

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Sweet Springs, Missouri

Midweek Lenten Service I

February 25, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

“To Him Who Overcomes”

The Prelude

The Ringing of the Bell calls us to holy worship.

Opening Versicles for Lent: *(please stand if you are able)*

P: Now is the time of God’s favor;

C: now is the day of salvation.

P: Turn us again, O God of our salvation,

C: that the light of Your face may shine upon us.

P: May Your justice shine like the sun;

C: and may the poor be lifted up.

Hymn: 423 “Jesus, Refuge of the Weary”

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **C: Amen** *(please be seated)*

The Responsive Psalm Reading: Psalm 103:1-5, 11-13

P: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me,

C: bless His holy name!

P: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits,

C: who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases

P: who redeems your life from the pit,

C: who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

P: who satisfies you with good

C: so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.

P: For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

C: so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him;

P: as far as the east is from the west,

Page 1

C: so far does He remove our transgressions from us.

P: As a father shows compassion to his children,

C: so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear Him.

ALL: 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.

The Readings and Responses:

Genesis 3:21-24 ²¹ And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them. ²² Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—” ²³ therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴ He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden He placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Acts 20:16-18a, 28-31 ¹⁶ For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia, for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. ¹⁷ Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. ¹⁸ And when they came to him, he said to them: ²⁸ “Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which He obtained with His own blood. ²⁹ I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰ and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹ Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: In many and various ways God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C: But now in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son.

(please be seated)

Page 2

Theme Hymn: 934 “My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord”

Sermon: “To Him Who Overcomes Jesus Will Give the Right to Eat From the Tree of Life” Revelation 2:1-7

(Jesus said) “To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: ‘The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands. ²“I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. ³I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary. ⁴But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. ⁵Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. ⁶Yet this you have: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. ⁷He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.”

The Response: (*tune: “Jesus Loves Me, This I Know”*)

Jesus, take this heart of mine, Make it pure and wholly Thine:

On the cross You died for me, I will ev-er live with Thee.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so. (*repeat*)

The Passion History Reading: I. “The Lord’s Supper”

(*please stand if you are able*)

The Litany:

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**
P: For the peace from above... **C: Lord, have mercy.**
P: For the peace of the whole world... **C: Lord, have mercy.**
P: For this holy house... **C: Lord, have mercy.**
P: For our pastors and teachers... **C: Lord, have mercy.**
P: For our public servants... **C: Lord, have mercy.**
P: For those who work to bring... **C: Lord, have mercy.**

Page 3

P: For those who bring offerings... **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For favorable weather... **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For our deliverance from... **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ let us give thanks to the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

P: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord. (*silence*)

P: Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord. **C: To You, O Lord.**

P: O God, from whom...God forever. **C: Amen.**

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C: Our Father who art in heaven.....forever and ever. Amen.

P: Let us bless the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

P: Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C: Amen.**

P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, (+) Son, and Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you. **C: Amen.**

(*please be seated*)

Closing Hymn: 891 “O Light Whose Splendor”

The Postlude

+++++

Serving Us in Worship This Evening

Preacher and Liturgist: Pastor Mark A. Nebel

Organist: Mr. Ron Baker

Please leave your offering in the Narthex collection plate.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL booklets from Lutheran Hour Ministries are available on the table in the entryway. The Lenten supper next week (Hand Bells, breakfast casseroles) will be served at 5:30 p.m. in the school basement. The theme for next Wednesday’s service is “He Who Overcomes Will Not Be Hurt By the Second Death.”

CHURCH COUNCIL meets tomorrow at 6 p.m. in the church basement.

Page 4