



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

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

8:30AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

11:00AM BLENDED WORSHIP

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

“Down in the Dirt”



John 9:1-41



churchoffice@elcsmail.org

www.emmanuellutheran.info

(828) 252-1795

Sunday, March 15, 2026

9:45am Kid's Sunday School (room off the Fellowship Hall)
Personal Prayer Ministry (after 11am service at the altar)

The Food Pantry is **CLOSED** today

• **Today's Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by:**

Mark and Carolyn Salsieder
in honor of their wedding anniversary



8:30am Traditional Service

Call to Worship: "Behold the Lamb of God" Choir
Featuring Jessica Meltz on Harp

Words and music by Laura Story and Andrew Peterson Arranged by Keith Christopher © 2005 New Spring Publishing Capitol CMG Publishing License 1048066

Welcome and Announcements

Divine Service: Setting Two

Opening Hymn:
LSB 425 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

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Confession and Absolution: Page 167

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Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 42:14-21
(Responses page 172)

Epistle: Ephesians 5:8-14
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The Holy Gospel: John 9:1-41
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The Children's Message

The Sermon Hymn:
LSB 411 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

The Sermon: "Down in the Dirt" (John 9:1-41)

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LSB 398 "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"
LSB 571 "God Loved the World So That He Gave"

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Closing Hymn:
LSB 849 "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

AS WE GATHER

The Lord is grieved by the spiritual blindness of His people, but He does not forsake them. Instead, He promises to turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground (Isaiah 42:16). The Lord does not give up on His servant, Israel, but sends another Servant who is the light of the world (John 9:5). Jesus' light comes to us in His Word, His water, and His Supper. These are His means for opening our eyes to see and to live as children of light (Ephesians 5:8). Baptized into Christ, we look forward to the day when these words will come pass: "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you" (Ephesians 5:14).

CALL TO WORSHIP "Behold the Lamb of God" Choir & Featuring Jessica Meltz on Harp
Words and music by Laura Story and Andrew Peterson Arranged by Keith Christopher © 2005 New Spring Publishing Capitol CMG Publishing License 1048066

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG "Jesus is My Healer"

VERSE 1

Oh that rugged cross the selfless pain He bore
He breathed His final breath
That I would be restored
By His body that was broken
Precious blood freely shed
The spotless Lamb of heaven
Has forever conquered death

CHORUS

**Jesus is my healer He's everything I need
He alone has triumphed over sickness
and disease**

Fear where is your power

The cross is your defeat

Jesus is my healer He has won the victory

VERSE 2

Oh how great a love I'm held by perfect peace
He walks with me through valleys
Understands my suffering
Every joy and every sorrow, every triumph,
every loss

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INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: With my voice I cry out to the LORD;

People: with my voice I plead for mercy to the LORD.

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we were born in utter sin. To this day and by nature, we have eyes that do not see and ears that do not hear. We have trusted

I know everything is covered
By the shadow of the cross
Everything is covered by the shadow
of the cross

CHORUS

**Jesus is my healer He's everything I need
He alone has triumphed over sickness
and disease**

Fear where is your power

The cross is your defeat

Jesus is my healer He has won the victory

Jesus is my healer He has won the victory

BRIDGE 2x

Everything bows at His name
Everything bows at His name
Sickness darkness chains break
at the name of Jesus

CHORUS 2X

ENDING

Jesus is my healer He has won the victory

in the things we have made rather than You. Our thoughts, words, and actions have been unfruitful and dark. We have been blind to our sin, but You have seen it. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, open our eyes. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Jesus is the light of the world and your salvation. He has enlightened you with His gifts and given you ears to hear Jesus' words. It is He who is speaking to you. As a called and ordained 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.

