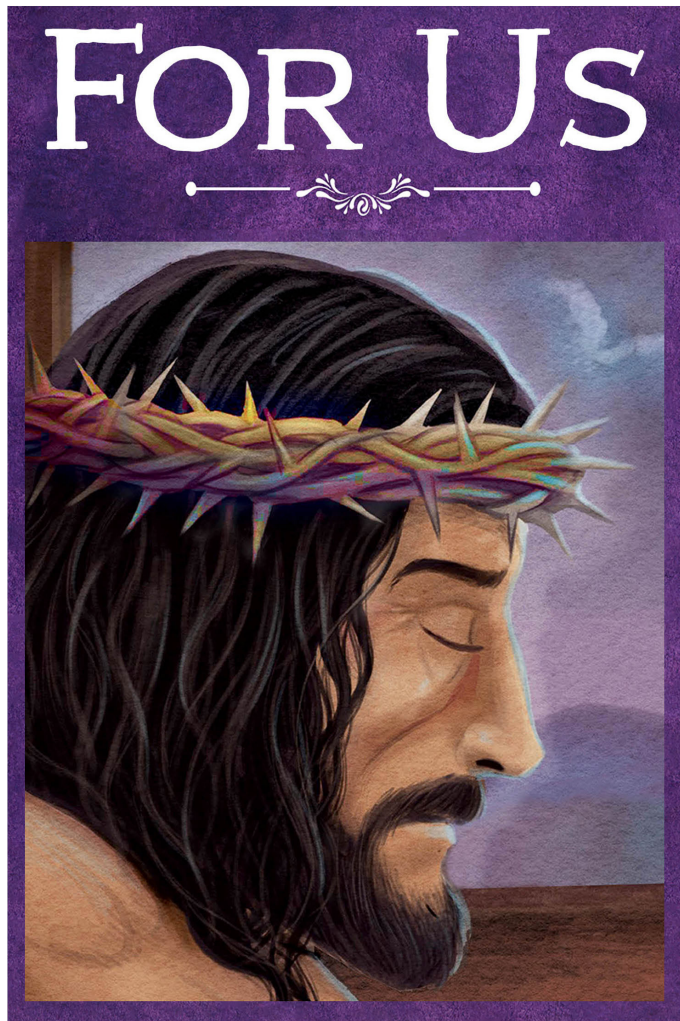


**Emmanuel  
Lutheran**  
CHURCH & SCHOOL  
ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

**WEDNESDAY, March 18, 2026**

**12:00PM & 6:30PM**

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



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(828) 252-1795

## AS WE GATHER

We talked about angels during Midweek of Lent 1. Tonight, we will talk about the darker side of the story—that is, demons. Demons are fallen angels who rebelled against God and His giving of Himself to us. Demons, with Satan chief among them, seek to undermine everything God is and does, even today. In our sermon tonight, we will hear how Jesus heals a man with a demon (Mark 5:1–13) and how that work of healing continues today.

## HYMN

### LSB 432 “In Silent Pain the Eternal Son”

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>1</b> In silent pain the eternal Son<br/>Hands derelict and still;<br/>In darkened day His work is done,<br/>Fulfilled, His Father’s will.<br/>Uplifted for the world to see<br/>He hangs in strangest victory,<br/>For in His body on the tree<br/>He carries all our ill</p> <p><b>2</b> He died that we might die to sin<br/>And live for righteousness;<br/>The earth is stained to make us clean<br/>And bring us into peace.</p> | <p>For peace He came and met its cost;<br/>He gave Himself to save the lost;<br/>He loved us to the uttermost<br/>And paid for our release.</p> <p><b>3</b> For strife He came to bring a sword,<br/>The truth to end all lies;<br/>To rule in us, our patient Lord,<br/>Until all evil dies:<br/>For in His hand He holds the stars,<br/>His voice shall speak to end our wars,<br/>And those who love Him see His scars<br/>And look into his eyes.</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><b>1</b> On my heart imprint Your image,<br/>Blessèd Jesus, King of grace,<br/>That life’s riches, cares, and pleasures<br/>Never may Your work erase;</p> | <p>Let the clear inscription be:<br/>Jesus, crucified for me,<br/>Is my life, my hope’s foundation,<br/>And my glory and salvation!</p> |
|---|---|

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## PSALM 71:1-8

- P** In You, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame!  
**C** **In Your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline Your ear to me, and save me!**
- P** Be to me a rock of refuge, to which I may continually come;  
**C** **You have given the command to save me, for You are my rock and my fortress.**
- P** Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel man.  
**C** **For You, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O LORD, from my youth.**
- P** Upon You I have leaned from before my birth;  
**C** **You are He who took me from my mother's womb.**
- P** My praise is continually of You.  
**C** **I have been as a portent to many, but You are my strong refuge.**
- P** My mouth is filled with Your praise,  
**C** **and with Your glory all the day.**

**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

### Mark 5:1-13

- P** A reading from the fifth chapter of Mark.

