

Ash Wednesday  
March 5, 2025

**10:45 AM and 7 PM Worship  
Service of the Sacrament**

Our 2025 Lenten theme is: “40 Days for Life.” The number 40 is a significant number in the Scriptures. 40 is a “journeying” number, a passage number, from death to life. That’s why the Church chose 40 days for this Lenten season, this season of the death of Jesus to the life of Easter!

***If you’re visiting with us today, please take a moment to sign our guest register, so we can acknowledge your visit with us.***

**Communion Statement**

***Ash Wednesday begins the special season of penitential reflection that we call Lent. Ashes are a sign of repentance and sorrow and also a reminder of our human mortality. As this day and this season remind us of our sin and its wages, it is with repentant joy that we are also reminded of our forgiveness through Christ’s sacrifice on the cross. Intending to amend our sinful lives, we receive with thankfulness the forgiveness He has promised to give in the Lord’s Supper. Out of love for God’s Word and God’s people, the churches of the Missouri Synod have promised to practice close communion; and guests who desire to commune are asked to speak with the pastor before the service.***

**SUMMARY OF READINGS**

***Return to the Lord Your God, for He Has Reconciled You to Himself***

On Ash Wednesday, we come down from the mountain with Jesus and set our faces toward His cross and Passion in Jerusalem. We make our pilgrimage with Him by the way of repentance, and thus we return to the dying and rising of Holy Baptism. Christ Jesus, “*who knew no sin,*” became our sin, so that by His death we are released from sin and in His resurrection we “*become the righteousness of God*” (2 Cor. 5:21). Since God has thus reconciled the world to Himself in Christ, “*now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation*” (2 Cor. 6:2). He has provided the sacrificial Lamb, and He has left “*a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering*” in the Eucharist (Joel 2:14, 19). He summons us to return to Him with all our hearts, because He is “*gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love*” (Joel 2:13). Return to Him in faith and confidence, and so pray to Him as your Father; give to the needy from a heart of love; and fast for the sake of repentance (Matt. 6:3–4, 6, 17–18).

**Service Setting Four — Page 203 (with modifications)**

**Opening Hymn — #433 — “Glory Be to Jesus”**

**SCRIPTURE LESSONS:**

***Old Testament — Psalm 51:1-12 (Pew Bible Page 474)***

***Gradual (omitted) both services***

***Epistle — 2 Corinthians 5:20b - 6:10 (Pew Bible Page 966)***

***Gospel — Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 (Pew Bible Page 811)***

**Hymn of the Day — #610 — “Lord Jesus, Think on Me”**

**Sermon**

***“Praying for a Miracle”  
Psalm 51***

**Offering**

**Service of the Sacrament  
Distribution Hymns**

**#611 — “Chief of Sinners Though I Be”**

**#761 — “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”**

**Closing Hymn — Omitted**

**STEWARDSHIP BIBLE VERSE FOR MARCH 5, 2025**

**Matthew 6:19–21 – “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”** What more is there to say about stewardship beyond this? These are the words of our Lord Jesus, and we would do well to heed them, for they flow from His heart of love.

**2025 Lenten and Easter Service Schedule:**  
**Lenten theme is: “40 Days for Life”**

***Mid-Week Lenten Services:***

**Noah, Cleansed for Life**

*March 12 – Lent 2 – 10:45 am & 7 pm*

**Moses, God’s Presence for Life**

*March 19 – Lent 3 – 10:45 am & 7 pm*

**Israel, God’s Discipline for Life**

*March 26 – Lent 4 – 10:45 am & 7 pm*

**Jonah, Repentance for Life**

*April 2 – Lent 5 – 10:45 am & 7 pm*

**Elijah, Food for Life**

*April 9 – Lent 6 – 10:45 am & 7 pm*

**April 13: PALM SUNDAY**

**8 am – Divine Service with Holy Communion**

**10:45 am – Divine Service with Holy Communion**

**April 17: MAUNDY THURSDAY**

**10:45 am – Divine Service with Holy Communion**

**7 pm – Divine Service with Holy Communion**

**April 18: GOOD FRIDAY**

**7 pm – Tenebrae**

**April 19: HOLY SATURDAY**

**7 pm – Vigil of Easter / Service of Light**

**April 20: EASTER SUNDAY**

**6:00 am SONrise Service on Chippens Hill**

Hill Street (Water Dept. Property), Bristol

**8:00 am – Divine Service with Holy Communion**

**10:45 am – Divine Service with Holy Communion**



**Ash Wednesday**

Divine Worship Services

10:45am & 7:00pm

March 5, 2025

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Bristol, CT

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

