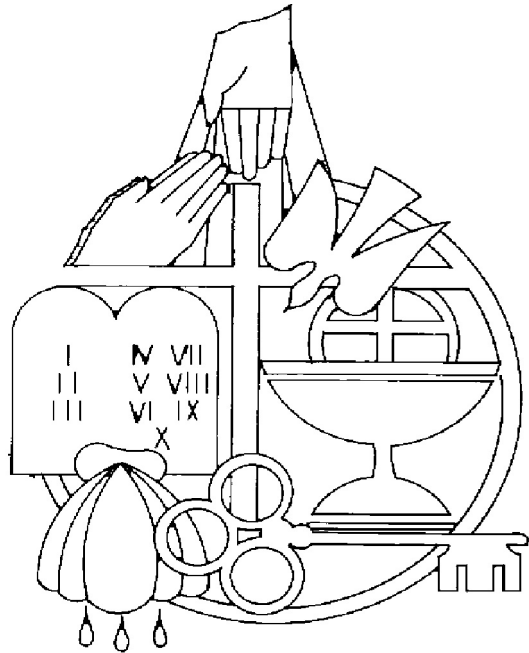


Emmaus Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Rev. Ronald Stephens, Pastor Rev. Dr. Richard Stuckwisch, Pastor



✠ DAILY CATECHESIS ON THE WAY ✠

TO AND FROM EMMAUS WITH JESUS

✠ THE SECOND WEEK OF EASTER ✠

“They were continually devoting themselves to the Apostolic Doctrine and to the Communion, to the Breaking of the Bread, and to the Prayers.”

(Acts of the Apostles 2:42)



The Solid Declaration of the Formula of Concord

XI. Election (continued...)

Thus there is no doubt that God most exactly and certainly foresaw before the time of the world, and still knows, which of those that are called will believe or will not believe; also which of the converted will persevere [in faith] and which will not persevere; which will return after a fall [into grievous sins], and which will fall into obduracy [will perish in their sins]. So, too, the number, how many there are of these on either side, is beyond all doubt perfectly known to God. However, since God has reserved this mystery for His wisdom, and has revealed nothing to us concerning it in His Word, much less commanded us to investigate it with our thoughts, but has earnestly discouraged us therefrom, Rom. 11:33ff, we should not reason in our thoughts, draw conclusions, nor inquire curiously into these matters, but should adhere to His revealed Word, to which He points us.

Thus without any doubt God also knows and has determined for every one the time and hour of his call and conversion [and when He will raise again one who has lapsed]. But since this has not been revealed to us, we have the command always to keep urging the Word, but to entrust the time and hour [of conversion] to God, Acts 1:7.

Likewise, when we see that God gives His Word at one place [to one kingdom or realm], but not at another [to another nation]; removes it from one place [people], and allows it to remain at another; also, that one is hardened, blinded, given over to a reprobate mind, while another, who is indeed in the same guilt, is converted again, etc.,-in these and similar questions Paul [Rom. 11:22ff] fixes a certain limit to us how far we should go, namely, that in the one part we should recognize God's judgment [for He commands us to consider in those who perish the just judgment of God and the penalties of sins]. For they are well-deserved penalties of sins when God so punishes a land or nation for despising His Word that the punishment extends also to their posterity, as is to be seen in the Jews. And thereby [by the punishments] God in some lands and persons exhibits His severity to those that are His [in order to indicate] what we all would have well deserved, and would be worthy and worth, since we act wickedly in opposition to God's Word [are ungrateful for the revealed Word, and live unworthily of the Gospel] and often grieve the Holy Ghost sorely, in order that we may live in the fear of God, and acknowledge and praise God's goodness, to the exclusion of, and contrary to, our merit in and with us, to whom He gives His Word, and with whom He leaves it, and whom He does not harden and reject.

For inasmuch as our nature has been corrupted by sin, and is worthy of, and subject to, God's wrath and condemnation, God owes to us neither the Word, the Spirit, nor grace; and when He bestows these gifts out of grace, we often thrust them from us, and make ourselves unworthy of everlasting life, Acts 13:46. And this His righteous, well-deserved judgment He displays in some countries, nations, and persons, in order that, when we are placed alongside of them and compared with them [and found to be most similar to them], we may learn the more diligently to recognize and praise God's pure [immense], unmerited grace in the vessels of mercy.