People: Amen.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 42:14–21

¹⁴For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant. ¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools. ¹⁶And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. ¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods." Israel's Failure to Hear and See ¹⁸Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! ¹⁹Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the LORD? ²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. ²¹The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE Ephesians 5:8–14

⁸For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL John 9:1–41

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some said, “It is he.” Others said, “No, but he is like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰So they said to him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ So I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹²They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.” ¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.” ¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. ²¹But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²²(His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.) ²³Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.” ²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, “Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵He answered, “Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸And they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰The man answered, “Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out. ³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?” ⁴¹Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON SONG "You Said I Am (Behold and Believe)"

VERSE 1

You said I am the Bread of Life
Whoever comes to dine
Will not hunger will not thirst
And will be satisfied
You said I am the only light
That gives the blind their sight
And if we see You will lead us through
The darkest night

CHORUS

**We behold we believe
You are the Lion and the Lamb
The Prince of Peace
We adore we confess
You are the one who came and died
And rose again
The great I Am**

VERSE 2

You said I am the open door
That souls are longing for
If we walk in new life begins forevermore
You said I am the Shepherd guide
Who came to live and die
To lead the ones He loves
To resurrection life

CHORUS

INTERLUDE

The great I Am

BRIDGE

Before creation's spark
Before light from the dark
Before the waters part, You are
You are the great I Am
Before You breathed on the dust
Before Abraham was
Before the burning bush
You are
You are the great I Am

TAG

You are the great I Am
You are the great I Am

VERSE 3

You said I am the only way
To see the Father's face
The only truth the only life
The one who saves
You said I am the one true vine
In You we will abide
To bear the fruit of Gospel truth
In death and life
That all might know the mighty name
Of Jesus Christ

CHORUS

ENDING

You're the great I Am
You're the great I Am

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SERMON "Down in the Dirt"

APOSTLES' CREED

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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. I 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. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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.

OFFERING

OFFERING SONG "Man of Sorrows"

VERSE 1

Man of sorrows, Lamb of God
By His own betrayed
The sin of man and wrath of God
Has been on Jesus laid

VERSE 2

Silent as He stood accused
Beaten mocked and scorned
Bowing to the Father's will
He took a crown of thorns

CHORUS

**Oh that rugged cross, my salvation
Where Your love poured out over me
Now my soul cries out for Jesus
Praise and honor unto Thee**

VERSE 3

Sent of heaven, God's own Son
To purchase and redeem
And reconcile the very ones
Who nailed Him to that tree

CHORUS

BRIDGE 2X

Now my debt is paid, it is paid in full
By the precious blood that my Jesus spilled
Now the curse of sin has no hold on me
Whom the Son sets free, oh is free indeed

CHORUS 2x

Praise and honor unto Thee

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: 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

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

LSB 398 "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Hail to the Lord's anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression
And rule in equity.</p> <p>2 He comes with rescue speedy
To those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy
And bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Were precious in His sight.</p> <p>3 He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
Spring in His path to birth.</p> | <p>Before Him on the mountains
Shall peace, the herald, go;
And righteousness in fountains
From hill to valley flow.</p> <p>4 Kings shall fall down before Him
And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore Him,
His praise all people sing.
To Him shall prayer unceasing
And daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing,
A kingdom without end.</p> <p>5 O'er ev'ry foe victorious,
He on His throne shall rest,
From age to age more glorious,
All blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever—
That name to us is Love.</p> |
|--|--|

LSB 571 “God Loved the World So That He Gave”

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 God loved the world so that He gave
His only Son the lost to save,
That all who would in Him believe
Should everlasting life receive. | 4 Be of good cheer, for God’s own Son
Forgives all sins which you have done;
And, justified by Jesus’ blood,
Your Baptism grants the highest good. |
| 2 Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,
Who was made flesh and suffered death;
All then who trust in Him alone
Are built on this chief cornerstone. | 5 If you are sick, if death is near,
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;
That is the firmest ground of faith. |
| 3 God would not have the sinner die;
His Son with saving grace is nigh;
His Spirit in the Word declares
How we in Christ are heaven’s heirs. | 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To You, O blessed Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally! |

Text: Public domain

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, 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.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION Numbers 6:24–26

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG "Nailed to the Cross"

VERSE 1

When I stand accused by my regrets
And the Devil roars his empty threats
I will preach the gospel to myself
That I am not a man condemned
For Jesus Christ is my defense

CHORUS 1

**My sin is nailed to the cross
My soul is healed by the scars
The weight of guilt I bear no more
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord**

VERSE 2

When my doubt and shame hang over me
Like the arrows of the enemy
I will run again to Calvary
That rugged hill of Hell's defeat
My fortress and my victory

