redeemed to be the tribe of your heritage!
C **Remember Mount Zion, where you have dwelt.**
P Direct your steps to the perpetual ruins;
the enemy has destroyed everything in the sanctuary!
C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son**
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Kyrie

LSB 168

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.
♪C **Lord, have mercy.**
P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
♪C **Lord, have mercy.**
P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the
unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
♪C **Lord, have mercy.**
P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to
the Lord.
♪C **Lord, have mercy.**
P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
♪C **Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

✠C And also with you.

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 Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 26:8–15

⁸When Jeremiah had finished speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak to all the people, then the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying, “You shall die! ⁹Why have you prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, ‘This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without inhabitant’?” And all the people gathered around Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

¹⁰When the officials of Judah heard these things, they came up from the king’s house to the house of the LORD and took their seat in the entry of the New Gate of the house of the LORD. ¹¹Then the priests and the prophets said to the officials and to all the people, “This man deserves the sentence of death, because he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your own ears.”

¹²Then Jeremiah spoke to all the officials and all the people, saying, “The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the words you have heard. ¹³Now therefore mend your ways and your deeds, and obey the voice of the LORD your God, and the LORD will relent of the disaster that he has pronounced against you. ¹⁴But as for me, behold, I am in your hands. Do with me as seems good and right to you. ¹⁵Only know for certain that if you put me to death, you will bring innocent blood upon yourselves and upon this city and its inhabitants, for in truth the LORD sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Philippians 3:17—4:1

¹Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you ¹⁷Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

¹Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Holy Gospel

Luke 13:31–35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.
♪ C ***Glory to You, O Lord***

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus], “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³²And he said to them, “Go and tell that fox, ‘Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I finish my course. ³³Nevertheless, I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the day following, for it cannot be that a prophet should perish away from Jerusalem.’ ³⁴O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! ³⁵Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’”
prophets.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
♪ C ***Praise to You, O Christ.***
Sit

Kids' Worship

Hymn of the Day

What Is the World to Me

LSB 730

Sermon: Witnesses to Christ: Malchus

Text: John 18:1-11

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord

C **Lord, have mercy**

P For enemies of Christ's Church laid up for destruction, that God would cause them to repent and make them citizens of His kingdom; and for us His people, that He would protect us from their evil intentions and lead us after the example of the apostles who willingly suffered wrong to make Jesus known, let us pray to the Lord

C **Lord, have mercy**

P For our homes, that they would not be places to worship our bellies, glory in shame or set our minds on earthly things, but a refuge of love here and a foretaste of our heavenly home, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy**

P For our nation and its officials, that the Lord would give them wisdom and integrity, and that neither they nor the citizens of our land would hinder His Church or despise His call to repentance, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy**

P For those who are sick and afflicted, [*especially* _____,] that He who cast out demons and performed cures on His way to the cross would strengthen their faith and deliver them from suffering, let us pray to the

C **Lord, have mercy**

P For repentance and joyful confidence in Christ's body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins, and that God would gather us at His altar in a true confession of His Word as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy**

P For faith that acknowledges God's wrath and His kindness, that delivered from the judgment and disaster we deserve for our sins, we would strive to mend our ways and deeds, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy**

P Almighty God, Your Son suffered the reproach of mankind even as He bore all of our sins to the cross. Strengthen us gladly to bear reproach in Your name and boldly to declare Your salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever

C **Amen**

Sit

Offering God So Loved the World (John Stainer)
The Senior Choir

Stand

Offertory *LSB 176*

♫C **What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?**
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Closing Collect

P Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through the gift of Your Word and the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

C **Amen.**

Benediction *LSB 183*

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 peace.



Amen

Closing Hymn Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

LSB 917

Sit

Acknowledgments

Today's Senior Choir Anthem, *God So Loved the World*, musically tells the story of the passage John 3:16, sometimes known as the "Gospel in a nutshell." This piece was written by composer John Stainer in the mid-20th century and has been a staple in The Senior Choir's repertoire since that time. The anthem is beloved by generations of choristers, including many of our choir members who are long-time singers at Immanuel and those who have come to us from other churches. We come together today to sing this wonderful expression of God's love for us.

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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Announcements

Baptism Information:

Candidate: Andrew Joseph Bartenfelder III

Father: Andrew Joseph Bartenfelder Jr

Mother: Sianna Graffious

Grandparents:

Robin Ann Bartenfelder

Andrew Joseph Bartenfelder Sr.

