

Immanuel – St. Paul's



Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod



The Second Sunday in Lent

(*Reminiscere*)

February 28th, 2021

A Note to Our Visitors

We welcome you in the name of our living Savior, Jesus Christ, and we pray that your time of worship with us today will be a blessing to you.

Scripture Readings

Genesis 32:22-32

Romans 5:1-5

Matthew 15:21-28

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 32:22-32

²²The same night he arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. ²⁴And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. ²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." ²⁷And he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸Then he said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed." ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered." ³¹The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip. ³²Therefore to this day the people of Israel do not eat the sinew of the thigh that is on the hip socket, because he touched the socket of Jacob's hip on the sinew of the thigh.

Epistle

Romans 5:1-5

¹Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ²Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 15:21–28

²¹Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying out after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶And he answered, "It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

✠ *Church Notes – February 28th, 2021*

St. Paul's Elders' Meeting

St. Paul's Elders are scheduled to meet on Monday (3/1) evening at 6:30 pm.

Holy Communion

Next Sunday (3/7) we will have Holy Communion at St. Paul's. Please remember to sign-up by 5pm Saturday so we can have an accurate count and have it safely prepared.

Lenten Mid-Week Service Theme for 2021:

"O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High"

This theme comes from Ephesians 3:18 and the hymn, "O Love, How Deep" (LSB 544). In following this theme through our Lenten Midweek service we will seek to trace the enormous dimensions of God's merciful love for sinners in Christ. The primary goal is that we may more fully comprehend and rejoice in "the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge" (Ephesians 3:18). A second goal is that we would come to associate each of the many dimensions of God's great love and mercy elaborated in this series with the suffering and death of Christ, enriching our Lenten meditation and our ongoing understanding of the cross. A third goal is that God's enormous love for us would move us to live in love and mercy toward others.

Introductory Notes for Lenten Mid-Week Theme,

"O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High":

God is "rich in mercy" (Eph 2:4) and "abounding in merciful love" (Ex 34:6). The enormity of God's mercy drove Saint Paul to his knees, fervently praying that others, too, might "have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge" (Eph 3:18–19). Such love and mercy stirred the souls of God's Old Testament people as well, who exulted: "As high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him. . . . The steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting" (Ps 103:11, 17).

At the same time, the Bible teaches that all humanity will face a final judgment before God, and that apart from Jesus Christ there is no escape from the divine wrath that is coming upon the world because of human sin and wickedness. It is often noted that contemporary Western culture rejects this idea that God punishes. In a cultural setting like this, clearly the church must proclaim—and the church must clearly proclaim—the truth about God's holiness and judgment. Without the preaching of the law, there is no real awareness of the need for and nature of the gospel. But there is another, perhaps less obvious, challenge. Yes, the world around us casually acknowledges that God is loving and merciful, at least to the extent that God is acknowledged at all. However, we must not assume, regarding the gospel, that it is therefore obvious and easily known. Not everyone knows the mercy and love of God. The love of God *in Jesus Christ* is no generic, ordinary kind of love. It is a love *for sinners* in Jesus Christ's suffering and death on the cross.

LENT MIDWEEK SCHEDULE

March 3 rd	6:30 pm	Lent Midweek 3 <i>"Love that Spares No Cost"</i>	St. Paul's
March 10 th	6:30 pm	Lent Midweek 4 <i>"Love that Comes in Many Ways"</i>	Immanuel
March 17 th	6:30 pm	Lent Midweek 5 <i>"Love that Deals Thoroughly with Sin"</i>	Immanuel
March 24 th	6:30 pm	Lent Midweek 6 <i>"Love So Broad"</i>	Immanuel
April 1 st	6:30 pm	Maundy Thursday <i>"Deepest, Truest Love at Our Lord's Table"</i>	St. Paul's
April 2 nd	8:00 am	Good Friday (Chief Divine Service) <i>"Jesus's Love and the Meaning of Life"</i>	Immanuel
April 2 nd	6:30 pm	Good Friday (Tenebrae Vespers) <i>"Jesus's Love and the Meaning of Life"</i>	St. Paul's
April 4 th	7:00 am	Easter <i>"Love that Ends Our Fears"</i>	Immanuel
April 4 th	10:00 am	Easter <i>"Love that Ends Our Fears"</i>	St. Paul's

Come, Holy Spirit, and Fill the Hearts of Your Faithful

This Week at Immanuel-St. Paul's

Sunday	8:00 am	Holy Communion @ Immanuel
	10:00 am	Morning Worship @ St. Paul's
	6:30 pm	Jr. Catechesis @ St. Paul's Parish Hall
Monday	6:30 pm	St. Paul's Elders' Meeting
Tuesday	10 am – 2 pm	Circuit Pastors' Winkel @ New Athens
	2:00 pm	Pastor Sean on KFUCO Radio "Concord Matters"
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Lent Midweek Vespers @ St. Paul's
Sunday	8:00 am	Morning Worship @ Immanuel
	9:00 am	Immanuel Voters' Meeting
	10:00 am	Holy Communion @ St. Paul's
	6:30 pm	Jr. Catechesis @ St. Paul's Parish Hall

Next Sunday Scripture Readings

Genesis 32:22-32
1 Thessalonians 4:1-7
Matthew 15:21-28

Memory Verse for This Week

1 Peter 5:8-9

Be sober-minded; be watchful.
Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion,
seeking someone to devour.
Resist him, firm in your faith.