

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

8:30AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

11:00AM BLENDED WORSHIP

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

## "The Faithfulness of Martha"



"Christ with Martha and Mary," Henryk Siemiradzki

**John 11:17-27**

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[www.emmanuellutheran.info](http://www.emmanuellutheran.info)

(828) 252-1795

# Sunday, March 22, 2026

9:45am Kid's Sunday School (room off the Fellowship Hall)

Personal Prayer Ministry (after 11 am service at the altar)

1:00 pm The Food Pantry is **OPEN** today



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

Mark and Carolyn Salsieder  
in honor of their wedding anniversary



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## 8:30am Traditional Service

Call to Worship: "God So Loved" Choir  
Featuring Andrew Engel on Oboe

Music by Mary McDonald words based on John 3:16 ©2025 Jubilate Music Group Used with permission from one license #297854

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn :  
LSB 435 "Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain"

The Order of Matins - Page 219

The Opening Versicles - Page 219

Common Antiphon - Page 220

Venite - Page 220,221

Readings: Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Romans 8:1-11  
John 11:1-45

Lenten Verse: Page 222

The Children's Message

Te Deum: Page 223-225

Sermon: The Faithfulness of Martha (John 11:17-27)

Benedictus: Page 226

Prayers of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

Offering

The Words of Our Lord

Distribution

Distribution Hymns:  
LSB 686 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"  
LSB 420 "Christ, the Life of All the Living"

Collect of Grace: Page 228

Benedicamus: Page 228

Benediction: Page 228

Closing Hymn:  
LSB 685 "Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus"

## AS WE GATHER

Lent is a time when God prepares His people to celebrate the Paschal Feast, the resurrection of Jesus, with sincerity and truth. In the Reading from Ezekiel 37, we see the power of the Word that transforms dry bones into living flesh with the breath of the Spirit. This same Spirit lives in us and will raise us at the Last Day, which is exactly what we hear from Paul in the Reading from Romans 8. The Spirit who raised Christ will also give life to us. Having received the Spirit in Baptism, we join with Martha in confessing boldly that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, who comes to us today in His Word and Sacrament and will come again to call us out of our graves.

### CALL TO WORSHIP

“God So Loved” Choir

Featuring Andrew Engel on Oboe

Music by Mary McDonald words based on John 3:16 ©2025 Jubilate Music Group  
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## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OPENING 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

## INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Out of the depths I cry to You, O LORD!

People: **O Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!**

Pastor: If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

People: **But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared.**

Silent reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

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

People: **Most merciful God, we cry to You from the depths of our sin. We were born into those depths and need Your Word to call us out of them. We have sinned against You with our thoughts, our words, our actions, and our inactions. We have lived according to the flesh rather than the Spirit. From the depths, we wait for You. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, deliver our soul from death, our eyes from tears, and our feet from stumbling. 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. You are precious in His sight because Christ is in 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, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; 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**     Ezekiel 37:1–14

**The Valley of Dry Bones**

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, “Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” <sup>10</sup>So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.’ <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.”

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

**EPISTLE**        Romans 8:1–11

<sup>1</sup>There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>2</sup>For the law of the Spirit of life has set you<sup>[b]</sup> free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. <sup>3</sup>For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin,<sup>[c]</sup> he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup>in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup>For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. <sup>8</sup>Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup>You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus<sup>[d]</sup> from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

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

## **HOLY GOSPEL**     John 11:1–45

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

People:     **Glory to You, O Lord.**

### **The Death of Lazarus**

<sup>1</sup>Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup>It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup>So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." <sup>4</sup>But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

<sup>5</sup>Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. <sup>6</sup>So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. <sup>7</sup>Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." <sup>8</sup>The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?" <sup>9</sup>Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. <sup>10</sup>But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." <sup>11</sup>After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." <sup>12</sup>The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." <sup>13</sup>Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. <sup>14</sup>Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, <sup>15</sup>and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." <sup>16</sup>So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

### **I Am the Resurrection and the Life**

<sup>17</sup>Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup>Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, <sup>19</sup>and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. <sup>20</sup>So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. <sup>21</sup>Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup>But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." <sup>23</sup>Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." <sup>24</sup>Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." <sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, <sup>26</sup>and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" <sup>27</sup>She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

### **Jesus Wept**

<sup>28</sup>When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." <sup>29</sup>And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup>When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup>Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. <sup>34</sup>And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup>Jesus wept. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"

### **Jesus Raises Lazarus**

<sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her,

“Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.” <sup>43</sup>When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.” <sup>44</sup>The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

### **The Plot to Kill Jesus**

<sup>45</sup>Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him.