Nicole Lynn Graffious

Samuel Leroy Graffious

Godparents:

Kaine Graffious

Jessica Ann Harding

Charleigh Peyton Favor

James William Bartenfelder

Bio (via parents):

Andrew Joseph Bartenfelder III, also known as AJ, was born on June 5th, 2020 in Baltimore, MD. AJ resides on his farm in Preston, MD with his Sianna and Andrew. AJ enjoys being outside on the farm and of course showing everyone all his tractors. AJ's favorite thing to do is go on tractor rides with his dad and his dog, Woody. AJ is a sweet little boy who loves all animals that he comes into contact with. We are so thankful AJ has blessed our lives in so many ways.

We welcome Andrew to our congregational family.

SERVICE INFORMATION

THOSE SERVING IMMANUEL TODAY

Pastor	Rev. David Casey-Motley
Administrative Assistant	Sharon Gutz
Director of Music, Emeritus	Dennis L. Janko, M.M.
Director of Music & Organist	Lynn Short
Director of Hand Bells	Janice Isenberg
Ushers	Todd Butler & Jack Collins
Lay Reader	Darlena Butler
Greeter	
Assisting Elder	
Kids Worship	Rene Langwost
Acolyte	Pastor/Elder
Sound Operator	David Schmidt
Camera Operator	Jennifer Phillips
Tellers	Karen Lyons & Jennifer Phillips

THOSE SERVING IMMANUEL NEXT SUNDAY

Ushers	Todd Butler & Jack Collins
Lay Reader	Catie Casey-Motley
Greeter	
Assisting Elder	Mark Frase
Kids Worship	Rene Langwost
Acolyte	Veronica Phillips
Sound Operator	Rex Rosebrock
Camera Operator	John Crampton
Tellers	Dee Lambert, Glen Plutschak & Linda Jefferson

ADMINISTRATION

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday -Friday	Church Office Open	8:00 – 12:00 noon
Monday-Thursday	Nursery School	8:50 a.m. – 3:25 p.m.
Monday:	Church Council	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Bells Practice	6:30 p.m.
	Choir Practice	7:40 p.m.
Thursday	Women’s Bible Study	8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m.
Sunday	Divine Service with Holy Communion	10:30 a.m.
	A.A. Meeting	7:00 p.m.

Be sure to check the church calendar for events happening at Immanuel Lutheran this month. Check with the church office before scheduling meetings or activities so they can be put on the calendar.

STATISTICS

March 6, 2022

WORSHIP SERVICE

Attendance: 62

Goal Income Per Week: \$3,587.00

Offering: \$ 5,024.00

TREASURER’S REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2022

Goal income per month	\$16,475.17
Actual Offerings	13,031.50
Total Disbursements	<u>-12,128.21</u>
Checking account balance, end of month	\$51,929.85

PRAYER LIST & CONGREGATIONAL MATTERS

SHUT-INS – RETIREMENT FACILITIES – NURSING HOMES: June Elzey, Jimmy Fuchs, Bobby Hopkins, Lee Roesti, Lawrence & Viola Schmick, Martha Ann Schmick

SPECIAL PRAYERS – Wyatt Ewing, Jennifer Flanagan, Butch Frase, Linda Frase, Pete Hitchens, Cheryl Hochmuth, Dennis Janko, Bob Lorenz, Rev. Donald Meyer, Charlene Robbins, Ellen Thress, Pastor Nuss, Mary Yopes, and Desiree Casey-Motley.

ACTIVE-DUTY SERVICE PERSONNEL & FIRST-RESPONDERS

Ryan Andrew, Heather Blake, Matthew Harris, Shelby Hochmuth, Michael Jantz Jr., Robbie Phillips, Eric Stacey, Jerry Stivers, Amber Thamert

BIRTHDAYS

Jim Harris	March 14
Charles Smith	March 14
Janice Isenberg	March 15
Sonny Hopkins	March 18
Viola Schmick	March 19

ANNIVERSARIES

Sunday School News

This Sunday lesson was on “The Passion Prediction,” This lesson studies the week before the crucifixion, the dinner with Lazarus, Mary, and Martha.

Next Sunday, the 27th this lesson will be on “The Standing Trial.” This studies the week of the crucifixion, the false accusers of Jesus during his trial.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



WELCOME VISITORS! Before leaving, please stop in the Narthex to sign the guest book and pick up your Welcome Bag. We hope to see you again!

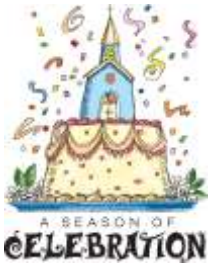
There are dates on the Flower Chart which are open. Please sign up for a Sunday.

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser for the Preschool: Don't forget to pick up your dinners today after church at Katie Mae's. There are some extra tickets if you would like to get a dinner today.

