

Heavenly Father, You sent Your Son into the world, as a man, in order to make a journey. This journey was a three year trek to a cross. He came onto earth to complete a ministry, His ministry of grace. This culminated in His taking upon Himself our sins and suffering our punishment. Open our hearts Lord to understand more fully His sacrifice and open our lips to share this truth. In Jesus' name we ask this. Amen.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Holy Saturday Service - He Announced Our Victory

Church Phone: 867-5088 Pastor's Cell Phone: 760-1854

April 19, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. ---- Worship with Holy Communion

Opening Prayer: **Opening Hymn:** *"He's the Victor" (Tune 803)*

He's the Victor, He's the Victor, He defeated death and hell.
He stood and proclaimed His vict'ry Before all those lost in hell.
He stood glorious, And victorious, He stood as the Lord of all.
All their knees bent down before Him, He declared our Gospel call.

Jesus Christ, The Lord of Glory, Jesus Christ Anointed One.
He fulfilled the Father's teaching, He came as the Father's Son.
His blood paid the price of freedom, His death brought salvation free.
His work brought to sinners glory Glory by the cursed Tree.

Jesus Christ the Lord Almighty Walked the path that brought us life.
He told all the fallen angels Nothing could remove His life.
He was God, the only Savior One whose death brought life to all.
He'd completed all that's needed Victory was His gift to all.

Invocation: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C:** *Amen.*

On Holy Saturday our Lord Jesus declared His victory over death to those condemned in hell, and we share in that declaration, as we celebrate with Word and Sacrament. For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ (2 Cor. 4:6). Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12).

Colossians 2: 9-15 *For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity dwells bodily, and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority. In Him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, not with circumcision done by hands of men but with the circumcision done by Christ, having been buried with Him in baptism and raised with Him through your faith in the power of God, who raised Him from the dead. When you were dead in your sins and in the un-circumcision of your nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code with its regulations, that was against us and stood opposed to us; He took it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the Cross.*

Galatians 3: 13-14 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree”. He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

Hymn: “Rejoice You Heavenly Choir” (tune 443)

Rejoice you heav’nly choirs, The triumph song ring out. The King has won the vict’ry;
Creation raise a shout. His light, its radiance brilliant Has banished darkness’ reign;
Let all the faithful praise Him And sing the glad refrain.

Thanks be to God the Father, And to the Paschal Lamb, For our release from bondage
To sin and all its shame. This night the victory’s given, Creation dawns anew;
Such love beyond all telling Demands our praises true.

On Holy Saturday our Victorious Lord stood in His power and Might; and openly proclaimed His victory over sin, death, and hell. He stood before all the powers of hell and their reaction was to fall to their knees. “For by the name of Jesus every knee shall bow in heaven and on earth and under the earth” He accomplished His purpose to pay for our sins, to humbly serve His Father, and to sacrifice Himself on our behalf. His work was done and salvation was being given to all those who were His own. He was leaving hell to go to take His rightful place next to His Father’s throne. His work and His victory were complete and everlasting.

Ephesians 2: 4-10 But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages He might show the incomparable riches of His grace, expressed in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Hymn: “Our Lord Proclaimed” (Tune 475)

Our Lord proclaimed the truth to all To all those bound in Satan’s claws
He stood before them as the Lord: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Death had no longer power to be Something to fear for we can see
Our Lord has gained us victory! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Jesus the name by which all bow Jesus the Name by which we know
He has removed our greatest foe. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Jesus decreed His victory He made it clear for all to see
He was the Lord eternally Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

On Holy Saturday Jesus proclaimed the true work of a servant. It was to carry out the work, the Father's Plan, in order that life and salvation would be granted to those who believe. More than that, a Plan that would bring His word of salvation into the lives of those lost in sin. He became the Paschal Lamb, the Sacrificial Lamb, the One who so caringly suffered in order that we would not have to pay the price. He was victorious so He could stand and demonstrate that He was the Almighty God and that every force of evil would have to bow in acknowledgment of His position. He is our Lord, and He has brought life to all mankind.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 27: 57-66 And when it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given over to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own tomb, which he had hewn out of rock; and he rolled a large stone against the entrance of the tomb and went away. And Mary Magdalene was there, and the other Mary, sitting opposite the grave. Now on the next day, which is the one after the preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered together with Pilate, and said, "Sir, we remember that when He was still alive that deceiver said, 'After three days I am to rise again.' Therefore give orders for the grave to be made secure until the third day, lest the disciples come and steal Him away and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last deception will be worse than the first." Pilate said to them, "You have a guard; go, make it as secure as you know how." And they went and made the grave secure, and along with the guard they set a seal on the stone.

