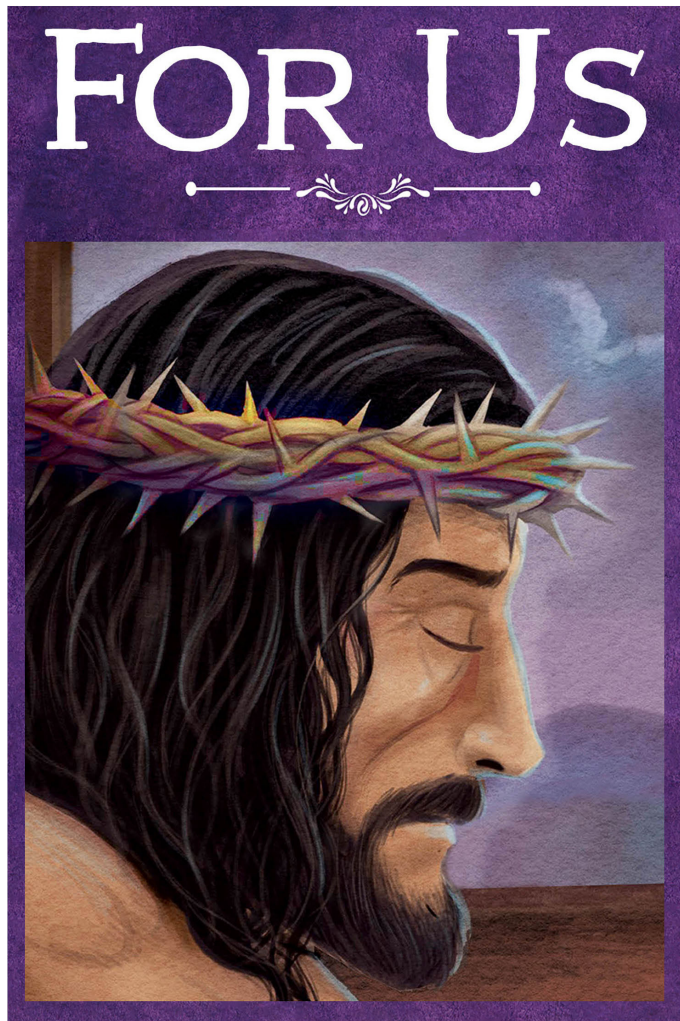


**Emmanuel
Lutheran**
CHURCH & SCHOOL
ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

WEDNESDAY, March 25, 2026

12:00PM & 6:30PM

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



churchoffice@elcsmail.org



www.emmanuellutheran.info

(828) 252-1795

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



AS WE GATHER

Jesus foretells His own betrayal, death, and resurrection in today's text (Mark 8:31–9:1). This shows us that the way of salvation only comes through the path of suffering (Hebrews 2:10). Jesus' suffering, His Passion, does not simply mean that He sympathizes with us. Rather, it means that He participates in our suffering, and we in His. His betrayal, the crown of thorns, the shameful cross—all of these lead to how Jesus "gave His dying breath," as we sing in the series hymn. In the Passion reading, we will also hear how He dies (Mark 15:33–47) and what that means for us today.

HYMN

LSB 424 "O Christ, You Walked the Road"

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 O Christ, You walked the road
Our wand'ring feet must go.
You faced with us temptation's pow'r
And fought our ancient foe.</p> <p>2 No bread of earth alone
Can fill our hung'ring hearts.
Lord, help us seek Your living Word,
The food Your grace imparts.</p> <p>3 No blinding sign we ask,
No wonder from above.</p> | <p>Lord, help us place our trust alone
In Your unswerving love.</p> <p>4 When lures of easy gain
With promise brightly shine,
Lord, help us seek your kingdom first;
Our wills with Yours align.</p> <p>5 O Christ, You walked the road
Our wand'ring feet must go.
Stay with us through temptation's hour
To fight our ancient foe</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 41

P Blessed is the one who considers the poor!

C **In the day of trouble the LORD delivers him;**

P the LORD protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessed in the land;

C **You do not give him up to the will of his enemies.**

P The LORD sustains him on his sickbed;

C **in his illness You restore him to full health.**

P As for me, I said, "O LORD, be gracious to me;

C **heal me, for I have sinned against You!"**

P My enemies say of me in malice,

C **"When will he die and his name perish?"**

P And when one comes to see me, he utters empty words, while his heart gathers iniquity;

C **when he goes out, he tells it abroad.**

P All who hate me whisper together about me;

C **they imagine the worst for me.**

P They say, "A deadly thing is poured out on him;

C **he will not rise again from where he lies."**

P Even my close friend in whom I trusted,

C **who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.**

P But You, O LORD, be gracious to me, and raise me up, that I may repay them!

C **By this I know that You delight in me: my enemy will not shout in triumph over me.**

P But You have upheld me because of my integrity, and set me in Your presence forever.

C **Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! Amen and Amen.**

**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 8:31-9:1

P A reading from the eighth and ninth chapter of Mark.

³¹And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²And He said this plainly. And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. ³³But turning and seeing His disciples, He rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind Me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

³⁴And He called to Him the crowd with His disciples and said to them, "If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. ³⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. ³⁶For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? ³⁷For what can a man give in return for his life? ³⁸For whoever is ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

^{9:1}And He said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power."

P O Lord, have mercy on us. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

PASSION READING

Mark 15:33-47

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

³³And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. ³⁴And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" ³⁵And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "Behold, He is calling Elijah." ³⁶And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to Him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take Him down." ³⁷And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed His last. ³⁸And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹And when the centurion, who stood facing Him, saw that in this way He breathed His last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!" ⁴⁰There were also women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. ⁴¹When He was in Galilee, they followed Him and ministered to Him, and there were also many other women who came up with Him to Jerusalem. ⁴²And when evening had come, since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath, ⁴³Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the Council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁴⁴Pilate was surprised to hear that He should have already died. And summoning the centurion, he asked him whether He was already dead. ⁴⁵And when he learned from the centurion that He was dead, he granted the corpse to Joseph. ⁴⁶And Joseph bought a linen shroud, and taking Him down, wrapped Him in the linen shroud and laid Him in a tomb that had been cut out of the rock. And he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. ⁴⁷Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where He was laid.

P O Lord, have mercy on us. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

SERIES HYMN

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

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>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!</p> <p>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.</p> <p>3 For us baptized, for us He bore
His holy fast and hungered sore;</p> | <p>For us temptation sharp He knew;
For us the tempter overthrew.</p> <p>4 For us He prayed; for us He taught;
For us His daily works He wrought,
By words and signs and actions thus
Still seeking not Himself but us.</p> <p>5 For us by wickedness betrayed,
For us, in crown of thorns arrayed,
He bore the shameful cross and death;
For us He gave His dying breath.</p> |
|--|--|

Text: Public domain

SERMON

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.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

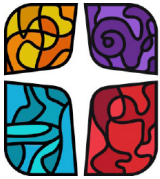
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

LSB 878 "Abide with Me"

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless,
O abide with me.</p> <p>2 I need Thy presence ev'ry passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine,
O abide with me.</p> <p>3 Come not in terrors, as the King of kings,
But kind and good, with healing in Thy wings;
Tears for all woes, a heart for ev'ry plea.
Come, Friend of sinners, thus abide with me.</p> | <p>4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.</p> <p>5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting?
Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if Thou abide with me!</p> <p>6 Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom,
and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks,
and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.</p> |
|---|---|



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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 Dug Piercy

ANNIVERSARIES

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: 6:30: FB and Website:

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!