Newsletter Articles: Please have your Newsletter articles turned into the church office by the 17th.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Sundays 9:15 a.m. in the Geiger hall. All are welcome to attend.

125th Anniversary Commemoration



March 20th – The second event for the 125th Anniversary

Commemoration: After the service on March 20th, you are invited to gather in the Undercroft (Fellowship Hall) to see some moments in history from those who founded our church and those who were a part of our congregation in the early years. Photos and church certificates will be on display, along with other information about the beginning of Immanuel. Light refreshments will be served.

Stained Glass Windows: If you missed taking a copy of the Stained Glass Window History brochure, you will find more copies on the table in the Narthex. Please take one! (Sorry, we had technical difficulties last week.)

Is your family heritage a part of the years 1897-1945 at Immanuel? You are invited to bring items from your family that portray life at Immanuel during these years. Items could include photos, bulletins, Bibles, hymnals, and documents such as baptismal, confirmation and marriage certificates in English and German. Family photos of the period are also welcome. We have a number of photos that were collected for earlier celebrations, and we plan to display them. We hope that you will be able to bring additional family remembrances for this event. Details: Please let us know you are planning to bring items, so we can prepare enough table space for all. Please bring your items to the Undercroft (Fellowship Hall) beginning Thursday, March 17 through the morning of the 20th before the service.

If you prefer to display a copy, please let us know in advance and we can help with that. On the 20th, please arrange to take your items home immediately after the displays are viewed. Thank you! Contact: Irene Wheatley, Lynn Short or Pastor David.



Easter egg time is almost here and we need your help! We will be meeting Friday, March 25th and Saturday, March 26th to make Easter eggs. We especially need your help on Saturday, but Friday is important too. So if you're available either or both days, arrive around 9:00 a.m. or later and we will keep you busy. You can even sit while you're working if you so desire! No special skills are required, just a willingness to help. It's also a great time to meet new people within our church.

Also, if you would like to place an order, see any WINGS member or call the church office.

Proceeds from this year's fund raiser will go to Immanuel Youth Group, CASA, and Preston Volunteer Fire Company.



A Time for Prayer for the People of Ukraine

From SED President John Denninger

March 1, 2022, Shrove Tuesday

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

God's Word calls us to action. "God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. **If one part suffers, every part suffers with it;** if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it" (I Corinthians 12:24-26).

The people of Ukraine are suffering. Some are running for their lives while others are taking up arms to defend their families and their nation. Once again we see the way in which innocent lives are experiencing unnecessary violence. Our hearts go out to every father, mother, son and daughter as they make difficult life decisions. We are especially mindful of our brothers and sisters in Christ in Ukraine.

What can we do? As we see this attack on innocent people provoked, we wonder what we can do – even more so, when we know people in Ukraine. Bryce Thomas, former SED Reconciler, contacted me to share his concern for Pastor Oleg Schewtschenko, a Ukrainian Lutheran Pastor. Pastor Oleg was at our SED Reconciliation Training in Charlotte a few years ago. Bryce had seen a picture of Pastor Oleg saying goodbye to his family as he sent them across the border to safety. That information was confirmed for me, yesterday when Pastor James Krikava, the LCMS Regional Director of Eurasia, shared with me that Pastor Oleg was staying in Ukraine to support the effort after getting his family to safety. (next page)

There are some powerful actions we can take. As we follow Jesus on his journey to the cross during this time of Lent, I encourage the people of the SED to join me in a time of fasting and prayer at least one time each week until Easter. Jesus teaches us that prayer is one of the most powerful ways His followers can respond to a problem. When he cursed the fruitless fig tree and it withered immediately he said told his amazed disciples: “If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer” (Matthew 21:22).

1) **Pray.** You can use the time of a lunch time fast for a prayer time. Pray for peace. Pray for the individual people of Ukraine as you see them interviewed on the news. Pray for our President and Congress. Pray for all the men and women in uniforms who have been deployed to the area around Ukraine. You might want to gather your congregation to engage in a prayer vigil for the people of Ukraine.

2) **Give.** The synod has created a fund for displaced Ukrainians. Gifts given using the hyperlink below will be placed in an account restricted to providing assistance to persons displaced by the war in Ukraine. The LCMS will issue grants to/through our Lutheran partners in the region best positioned to provide compassionate care in Christ Jesus' name to those fleeing the conflict. The situation is developing and we pledge to use every gift wisely to accomplish the greatest good possible in ways that deliver the Gospel as human needs are met.

We will continue look for opportunities for our Southeastern District churches, schools, and ministries to offer support for the people of Ukraine.

In the royal service of the King,

John R. Denninger
President – Southeastern District
LCMS

SERMON NOTES

Title

Text

Law

Gospel

Summary

Application

