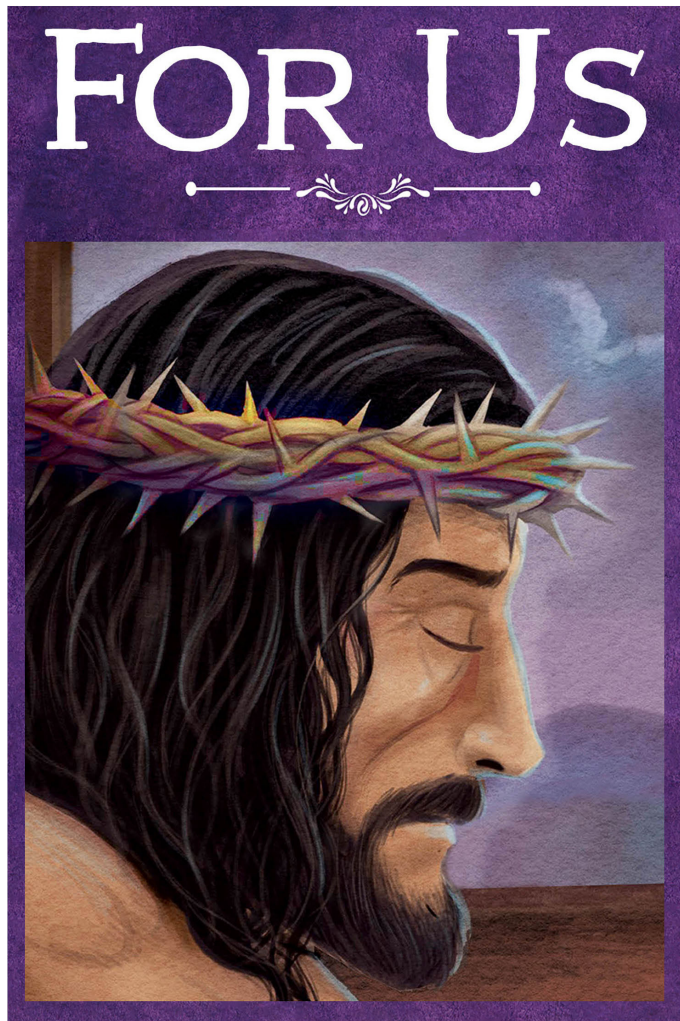


**Emmanuel
Lutheran**
CHURCH & SCHOOL
ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026

12:00PM & 6:30PM

OUR VISION: FULLY ENGAGED, BIBLICALLY PASSIONATE, DRIVEN TO SERVE



churchoffice@elcsmail.org



www.emmanuellutheran.info

(828) 252-1795



Sign up for
**EASTER
LILIES**

on Sign-up Genius



or contact the church office



Lenten
SOUP Suppers

Wednesdays
@ 5:30 pm

Feb 18th-April 1st

Sign-up on the
bulletin board in Narthex

AS WE GATHER

Why did Jesus have to come among us as a human being? Why didn't He come as an angel or some other kind of being that is stronger and more powerful than us? While angels may be a source of endless fascination to the Christian and to the world, they have no power to save us. In this week's sermon, we will hear why taking on the "robe of [our] human frame" was not only a good idea but also necessary for our salvation. Angels are wonderful, but they are not Jesus. He came as one of us so that He could redeem us as His own.

HYMN

LSB 435 "Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain"

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Come to Calv'ry's holy mountain,
Sinners, ruined by the fall;
Here a pure and healing fountain
Flows for you, for me, for all,
In a full, perpetual tide,
Opened when our Savior died.</p> <p>2 Come in poverty and meanness,
Come defiled, without, within;
From infection and uncleanness,
From the leprosy of sin,
Wash your robes and make them white;
Ye shall walk with God in light.</p> | <p>3 Come in sorrow and contrition,
Wounded, impotent, and blind;
Here the guilty, free remission,
Here the troubled, peace may find.
Health this fountain will restore;
They that drink shall thirst no more.</p> <p>4 They that drink shall live forever;
'Tis a soul-renewing flood.
God is faithful; God will never
Break His covenant of blood,
Signed when our Redeemer died,
Sealed when He was glorified.</p> |
|--|---|