CHORUS 1

CHORUS 2

**My sin is nailed to the cross
My soul is healed by the scars
Now I'm alive forevermore
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord**

BRIDGE 2X

It is finished, sin is vanquished
We are free now, praise the Lord
All the glory, all the honor
To my Savior, Christ the Lord

VERSE 3

When I stand before the throne at last
His blood will plead my innocence
I will worship Him with holy hands
And raise the song that never ends
Of Jesus Christ my righteousness

CHORUS 1 & 2

ENDING

Oh praise the Lord, praise the Lord
Oh praise the Lord, praise the Lord

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DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

	8:30 am	11:00 am	
Children's Message	Kiara Studer	Kimberly Noel	Prayer Support Team Rich and Lisa Baldwin Sound & Tech Crew 1 st : Heather M. & Peter L. 2 nd : Ben M. & Lucas Munn March Altar Guild 8:30 am Martha Greene & Kathryn Wilmoth 11:00 am Edith Walker March Offering Counters Stephanie Hanson & Lori Allen
Elder	Marni Jennejahn	Rich Baldwin	
Acolyte	TBD	Benjamin Noel	
Ushers	Mike Rush	James and Tracey Carpenter	
Communion	Stephanie Hanson Bill Hufnagle	Rich and Lisa Baldwin	
Lector	Mary Hufnagle	Lisa Baldwin	

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Wednesdays at 5:30 in the Narthex through March 25th

Sign up to bring soup, crackers or bread or sides (sour cream and cheese) on the bulletin board in the Narthex

ROAD TO RESURRECTION

The Easter Event for Everyone

APRIL 1, 2026 3:30 - 5:30pm

This family-friendly event gets families talking... and walking with Jesus
Look for a server sign-up sheet in the near future

EASTER EGGS AND CANDY

Please drop off plastic eggs and candy over the next couple of weeks in the church office. The Women's Bible Study group will be stuffing eggs March 25th.

Easter Breakfast

Please join us for a catered Easter breakfast in the Fellowship Hall 8:00 am to 10:30 am
See the sign up sheets online. (one help with set-up, serving, and clean-up and another sign-up to bring various treats.)

Helpers



Food



Sacred Communion Values

As baptized Christians, having received instruction in the Holy Sacrament; our precious Savior and Lord Jesus Christ invites us to His Holy Meal in which we receive the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. Before we receive the Holy Sacrament, we should:

- Examine our relationship with God & others according to the Ten Commandments;
- Truly repent of our sins and seek forgiveness in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord;
- Faithfully believe God's Word which teaches us that in, with, and under the bread and wine we receive the true body and blood of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ;
- By the working of the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacrament, commit our life as a redeemed disciple of Jesus Christ through thought, word, and deed.



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

BOARD of DIRECTORS:

Scott Hausman (Chair Rep.), Rojeanous Rush (V-Chair/Music & Worship)
Steve Ude (Parish), Deb DeBerry (School)
Neil Pursley (Outreach & Family), Ed Lopez (Secretary & Youth)
Peter Renner (EMT), Eugene Edwards & Rich Bair

Weekly Calendar

Monday, March 16:
Tuesday, March 17:
9:30am Linus Blankets
Wednesday, March 18:
12:00pm Midweek Lent Worship Service
12:30pm Women’s Bible Study (Narthex)
5:30pm Lenten Soup Supper (Narthex)
6:30pm Lent Evening Service
Thursday, March 19:
6:30 Elder Ministry Team Meeting (Narthex)
Friday, March 20:
6:00pm Pickleball (Gym)
Saturday, March 21:
10:00am Women’s Prayer Group
Sunday, March 22:
8:30am Traditional Worship Service
9:45am Children’s Sunday School
11:00am Blended Worship Service
Post-Service Prayer Ministry Support (Altar)
Food Pantry is OPEN

Upcoming Member Celebrations

BIRTHDAYS ANNIVERSARIES
3/18 Lori Allen 3/21 Mark and Carolyn Salsieder
3/20 Bill Hufnagle 3/22 Ray and Glenda Bailey

Last Sunday’s Attendance & Stats

In-person Services: 8:30am - 69 11:00am - 78
Online: Website: 22 FB: 16
Wednesday Lent:
Noon: 21 6:30: 21 FB and Website: 10

Previous Week’s Offerings

General Offering Received: \$ 10,242.32
Building Funds Received: \$ 500.00
*Weekly Offering Budget: \$ (13173.00)

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, Cory Lips

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

ELC Grab-N-Go Food Pantry

March 8, 2026
129 Households, 509 Individuals served
God Provided!

