

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7 [not printed]

Psalm 95

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-11 [not printed]

GOSPEL: John 4:5-42

[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.<sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup>A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."<sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)<sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."<sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?<sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"<sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,<sup>14</sup> but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."<sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

<sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back."<sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,'<sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"<sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet."<sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."<sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem."<sup>22</sup> You

worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.<sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.<sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."<sup>25</sup> The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us."<sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

<sup>27</sup>Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?"<sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,<sup>29</sup> "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?"<sup>30</sup> They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup>Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something."<sup>32</sup> But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about."<sup>33</sup> So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?"<sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work."<sup>35</sup> Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.<sup>36</sup> The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.<sup>37</sup> For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.'<sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

<sup>39</sup>Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done."<sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days.<sup>41</sup> And many more believed because of his word.<sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

Next Sunday's Readings: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41.

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Where do you  
get that  
living water?

JOHN 4:11



# Immanuel Lutheran Church

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***Our mission is to invite people to know Jesus Christ so that we may all share God's love.***

**Welcome to Worship at Immanuel** - We're so glad you're here! There are many good reasons to come to church, but the best one is to worship and thank God for His amazing love — shown through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That's what our church is all about.

**Prayer before Worship:** Lord, remind us that every new beginning starts with your grace. Renew our faith, restore our peace, and help us live as your people of light and hope. Amen.

**Prayer Requests:** We welcome requests of prayers for our members, friends and families throughout our communities and beyond. Anyone is welcome to leave a note on the desk in the office or contact the pastor. **There is also a prayer box with cards to use on the table under the mailboxes for prayer requests.**

**Offering envelopes are located and available on the table in the entry.**

Please designate how you would like to have your offering used if for anything other than general funds.

**The Lord's Supper**, (offered on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month) the Eucharist, or Holy Communion is a means of God's grace whereby the real presence of Christ is offered. ***If you would rather receive a blessing instead of Holy Communion, please come forward and cross your arms to your shoulders as indication of wanting a blessing. All are welcome at the Lord's table.***

**We have Children's Bulletins** for those who wish to enhance the worship experience for the kids. They can be found each week on the table with the regular Sunday Bulletins.

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Newsletter, bulletin, and member information or changes may be sent to [ckwilson1983@gmail.com](mailto:ckwilson1983@gmail.com) or [immanuelcolfax@hotmail.com](mailto:immanuelcolfax@hotmail.com)

This Week at Immanuel 9:00 am - Worship 10:00 am - Sunday School

## Sunday, March 8, 2026

WORSHIP LEADER: PASTOR JIM CHRISTIAN

Lay Reader: Cindy Harris

Greeters: Harlan Brucker, Sherri Ganske

Ushers/Acolytes: Dan, Ty Harms

Communion: Chad & Janelle Hoffman

Organist: Kimberly Petersen

## Sunday, March 15, 2026

WORSHIP LEADER: JIM GERBER, SAM

Lay Reader: Janelle Hoffman

Greeters: Kent & Rebecca Casson

Ushers/Acolytes: Eli & Katelyn Petersen

Communion: na

Organist: Kimberly Petersen

**Please include the following people in our prayers:**

Lois Barker, Cheryl Poppe, Jeannie Weber, Bob & Nancy Lasser, Cindy Harris, Rebecca Casson, Kris Barnett, Betty Petersen, Florence Schultz (Cindy Wilson's mom)

## *Announcements*

**Today we welcome Pastor Jim Christian as our worship leader.**

**Join us each Wednesday in Lent for Soup Suppers at 6:00 pm** and Bible study after the meal. Sign-up sheets to provide soup can be found on the kitchen counter. Thank you to those who are providing soups and desserts for us to share.

**The Choir will be rehearsing special music for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Easter** each Sunday morning at 8:15 am. All singers are welcome to join.

**LWR Quilts - We will be meeting on Tuesdays, March 10 and 24 from 1:00-3:30 pm to tie quilts together.** We would love to have some new faces join us! It's easy and the company is great! 😊 Please let Dee Winterland know if you plan to attend so if we need to cancel due to weather or illness, she can let you know in advance. There is a box in the parish hall of pre-cut packages of quilt squares that can be sewn into quilt tops. Please use 1/2" seam, a tight/short stitch, and do not make a cross pattern.

## Third Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2026

*In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.*

### PRELUDE / ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Gathering ~ The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

*\*Congregation may remain seated or stand as you are able*

### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism as the worship leader begins -*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit:  
Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

**C: Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

*Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*

ELW 533

\*GREETING *\*Please stand as you are able*

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*Congregation may be seated.*

READING

Exodus 17:1-7

printed below

*Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—"Is the Lord among us or not?"—received a very positive answer.*

<sup>1</sup>From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me."

<sup>5</sup>The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

After the reading . . . L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 95

Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and  
raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.**

For you, Lord, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

**In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills  
are also yours.**

The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.

**Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord  
our maker.**

For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. Oh, that today you would hear God's voice!

**"Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah  
in the desert.**

There your ancestors tested me, they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

**Forty years I loathed that generation, saying, 'The heart of this people  
goes astray; they do not know my ways.'**

Indeed I swore in my anger, 'They shall never come to my rest.'"

READING

Romans 5:1-11

printed below

*Though we often hear that God helps those who help themselves, here Paul tells us that through Jesus' death God helps utterly helpless sinners. Since we who had been enemies are reconciled to God in the cross, we now live in hope for our final salvation.*

<sup>1</sup>Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

<sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup>Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup>For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup>But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

After the reading . . . L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

<sup>7</sup> \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW page 142

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

\*GOSPEL READING

John 4:5-42

back of bulletin

*The Gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to John. C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.*

After the reading: P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**  
*Congregation may be seated.*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Jim

MESSAGE

Pastor Jim Christian

HYMN OF THE DAY

*Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*

ELW 335

\*APOSTLE'S CREED

ELW page 104

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and was born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs. *Each petition will conclude with:*

P: Hear us, O God. C: **Your mercy is great.**

*The prayers conclude:*

P: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

C: **Amen.**

WE GATHER OUR OFFERING

\*OFFERING SONG *Please stand as you are able.*

ELW 182

***Let the vineyards be fruitful Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.***

***Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.***

***Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now.***

***Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.***

\*OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray... O God, maker of heaven and earth,

C: **your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

*Meal - God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us share that peace with one another.

*The congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will. He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. He, our Lord

Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

\*LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

*Congregation may be seated.*

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*All are invited to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's table. The inner circle of cups contain grape juice, the rest are wine. Please follow the directions of the ushers.*

*If you would rather receive a blessing instead of Holy Communion, please come forward and cross your arms to your shoulders as indication of needing a blessing today. All are welcome at the Lord's table.*

COMMUNION HYMNS

**Lamb of God**

ELW, page 146

**O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts**

ELW 658

**Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me**

ELW 623

*After all have returned to their places, please stand as you are able.*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen.**

\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: God of our salvation,

**C: we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Sending ~ God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

BLESSING

P: Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, † bless you now and always.

**C: Amen.**

\*HYMN

***Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer***

**ELW 618**

\*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE