

# March 3, 2024

- ♦ *A warm welcome to all our visitors and guests, friends both old and new. We pray that God has blessed your time among us with His Word and Holy Spirit. We cordially invite you to join us this morning for coffee and other refreshments downstairs following the Divine Service; and we ask that you please sign the guest book at the back of the church.*
- ♦ **Family Bible Class:** Pastor Stephens will continue our study on the Gospel of Saint Matthew. Sunday School Classes are also in session.
- ♦ **Church Cleaning Day:** Will be Saturday, March 9 at 9am. Many hands make light work. Thank you in advance.
- ♦ **Day Light Savings NEXT Sunday, March 10 ~ Spring Ahead ~**  
*Don't forget to set your clocks AHEAD 1 hour, Saturday night, March 9 before bed!*
- ♦ **Church Council Meeting:** The scheduled Church Council Meeting for Friday, March 10 at 7p is MOVED to Friday, March 15 at 7p.
- ♦ **Constitution Meeting:** The next Constitution Meeting will be Sunday, March 10 at 3-4:30p. Looking ahead, the next meeting, will be Saturday, April 27 at 10a-Noon.
- ♦ **Additional Lenten Services and Soup Supers:** Throughout Lent, in addition to the regular weeknight services, a **brief, Divine Service will be available Monday and Friday mornings at 9:00a.** Before the Wednesday night Divine Service, please join us at 4:45p for fellowship while we sip some soup.
- ♦ **Interested in Homesteading?** Matthew and Alyssa Horner will be hosting a "Homesteading" get together at Emmaus, on Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 2pm. Please join us for a time of fellowship and discussion on our stewardship of the gift of natural resources that God has given us. There will be several presentations on multiple subjects relating to homesteading. We will share a meal afterwards; meat will be provided, please bring a dish to share. Thank you! Contact Matthew Horner (hornermcl@gmail.com) for more information.
- ♦ **Family Movie Night:** Mark your calendar for Friday, March 15 at 7p, at Emmaus to join us for a Family Movie. *Movie selection will follow*, please see Rick Tribble for movie suggestions/questions.
- ♦ **Altar Flowers:** Altar Flowers are not adorning the Altar this Sunday: Lent III.
- ♦ **Collection for: February 25:** \$1,690.00  
To meet our financial obligations, an average of \$3,314 is needed each week.

# Additional Announcements:

- ♦ **Lenten Soup Supper Schedule:**

\*Please be ready to serve at 4:45p, Thank you all!

**Wed. Mar. 6:** Soup Host(s): K. Horner/Stephens, Cheese/Crackers: Tribble, Veggies: Stephens & Pastor's Birthday Treats, Clean-Up: L. Rose