Confession of Faith: *Nicene Creed (back of hymnal)*

Hymn: "This Holy Night" (Tune 461)

This Holy Night Jesus pro-claimed for us Vic-to-ry over sin and death
He told all hell He had won for us Life everlasting, joy, and love.

Jesus was now the Vic-tor strong No longer suf-fer-ing from pain
He was vic-to-ri-ous over all He stood and de-clared hope for all

Jesus pro-claimed His power and might Standing before the pow'rs of hell
He car-ried out the Father's will He had brought life to all mankind.

Jesus announced that He would rise That their defeat was now complete
He would rise as the Lord of life He was The Lamb, The Hope, the Price.

Children's Sermon /// **Sermon - "He Announced Our Victory"**

Offerings brought to the Altar

Prayers: The families of Schlensker, Charlotte; Schmuck, Jennie; and Schneider, Marilyn.

Lord's Prayer

Confession of Sins: *Everlasting Father, we confess that our nature is sinful, that we many times defiantly reject Your will and purposely sin against you. We confess that it was our sin that placed Your Son on the cross and made it necessary for Him to be damned in our place. We confess that He had to take our punishment upon Himself to save us from what we deserved. We call upon Your mercy, for His sake, to bring us the forgiveness of our sins. Lead us to delight in Your goodness and walk in Your ways into eternal life. Amen.*

Absolution: Upon this your confession, I by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Admonition to Communicants: I exhort you in Christ, that you give attention to the Testament of Christ in true faith, and above all take to heart the Words with which Christ presents His body and blood to us for forgiveness. That you take note of, and give thanks for, the boundless love that He showed us when He saved us from the wrath of God, sin, death, and hell by His blood; and that you then externally receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a guarantee and pledge. Let us then in His name, according to His command, and with His own Words administer and receive His Sacrament.

Blessing of Elements /// Distribution

Hymn: *“Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty” 507*

Holy, Holy, Holy, Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee, Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!
All Your works do praise Your name on earth and sky and sea
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty! Perfect in pow’r, in love, and purity.

Closing Collect: O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord’s resurrection; preserve in us the spirit of adoption which You have given so that, made alive in body and soul, we may serve You purely; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

Benediction

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**Kirk Horstmeyer, Pastor
Mary Burgeson, Organist**

WHAT THE SCRIPTURES TEACH CONCERNING THE LORD'S SUPPER

In I Corinthians 11 the Holy Spirit led Paul to write, "This is my body" and "This cup is the new covenant in my blood" to explain the spiritual truth of the Supper: Christ is truly present in His body and blood in the bread and wine. This is a mystery, a Heavenly gift; one we can only understand in faith. Paul further says, "Therefore whoever eats the bread and drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord" and, "let a man examine himself...for he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself if he does not judge the body rightly." There is no doubt from our Lord's Word, we are receiving His body and blood. The Father offers us forgiveness, unity of faith, strengthening of faith, etc.; it is never our right, we approach His altar only by His invitation. If you are visiting we ask that you please speak with the Pastor before receiving the Lord's Supper. We strive to lovingly carry out our responsibility to ensure the supper remains a blessing for all, never a curse. May His richest blessing be upon all of you.

THIS WEEK

TONIGHT: Holy Saturday Worship w/HC 5:30 pm
SUNDAY: Sunrise Service w/HC 6:30 am, Breakfast Served 8-9 am, No SS today,
Easter Worship w/HC 9:30 am
TUESDAY: Kitchen Clean Up Day 9 am, Confirmation 6 pm
THURSDAY: Bible Study 9:30 am and 6 pm
FRIDAY: *Senior Game Day* 12:30-3:30 pm
Next SATURDAY: Confirmation 9:30 am, Worship w/HC 5:30 pm
Next SUNDAY: Worship 8 am, SS 9:10 am, Confirmation Worship 10:15 am

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE: Sat, Apr 12: 50 LS:42; Sun, Apr 13: 8 am: 88; 10:15 am: 64;
Lent Service: 68

MEMBER PRAYER LIST: Next Sat and Sun we will be praying for the following: Scholz, Christopher, Renae, Michael, Matthew and Jacob; Schultz, Candy, Daryl and Alex; Schutz, Bart and Lori.

