

March 10, 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 –Next Week – . Sunday School Classes are also in session.
- ♦ **Church Cleaning Day:** Thank you to all who were able to help! We appreciate your help and time.
- ♦ **Voter's Assembly:** There will be a Voter's Assembly Sunday, March 17.
- ♦ **Church Council Meeting:** The Church Council will meet Fri., March 15 at 7p.
- ♦ **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 16th, 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.
- ♦ **Movie Night:** Mark your calendar for Friday, March 15 at 7p, at Emmaus to join us for a Movie. Movie selection is...Drum roll please...most likely it will be the one with the most votes. Rick says, “Those that attend can help confirm that vote on the 15th.” Popcorn and bags will be provided, however feel free to bring your favorite movie popcorn receptacle. Kindly bring your own drinks and snacks to share. Thank you! Please contact Rick Tribble for any questions at rtribble@gmail.com.
- ♦ **Altar Flowers:** Altar Flowers for *Laetare* are given in Birthday Celebrations for Lizzie and Pastor Stephens, by their Family.
- ♦ **Collection for: March 3:** \$7,701.00
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. 13: Soup Host(s): Siek/Osbusn, Cheese/Crackers: M. Stuckwisch, Veggies: Tribble, Clean-Up: Pat Nering

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

- ♦ **Easter Flowers:** It's that time again! *Please consider bringing in one or many of any of these types of flowers;* just to name a few: 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. All of these are appropriate to adorn the Sanctuary for Easter.

~If you would like, Karin Horner has offered to do a bulk pick-up of Lilies from Costco. If you would like her to pick some up for you, please have your order and money (or checks payable to Karin Horner), by Sunday, March 24 (this will ensure purchase by Saturday, March 29). The height is standard, and the plant has three Lilies on it. The cost is \$15.00/plant. **Please note, Karin is ONLY able to get Lilies.*

Laetare Sunday: This Sunday takes its name from the first word of the Introit in Latin, *Laetare*, which means "rejoice." Today is one of the most joyful and festive Sundays of the year. Today 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 today 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, today's 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

TODAY	<i>Divine Service of Communion</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>
	Coffee & Refreshments	10:30 a.m.
	Tomaw/Siek	
	Bible Study	10:45 a.m.
	Constitution Committee	3-4:30 p.m.
MONDAY	<i>Brief Divine Service</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>
	Vespers	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>
WEDNESDAY	Catechesis	2:30-3:45 p.m.
	Children's Choir & Youth Bible Study	4:15 p.m.
	Lenten Soup	4:45 p.m.
	<i>Divine Service</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>
FRIDAY	<i>Brief Divine Service</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>
	Movie Night	7:00p
	Church Council Meeting	7:00p
SATURDAY	Church Cleaning Day	9:00 a.m.
	Private Confession & Absolution	11-12:00 p.m.
NEXT SUNDAY (Mar. 17)	<i>Divine Service of Communion</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>
	Coffee & Refreshments	10:30 a.m.
	J&C Stuckwisch/Jordan	
	Voter's Assembly	<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: *Judica ~ Lent V:*
Genesis 22:1-19, Hebrews 9:11-15, and Saint John 8:46-59a