March 15, 2026

“Down in the Dirt”

John 9:1-41

As you look at this Gospel lesson it is clear that Jesus has healed _____ too, but from a different kind of _____. Jesus changed how the man saw the _____, and Jesus has done the same thing for us

I. Jesus and the _____ Man

A. Jesus and His disciples were walking along and they _____ a blind man _____ on the side of the road

1. The Disciples ask a _____ question
2. _____ sinned? This _____ or his _____?
 - a. Common belief: A _____ was a punishment from God
 - b. Somebody had to have _____

B. Jesus' answer: It's _____ fault

1. John _____
2. In the midst of adversity God can do something _____, something out of the _____

C. Jesus _____ this situation with His outlook on life

1. John _____
2. The time is _____
 - a. There wasn't time for a _____
 - b. John _____
 - c. Jesus was there - and Jesus was going to do something _____

II. Jesus Gets Down In the _____

A. Jesus _____ on the ground... makes _____... put it on the blind man's eyes....and told to him to wash in the _____ of Siloam

1. And the man could _____ for the first time in his life

2. _____... Shapes... Faces... EVERYTHING
 - a. He could also see _____... disease... despair
 - b. But the Light of the _____ poured into him

B. The eyes on his face were opened; but Jesus also wanted to _____ the eyes of his soul

1. The Pharisees wanted to _____ his eyes...But Jesus wanted the blind man's soul open as well!
2. The Pharisees literally kicked him out of the _____
3. John _____

III. The Big _____

A. Jesus opens the eyes of this man's _____

1. The miracle? _____
2. With the eyes of faith the man saw his _____

B. This man's story is _____ story

1. We were born with spiritual eyes _____ shut
2. _____ has washed away our blindness
 - a. Through _____ and the _____ Jesus provided you with eyes of faith
 - b. We see the _____ differently... we see Jesus even in the midst of crisis

All it takes is one visit with the _____ of the World, and someone's eyes could be opened, just as was the case for the blind man.





Prayer List

March 8, 2026

These are people in need of prayers this week. “Lord Jesus we commend into Your hands the needs of people that go through challenges of many kinds.You know their joys, troubles, illnesses, and fears. We now commend them to You.”

PRAYERS FOR THE BEREAVED:

- **Family and friends of Thomas McGready (friend of VStinson) - Thomas passed into his Lord and Savior's on 3/4/26. Vaughn thanks you for your prayers during this time.**
- Family of Tylaine Williams (S.Ude friend) passed away Wed. 2/18

PRAYERS FOR GOOD HEALTH, SWIFT HEALING, & FAVOR:

- **Martha Papp - (Rush's close friend) Recovering from fall and hospitalization**
- * **Peg Hardesty- prayers for Peg who fractured her knee and going into a rehab facility And prayers for Gerry who will be at home without her**
- **Kyle Mietzner - (CBruckner's nephew) prayers of Thanksgiving for a successful completion of Army Ranger training**
- Joanne Fritch (close friend of SPruett) having an MRI and Colonoscopy for a mass on liver
- * Steve Ude - Fell and broke his femur and had his hip replaced Wed. 2/18
- Joyce Meyer (DMeyer mother) Heart Surgery scheduled for March 3rd
- Highland (S.Rauschenplat granddaughter) pray for total healing of knee after surgery to remove necrotic tissue
- * Carol Hausman (S.Hausman's mom) had a heart attack. Pray for her ongoing recovery.
- Sean O'Brien family (Friend of B.Allen)Please prayer for daughter, Ruthie's full recovery.
- * Carol Treadway - Prayers for a speedy recovery after a fall
- * Judy Stoltenberg - Recovering from colon surgery
- Baby Hazel (JThomas friend's baby) born at 28 weeks in NICU. Hazel is getting stronger daily
- Natalie Hanrahan (S. Hanson's granddaughter) prayers for God to show her clarity
- Dianne Dunn - (S.Roby's niece) doing better after heart attack on Christmas Day
- George Banjak - Had surgery on a fractured hip. He is now home doing rehab.
- Ann Bolinsky - (Bair's BIL's mom) 85yo with dementia recently fell /is struggling with rehab
- Gary Pursley - (N.Pursley's brother) pray for God to soften his heart for Jesus and for salvation
- Sarah Nix—(Hufnagle's daughter) - prayers as she continues to heal from 2 strokes.
- * Rick Herman - Prayers for healing and recovery after quadruple bypass
- Linda & Ken Tilley - (DGordon's parents) mom is recovering from cancer and dad is losing sight
- * Eugene Edwards - Healing from gout and kidney issues
- Camille Sawyer (friend of S.Edwards) autoimmune deficiency issues
- * Sharon Norris - physical therapy for injured back
- * McKenzie - (S&B Parker's daughter) for health & wellbeing
- * Keith Novak -Kidney issues