THANK YOU: *The family of Michele Duran would like to thank the congregation for the love, prayers and support over the course of the last year or more through all of the illnesses, disasters, and surgeries. As a congregation, you have gotten us through so much and we love you all for it.*

SENIOR GAME FRIDAY: Our next game day is Friday, April 25th from 12:30-3:30 pm. Have questions or want to join? Call Linda Taylor for information 812-459-6302

CEMETERY FLOWERS & DECORATIONS: As we prepare for mowing season, we ask that you would remove any flower containers or decorations placed on the ground around the cemetery plots that are not fastened to the headstone, as these hinder the mowing crew from effectively maintaining the cemetery. Thank you for helping take care of our cemetery.

LWML SPRING GET TOGETHER - EVANSVILLE EAST/WEST ZONE: Saturday, May 3rd, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Henderson, from 9 am to 1 pm CST. There will be a light breakfast and lunch served. Our speaker will be Emily Rogers, VP-Conventions, for the Indiana District. Bea Sternquist and Carol Grimm, the Co-Chairman for the Indiana District Convention

Being held June, 2026, in Evansville, will also be in attendance. We will need chairman and workers for this event. Think about what you would like to do and let them know that day. The ingathering for this meeting has not been determined. Please contact Penny Letterman, (C) 812-568-7290, email: pennylwml@gmail.com; Ellen Ferguson (H) 812-359-4333, (C) 270-314-8850, email robeln@att.net; or talk/text Krista Newmaster (C) 812-499-4798.



FISH FRY NEWS: May 9th, 2025. SILENT AUCTION: We are asking for new items or themed baskets to be donated. Some ideas may include gift cards, handmade items, toys, lawn items, garden things, flowers/plants, activities, events, sports accessories, candy, popcorn, cookies, meals, golf, gas, grilling, camping, games, cycling, car wash, auto maintenance, travel, etc. Start dropping donations off in the

church office starting May 1st. Bidding will be available at the Fish Fry & on our Facebook page.

KITCHEN CLEANUP: We need all hands on deck to get the kitchens, gym, and porch ready for the fish fry. Everyone able to help, please meet on **Tuesday, April 22nd at 9 am in the gym.** **SIGN-UPS:** Sign-ups will be posted in the lounge on April 6th. Please sign up for anything and everything you can.

TICKETS: Tickets will be available Easter Sunday, April 20. **Prices will be \$15 for adults and \$5 for kids 4-12.**

ORGANIST NEEDED: Immanuel is looking for an experienced organist, preferably familiar with Lutheran liturgy and order of service, to play for our 8:00 a.m. worship services. This is a paid position. Members of Immanuel can forward any organist prospects to Warren Korff at 812-550-7662 or wmkorff@gmail.com.

TRINITY LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL is enrolling for the 2025-2026 school year. We have openings for ages 2-5. Visit www.trinitylutheranpreschooldarmstadt.com for more information. Schedule a tour today! Yours in Christ, Breenna Smith

LWML Indiana District Convention: Another BIG EVENT is happening at the 4-H Center, June 26-28, 2026, our District Convention. We will need A LOT OF HELP, men and women, with the work leading up to the event. Carol Grimm from St. Paul's is the District Vice President. She will be coming to Immanuel in the near future to talk to all of us.

MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION: The Lutheran Cemetery Board would like to invite you to celebrate Memorial Day with us. Rev. Case Farney of St. Paul's Lutheran Church will lead us in a service on Monday, May 26, at 11 a.m. at the Cemetery. Refreshments will be served in the Cemetery office following the service to offer an opportunity for fellowship and to answer any questions you may have. The Cemetery is located at 1305 North St. Joseph Avenue in Evansville. We look forward to seeing you on May 26!