The Second Week of Easter

27 Apr – 3 May 2025

This Week in the Church Year

"There are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the Blood." These three point to Christ and flow from Christ. Jesus shows His disciples His hands and side, from which Blood and water flowed, saying "Peace be with you." He presents the wounds which turn our fear to gladness and which restore us to the Father. Jesus breathes on His disciples and says, "Receive the Holy Spirit." His breath, His words are Spirit and life. They raise up our dry, dead bones and give us new and everlasting life. Christ now gives His ministers to speak His forgiving, Spirit-filled words to the penitent in His stead. Our Lord continues to come to His people, presenting His wounds to us in the Sacraments of water and Blood. He bids us to touch His side at His table, to receive His risen Body and Blood in true faith, that believing we may have life in His Name.

Emphasis: The Wounds of Christ Give Us Life

The Order of Daily Catechesis in Word and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of daily catechesis as you and your family are able. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

[*The Opening Versicles and Psalmody*]:

O Lord, open my lips. And my mouth will declare Your praise.

Make haste, O God, to deliver me. Make haste to help me, O Lord.

Psalm 81

(and/or one or more of the appointed Psalms listed below)

| <i>Psalms</i> | <i>Sunday</i> | <i>Monday</i> | <i>Tuesday</i> | <i>Wednesday</i> | <i>Thursday</i> | <i>Friday</i> | <i>Saturday</i> |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <i>Morning</i> | 93; 150 | 92; 97; 145 | 98; 146 | 99; 147:1-11 | 47; 147:12-20 | 96; 105 | 92; 149 |
| <i>Evening</i> | 136; 117 | 124; 115 | 66; 116 | 8; 118 | 68; 113 | 50; 138 | 23; 114 |

**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 Verse: I Peter 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Readings for the Second Week of Easter:

Sunday, 27 April 2025

Exodus 20:1–24; St. Luke 4:1–15

Monday, 28 April 2025

Exodus 22:20—23:13; St. Luke 4:16–30

Tuesday, 29 April 2025

Exodus 23:14–33; St. Luke 4:31–44

Wednesday, 30 April 2025

Exodus 24:1–18; St. Luke 5:1–16

Thursday, 1 May 2025 (Sts. Philip & James, Apostles)

Exodus 25:1–22; St. Luke 5:17–39

(Isaiah 30:18-21; Ephesians 2:19-22; St. John 14:1-14)

Friday, 2 May 2025 (St. Athanasius, Bishop, Confessor, & Doctor)

Exodus 31:1–18; St. Luke 6:1–19

Saturday, 3 May 2025

Exodus 32:1–14; St. Luke 6:20–38

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

The Catechism: The Office of the Keys

What do you believe according to these words?

I believe that when the Called Ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.

**The Hymn of the Week
“O SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE KING”**

LSB #471

[Daily Prayer: Invocation, Apostles' Creed, Kyrie Eleison, and the Our Father]:

In the Name ☩ of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and ☩ the life everlasting. Amen.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

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 & ever. Amen.

[The Collects of the Week, Intercessions for each day of the week, and Special Petitions]:

Collect for Quasimodo Geniti:

Grant, we beseech You, Almighty God, that we who have celebrated the solemnities of the Lord's resurrection may, by the help of Your grace, bring forth the fruits thereof in our life and conversation; through the same Jesus

Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (Amen)

Collect for the feast of Sts. Philip & James (Thursday, May 1):

Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant unto us that, as Your Son gave knowledge of eternal life to Your Apostles Saints Philip and James by revealing Himself to them as the only Way to You, we may by a true and living faith ever know Him as our only Savior; through the same, Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (Amen)

Daily Themes for Intercessory Prayer:

- Sunday:** For the joy of the Resurrection; for the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.
- Monday:** For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for vocations and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for Resurrection Lutheran Academy and other schools, our home schools, our colleges and seminaries; for good government and peace.
- Tuesday:** For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing; for the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.
- Wednesday:** For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must rear their children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.
- Thursday:** For the Church and her pastors; for missionaries, teachers, deaconesses, and other servants of Christ and His Church; for the fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood.
- Friday:** For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; for its spread throughout the whole world; for the persecuted; for the sick and dying.
- Saturday:** For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for pastors as they prepare to administer Christ's holy gifts; for receptive hearts and minds on the Lord's Day.

