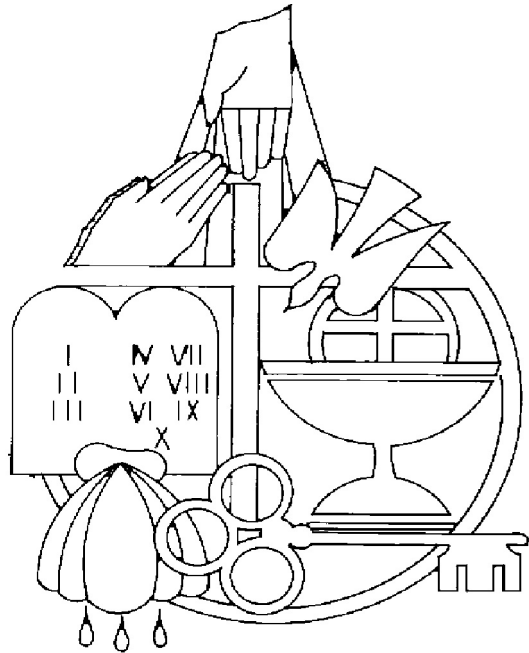


Emmaus Evangelical Lutheran Church

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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 FOURTH 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)

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The Solid Declaration of the Formula of Concord

XI. Election (continued...)

This proclamation the Father wishes all men to hear and desires that they come to Christ; and these Christ does not drive from Him, as it is written John 6:37: Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out.

And in order that we may come to Christ, the Holy Ghost works true faith through the hearing of the Word, as the apostle testifies when he says, Rom. 10:17: Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God, [namely] when it is preached in its truth and purity.

Therefore, whoever would be saved should not trouble or harass himself with thoughts concerning the secret counsel of God, as to whether he also is elected and ordained to eternal life, with which miserable Satan usually attacks and annoys godly hearts. But they should hear Christ [and look upon Him as the Book of Life in which is written the eternal election], who is the Book of Life and of God's eternal election of all of God's children to eternal life: He testifies to all men without distinction that it is God's will that all men should come to Him who labor and are heavy laden with sin, in order that He may give them rest and save them, Matt. 11:28.

According to this doctrine of His they should abstain from their sins, repent, believe His promise, and entirely trust in Him; and since we cannot do this by ourselves, of our own powers, the Holy Ghost desires to work these things, namely, repentance and faith, in us through the Word and Sacraments. And in order that we may attain this, persevere in it, and remain steadfast, we should implore God for His grace, which He has promised us in Holy Baptism, and, no doubt, He will impart it to us according to His promise, as He has said, Luke 11:11ff: If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If ye, then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him!

And since the Holy Ghost dwells in the elect, who have become believers, as in His temple, and is not idle in them, but impels the children of God to obedience to God's commands, believers, likewise, should not be idle, and much less resist the impulse of God's Spirit, but should exercise themselves in all Christian virtues, in all godliness, modesty, temperance, patience, brotherly love, and give all diligence to make their calling and election sure, in order that they may doubt the less concerning it, the more they experience the power and strength of the Spirit within them. For the Spirit bears witness to the elect that they are God's children, Rom. 8:16. And although they sometimes fall into temptation so grievous that they imagine they perceive no more power of the indwelling Spirit of God, and say with David, Ps. 31:22: I said in my haste, I am cut off from before Thine eyes, yet they should, without regard to what they experience in themselves, again [be encouraged and] say with David, as is written ibidem, in the words immediately following: Nevertheless Thou heardest the voice of my supplications when I cried unto Thee.

The Fourth Week of Easter

11 – 17 May 2025

This Week in the Church Year

The people of God are pilgrims and sojourners in this world, looking ahead to a destination yet to come. Though we are now children of God, the fullness of what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We are those who wait on the Lord. Jesus tells us that the wait is just a little while. "A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me." Though you must experience sorrow for a time, though you must live as strangers in a world that is at enmity with Christ, yet your sorrow will be turned to joy when He returns. "But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength." The little while of weeping shall be replaced with an eternity of rejoicing in the presence of Christ the crucified and risen Savior. "And no one will take your joy from you."

Emphasis: Those Who Wait on the Lord Shall Rejoice

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 146

(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	97; 145	98; 146	99; 147:1-11	47; 147:12-20	96; 148	36; 149
<i>Evening</i>	136; 117	124; 115	66; 116	8; 118	68; 113	50; 138	78; 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: II Corinthians 5:17

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Readings for the Fourth Week of Easter:

Sunday, 11 May 2025 *(Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Bishops & Confessors)*

Leviticus 8:1–13, 30–36; St. Luke 9:1–17

Monday, 12 May 2025

Leviticus 9:1–24; St. Luke 9:18–36

Tuesday, 13 May 2025

Leviticus 10:1–20; St. Luke 9:37–62

Wednesday, 14 May 2025

Leviticus 16:1–24; St. Luke 10:1–22

Thursday, 15 May 2025

Leviticus 17:1–16; St. Luke 10:23–42

Friday, 16 May 2025

Leviticus 18:1–7, 18:20—19:8; St. Luke 11:1–13

Saturday, 17 May 2025

Leviticus 19:9–18, 26–37; St. Luke 11:14–36

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

The Catechism: The Sacrament of the Altar

Where is this written? (Concerning the Sacrament of the Altar)

The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and Saint Paul write:

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My Body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My Blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The Hymn of the Week

"WITH HIGH DELIGHT LET US UNITE"

LSB #483

[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 Jubilate:

Almighty God, who shows to them that be in error the light of Your truth to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness, grant unto all them that are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion that they may avoid those things that are contrary to their profession and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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.

[*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.

Commemoration of St. Cyril and St. Methodius, Missionaries Sunday, 11 May
Cyril (c. 826-69) and Methodius (c. 815-85) were brothers who came from a Greek family in Thessalonica. The younger brother took the name “Cyril” when he became a monk. After ordination, Cyril became librarian at the great church of the “Holy Wisdom” (Hagia Sophia) in Constantinople. In 862 the brothers were sent by the emperor as missionaries to what is now the Czech republic, where they taught in the native Slavic tongue. Cyril actually invented the alphabet known today as “Cyrillic,” which provided a written language for translation of the Divine Liturgy and the Holy Scriptures, in order to serve the Slavic peoples with the Gospel. This use of the vernacular established an important principle for evangelical missions. It demonstrates the ongoing miracle of Pentecost, whereby the one Gospel of Christ is proclaimed in all languages.

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

Looking forward to Cantate (Easter V)

18 May 2025

Hymns:

LSB #465 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

LSB #460 Victimae Paschali laudes

LSB #556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

LSB #671 Sing with All the Saints in Glory

LSB #790 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

LSB #155 This Is the Feast

ES #95 Cantate Domino

LSB #478 The Day of Resurrection

ES #84 I Will Sing My Maker’s Praises

Isaiah 12:1-6: Through the ministry of the Holy Spirit, we have been brought forth to new life in Him who is the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. Confident of our resurrection with Christ we confess, "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid."

James 1:17-21: The Holy Spirit helps us by taking what is Christ's and declaring it to us. In the Word of truth, the Spirit works repentance and delivers to us the forgiveness of sins, the righteousness of Christ, and victory over the devil. For the ruler of this world is judged and defeated by the Cross.

St. John 16:5-15: Though Jesus has departed from us visibly to the right hand of the Father who sent Him, yet this is to our advantage. For Jesus - who is Lord over all creation, who intercedes for us before the Father, who is preparing a place for us in Heaven - has sent the Helper, the Spirit of Truth.