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INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

- P** Return to the LORD, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,
C **slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and He relents over disaster.**
P Jesus said, "If anyone would come after Me,
C **let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me."**
P Christ was wounded for our transgressions;
C **He was crushed for our iniquities**

HYMN

LSB 422 "On My Heart Imprint Your Image"

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 On my heart imprint Your image,
Blessèd Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures
Never may Your work erase;</p> | <p>Let the clear inscription be:
Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation,
And my glory and salvation!</p> |
|--|---|

Text: Public domain

PSALM Psalm 104:1–10, 33–35

- P** Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, You are very great!
- C** **You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering Yourself with light as with a garment, stretching out the heavens like a tent.**
- P** He lays the beams of His chambers on the waters;
- C** **He makes the clouds His chariot; He rides on the wings of the wind;**
- P** He makes His messengers winds, His ministers a flaming fire.
- C** **He set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be moved.**
- P** You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains.
- C** **At Your rebuke they fled; at the sound of Your thunder they took to flight.**
- P** The mountains rose, the valleys sank down to the place that You appointed for them.
- C** **You set a boundary that they may not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth.**
- P** You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills;
- C** **I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.**
- P** May my meditation be pleasing to Him, for I rejoice in the LORD.
- C** **Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more!**
- P** Bless the LORD, O my soul! Praise the LORD!
- 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.**

READING

Hebrews 1

- P** A reading from the first chapter of Hebrews.

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the word of His power. After making purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs. ⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are My Son, today I have begotten You”? Or again, “I will be to Him a father, and He shall be to Me a son”? ⁶And again, when He brings the firstborn into the world, He says, “Let all God’s angels worship Him.” ⁷Of the angels He says, “He makes His angels winds, and His ministers a flame of fire.” ⁸But of the Son He says, “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Your kingdom. ⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness beyond Your companions.” ¹⁰And, “You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of Your hands; ¹¹they will perish, but You remain; they will all wear out like a garment, ¹²like a robe You will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will have no end.” ¹³And to which of the angels has He ever said, “Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet”? ¹⁴Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PASSION READING

Mark 14:12–31

P The Passion of Our Lord according to St. Mark, the fourteenth chapter.

¹²And on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, His disciples said to Him, “Where will You have us go and prepare for You to eat the Passover?” ¹³And He sent two of His disciples and said to them, “Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him, ¹⁴and wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says, Where is My guest room, where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?’ ¹⁵And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us.” ¹⁶And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as He had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

¹⁷And when it was evening, He came with the twelve. ¹⁸And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, “Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me, one who is eating with Me.” ¹⁹They began to be sorrowful and to say to Him one after another, “Is it I?” ²⁰He said to them, “It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with Me. ²¹For the Son of Man goes as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born.”

²²And as they were eating, He took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, “Take; this is My body.” ²³And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank of it. ²⁴And He said to them, “This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”

²⁶And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ²⁷And Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away, for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.’ ²⁸But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.” ²⁹Peter said to Him, “Even though they all fall away, I will not.” ³⁰And Jesus said to him, “Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times.” ³¹But he said emphatically, “If I must die with You, I will not deny You.” And they all said the same.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

SERIES HYMN

LSB 544:1-2 “O Love, How Deep”

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high,
Beyond all thought and fantasy,
That God, the Son of God, should take
Our mortal form for mortals' sake! | 2 He sent no angel to our race,
Of higher or of lower place,
But wore the robe of human frame,
And to this world Himself He came. |
|--|--|

SERMON

Pastor Arthur Gillespie

OFFERING

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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.