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

## **THE CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

### **THE SERMON SONG** “The Passion”

#### VERSE 1

The passion of our Savior  
The mercy of our God  
The cross that leaves no question  
Of the measure of His love

#### **CHORUS 1**

**Our chains are gone  
Our debt is paid  
The cross has overthrown the grave  
For Jesus' blood that sets us free  
Means death to death and life for me**

#### VERSE 2

The Innocent judged guilty  
While the guilty one walks free  
Death would be His portion  
And our portion liberty

#### **CHORUS 1**

#### BRIDGE 2X

I give my whole life to honor this love  
By the Lamb who was slain I'm forgiven  
The sinner's Savior crown Him forever  
For the Lamb who was slain He is risen

#### **CHORUS 1**

#### **CHORUS 2**

**My chains are gone  
My debt is paid  
The cross has overthrown the grave  
For Jesus' blood that sets me free  
Means death to death and life for me  
Means death to death and life for me**

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**SERMON** “The Faithfulness of Martha” John 11:17-27

## **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 "God You're So Good"

##### VERSE 1

Amazing love that welcomes me  
The kindness of mercy  
That bought with blood wholeheartedly  
My soul undeserving

##### CHORUS

**God You're so good  
God You're so good  
God You're so good  
You're so good to me**

##### VERSE 2

Behold the cross age to age  
And hour by hour  
The dead are raised the sinner saved  
The work of Your power

##### CHORUS

##### BRIDGE 2X

I am blessed, I am called,  
I am healed, I am whole  
I am saved in Jesus' name  
Highly favored anointed  
Filled with Your pow'r  
For the glory of Jesus' name

##### VERSE 3

And should this life bring suffering  
Lord I will remember  
What Calvary has bought for me  
Both now and forever

##### CHORUS

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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 to bear our sin and be our Savior.

**People:** **We believe that He is the Christ, the Son of God, who comes to us in His body and blood.**

**Pastor:** Gathered in the name and remembrance of Jesus, we trust in You, O Lord, to forgive us, renew us, and lead us by means of Your Holy Word.

**People:** **We believe that He is the resurrection and the life, who gathers us together with all the faithful in the feast that has no end.**

**Pastor:** To You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all the glory and honor, 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  $\times$  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  $\times$  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 686 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

- 1 Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,  
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
Call for songs of loudest praise.  
While the hope of endless glory  
Fills my heart with joy and love,  
Teach me ever to adore Thee;  
May I still Thy goodness prove.
- 2 Here I raise my Ebenezer,  
Hither by Thy help I've come;  
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,  
Safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
Wand'ring from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger,  
Interposed His precious blood.

- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be;  
Let that grace now like a fetter  
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;  
Prone to leave the God I love.  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
Seal it for Thy courts above.
- 4 Oh, that day when freed from sinning,  
I shall see Thy lovely face;  
Clothed then in the blood-washed linen,  
How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!  
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry;  
Take my ransom'd soul away;  
Send Thine angels soon to carry  
Me to realms of endless day.

LSB 420 "Christ, the Life of All the Living" (in Hymnal)

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**

**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** “Things of Heaven”

### **VERSE 1**

Something is coming I feel the wind blowing  
With mystery  
Things unseen  
The tides are now changing  
I see the dawn breaking  
It's happening  
The awakening

### **PRE-CHORUS**

**Come Holy Spirit come  
Hover over us  
Holy Spirit come**

### **CHORUS**

**Open the heavens  
fling wide the gates  
Unleash Your presence  
pour out Your grace  
Show me Your glory  
the power of Your love  
'Cause even a glimpse  
is more than enough for me**