In our Prayers this Week at Emmaus:

Rachel Barrett, Anna Hart, Monica Sams, Theresa Lippincott, Melissa Rodriguez, Dawn Schnare, Alyssa Horner, Emma Patterson, Hannah Walsh, Melanie Sorenson, and all expectant mothers, their husbands and families, and their unborn children; and

Ariksander & Moreah Stuckwisch, upon the birth of their son, Charlemagne Igatius Paul Martin Stuckwisch, on Wednesday, April 16; he will be Baptized into Christ on Sunday, April 27, at Faith Lutheran Church - Churubusco, IN.

[The Daily Morning or Evening Prayer, the Benedicamus, and the Benediction]:

(Morning): **We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept us this night from all harm and danger; and we pray that You would keep us this day also from sin and every evil, that all our doings and life may please You; for into Your hands we commend our-selves, our bodies and souls and all things; let Your holy Angel be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.**

(Evening): **We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept us this day from all harm and danger; and we pray that You would forgive us all our sins, wherever we have done wrong, and graciously keep us this night; for into Your hands we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls and all things; let Your holy Angel be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Love of God and the Communion of the Holy Spirit ☩ be with us all. Amen.

Then, if it is in the morning, go joyfully to your work, according to your vocations in life, in faith toward God and in love toward your neighbor; or, if it is at the close of the day, go to sleep at once and in good cheer.

The Feast of St. Philip & St. James, the Apostles

Thursday, 1 May

St. Philip is mentioned in the lists of the Apostles (Matthew 10:3; Mark 3:18; Luke 6:14; Acts 1:13), but only in St. John's Gospel is anything more told about him. Philip was from Bethsaida in Galilee; he was one of the first disciples called after Peter and Andrew, and he was also instrumental in bringing Nathanael to Jesus (St. John 1:43–51). It was to Philip that Jesus posed the question about where to buy bread to feed five thousand men (St. John 6:5). During Holy Week Philip, along with Andrew, brought some inquiring Greeks to Jesus (St. John 12:20–22). And on Maundy Thursday evening he asked Jesus to show the Father to him and the rest of the disciples (St. John 14:8). According to Tradition Philip went to labor in Phrygia and was buried there.

St. James was a son of Alphaeus and is sometimes called “the Younger” (to distinguish him from St. James the son of Zebedee, “the Elder,” whose Feast day is July 25). James is mentioned in the same apostolic lists as Philip, but there is no other mention of him in the New Testament. There is also no information regarding his field of labor or the circumstances of his death, except that he may have been martyred by being sawn in two.

Commemoration of St. Athanasius, Bishop, Confessor, & Doctor

Friday, 2 May

Athanasius was born in Alexandria in Egypt in A.D. 295. He served as a church leader in a time of great controversy and ecclesiastical disagreements. At the Council of Nicaea in A.D. 325, he defended Christian orthodoxy against the proponents of the Arian heresy, which denied the full divinity of Jesus Christ. During his 45-year tenure as bishop of Alexandria, Athanasius wrote numerous works that defended the orthodox teaching. His enemies had him exiled five times; on two occasions he was almost murdered. Yet Athanasius remained steadfast and ended his days

restored fully to his church responsibilities. The Athanasian Creed, though not actually composed by Athanasius, is named in his honor because it confesses the doctrinal orthodoxy he championed throughout his life.

Let each his lesson learn with care, and all the household well shall fare.

Looking forward to Misericordia Domini *(Easter III)*

4 May 2025

Hymns:

LSB #710 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want
LSB #460 Victimae Paschali laudes
LSB #666 O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe
LSB #709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is
LSB #461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives
LSB #155 This Is the Feast
LSB #548 Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious
ES #26 Lo, Judah's Lion Wins the Strife
LSB #482 This Joyful Eastertide

Ezekiel 34:11-16: *Jesus is the Good Shepherd who seeks out His scattered sheep to deliver them. He gathers them and feeds them in rich pasture. He binds up the broken and strengthens the sick. He lays down His life for wandering and wayward sheep.*

1 Peter 2:21b-25: *"...you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls" – Jesus Christ, crucified and raised again.*

St. John 10:11-16: *Our Lord Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He is not like the hireling, who cares nothing for the sheep and only for himself, who flees when he sees the wolf coming. Rather, on the Cross, Christ bore in His Body the attacks of the predators of sin and death and the devil for you that you might be saved. He now lives to restore your soul in the still waters of Baptism, to lead you in the paths of righteousness by the voice of His Gospel, to prepare the table of His Holy Supper before you, that you may dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*