HEALING SCRIPTURE AND PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK:

“Be joyful always, pray at all times, be thankful in all circumstances. This is what God wants from you in your life in union with Christ Jesus.” (1 Thessalonians 5:1618)

Dear Jesus, You are the great physician of body and soul. Come to those who are experiencing cancer and bring healing to their bodies. Use the gifts of medicine and doctors to work Your healing power. Lift their spirits and enable them to trust in You during this difficult time. Let them cast all their cares upon You for You care for them. For their families and caregivers, be their Encourager and Helper. Thank you, Jesus, Amen.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WITH LONGTERM ILLNESSES & CONDITIONS:

- * Harold Neuenkirchen
- * Ken Treadway
- * Lorenzo Lopez
- * Peg Hardesty
- * Jim Clark
- * Steve Taylor
- * Mary Hufnagle
- * Sharon Pruettt
- * Emily Nieting
- * Cynthia Cline
- * Helen Cline
- * Marjorie Locke
- * Julia Kearley
- * C.J. Reece
- * Mike Fastenau
- * Ray Bailey
- Linda Poppenhagen
- Rev. Mark Spelzhausen (J. Gibney, friend)
- Donna Logeman (E.Lundquist, mother)
- Nancy Hutchins (G. Bailey, friend)
- Ann Downs (K. Emory, mother)
- Ann Melious (McCarthy family)
- Carol Harris (S.Ude's friend)
- Robin Worley (J.Kearley's friend)
- Chris Alstrin (L.Schulhof, friend)
- Ron Riddle (B. King, friend)
- Erin Y. (J. Thomas, friend)
- Ralph Ector, Jr & Sr (S.Edwards, family)
- Tyrone Ayres (S. Edwards, friend)
- Lynn White (S. Edwards, cousin)
- Randy Booker (J. Kearley, brother-in-law)
- Todd Sluder (C. Piercy, friend)
- Mary Walker (D. Meyer, aunt)
- Brandon Talofuse, Newton Crave (E.Bailey)
- Cynthia Bright - (C.Brucker's friend)
- Barbara Haseley - (Lopez mom/grandmom) Cancer
- Alice & Dawn -(J.Kearley friends) both w/cancer
- Ron Gill - (D.Meyer friend) Cancer
- Nicole - (S. Rauschenplat fam) cancer
- Mac O'Shields - Cancer
- Jennie Buckner - (C.Cline friend) cancer & COPD
- Patty & Newt Etheridge (D.Meyer friends) cancer
- Zeb Dowdle (N. Black (friend) Needs kidney transplant
- Jonah Lewis - healing after stroke
- Rev. Dr. John Groh - (D.Groh's bro.) healing after a stroke
- Craig Dayton (Parker's fam)stroke & 2y battle w/cancer

PRAYERS FOR OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBER BROTHERS & SISTERS

K. Ray Bailey	Marjorie Locke	Isabelle Hempel
Teenie Smathers	Helen Cline	Andre & Lori Benson
Ken & Carol Treadway	Cleta McCall	Gerry & Peg Hardesty
Jim & Judy Clark		