### **VERSE 2**

You're willing and able  
You're making a table  
In front of me  
Before my enemies  
You're mighty to save  
And You're making a way  
To do so much more  
Than we've known before

### **SING PRECHORUS AND CHORUS**

#### **Bridge**

We're gonna see those dry bones dancing  
We're gonna see the strongholds bow  
We're gonna see the things of heaven  
Here now  
We're gonna see a new revival  
We're gonna see Your kingdom pow'r  
We're gonna see the things of heaven  
Here now

#### **REPEAT BRIDGE**

Here now

### **CHORUS 2X**

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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	Mike Rush	Mike Rush	<b>Prayer Support Team</b> Kevin & Christi Lorenz  <b>Sound &amp; Tech Crew</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> : Heather M. & Peter L. 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Steve T. & Paige H.  <b>March Altar Guild</b> 8:30 am Martha Greene & Kathryn Wilmoth 11:00 am Edith Walker  <b>March Offering Counters</b> Stephanie Hanson & Lori Allen
Elder	Susan Roby	Kevin Lorenz	
Acolyte	TBD	Wyatt Johnson	
Ushers	Alan & Kandi Tarrant	Rich Baldwin Tommy Ridgeway	
Communion	Susan Roby Neil Pursley	Dale Pioch Lary Shulhof	
Lector	Neil Pursley	Martha Price	

**LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS**

Wednesdays at 5:30 in the Narthex through March 25<sup>th</sup> – Sign up to bring soup, crackers or bread or sides 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

Volunteers are needed to help in various areas. Sign up with the QR code or contact the school.

Props are also needed. For more information:

Contact: Shari Reaves - sreaves@elcsmail.org - 828-674-9234 or Emily Leatherwood - admissions@elcsmail.org

**Road to Resurrection  
Volunteer sign up**



**EASTER EGGS AND CANDY**

Please drop off plastic eggs and candy in the church office. The Women's Bible Study group will be stuffing eggs March 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Catered Easter Breakfast** Please join us for Easter breakfast in the Fellowship Hall 8:00 am to 10:30 am.

See the sign up sheets online for helping and/or bring treats

**Helpers**



**Food**

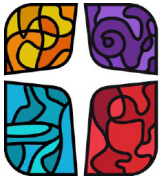


You can ALWAYS call or email the church office to sign up!

**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:

- a) Examine our relationship with God & others according to the Ten Commandments;
- b) Truly repent of our sins and seek forgiveness in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord;
- c) 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;
- d) 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 23:**  
7:00pm Southside Bible Group  
**Tuesday, March 24:**  
**Wednesday, March 25:**  
12:00pm Midweek Lent Worship Service  
5:30pm Lenten Soup Supper (Narthex)  
6:30pm Lent Evening Service  
**Thursday, March 26:**  
**Friday, March 27:**  
3:30 Middle School Youth Group (ACE)  
6:00pm Pickleball (Gym)  
**Saturday, March 28:**  
**Sunday, March 29:**  
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 CLOSED  
5:00pm High School Youth Group (ACE)

**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  
ECE Asst. & ELCS Benefits Mgr: Amy Skopak  
Admin. Asst.: Anitta Charlson  
ELC Music and Sound Director/ECE Music: Heather Meulenberg  
Organist: Lula Meulenberg;  
Digital Media : Peter Linton  
Hospitality Ministry: Shirley Parker  
Facilities Mgmt: Neil Seidler and 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 & Annie Jacobsen  
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

**Upcoming Member Celebrations**

**BIRTHDAYS**

3/26 Heather Meulenberg  
3/27 Gerry Hardesty  
3/27 Doug Piercy

**ANNIVERSARIES**

3/21 Mark & Carolyn Salsider  
3/22 Ray & Glenda Bailey  
3/24 Peter & Heather Renner

**Last Sunday’s Attendance & Stats**

**In-person Services:** 8:30am - 86 11:00am - 68  
**Online:** Website: 27 FB: 11

**Wednesday Lent:**

Noon: 24 6:30: 20 FB and Website: 8

**Previous Week’s Offerings**

General Offering Received:\$ 7460.85  
Building Funds Received: \$ 200.00  
\*Weekly Offering Budget: \$ (13173.00)