DISTRIBUTION

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.
Faithful God, whose blessings are new to us every morning, we humbly pray that You would look upon us in mercy and renew us by Your Holy Spirit. As You have welcomed us at Your Table, so preserve us in Your righteousness and grant us a portion in that eternal life that is in Christ Jesus, through whom be glory and praise to You and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
C Amen.

BLESSING

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.
C Amen.

BENEDICTION

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

LSB 692 “Praise to You and Adoration”

- 1 Praise to You and adoration,
Blessèd Jesus, Son of God,
Who, to serve Your own creation,
Came to share our flesh and blood.
Guide me that I never may
From Your fold or pastures stray,
But with zeal and joy exceeding
Follow where Your steps are leading.
- 2 Hold me ever in Your keeping;
Comfort me in pain and strife.
In my laughter and my weeping
Be with me throughout my life.
Give me greater love for You,
And my faith and hope renew
In Your birth, Your life, and passion,
In Your death and resurrection.

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DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.



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Lutheran**
CHURCH & SCHOOL
ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

BOARD of DIRECTORS:

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Peter Renner (EMT), Eugene Edwards & Rich Bair

Weekly Calendar

Wednesday, February 25:

12:00pm Midweek Lent Worship Service
5:30pm Lenten Soup Supper
6:30pm Lent Evening Service

Thursday, February 26:

Friday, February 27:

Saturday, February 28:

Sunday, March 1: Member Celebrations!

8:30am Traditional Worship Service
9:45am Children's Sunday School
11:00am Blended Worship Service
Post-Service Prayer Ministry Support (Altar)
1:00 pm Food Pantry
5:00pm High School Youth Group

CHURCH STAFF:

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Skopak
Director of Christian Education: Alexi Lundquist
Parish Administrator: Dirk Wilmoth
Business Administrator: Gail Thomas
Finance Asst.: Leigh Horsley
Office Asst. Church & ECE, Benefits Mgr: Amy Skopak
Admin. Asst.: Anitta Charlson
Church Music and Sound Director: Heather Meulenberg
Organist: Lula Meulenberg;
Digital Media : Peter Linton
Hospitality Ministry: Shirley Parker
Facilities Mgmt: Neil Seidler, Mike Rush, Neil Pursley

SCHOOL K-8:

Principal/STEAM: Mark Edmiston
Admin. Assistant: Shari Reaves
Asst. Principal/MS English: Denise Ball
Director of Admissions: Emily Leatherwood
Kindergarten: Kim Noel & Jamie Wertham
First Grade: Kerry Stead /Mackenzie Knapp
Second Grade: Leigh Weaver
Third Grade/Curriculum Coordinator: Kiara Studer
Fourth Grade: Chelsey Towery
Fifth Grade: Emily Lundquist
MS Science: Leigh Conner
MS Math: Jenelle Lanham
MS Social Studies: Mindy Stackhouse
PE/Athletic Director: Jennifer Jenkins "Coach J"

Art: Tammy Reilly

Music & Spanish: A.L. Brown

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION:

Director: Nicole Loria
Admin Assist: Carolyn Mashburn
Younger Infants: Paula Jones and Rachel Bishop
Older Infants: Becky Swatzell & Hydeia Beck
Toddlers 1: Lindsey Smathers & Mikayla Gulbrand
Toddler2: Neesie Castillo
PS2: Veronica Milner
PS-2/3: Amy Bair and Julia Sherman
PS3: Madison McDonald and Jasmine Riddle
PS3/4: Robin Rutherford & DeAsia Little
PreK-1: Madison Peach & Cleo Green
PreK-2: Faith Noell & Crystal McCormick
Floating Aid: Felicia Norton
Cafeteria: Kristen Warren and Mikaela Bennett

Upcoming Member Celebrations

BIRTHDAYS

2/25 Melissa Edmiston
2/25 Heather Hodges
2/25 Barbara Sullivan
2/25 Suzy Whitt
2/27 Cleta McCall
2/29 Abe Allen

ELC Grab-N-Go Food Pantry

Grand Totals for February 5th and 8th
161 Households, 651 Individuals served
God Provided!