

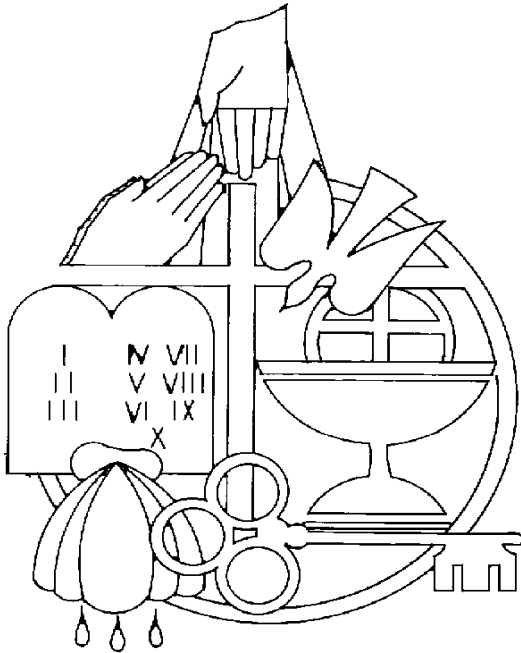
Emmaus Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Rev. Ronald Stephens, Pastor

Rev. Dr. Richard Stuckwisch, Pastor

Rev. David A. Seyboldt, Assistant Pastor



✚ DAILY CATECHESIS ON THE WAY ✚

TO AND FROM EMMAUS WITH JESUS

✚ THE THIRD 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

VII. The Lord's Supper (continued...)

5. The grounds, however, on which we stand against the Sacramentarians in this matter are those which Dr. Luther has laid down in his Large Confession concerning the Lord's Supper. The first is this article 11 of our Christian faith: Jesus Christ is true, essential, natural, perfect God and man in one person, undivided and inseparable. The second: That God's right hand is everywhere; at which Christ is placed in deed and in truth according to His human nature, [and therefore] being present, rules, and has in His hands and beneath His feet everything that is in heaven and on earth [as Scripture says, Eph. 1:22], where no man else, nor angel, but only the Son of Mary is placed; hence He can do this [those things which we have said]. The third: That God's Word is not false and does not deceive. The fourth: That God has and knows of various modes of being in any place, and not only the one [is not bound to the one] which philosophers call localis (local) for circumscribed].

6. We believe, teach, and confess that the body and blood of Christ are received with the bread and wine, not only spiritually by faith, but also orally; yet not in a Capernaitic, but in a supernatural, heavenly mode, because of the sacramental union; as the words of Christ clearly show, when Christ gives direction to take, eat, and drink, as was also done by the apostles; for it is written Mark 14:23: And they all drank of it. St. Paul likewise says, 1 Cor. 10:16: The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? that is: He who eats this bread eats the body of Christ, which also the chief ancient teachers of the Church, Chrysostom, Cyprian, Leo I, Gregory, Ambrose, Augustine, unanimously testify.

7. We believe, teach, and confess that not only the true believers [in Christ] and the worthy, but also the unworthy and unbelievers, receive the true body and blood of Christ; however, not for life and consolation, but for judgment and condemnation, if they are not converted and do not repent, 1 Cor. 11:27-29.

For although they thrust Christ from themselves as a Savior, yet they must admit Him even against their will as a strict Judge, who is just as present also to exercise and render judgment upon impenitent guests as He is present to work life and consolation in the hearts of the true believers and worthy guests.

8. We believe, teach, and confess also that there is only one kind of unworthy guests, namely, those who do not believe, concerning whom it is written John 3:18: He that believeth not is condemned already. And this judgment becomes greater and more grievous, being aggravated, by the unworthy use of the Holy Supper, 1 Cor. 11:29.

9. We believe, teach, and confess that no true believer, as long as he retains living faith, however weak he may be, receives the Holy Supper to his judgment, which was instituted especially for Christians weak in faith, yet penitent, for the consolation and strengthening of their weak faith [Matt. 9:12; 11:5. 28.

10. We believe, teach, and confess that all the worthiness of the guests of this heavenly feast is and consists in the most holy obedience and perfect merit of Christ alone, which we appropriate to ourselves by true faith, and whereof [of the application of this merit] we are assured by the Sacrament, and not at all in [but in nowise does this worthiness depend upon] our virtues or inward and outward preparations.

This Week in the Church Year

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, 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. 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. "For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls."

Emphasis: The Good Shepherd Cares for His Sheep

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 23

(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	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: St. John 10:11, 27–28

I AM the Good Shepherd. My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. I give them eternal life.

Readings for the Third Week of Easter:

Sunday, 14 April 2024

Exodus 32:15–35; St. Luke 6:39–49

Monday, 15 April 2024

Exodus 33:1–23; St. Luke 7:1–17

Tuesday, 16 April 2024

Exodus 34:1–28; St. Luke 7:18–35

Wednesday, 17 April 2024

Exodus 34:29—35:21; St. Luke 7:36–50

Thursday, 18 April 2024

Exodus 38:21—39:8, 22–23, 27–31; St. Luke 8:1–21

Friday, 19 April 2024

Exodus 39:32—40:16; St. Luke 8:22–39

Saturday, 20 April 2024 (*Johannes Bugenhagen, Lutheran Pastor*)

Exodus 40:17–38; St. Luke 8:40–56

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

The Catechism: The Office of the Keys

What is the Office of the Keys?

The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His Church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.

Where is this written?

This is what Saint John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His Disciples and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” (St. John 20:22–23)

The Hymn of the Week

“THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS”

LSB #709

[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 Misericordia Domini:

God, who by the humiliation of Your Son did raise up the fallen world, grant unto Your faithful ones perpetual gladness, and those whom You have delivered from the danger of everlasting death do make partakers of eternal joys; 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)

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:

Zachariah Franck, son of Rev. Rob & Gayle Franck, that the Lord would continue to hold him and his family in His abiding mercy; and

Eric & Joanna Stinnett and family, LCMS missionaries to Ethiopia, as Joanna must return to the US for emergency medical care; and

Hannah Stuckwisch, Cecilia Stuckwisch, Rachel James, Emily Demarest, Rebekah Stuckwisch, Azielle Horner, 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 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.

(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.

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

Commemoration of Johannes Bugenhagen, Lutheran Pastor Saturday, 20 April

Johannes Bugenhagen (1485-1558), from Pomerania in northern Germany, was appointed pastor of Wittenberg in 1523 through the efforts of Martin Luther and thus served as Luther's own pastor and father confessor. One of the greatest scholars of the Reformation era, he helped translate the New Testament into Low German and wrote a commentary on the Psalms. He also worked to organize the Lutheran Churches in northern Germany and Denmark, journeying to Copenhagen where he crowned both the King and the Queen and consecrated seven men to the offices of superintendent and bishop.

Hymns:

- LSB #482 This Joyful Eastertide
LSB #460 Victimae Paschali laudes
LSB #483 With High Delight Let Us Unite
LSB #548 Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious
LSB #624 The Infant Priest Was Holy Born
LSB #463 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia
ES #41 Zion Mourns in Fear and Anguish
LSB #475 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing

Isaiah 40:25–31: The little while of weeping shall be replaced with an eternity of rejoicing in the presence of Christ the crucified and risen Savior.

I Peter 2:11–20: 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.

St. John 16:16–22: Jesus tells us that the wait is just a little while. 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.