**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 & Kayla Greene  
Toddler2: Neesie Castillo & Heather Hensley  
PS2: Veronica Milner & Maranda Rice  
PS-2/3: Amy Bair & Sidney Kerr  
PS3: Madison McDonald & Jasmine Riddle  
PS3/4: Robin Rutherford & DeAsia Little  
PreK-1: Madison Peach & Cleo Green  
PreK-2: Faith Noell & Crystal McCormick  
Floating Aid: Felicia Norton

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

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

# March 22, 2026

## “The Faithfulness of Martha”

### John 11:17-27

When we say: “I’m just \_\_\_\_\_ and praying.”  
That is not faith. Hoping is future.

Faith is something that we have in the here and now on a daily basis.

#### I. IF YOU Had Been \_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_ goes out to meet Jesus

1. “\_\_\_\_\_ YOU had been here my brother would not have died”
2. “IF” you had answered my prayers my \_\_\_\_\_ would have gone away
  - a. It never occurred to Martha that Jesus could raise Lazarus with a \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. BUT in her mind \_\_\_\_\_ days was too late

B. There are times in life when we live with the attitude that it’s too \_\_\_\_\_

1. Why didn’t \_\_\_\_\_ answer my prayers?
2. All things are lost...\_\_\_\_\_ is me!

C. But Martha had strong \_\_\_\_\_ beliefs

1. IF you had been here my brother would not have \_\_\_\_\_
2. She believed that Jesus, at some level, had the \_\_\_\_\_ to heal him while living
3. Jesus: “Your brother will \_\_\_\_\_ again”
  - a. Martha: “I know...at the \_\_\_\_\_ at the last day
  - b. Her faith was strong in a \_\_\_\_\_ event
  - c. She didn’t come right out and ask for the future to be the \_\_\_\_\_ - Her faith was strong but limited

#### II. Even \_\_\_\_\_

A. She is struggling to bring her faith into the \_\_\_\_\_

1. Sometimes we feel like we’ve been waiting on Jesus a \_\_\_\_\_ time

2. Faith is something we have to bring into the \_\_\_\_\_ of our lives for it to do its work

- a. Mark \_\_\_\_\_
- b. This is NOW - \_\_\_\_\_ Faith

B. And what Brings Martha into the “present” of her \_\_\_\_\_?

1. John \_\_\_\_\_
2. When you have faith in Jesus, He becomes your resurrection and life right \_\_\_\_\_

#### III. Practice Bringing Your Faith into the \_\_\_\_\_

A. Resurrection life applies to us \_\_\_\_\_ and in the \_\_\_\_\_

1. Jesus raises Lazarus so people would see the \_\_\_\_\_ of God
2. Martha’s faith was mixed with \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. And so Jesus uses this moment to help her bring her faith into the \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. At times our faith can get “\_\_\_\_\_” just like Martha

B. And then...\_\_\_\_\_

1. He tells us to pray with \_\_\_\_\_
2. Pray with \_\_\_\_\_
3. Know that Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_

Faith has a lot to do with the pressing demands of the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

We can strengthen our daily faith.

Believe that He has heard your prayer.

Believe that He is already at work on the problems you bring before Him.

Believe that He is the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ today

as much as He ever will be in the future.





# Prayer List

## March 22, 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:

- **The Lorenz family and friends - Kevin's step-father, Loran Hicks, passed away 3/16**
- 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.

### PRAYERS FOR GOOD HEALTH, SWIFT HEALING, & FAVOR:

- **Nolie Robishaw (Jennejahn's granddaughter in MD) She is 9, diabetic, celiac and now has covid and the flu**
- **Louise Minium (friend M.Hufnagle) she is having fainting spells and health issues**
- (From B.Pursley) Please pray for senate passage of the SAVE ACT
- Lee Mullins - (A.Bair's brother) Lee is in the hospital ... trying to get his medication right
- 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
- Joanne Fritch (close friend of SPruett) having an MRI and Colonoscopy for a mass on liver
- Joyce Meyer (DMeyer mother) Thanksgiving prayers for a successful heart surgery and continue prayers for healing
- 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.
- 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 Pruett
- \* 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		