**Wed. Mar. 13:** Soup Host(s): Siek/Osbus, Cheese/Crackers: M. Stuckwisch, Veggies: Tribble, Clean-Up: \_\_

**Wed. Mar. 20:** Soup Host(s): K. Horner/Kronewitter, Cheese/Crackers: Tribble, Veggies: M. Stuckwisch, Clean-Up: \_\_

- ♦ **Easter Flowers:** It is that time again, to be thinking about Easter flowers for the Altar: Easter Lilies, Tulips, Daffodils, Hyacinths, Grape Hyacinths, Iris, Crocus, Azaleas, Easter Cactus, Daisies, Gerbera Daisy, Orchids, Cyclamen, Roses, Gladiolus, Lily of the Valley, Peony, Baby's Breath, Ranunculus, Prim Rose, Forsythia, Pansy, Viola, Lenten Roses, Alstroemeria, Carnations, etc. -Just to name a few-.
- ♦ **Laetare Sunday, Next Sunday, March 10:** This Sunday takes its name from the first word of the Introit in Latin, *Laetare*, which means "rejoice." It's one of the most joyful and festive Sundays of the year. The Church briefly interrupts her Lenten mournfulness in order to gather her strength for Holy Week for she wouldn't want to faint along the way. She's strengthened always by the Body and Blood of Jesus, but Laetare she issues a special call to joy and remembrance that the sorrows and death of Jesus Christ are taken up willfully, in perfect love, in order to redeem humanity and provide bread for their bodies and souls. To that end, the readings emphasize joy and consolation. What's most striking, of course, is that in many places the vestments are rose and not violet. Flowers again adorn the altar. The barrenness of Lent is momentarily set aside in anticipation of Easter. Nonetheless, it's still Lent: the Alleluias and *Gloria in Excelsis* are still withheld. Rose is not only a color of joy meant to call to mind the springing of flowers from the earth and buds upon the trees, but it's also a lighter shade of violet. Violet is the color of royal mourning, a mix of purple and black. Rose is violet with the shades of black and blue withdrawn. But it's not yet the full white and gold of Easter. The joy of Laetare is anticipatory, celebrated in the midst of sadness, even as we celebrate and anticipate the resurrection to come in the midst of this living death we call "life."

# **Holy Week & Easter Schedule**

**March 24:** Palm Sunday Divine Service 9a

**March 25:** Holy Week: Matins 9a & DS 6:30p

**March 26:** Holy Week: Matins 9a & DS 6p

**March 27:** Holy Week: Matins 9a, (NO CAT) & DS 6p

**March 28:** Holy Week: Maundy Thursday DS 6p

**March 29:** Holy Week: Good Friday DS 6p

**March 30:** Holy Saturday: Matins 9a (w/ Private Confession  
and Absolution following) and Church Decorating,  
& The Easter Vigil Divine Service 8p

**March 31:** Easter Sunrise Divine Service 6a,  
Easter Breakfast after Sunrise &  
Easter Divine Service 9a

**April 1:** Easter Monday DS 6:30p

**April 2:** Easter Monday DS 6p

**April 3:** (NO CAT) and Easter Wednesday DS 6p

**April 4:** Easter Thursday DS 6p

**April 5:** Easter Friday DS 6p

**April 6:** Easter Saturday DS 9a

(w/ Private Confession and Absolution following)

\*DS-Divine Service

# Walking with Our Savior this Week

<b>TODAY</b>	<b><i>Divine Service of Communion</i></b>	<b><i>9:00 a.m.</i></b>
	Coffee & Refreshments	10:30 a.m.
	Stephens/Stephens	
	Bible Study	10:45 a.m.
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b><i>Brief Divine Service</i></b>	<b><i>9:00 a.m.</i></b>
	<b>Vespers</b>	<b><i>6:30 p.m.</i></b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Catechesis	2:30-3:45 p.m.
	Children's Choir & Youth Bible Study	4:15 p.m.
	Lenten Soup	4:45 p.m.
	<b><i>Divine Service</i></b>	<b><i>6:00 p.m.</i></b>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b><i>Brief Divine Service</i></b>	<b><i>9:00 a.m.</i></b>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	Church Cleaning Day	9:00 a.m.
	Private Confession & Absolution	11-12:00 p.m.
	<b>[ Set Clocks Ahead 1hr. ]</b>	
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>	<b><i>Divine Service of Communion</i></b>	<b><i>9:00 a.m.</i></b>
(Mar. 10)	Coffee & Refreshments	10:30 a.m.
<b>[Day Light Savings]</b>	Tomaw/Siek	
	Bible Study	<i>10:45 a.m.</i>

Pastor Stephens' office hours: Monday and Wednesday, 8:15-noon

\*Private Confession and Absolution also available by appointment

**Announcements** can be sent by email to the church secretary at emmaus1923secretary@gmail.com or text Rebecca Stephens at (201) 572-6962.

*Please have announcements submitted by 12n on Friday.*

You may also want to keep in mind, in your observance of daily prayer at home:

The appointed readings for next Sunday: *Laetare ~ Lent IV*:

Exodus 16:2-21, Galatians 4:22—5:1a, Saint John 6:1-15.