<sup>1</sup>They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. <sup>2</sup>And when Jesus had stepped out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit. <sup>3</sup>He lived among the tombs. And no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain, <sup>4</sup>for he had often been bound with shackles and chains, but he wrenched the chains apart, and he broke the shackles in pieces. No one had the strength to subdue him. <sup>5</sup>Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always crying out and bruising himself with stones. <sup>6</sup>And when he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and fell down before Him. <sup>7</sup>And crying out with a loud voice, he said, "What have You to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure You by God, do not torment me." <sup>8</sup>For He was saying to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" <sup>9</sup>And Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "My name is Legion, for we are many." <sup>10</sup>And he begged Him earnestly not to send them out of the country. <sup>11</sup>Now a great herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, <sup>12</sup>and they begged Him, saying, "Send us to the pigs; let us enter them." <sup>13</sup>So He gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out, and entered the pigs, and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea and were drowned in the sea.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**PASSION READING**  
**Mark 15:6-32**

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

<sup>6</sup>Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. <sup>7</sup>And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. <sup>8</sup>And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. <sup>9</sup>And he answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" <sup>10</sup>For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered Him up. <sup>11</sup>But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. <sup>12</sup>And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" <sup>13</sup>And they cried out again, "Crucify Him." <sup>14</sup>And Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify Him." <sup>15</sup>So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered Him to be crucified.

<sup>16</sup>And the soldiers led Him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. <sup>17</sup>And they clothed Him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on Him. <sup>18</sup>And they began to salute Him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" <sup>19</sup>And they were striking His head with a reed and spitting on Him and kneeling down in homage to Him. <sup>20</sup>And when they had mocked Him, they stripped Him of the purple cloak and put His own clothes on Him. And they led Him out to crucify Him.

<sup>21</sup>And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry His cross. <sup>22</sup>And they brought Him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). <sup>23</sup>And they offered Him wine mixed with myrrh, but He did not take it. <sup>24</sup>And they crucified Him and divided His garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. <sup>25</sup>And it was the third hour when they crucified Him. <sup>26</sup>And the inscription of the charge against Him read, "The King of the Jews." <sup>27</sup>And with Him they crucified two robbers, one on His right and one on His left.

<sup>29</sup>And those who passed by derided Him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, <sup>30</sup>save Yourself, and come down from the cross!" <sup>31</sup>So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked Him to one another, saying, "He saved others; He cannot save Himself. <sup>32</sup>Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with Him also reviled Him.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## SERIES HYMN

### LSB 544:1-4 "O Love, How Deep"

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>1</b> O love, how deep, how broad, how high,<br/>Beyond all thought and fantasy,<br/>That God, the Son of God, should take<br/>Our mortal form for mortals' sake!</p> <p><b>2</b> He sent no angel to our race,<br/>Of higher or of lower place,<br/>But wore the robe of human frame,<br/>And to this world Himself He came.</p> | <p><b>3</b> For us baptized, for us He bore<br/>His holy fast and hungered sore;<br/>For us temptation sharp He knew;<br/>For us the tempter overthrew.</p> <p><b>4</b> For us He prayed; for us He taught;<br/>For us His daily works He wrought,<br/>By words and signs and actions thus<br/>Still seeking not Himself but us.</p> |
|---|--|

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## SERMON

### 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.

## 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 880 “Now Rest beneath Night’s Shadow”

- 1 Now rest beneath night’s shadow  
The woodland, field, and meadow;  
The world in slumber lies.  
But you, my heart, awaking  
And prayer and music making,  
Let praise to your Creator rise.
- 2 The radiant sun has vanished,  
Its golden rays are banished  
From dark’ning skies of night;  
But Christ, the Sun of gladness,  
Dispelling all our sadness,  
Shines down on us in warmest light.
- 3 Now all the heav’nly splendor  
Breaks forth in starlight tender  
From myriad worlds unknown;  
And we, this marvel seeing,  
Forget our selfish being  
For joy of beauty not our own.
- 4 Lord Jesus, since You love me,  
Now spread Your wings above me  
And shield me from alarm.  
Though Satan would devour me,  
Let angel guards sing o’er me:  
This child of God shall meet no harm.
- 5 My loved ones, rest securely,  
For God this night will surely  
From peril guard your heads.  
Sweet slumbers may He send you  
And bid His hosts attend you  
And through the night watch o’er your beds.

# Easter Breakfast

Sign up to bring pastries, fruit, sauces,  
jellies, loaves of bread,  
and gluten-free options



## Easter Breakfast Help Needed

### Scan the QR Code to sign up

- Set-up Saturday at 10 am
- Serve breakfast Sunday  
(7:30-9:00 am , 9-10am, or 10-11 am)
- Clean-up Sunday at 11 am





**Emmanuel  
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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**

**Thursday, March 19:**

6:30pm Elder Ministry Team Meeting (Narthex)

**Friday, March 20:**

3:30pm Middle School Youth (ACE)

6:00pm Pickleball

**Saturday, March 21:**

10:00am Women’s Prayer Group (Narthex)

**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)

1:00pm The Food Pantry is OPEN!

5:00pm High School Youth Group (ACE)

**Monday, March 23:**

7:00pm Southside Bible Group

**Tuesday, March 24:**

**Wednesday, March 25:**

12:00pm Midweek Lent Worship Service

12:30 Fellowship Luncheon (Narthex)

5:30pm Lenten Soup Supper

6:30pm Lent Evening Service

**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, Corey Lipe

**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**

3/18 Lori Allen

3/20 Bill Hufnagle

**ANNIVERSAIRES**

3/21 Mark and Carolyn Salsider

3/22 Ray and Glenda Bailey

3/24 Peter and Heather Renner

**ELC Grab-N-Go Food Pantry**

March 8th

129 Households, 509 Individuals served  
God Provided!